

WHY DO

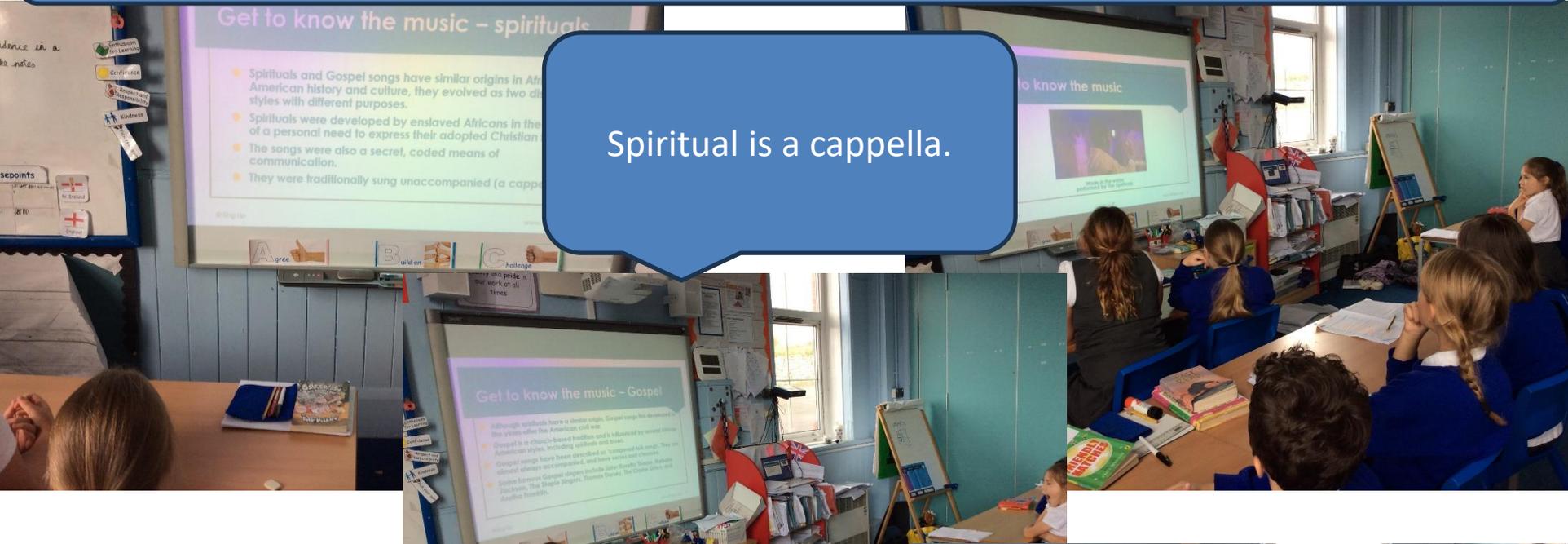
MUSIC

WE SING?

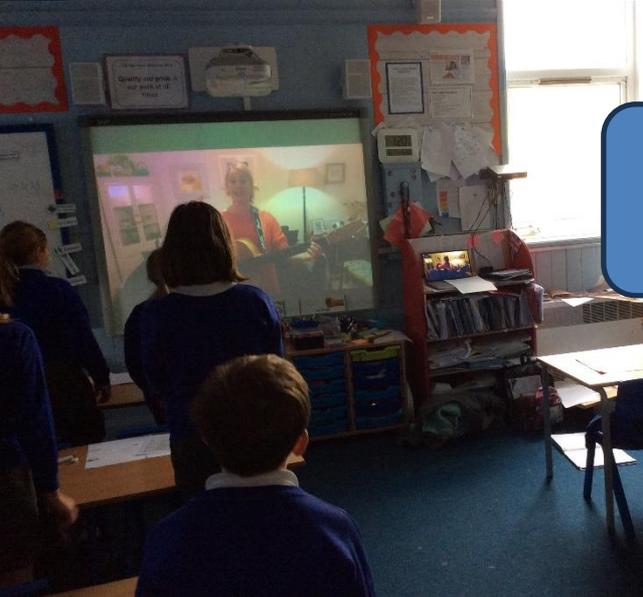
Autumn 2 2023

Class Lynher

To begin we looked at two types of music – spirituals and gospels and found out their origins and features.



We focussed on gospel music and looked at live versions of some songs. We thought about what you needed to do to sing in the style and practiced articulation and looked at how choirs may move when they sing. We then started to try this in our own singing.



If you smile when you sing, you can hear it.



It's important not to slouch around as we sing as it won't be projected.

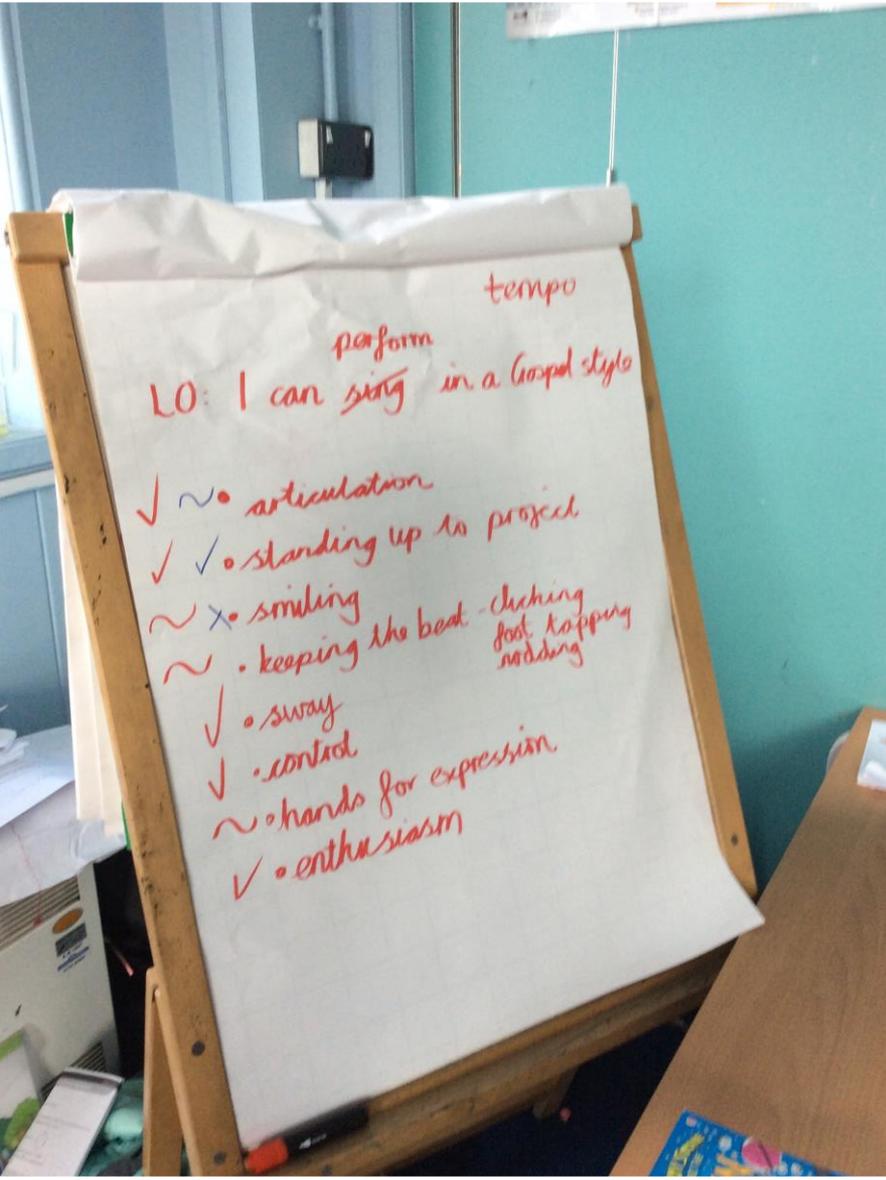


We filmed ourselves performing what we had learnt last week and saw the features we had included. Then we watched more performances from Gospel singers and looked for more features to include.

I liked that in some of the songs we saw there was a person talking. We tried this in our own version.



We practised singing using the features we had identified and then videoed ourselves again and compared this to our first effort. We were able to spot the features we had added in.



I loved seeing how much we improved. We did much better at the timing and body gestures.



What have we learnt before:

There are different genres of music

We can sing in parts

Why do we sing?

Endpoint:

Children can sing in a Gospel style and explain what it is

Personal development:

Children learn about how music links with culture

Jobs it could lead to: Jobs within the music industry

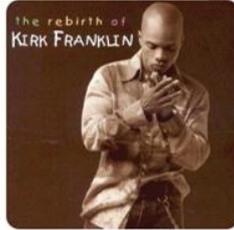
Spirituals and Gospel songs have similar origins in African American history and culture. They evolved as 2 distinct styles with different purposes.

Spirituals

- Developed by enslaved Africans in the USA to express their adopted Christian faith.
- They were also a secret way of communicating.
- Traditionally sung unaccompanied (acappella).

Gospel songs

- Developed after the American Civil War (1865).
- Church based music used for worship.
- Influenced by several African American styles, including Spirituals and Blues.
- Described as 'composed folk songs'.
- Almost always accompanied, and have verses and choruses.



Why we sing is a modern Gospel song written by Kirk Franklin in 1993.

In the 'live' performance video the performers sing the 'call' and the congregation sing the 'response'.

Song Bank

- Wade in the water
- This little light of mine
- People get ready
- When the saints go marching in

Melody = the tune.
Harmony = notes to add to the tune.

Choir = group of singers.
Acappella = unaccompanied singing.
Congregation = people in church
Electric piano, bass guitar, drum kit.

Call-and-response
Verse/chorus
Spoken interlude
Phrase = a musical sentence.

Unison = singing the same tune.
Homophonic = singing in harmony.

Quieter, louder
crescendo = getting louder.



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How singers use their voices

- improvising - music created spontaneously.
- vocal bends - bending the pitch of a note up or down.
- vocal slides (glissando) - sliding up or down to other notes.
- vocal decoration - slides, bends, 'widdles' etc.
- solo voice - one person singing.
- melody - singing the tune.
- harmony - other notes that sound good with the melody.
- legato - singing or playing smoothly.
- diction/articulation - clear words and emphasis.

How confident do you feel talking about Gospel music using musical language?



Add a comment:

Instruments you might expect to find in a Gospel band - drum kit, piano, electric bass



Gospel singers are expressive and use their voice and whole body when they sing.

- Kirk Franklin an American songwriter, choir director and pianist.
- The most successful modern Gospel artist.
- Won 16 Grammy awards.
- Blends other styles of music like Hip Hop and Rock with the more traditional Gospel sound.

Shackles (Praise You) was released by American singer-songwriters, Mary Mary in 2000.
Practise moves and actions to go with this song.

Mahalia Jackson (1911 - 1972)

Ray Charles (1930 - 2004)

Aretha Franklin (1942 - 2018)



17th Century

18th Century

19th Century

20th Century

21st Century - present

Spirituals are songs that were composed by enslaved African people in the USA. Gospel music grew out of these songs.

American Civil War 1861-1865 slavery ended in America in 1865.

1993 *Why we sing* by Kirk Franklin.

Gospel music is still written today and used as part of worship in Christian churches all over the world.

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