

September 2010

Music News

Specialists:
Mrs. Lisa Walchenbach
Miss Rachel Schaefer
Mrs. Wendy Arcega
Mr. Roy Herzer

Grade Level Highlights

What is happening in the K-5 Music classes this month?

- K:** *Teachers: Mrs. Lisa Walchenbach & Miss Rachel Schaefer*
The kindergarteners are exploring the elements of music through body movement (clapping, tapping, jumping, stomping, etc), through singing, and the use of rhythm instruments.
- 1st grade:** *Teacher: Mrs. Lisa Walchenbach*
The first graders have kicked off the year with some fun “hello” songs and activities and rhythm instrument exploration. Singing games that focus on movement or instruments have been a fun way to learn and improve music skills.
- 2nd grade:** *Teacher: Mrs. Lisa Walchenbach*
The second graders have learned a “hello” song that includes phrases from many different languages, have sung and moved to a Spanish conversation song, played various rhythm instruments, and are learning to identify a variety of different rhythm symbols by sight and sound.
- 3rd grade:** *Teacher: Miss Rachel Schaefer*
This month in 3rd grade music students are learning about nations located in the Caribbean. Students are learning native folk songs from the region with a focus on rhythmic literacy. We sing and clap and move to the beat!
- 4th grade:** *Teacher: Miss Rachel Schaefer*
This month in 4th grade music students are also learning about nations located in the Caribbean. Students are learning native folk songs from the region with a focus on rhythmic literacy. We sing and clap and move to the beat!
- 5th Grade:** All 5th graders will have a special music class from October – December to prepare for the Christmas musical. Mrs. Walchenbach and Miss Schaefer will both be working with them. In addition, they have all chosen to be in one of the following performance groups which will meet for the entire school year.
- 5th Grade Choir:** *Teacher: Mrs. Lisa Walchenbach*
Choir students are now singing in two groups (sopranos and altos), are learning how to follow their part in a piece of printed choir music, and are improving their singing technique through warm-ups and choral practice.
- Beginning Strings:** *Teacher: Mrs. Wendy Arcega*
5th grade strings is off to a great start. They have learned the parts of the instruments, how to care for them, how to hold the bow and the instrument and how to get a good sound. Before the end of the month we will be playing our first scales and begin learning to read music on string instruments.
- Beginning Band:** *Teacher: Mr. Roy Herzer*
The Beginning Band students have chosen their instruments, are sitting in sections, and have begun to play their first notes. Students are already practicing at home and some are even beginning private lessons to improve on their new instrument. The band students are eager and excited about playing as an ensemble.