



Music Notes

November



From Mrs. Bordonaro & Mrs. Janssen

1st Grade

Mrs. B's classes has been able to read basic rhythmic notation of quarter notes (ta) , two eighth notes (ti-ti) and quarter rest. We recently attempted to compose a short song based on the book, The Tin Forest. Most of us struggled with this pre-test in composition. By the end of the year, we hope to be confident composers! We will continue to work on improving our singing voices as we learn some great Thanksgiving songs.

2nd Grade

Mrs. J's classes are working hard at practicing our new note "do" for reinforcement, as well as our new rhythm, the half note (ta-ah). We have learned many new songs, such as "Mother, Mother" and "Billy Bolly" - ask us to sing them for you! We are also learning to "measure" our music by putting bar lines in, and to read music by identifying the rhythms and solfege notes. Students were assessed in October for the skill of singing in tune and will be assessed in November for music literacy skills.



4th Grade

Mrs. B's classes made huge strides in playing the recorder. We are able to play several songs that have the notes, B, A and G. We also were given a sneak preview of low E when we played an accompaniment for the song, "Ghost of John". We are also focusing on singing melodic patterns using sol-fege.

Homework recorders will arrive at school shortly. Please ask your student about their playing progress and encourage practicing at home.

Mrs. J's classes have been focusing on making a good recorder sound and reading the notes B, A, and G on the staff. We have been improvising on the recorder to practice our fingerings. We also just finished testing the song "Way Down Yonder in the Brickyard". The students were tested on singing the song in tune in a group and alone, and also singing and performing solfege handsigns. We will soon learn a new note on the recorder, low E, and will use it to accompany "The Ghost of John".

6th Grade

The 6th graders have been working very hard and are excited about performing their musical, "**We Built This City: Our Tribute to the Music of the 1980's**". Some of the fun songs that we have rehearsed this month are "We Are the World", "We Built This City on Rock and Roll", "Material Girl", "Eat It!", "Footloose", and of course, "Thriller".

All students will need to wear a costume in the musical.

Info sheets have been sent home, and we have been discussing ideas in class. If you are willing to help with scenery and/or props, please contact Mrs. Bordonaro or Mrs. Janssen.

Kindergarten

In Mrs. B's classes, we have enjoyed several activities. We will continue to work on improving our singing voices and keeping a steady beat. Ask us about these songs this month, "A Turkey Knocked at My Backdoor", "Things I am Thankful For", and the poem, "Mr. Turkey Went Out for a Walk". We enjoyed singing the story, "I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Pie".

Mrs. J's classes have been focusing on the skills of steady beat, identifying higher and lower, and singing and playing faster and slower. Soon we will be learning quarter notes (ta), eighth notes (ti-ti), and quarter rest. A song we really enjoy is "Bell Horses", which we accompanied with pitched and unpitched percussion instruments.

3rd Grade

Mrs. B's and Mrs. J's classes shall continue to work on singing and sight-singing skills. We have become experts at singing solfege and signing the song, "Li'l Liza Jane". We have enjoyed playing an Orff accompaniment to the song, "Chicken on a fence Post". We also love the game. We also plan to sing rounds and partner songs.

5th Grade

Mrs. B's and Mrs. J's classes having been singing very well this year! We will "decode" simple folk songs as well and add accompaniments with barred instruments. We will continue to work on our sight-singing skills in a minor key. Another focus will be musical terms and symbols.

Important Dates to Remember:

- 10/6: Eagle Choir Begins (8-9am): Every Tuesday Morning
- 11/11: 6th Grade Musical: Dress Rehearsal/Performance, 10:15 AM; Parents are welcome to attend!
- 11/12: 6th Grade Musical, 2:30 PM and 7 PM
- 12/7: Eagle Choir performs at the Maple Grove Barnes & Noble Bookstore 7PM
- 12/8: Eagle Choir Tour, 10:15AM-1:30pm
- 12/9: Eagle Choir Concert, 9:45 AM

