

Vocal Music

- **Kindergarten** – Kindergarten students will be learning about musical opposites (high/low, loud/soft, etc...) We will also begin playing and learning about instruments. We will learn about notes and rests, sol-feg (do, re, mi...), beat, and musical form. We will read books and sing a wide variety of songs and listen to a wide variety of music.
- **First Grade** - Students will review the notes, rests, and musical symbols that we learned last year. We will review/reinforce keeping a steady beat. We will expand on the concepts and rhythms learned last year and learn more about world music and instruments. We will read and write stories accompanied by musical instruments and sing a wide variety of songs and listen to a wide variety of music.
- **Second Grade** - Students will review and expand on all notes, rests, rhythms musical terms, and sol-feg previously learned. We will learn the posture and vocal habits of a correct singer. We will learn the letters of the treble staff and study different styles of writing/performing music. We will explore the connection between music and math through simple note addition and we will learn sign language (the alphabet and some words) and perform a few songs in that way. As always, we will sing a wide variety of songs and listen to a wide variety of music.
- **Third Grade** - Students will review and expand upon all notes, rests, musical terms, musical instruments, and musical rhythms that have been learned thus far. We will review and expand upon note addition and the letters of the treble staff. We will review and expand upon correct singing practices (posture, memorization, etc). We will begin to sort instruments in to their instrument families. In the third quarter, we will be learning to play the recorder. Students will be writing their own short melodies and, of course, singing a wide variety of songs and listening to a wide variety of music.
- **Fourth Grade** – Students will review and expand upon all notes, rests, musical signs and symbols, musical instruments and musical rhythms that have been learned previously. Students will write a rhythmic “rap” following given instructions. We will review the letters of the treble staff and students will write their own melody line to an “Alleluia” and create a verse for that alleluia. In the third quarter, we will be playing recorders, a task that was started last year. Syncopation will be introduced, and, as always, we will sing a wide variety of songs and listen to a wide variety of music.

- **Fifth Grade** - Students will review and expand upon all notes, rests, musical signs and symbols, musical instruments, and musical rhythms that have been learned previously. They will review the letters of the treble staff and learn the letters of the bass staff. They will learn to identify instruments by sound and will learn to play and build chords (dyads and triads). They will study musical eras and famous composers from those eras, ending with the students writing a report on one of the composers. They will write individual melodies for the piano and they will listen to discuss, and write about music from different cultures and eras. As always, students will sing and listen to a wide variety of music.

Middle School (Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Grades) –

The middle school students have the opportunity to select the type of music class in which they would like to participate. The music class choices are:

- Chorus
 - Music Theory
 - Instrumental
- **Music Theory** - Students will review all notes, rests, musical signs, and musical symbols previously learned and expand upon them. They will study how to and practice making scales and chords. They will review musical instruments and what family they belong to. They will write reviews of different music they hear and write their own melodies. They will learn and write about different composers and the musical era the composers belonged to. They will listen to and compare music of different cultures and times. They learn the layout and formation of the standard orchestra and discuss the role of the conductor. They will study jazz music and improvisation. They will study the musical history of the Church and plan music for their school masses.
 - **Chorus** - Students will sing a variety of songs. The class is primarily participation based. They will sing for every school Mass, so a lot of hymns and psalms will be learned. They will sing at both concerts, Christmas and Spring. They will work on singing rounds and two-part harmonies, eventually leading to three-part harmonies. Music reading will also be stressed. Students will review notes, rests, musical symbols, and the letters for both the treble and bass staves. They will learn about dynamics, articulation, and tempo.