Fifth and Sixth Grade General Music Syllabus/Curriculum Overview

Classroom Rules and Expectations:

1. Do not speak unless you are asked.
2. Do not play the instruments unless you are asked.
3. Treat your classmates, teacher, and instruments with respect.
4. Always play and sing your best.
5. Bring all required materials such as music folder, pencil, recorder, music passed out, assigned work, etc.

Consequences may include:
1. Verbal warning
2. Teacher notified
3. Parents notified
4. Lunch detention

Christmas Program

Before Christmas break, the students at St. Patrick School put on a Christmas Program. All of the students in the school are expected to participate. Students will be responsible to learn at least three songs. One song will be performed on the recorder, one song will be sung, and one song will be sung with the full school. In the past, the Christmas Program has been lots of fun, and I’m sure this year will be the same!

Liturgical Music

Students in Fifth and Sixth Grades participate in liturgical music with the St. Patrick Church music director/organist. Students meet during the school day throughout the year to learn the songs used in weekly liturgy as well as learn to become cantors at mass. Fifth and Sixth graders cantor at mass throughout the school year.

Program Overview

Students in Fifth and Sixth Grade General Music will have the privilege of coming to Music class once a week. While in class, they will have many unique opportunities such as playing instruments, singing new songs, playing the drums, folk dancing, and playing recorders. Fifth and Sixth Grade General Music students use their recorders and the Orff instruments to continue to build and grow upon their musical concepts and theory they have learned and use it to play songs and develop a better and more meaningful understanding of musical form, creation, and expression. Students also study the instruments in the orchestra and a variety of orchestra terms and repertoire to prepare for their orchestra field trip.

Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra Youth Concert

Fifth and Sixth Grade students attend the A2SO Youth Concert annually. Students in Fifth and Sixth Grade General Music spend time studying the orchestra, instruments, repertoire, and terms before they attend the orchestra in March. This is a unique opportunity for students to
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experience live, professional music and hear a variety of music that they will not normally hear on the radio or through their iPods or phones.

Curricula Used

Fifth and Sixth Grade General Music uses several different curricula. Most of these curricula and activities stem from the Orff-Schulwerk pedagogy and other recorder curricula. The people/curriculum that our activities in Fifth and Sixth Grade General Music are often pulled from are:

- Recorder Karate
- Modern Classroom Recorder
- New England Dance Masters
- Other Orff and Recorder curricula

Assessment

Students are assessed through their participation in the classroom, displayed understanding of the material, performances, and recorder playing quizzes.