

Hello Meadowbrook Community!

Wow, lots of snow days recently! I hope everyone has been staying warm and safe during those days off. I know that I was starting to get some cabin fever, and it actually feels nice to be back at school accomplishing things.

The 5th graders had a “blast” with our instrument petting zoo day, and hopefully several of their questions were answered by the high school students who came in to do a music demonstration. Right now we are currently voting on some songs (approved by me) to be performed at their Celebration/Concert at the end of the school year. I decided not to put a theme to this concert, but the songs will be made up of a 50/50 split. I will choose half of the songs that I think will work well for the celebration, and they get to recommend songs to vote on. Some of their choices are fairly interesting, but we will see what they ultimately vote on.

The 4th graders have been exploring the music and life of the famous composer Beethoven. We watched the educational film called “Beethoven Lives Upstairs” to obtain some insight on what Beethoven’s personality was like and how it affected his music writing. We also explored several of his famous melodies/pieces of music. After this unit we will be starting to learn some recorder!

Our 3rd graders have recently been reviewing/exploring the notes on the treble clef staff. To help with this, we have been working on a project where the students create their own boomwhacker song using various different crayon colors that match the colors of the boomwhackers. The students had to create what color patterns they wanted first, and then had to take those color patterns and place them correctly on the treble clef staff. It is fun for them to then hear their songs, as it is something that they composed themselves!

The 1st and 2nd graders have been still working on their “Wild West” themed concert this past month. Unfortunately, I lost a lot of preparation time with the students because of all the snow days. To make for that fact, I sent a lyric sheet home with the students to practice memorizing their words. Come see their hard work pay off on Wednesday, February 13th!

I also lost a lot of class time with the kindergarteners because of the snow days, so I haven’t really gotten much farther with them since my last letter in January. We have finished wrapping up our unit on fast and slows, and are now being introduced to the musical opposites of highs and lows. I am also starting to introduce a couple of the songs that will be a part of their concert in May. The theme is called “Pajama Party!”, with songs about getting ready for bed. I will be sending a letter home regarding some details with what I will need for this concert, but it should be fun!

Also, I hope to see many of you at the upcoming “Showcase Of Learning” nights. For music, I compile various different videos of things each grade has been doing throughout the school year. It’s a little low key, but I also consider concerts an excellent moment to showcase the student’s talents. Please stop on by if I’m available!

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that you might have about our music program here at Meadowbrook. I will make all my best efforts to respond to you in a timely manner.

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