

Spring

PS 182 Samantha Smith
Chorus/MATB Music Class
Mr. Rustrian

Dear Parents,

As we draw near the end of the year, students from kindergarten through fifth grade will learn music connected to their social studies content area. Our incredible journey in music will explore topics in culture, community, history and language. Listed below are grades and their individual focus for the final part of the year.

Kindergarten- Students in kindergarten are learning how to play the keyboard using a program called MATB (Music and The Brain). Students are learning how to read rhythms, melodies chords and play them on the keyboard. The goal for this year is to expose kindergarteners to the foundation for reading music. Kindergarten students are also getting ready for their moving up ceremony and will learn songs relate to literacy units they covered throughout the year.

Second Grade- Students in second grade are learning two major aspects of music; composing medleys and composing songs using known melodies. As they explore these wonderful concepts of music, they begin to understand how songs are written and how to write medleys by combining songs together using songs they learned in chorus.

Third Grade- Third graders will cover music from around the world. They will sing songs that reflect a country's history and culture. They will learn to sing in different languages focusing on diction, expression and rhythm.

Fourth Grade- Fourth grade students will explore early American history through songs. They will focus on patriotic music using historical references as a guide to understanding European influences and their impact on today's culture. Students will also discuss as part of the unit of study, the United States Constitution in reference to songs like, The Star-Spangled Banner, My Country 'Tis of Thee, America the Beautiful, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Fifth Grade-Fifth grade students will explore today's popular music and the impact it has on culture. Our main focus will be; understanding music theory, composition and the purpose and impact music has on society.

Thank you for all your support and we look forward to an incredible year.

Musically Yours,

Mr. Rustrian