

## **GLS Music: October 2019**

### PreK Music

Our preschool students started the month of October by reinforcing their counting skills! Every time music class begins, we sing our song, "Time for Music." This challenges students to sing while doing an action (patting knees, clapping hands, etc.). In between each action is a counting game! We are working on staying together with the beat!

We also began working on our music for "Santa's Holiday Playlist!" PreK students will be singing "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and "Frosty the Snowman!"

### Kindergarten, First, Second, Third, and Fourth Grade Music

Similarly to the PreK students, our elementary classes began the month with songs and activities that helped us to clap, sing, or play along with the beat. We have discussed the difference between rhythm and beat, and most classes love playing the bubble gum game, which helps us figure out if the song is quiet or loud. Some of the older grades have also been playing a music staff game each class. First and second grade students are learning the lines and spaces of the staff while third and fourth grade students have learned the note names! We will soon introduce the bass clef to begin a whole new challenge!

These students are also preparing for our Christmas musical! Students in third and fourth grade auditioned for speaking roles and have been given their parts. We will be rehearsing lines as well as music soon! Here is a list of songs for the musical and the grades that will be performing each one:

Deck the Halls Opening: 2,3,4

Rudolph: PreK, K, 1

Frosty: PreK, K, 1

Broadway Lights: 2,3,4

Just a Little "R and R": 2,3,4

The Sounds of Christmas: 3,4

Santa's Holiday Playlist: All Grades

Lastly, students are learning "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" to sing at our Veteran's Day Assembly on November 11. They are doing a beautiful job!

### Junior High Music (8th Grade)

The eighth grade students wrapped up their Soundtrap unit at the beginning of October. Soundtrap is an online music programming website that allowed students to be the ultimate creative genius. Several students surprised the class with their composition. We have just ended our music theory unit earlier this week. Students were given a “crash course” in music theory. They learned how to read music notes and rhythms in both treble and bass clef. We will begin our piano unit in November and that will close out the trimester.

### Band

Band students have learned quite a bit in the Month of October! We now know 7 notes, which is fantastic for only having played instruments for about 6 weeks! I am moving pretty quickly and students are keeping up for the most part! I am still encouraging students to practice a couple nights a week to reinforce what we learn during the day. Students have learned 2 different types of articulation, which can be difficult. We also know how to count whole, half, and quarter notes and rests. In November, we will begin learning our Christmas music! It will be a challenge to put it together quickly, but I know we can do it!

### Choir

The choir students have been rock stars this month. I have thrown several new pieces of music at them and they've taken it well! We currently have five Christmas pieces and two for Veteran's day. What we have been working on the most is learning to sing in two parts. I encourage students to try and be independent musicians and not rely on myself or someone else to sing their part! It can be tricky sometimes, but we are getting there. Now that we know all of our music, we can spend November working on the small details.

Thank you to everyone who has reached out to be so welcoming! I love getting to know so many parents/guardians! Please contact me at anytime if you have any questions or concerns!

Mrs. Jennifer Vente