



Bobcat Music Notes

Huron Elementary Schools

What is My Student Doing in Music?

Happy New Year! Students put on a fantastic concert in December. I was so proud of their performances as well as their behavior on and back stage. Well done students! Thanks to everyone who purchased a DVD of the concert, each sale helps to promote a more interesting, effective, and resourceful music experience. We are off on another journey to get ready for spring concert material and on the way we have sung, danced, composed, and played a variety of music.

Students in grades 1st-3rd have been moved out of their comfort zones a bit to experience a couple folk and community dances. Circle, square and line dances help to promote cooperation, etiquette, positive interaction between classmates, as well as promoting rhythmic integrity. Not only that, but they are fun!



Ask your child to teach you the steps, I'm sure you will love it too.

Fourth graders are now into composing the rhythms they will be using to create rhythm ensembles. They have also been learning about the music of Africa and its elements such as improvisation, rhythmic compli-

ments, and polyrhythm (having more than one rhythm play at a time). Soon they will be putting together a "rough draft" of their compositions in order to practice them in class and perform.

Fifth graders are now rehearsing like an ensemble with their recorders and will be writing a short melody to play.

Green Theme

The kindergarteners, first and second graders will be putting on a concert entitled "Our Colorful Green Earth." This program will encourage students and citizens to help keep our world a cleaner, greener place to live by recycling, conserving our natural

resources, saving energy, and picking up litter so we can keep our beautiful, colorful earth clean. This program will also feature colors related to the season. Not to mention since St. Patrick's Day is the week before, "green" seemed even more appropriate! Stu-

dents can't wait to show you what they are working on.

Mark your calendars for Friday, March 23rd at 2pm on the Brown stage for the K-2 Spring Concert.

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Dates to Remember:

Spring Concert Grades K-2

Fri., March 23rd 2012, 2pm

Spring Concert Grades 3-4

Mon., April 2nd, 2012, 2pm

Fifth Grade Finale Concert

Tues., May 1st, 2012, 2pm



Fabulous Jazz!

Fourth graders went to the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts on January 13th to see a live performance of the jazz group from New Orleans, The Hot Eight Brass Band. 140 students from both elementary schools attended along with 59 chaperones! What a blast! Thanks to the PTO for supporting our music program and helping donate to the cost. That was a nice spring-board into the theme for this year's 3rd and 4th grade

spring concert "Jazzy Roots." Third and fourth grade students will be learning about America's music and the roots that contributed to its development. Come and let them teach you what they have learned and see if you can't sit still as you listen to a few different Jazz styles and original compositions inspired by the African drumming that contributed to the popular American style. The 3rd and 4th grade spring concert is Mon-

day, April 2nd, at 2pm on the Brown stage. Can't wait to see you there!

Quiz Your Music Knowledge:

1. What does "Eine Kleine Nacht Musik" mean?
2. Who wrote nine symphonies and was said to have a bad temper and loss of hearing?
3. What does "improvisation" mean?
4. How can you remember the names of notes in the spaces of the musical staff?



Things to Look Forward to...



Students are diligently working on concert preparation. **Please note concert dates since they are not on the district calendar.** All spring concerts will be held at our elementary school stage.

5th grade students will be able to audition in April for special music acts to put on their Finale Concert on May 1st. This is not a talent show, but instead a per-

forming arts concert. Eligible performances will include vocal or instrumental music solos or groups, as well as prepared dance choreography and music related performances. All music must have school appropriate lyrics and content to be considered.

Keep an eye out for more information to come about that.