

IHM Specials Classes: 1st Trimester 2021 Update

MUSIC

Students in **ECE and 4K** have learned the routines of music class and are using dramatic play and creative movement to become expressive singers and musicians!

The **Kindergarten** class has learned a lot about the 4 voices - talking, whispering, shouting, and of course singing! They are also working on cooperative instrument playing, using small handheld percussion. **1st graders** are hard at work learning the difference between beat and rhythm; using songs like "Apple Tree" and "I Climbed Up the Apple Tree" to begin part work. **2nd graders** reviewed their skills from last year and have all ready been introduced to a new note! Ask them what a "tika tika" is. **3rd grade** continues to build their musical skills by singing and playing lots of unpitched percussion instruments. Ask a 3rd grader to sing or speak "A Pumpkin Ran Away" for you! **4th grade** musicians using their musical literacy skills in every class – our focus is always on being tuneful, beatful, and artful in every song or activity.

Electives are back on in **Middle School**. This trimester students in grades 6-8 selected either Handbells, Ukulele, or Theatre for their music elective. Each group had lots of fun exploring their topic across the months. Looking forward to Trimester 2!

-Mrs. Binzak

WORLD LANGUAGES

The IHM World Languages Program is continuing to expose all of our students (K-8) to French, German and Spanish - the three major European languages!

Spanish (K-2) are learning basic vocabulary by listening, repeating and reading! We're continuing to listen to bilingual books online, to use creative movement and to sing songs - all the while learning, reviewing and memorizing vocabulary.

French (3-5) are listening, repeating, spelling and translating sentences using basic vocabulary and grammar. This trimester, we have focused on translating longer sentences from English to French and vice versa, based on videos of Fables in French. They enjoy digital material in the form of French songs and other short videos. The students are also developing an interest in maps and charts which form the basis for discussions on culture and geography.

French, German, Spanish (6-8) have enjoyed an additional focus on World Geography and Project-based work using the LibreOffice Impress program. Students are developing computer and presentation skills and using translation apps effectively. They are learning and practicing basic vocabulary, and grammar while improving writing, pronunciation and comprehension.

The 7-8th grade students have created and presented a slide show which includes maps, charts, images, cultural information and simple text in English, French or German.

The 6th graders created a LibreOffice Impress presentation in all three languages (French, German, Spanish) and will focus on one language in 7th and 8th grade.

It has been a wonderful school year so far! We are celebrating the end of the trimester by learning to eat "European style" in Marian Hall!

-Frau/Senora/Madame Linsenmeyer

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LIBRARY

Students are learning to love books in the library! I have shared lots of great read-alouds with the **4K**, and they will soon start to check out books to keep in their classroom for the week! We have had Fall and beginning of school-themed read-alouds for **ECE, 4K, K, 1st and 2nd Graders**. The **3rd grade, 4th, and 5th Grade** classes have been listening to “Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH” and really enjoying it!

In the **Middle School**, the students have been enjoying the “Library Achievements” project again this year. The students can choose from dozens of ways to get points in class. Each achievement is a way for them to engage with the library. At the end of the Trimester, the students who reach their point goal get a reward – for the 1st Trimester, those who earn enough points will get a pizza lunch. I think the Achievements project is going great – ask them what they think!

The Scholastic Book Fair is all wrapped up, and was very successful, thanks to all of our awesome families. I bought many books from the fair for our library and classrooms, and the students are all excited for me to catalog and cover them so they can start to check them out!

-Mrs. Winter

NEW MEDIA ART

This trimester has been a surprising and exciting time for the middle school! The Art classes have seen exceptional work with the Petroglyph projects and the 3D Name Extrusions. There seems to be an electric energy around portraiture – not often found with Middle School Students. In Art classes, we always show our sketches before transitioning to the larger projects, and it has become common for students to ask if their work can be posted in the hallway for others to see! This self-motivated exploration for learning is exactly what all teachers wish for.

In similar fashion, the technology classes are pushing the boundaries of what can be achieved, with Web Page Construction, Python-Hardware projects, and high-end Video Editing. In all of these cases, students are working on interfaces used in more professional settings. For example, Python code is standard in the research community, web construction using some form of HTML is foundational, and KDElive follows the full editing screen interface all professional editors implement.

The IHM Art Classes and Technology Classes are based on project-oriented learning, rather than assignment-test instructional approaches. This challenges students to be self-organizing and to find their own areas of interest and inspiration.

A great school year lies ahead!

-Dr. Maynard

PHY. ED.

Students have been off to a wonderful start in Phy Ed this year! We have three rules in Phy Ed: Be respectful, Be safe, and Be kind. With all of the classes we have discussed having a positive attitude, and good sportsmanship, thus promoting a culture of kindness in our school community. We have been learning a lot of different skills in Phy Ed during the fall trimester!

Our **ECE, 4K, and KINDERGARTEN** students have been learning how to safely move on scooters, throw, catch, and kick a ball, as well as different ways to move the body. With our **FIRST and SECOND GRADE** classes we have practiced hand-eye coordination, as well as throwing, catching and kicking a ball. The **THIRD GRADE** through **FIFTH GRADE** classes are also working on hand-eye coordination, ball handling skills, and aerobic development through various movement games.

MIDDLE SCHOOL classes have been learning volleyball skills, basketball skills, throwing, catching, kicking, interval training, individual sports, team sports, and team building skills. We have enjoyed rope jumping, playing soccer, broom ball, volleyball, basketball, and many more fun games. In Trimester 2 **MIDDLE SCHOOL** electives will be: Interval Training, Team Sports, and Alternative Sports!

We look forward to building on the skills we have learned, and playing many more fun games in Trimester 2!

-Mrs. Johnson