

IHM Specials Classes: 2nd Trimester 21-22 Update

MUSIC

Students in **ECE and 4K** continue to expand their musicality in each class. Ask them to identify their ‘pinkie’ and ‘thumbkin’ voices. During group instruction, each class gets the opportunity to move to music, explore instruments, and use their voices creatively – it’s a blast!

The **Kindergarten** class is focusing on high and low this trimester. They have experienced these musical opposites through singing, playing instruments, listening to a variety of musical genres, and moving their bodies.

1st graders are transferring their knowledge of syllables to musical sounds, and can identify one and two sounds on a beat. Shortly this concept will be transferred to the very beginning of reading notation -a huge milestone in musical literacy.

2nd graders have been singing, playing hand drums, and experimenting with body percussion in T2. They can read and identify patterns including sixteenth notes, rests, and half notes. Wowza!

3rd grade are strong singers! They can perform a three part round to the song “Freedom Train”. Ask them to tell you something about our February composer of the month – Stevie Wonder.

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.

5th grade students are becoming aces at complicated musical notation. They are loving drumming and playing xylophones, especially when they get to create the patterns. Ask them to tell you about “ti-tika” and “tika-ti” and see if you can spot the difference.

This trimester in **Middle School**, the students in grades 6-8 selected either Handbells, Advanced Ukulele, or Instrumental Ensemble for their music elective. Each group had lots of fun exploring their topic across the months.

Looking forward to Trimester 3!

-Mrs. Binzak

WORLD LANGUAGES

The IHM World Languages Program is continuing to encourage students to be curious about other world languages, cultures, and geography!

Spanish (K-2) are learning and memorizing basic vocabulary with the help of bilingual books, and singing Spanish vocabulary songs. Learning is fun!

French (3-5) are continuing to learn from maps and charts; each class periods starts with a different map on the CleverTouch board. They listen, repeat, and translate longer sentences from English to French and vice versa, based on videos of Fables in French (with English subtitles). They also enjoy singing and dancing to French songs (“Bonjour! Bonjour!”) and basic French vocabulary videos.

French, German, Spanish (6) have focused on South America and the Caribbean this trimester. Students are continuing to develop project-based French, German and Spanish pronunciation and writing skills. They are learning and practicing basic vocabulary, and grammar and improving writing, pronunciation and comprehension in all three languages! Their basic language, computer and presentation skills are improving nicely!

French/German (7-8) continue to focus on the French-speaking Francophone world and the German speaking countries in Europe. Students created and presented a slide show which included maps, charts, images, cultural information and simple text in French or German. The middle schoolers are continuing to learn about Europe and the Francophone world from maps and charts, and are challenged to understand a fascinating map or informational chart at the beginning of each class.

It has been a productive, interesting and fun second trimester!

-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** in the library. The 4K students been able to learn about book care, shelf markers, and have started checking out books to take home for the week! We have had lots of fun read alouds for **4K, K, and 1st Grade** including some seasonal favorites. I am finishing reading “Ivy & Bean” to the **2nd graders**. The **3rd, 4th and 5th grades** are enjoying “The Secret of Nimh”, one of my personal favorites! In the Middle School, I continue to read the about the brave “Coraline” by Neil Gaiman to the **6th grade** and the Newberry Award winner “When You Reach Me” to the **7th and 8th Graders**.

The **Middle Schoolers** are still working on the “Library Achievements” project that we started last year. It was a great success in the 1st Trimester and the students were very engaged with the library! The reward for the 2nd Trimester was a hot chocolate bar, that most of the students earned and enjoyed! I will announce the reward for the last part of the year in the next few weeks. I think the Achievements project is going great – ask them what they think!

Watch out for the Spring Scholastic Book Fair next month!

-Mrs. Winter

NEW MEDIA ART

As we enter this final trimester of the year, it is wonderful to see the emerging independence of students in their work. Just last week, several Art students created a door for the classroom that features a giant paint brush, and quotes Dr. Maynard as saying: “It’s always big fun in this room!”

The Python Hardware students have reached a level where they can quickly integrate the Raspberry Pi computers with various sensor modules, controllers, and output devices, all programmed with the downloaded python code.

Art students completed mosaics and 3D room perspectives, and the sixth grade students are now working on a project modeled after a New Mexican artist named Matteo Romero. In this form of art, a black and white “selfie” becomes the foundation of a painting where the photo image and the painted image merge. In similar fashion, the eighth grade students have finished their Vector Self Portraits, where the close up image of a student’s face is gradually overwritten with computer-generated vector objects, resulting in a portrait that is often revealing of personality traits in an unexpected way. This portrait is part of the eighth grade procession to graduation.

As always, IHM Art Classes and Technology Classes emphasize project-oriented learning, and this challenges students to be self-organizing, self-motivated, and encourages them to find their own areas of interest in creativity. Of course this process takes time, but it allows for a broader, richer educational experience for all the students.

-Dr. Maynard

PHY. ED.

Thank you, to all of our amazing student’s, and their families who have been participating, and contributing to the Kid’s Heart Challenge!! Please keep up the great work! I have been impressed by the all of the students rope jumping skills.

We enjoyed many more fun activities in trimester two! We enjoyed playing lacrosse, badminton, tennis, and ping pong! Also, we continued to practice our volleyball, basketball, and sportsmanship conduct when participating in gym. We review our class rules (1.Be Safe 2. Be Kind 3. Be Respectful), as needed. In trimester 3 we will enjoy participating in some spring team sports, Olympic sports, continue practicing our running skills daily, outdoor sports, as well as, reviewing the skills and sports we have learned thus far. In trimester 3 **MIDDLE SCHOOL** electives will be: Spring Team Sports, Individual Sports (Including Archery presented by two wonderful parent volunteers), and Alternative Sports! We are looking forward to the weather continuing to warm up so, that we can go outdoors for gym classes sometimes!

Thank you students, families, and staff for two wonderful trimesters, and, we look forward to this trimester being even better! :)

-Mrs. Johnson