

IHM Specials Classes: 1st Trimester 2022 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. Each 1st grader should have brought home a GOLDEN APPLE as a reward for their hard work. **2nd grade** continues to build their musical skills by singing and playing lots of unpitched percussion instruments. Ask them to teach your family how to play 'Mabel, Mabel' around the Advent table this year! **3rd grade** has REALLY improved their singing voices in T1. I am constantly complimenting them on their singing, especially in rounds in cannons! Ask a 3rd grader to sing or speak "A Pumpkin Ran Away" for you! **4th graders** started off the year reviewing rhythms and have learned two new rhythms! Ask them what the difference between a tika ti and a ti tika is! **5th 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. They love 'Movement Monday' and playing xylophones!

Middle schoolers got to choose from three electives for Trimester 1: Theatre, Ukulele, or (for the first time!) Piano. Through a grant from Thrivent and generous donations from a school family, the music room was able to purchase 15 midi-controllers so that students can learn how to play piano. Thank you to the Eisele family for coordinating this awesome project. Each elective was great fun, and we look forward to sharing the talents of middle school in upcoming concerts.

Looking forward to Trimester 2!

-Mrs. Binzak

WORLD LANGUAGES

The **IHM World Languages Program** is proud to offer all of our students (K-8) the opportunity to discover French, German and Spanish - the three major European languages (in addition to English)!

SPANISH (K-2) classes are learning basic vocabulary by singing Spanish vocabulary songs, repeating and reading (grades 1-2). Bilingual books and short language videos are interesting and entertaining; they help make learning, reviewing and memorizing basic vocabulary fun!

FRENCH (3-5) students are eagerly listening, repeating, spelling, translating and creating sentences. They enjoy singing French greeting songs, watching fun vocabulary videos, learning how to write organized notes in their composition notebooks, creating documents on their laptops and typing in French and English.

The students are also learning the American Sign Language alphabet – it's a great way to provide translation and spelling hints!

FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH (6)

The 6th grade's project-based work has focused on creating a Google Slides presentation on Canada using basic grammar and vocabulary in all three languages: French, German and Spanish. They are writing statements, negations, questions, and switching nouns to pronouns while developing computer and presentation skills. We will cover six continents this year - learning geography, culture (religion, school systems, Unesco World Heritage sites, population, etc.) along the way!

FRENCH (7/8), GERMAN (7-8)

The first trimester project was to write a handwritten (cursive) letter of introduction in the target language. In doing so, students have learned and practiced basic grammar and vocabulary, while improving writing, comprehension, pronunciation, and their cursive skills! Their accents are very impressive, as is the fluency with which they read their letters. I think they will feel proud when they listen to the audio recordings of their 2-4 page documents.

This trimester has been wonderful! These middle schoolers are eager, conscientious learners, and I love teaching them! We celebrated the end of the trimester by practicing eating "European style" in Marian Hall and are looking forward to our German Christmas Market field trip on December 2!

-Frau/Senora/Madame Linsenmeyer

Continued on the next page...

IHM Specials Classes: 1st Trimester 2021 Update

LIBRARY

Students are learning to love books in the library! I have shared lots of great read-alouds with the **4K**, they have started to check out books to keep in their classroom for the week. After Christmas they will be able to bring books home to share with you! I would appreciate your support in getting their books back to school each Wednesday so they can check out another! We have had Fall and beginning of school-themed read-alouds for **ECE, 4K, K, 1st and 2nd Graders**. The **3rd grade** has been enjoying the very silly “The Best of Iggy”, **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 movie morning in the library, complete with popcorn. 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 is my first year with the IHM Art Classes and Technology Classes and we are busy brushing up on our talents! In middle school art we discussed church architecture and explored the frescoes of the Sistine Chapel. The **Middle Schoolers**—excited as ever—learnt about Michaelangelo and the history around some of his creations, such as *Pietà* and *Moses*. They took to sketching some of Michaelangelo’s sculptures and creating their own ideas of church frescoes.

In the inaugural Art class for **elementary students**, we are off to an exciting start. We began with the foundations, teaching students the basics of colors and color hues through art wheels. From there we further developed their skills through the use of watercolors, showing the contrast between primary colors and secondary colors. We perfected their skills through a mosaic project in which the students used primary and secondary color watercolors to create different designs such as pets, hearts, and geometric shapes. Finally, as a special project for these budding artists, we designed optical illusions—challenging the students to create images where there seems to be none.

This year IHM—for the first time ever—implemented the schoolwide use of Chromebooks. Encountering this new technology for the first time, the middle schoolers are learning to code and construct online presentations. They are learning the fundamentals of programming while also implementing their creativity into technology. The elementary students are further exploring their creativity through animation, crafting Wordles and drafting documents. I am looking forward to the new trimester and what lies ahead!

-Ms. Mercier

PHY. ED.

The last five weeks of physical education have been all about learning about each other. The students have been able to get to know me, Mr. Arts, and what my expectations are for them, and I have been able to learn about your student(s): their names, where they excel in PE and areas we’re going to work on in the future, as well as their favorite activities!

Our **3K, 4K and Kindergarten** students have been mastering locomotor skills by way of dances, freeze and copycat games, and animal activities. Throughout the second trimester, we are going to work on increasing our throwing, catching, kicking, and tumbling skills, while maintaining a safe space for ourselves and others.

First through Eighth graders have been working on a variety of age-appropriate activities, both individually and team oriented. We’ve discussed different aspects of living a healthy lifestyle, from making good food choices and not skipping meals, to knowing that physical activity isn’t just about going out and playing a sport - it’s also about maintaining flexibility and strength. We will continue developing our abilities of listening to our bodies via respiratory and heart rates, as well as how to properly fuel for activity. A lot of fun has been had during fitness BINGO! The students can look forward to a wide variety of activities for trimester #2, including but not limited to: hula hooping, broom ball, indoor soccer, jump rope, cornhole, basketball and flexibility, and maybe a few World Cup-themed activities!

-Mrs. Arts