

# ***IHM Specials Classes: 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester Update***

## **Music**

Congratulations to the students on their Spring Concert performances! As the year comes to a close, students are working on the following units: **4K/K** – barred instrument exploration & technique: how to hold mallets, how to take off bars, and how to carry instruments safely. **1st** – quarter and eighth note rhythms. They'll be able to sing, speak, and play four beat patterns well by the end of the year. **2nd** – question & answer and improvisation. They'll be able to create four beat patterns of improvisation on both instruments and vocally. **3rd** – three sounds on a beat. Ask them how many different ways this can happen, and to perform the 'Super Hero Jam' for you! **4th/5th** – syncopation. These energetic songs are challenging because the rhythm does not fall on the beat. Ask them to play 'Bump Up Tomato' or sing "Alabama Gal". **6th** – form in pop music. The students will be able to analyze the repeating sections of a song and categorize them into sections: verse, chorus, intro, bridge, etc. Maybe use their netbooks and create some music of their own! **7th** – wrapping up world music with a final project presentation on the country of their choice. **8th** – after the concert we learned one more fun piece on the instruments, 'Rockin' Robin Rondo.' What a fun year it's been!

-Mrs. Binzak

## **PHY. ED.**

The 6-8 are just about done with the Archery unit. Students are shooting better than ever this year! K-5 are finishing up the volleyball unit and starting to work on their kickball skills. It's been a great year!

-Mr. Lange

## **LIBRARY**

It's been a fabulous year in the library! The **4K** continued to work on being responsible for checking out books. **4K & K** heard a great array of read aloud picture books. **1<sup>st</sup> Grade** listened to "Bad Kitty: Drawn to Trouble" which also teaches lots of writing-centered words. **2nd Grade** finished the year with "My Father's Dragon" and the **combined 3,4,5 classes** ate up Roald Daul's "Fantastic Mr. Fox." In the Middle School, we finish "Coraline" by Neil Gaiman in the 6<sup>th</sup>, and watched to movie for comparison. The same happened with 7<sup>th</sup> Grade and "A Series of Unfortunate Events". The 8<sup>th</sup> grade finished the year listening to some classic read alouds like "Mike Mulligan & His Steam Shovel," which are good for all ages! Keep reading this summer!

-Mrs. Winter

## **COMPUTER**

It is the end of the year, and very exciting things are happening. The **8th** graders are heroic in their efforts to complete the oil paintings, photograph their other art work, and create their own art gallery web pages. There is great diversity among the paintings, and the web pages are created from the ground up. The student art galleries will be available world wide on the Internet. Is is a great experience!

**5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Grades** are working on final projects where they summarize a topic, do research on the topic, and put it all together in an electronic presentation shown to the class. The projects require a many skills, and motivate the students to develop their capacity for troubleshooting problems not previously encountered in the classroom.

**Early elementary students** are "beta testing" a new version of GCompris - the educational software suite used as an introduction to computer skills. In many cases, the students are challenged to discover how to use information on the screen to initiate the specific activities they wish to pursue.

All in all, the use of technology combined with higher level artistic pursuits continues to expand at IHM.  
-Dr. Maynard

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

**Grades K-2** have had a wonderful year learning Spanish pronunciation (the Spanish "r" can be challenging), and an overview of basic vocabulary. Colors, numbers, days of the week, seasons, family members, body parts, animals and clothes. They will perform a song in Spanish at the middle school Deutsch Off competition. **Grades 3-5** have learned vocabulary related to colors, numbers, days of the week, family members, animals and food! Students wrote and illustrated a story in French on their netbooks for their Spring project.

The **middle schoolers** will continue posting in German on our World Language classroom blogs and learning new vocabulary related to family/home, celebrations/holidays and the weather. The **8<sup>th</sup> graders** competed at UW-Madison's German Day in five areas of competition – spelling, charades, Pictionary, poetry and skits. The **7<sup>th</sup> graders** are learning weather vocabulary and are focusing on reading, writing and translating longer paragraphs. The **6<sup>th</sup> graders** focused on family/home life vocabulary and are developing their accents!

I'm so happy to see the progress our students have made in Spanish, French and German language and culture.

-Mrs. Linsenmeyer