

# ***IHM Specials Classes: 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester 2019 Update***

## **MUSIC**

The students are finishing the school year strong in the music room! Students put their musical skills on display at our Spring Concert “A Little Night Music” – here are some of the ways they showed their knowledge:

Students in **ECE and 4K** demonstrated counting skills, singing voice, steady beat keeping, and aural (listening skills) in their concert. I am especially proud of how they used their high and low voices!

The **Kindergarten** was the only class to perform three songs alone in the concert! They showed great progress in singing voices, ensemble (group) musical skills, and concert behavior.

**1st graders** displayed rhythm vs. beat in the song “Wee Willy Winky” by using body percussion (beat) at the same time as chanting the words (rhythm). This is tricky and they nailed it! It was also so fun to see them popping out to say Cuckoo during ‘So Long, Farewell’!

**2nd grade** played both pitched and unpitched percussion instruments with great skill in our concert. Their best moment came during ‘Forgotten Dreams’ as they moved creatively together and responded musically.

**3rd grade** really showed off their recorder skills. Their memorization and improvisation was top notch! Their excellent leadership during rehearsals and performances demonstrated amazing growth this year. We are now finishing the year with some pirate themed fun! Ask them to sing a captain solo, or have them teach you how to play ‘Yo ho, I pull the anchor!’

The **4th/5th grade** ensemble combined their efforts with three part harmony on ‘Welcome, Welcome’ and performed a beautiful musical canon in ‘Catch a Falling Star’ both singing and playing!

In **Middle School**, students focused on their instrument technique and melody memorization. 6th grade played a harmonized piece which was split by timbre and pitch. 7th grade tackled a challenging piece in compound meter for the concert. They also debuted a new skill, three mallet technique! 8th grade completed their year in music with two excellent performances at the Spring Concert. They worked together to arrange their chosen song ‘ZeZe’ on classroom instruments, and it was a big hit!

It was a great year and I hope everyone has a very musical summer!

-Mrs. Binzak

## **NEW MEDIA ART**

The **8th grade** students have completed their final projects, and this year they have done exceptional work. Not only have they designed their oil paintings “from the ground up” - doing rough drafts, cutting their stretcher bars, stretching the canvas, and laying down layers of paint, they have also photographed the entire process, created and edited videos of their work, and placed all of their images and information on web pages they created themselves. The web pages become their art galleries which can be viewed from anywhere in the world! The entire project has been quite a challenge – with many rewards. Now they are ready to show the results at graduation.

The **4th and 5th grade** New Media Arts class has continued with the development of their robotics programming skills. The students are now fully comfortable with the process of creating code on their netbooks, transferring the code to their robots, and implementing robot activities in concrete challenging environments. Most recently, the students have been able to convert their robots into tanks with continuous treads. The tanks are able to crawl over each other on their way to a pre-chosen destination.

It seems the **3rd grade** students have discovered CAD design and 3D printing. During random breaks and recess times, the third grade students have been asking for the Wings3D program to be installed on their netbooks. After this, they have been saving their own unique creations in the stereo-lithography (.stl) format for printing. A great amount of fun for all!

Highest praise is to be offered for the **2nd grade** students. They have been consistent and intentional in their pursuit of coding skills through the code.org platform. In class, students gather in two groups and share ideas and solutions for troubleshooting programs and creating game activities. Coding is clearly something they look forward to each week.

-Dr. Maynard

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# ***IHM Specials Classes: 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester 2018 Update***

## **PHY. ED.**

It is hard to believe we are finally wrapping up the school year P.E.! We have certainly enjoyed our year of with loads of different challenges and excitement. Our **ECE, Kindergarten, and 4K** kids have enjoyed working on synchronizing their movements with various dance activities, hand-eye coordination, and of course our continued work on gross motor activities throughout this last trimester.

**1st-5th Grades** have been honing in on their speed and reactionary motor tasks with various partner challenges, relays and games. They have also begun working on tactical elements with various team challenges and games. Our **MIDDLE SCHOOLERS** have been continuing to work on their fitness and strength levels. We have also been incorporating different tactical elements with games like speedball, spikeball for our reaction, and various playground obstacle challenges.

It has been nice to get outside and enjoy the great spaces that we have to challenge our bodies! The weather just needs to cooperate a little better here for the finish of the school year. It has been a joy to watch all the children progress over the course of the school year. I am looking forward to them taking some of the new games they learned and enjoying them in their summer play. As always if there are any questions or you would like to learn more about what your child is up to in Physical Education don't hesitate to stop by or send me an email!

- Mrs. Snider

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

The World Languages programs have had a productive third trimester! **Spanish (K-2)** have developed listening and repeating skills and have started to learn to read and spell basic vocabulary and short sentences. They have also memorized a small catalog of favorite Spanish songs! We are reading our 9<sup>th</sup> bilingual book, and have continued to enjoy digital Spanish stories with subtitles.

**French (3-5)** have been using the basic French vocabulary they are learning to write a Spring poem using LibreOffice on their netbooks. It's been a creative, bilingual project, as they decorating their documents with online images and translating their poems into English. The students have continued to be exposed to digital material in the form of French songs and short stories with subtitles.

The **Middle Schoolers** are continuing to learn new German and Spanish (the digital VOCES program) vocabulary and grammar and posting on our World Language classroom blogs. This trimester, our blog has focused on the food, clothing and cities of the five major German speaking countries (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Lichtenstein). The Spanish program has focused on numbers, days of the week, greetings and culture of Mexico. Both the German and Spanish courses have incorporated online digital material that has enhanced the classroom learning experience!

- Frau/Senora/Madame Linsenmeyer

## **LIBRARY**

Students are learning to love books in the library! The **4K** are doing great being responsible for their checked out books! **4K, K & 1** enjoyed read alouds of many great picture books. The **2nd Graders** finished the year with the classic "My Father's Dragon" and the combined **3,4,5** classes continued the hysterical "Sideways Stories from Wayside School" by Louis Sachar. The **6,7, & 8<sup>th</sup>** grades ended with reading some classic picture books, including "Tikki Tikki Tembo," that are good for all ages!

As I work on developing the collection at IHM, one of the sections I am concentrating on are our Graphic Novels. Graphic novels are very popular and appealing to the students. Graphic novels are "real books," they can tell full stories in many different genres. They add visual clues to text to help with decoding and vocabulary. They attract and motivate kids to read, including reluctant readers, and are just one more way we can encourage our students to pick up a book and read!

-Mrs. Winter