

IHM Specials Classes: 2nd Trimester 2020 Update

Music

It's been a great trimester in the music room! Students in ECE and 4K are exploring small percussion instruments such as maracas, tambourines and jingle bells! Ask them to sing 'Aiken Drum' for you! The Kindergarten class continues to master the skill of steady beat. They can move, sing, play, and create with this foundational musical skill. We are also using beat buddies to learn about lullabies.

1st graders are identifying long and short sounds to prepare for learning about quarter note and eighth notes. 2nd graders are learning about sounds which last for two beats. They will build on their rhythm reading skills and move into a focus on melodic direction soon. 3rd grade is busy at work playing recorder! This is an exciting time for them, and as of this week all 3rd grade students have passed their white belt, which means they have mastered the first two recorder notes. 4th and 5th grade musicians are reviewing their recorder skills from last year and continuing to earn belts. As their skills develop, we will work on playing duets and trios.

T2 electives have been a lot of fun. Instrumental Ensemble has learned many complicated pieces, as well as advanced their music theory skills with work on scales, chords, and intervals. Their final project was to arrange a favorite pop song on xylophones. The students in Theatre have completed projects focused on acting, improvisation, costuming, and sound design. Each Tuesday and Wednesday morning begins with Ukulele class. Mrs. Binzak is absolutely astounded at their progress! Recently grades 5-8 went on a field trip to Overture Hall to listen to the Madison Symphony Orchestra. Looking forward to Trimester 3!
-Mrs. Binzak

WORLD LANGUAGES

The IHM World Languages program is continuing to expose our students to the three major European languages and European culture. Lots of challenging and fun learning is taking place!

Spanish (K-2) are memorizing basic vocabulary by listening, repeating and reading! We're continuing to read bilingual books; the CleverTouch board has enhanced learning by incorporating interesting digital material - Spanish songs, short conversation videos and simple stories with subtitles. All three grades use creative movement and sing songs which enable them memorize basic vocabulary.

French (3-5) have finished working on their Family/La Famille computer project, in addition to listening, repeating, writing and translating sentences and paragraphs using basic vocabulary. They are continuing to enjoy digital material in the form of French songs, short videos and ebooks.

The Middle Schoolers are learning new German and French vocabulary and grammar and posting on our World Language classroom blogs. This trimester, our blog has focused on the Francophone world, the German speaking world, the family, the classroom and the body.

The 8th graders are preparing to compete at German Day, a UW-Madison competition for middle and high school students from southwestern Wisconsin. Over 500 students will compete in Poetry, Spelling, Pictionary, Charades, Poster, Skit and Music and Memes.
-Frau/Senora/Madame Linsenmeyer

LIBRARY

Students are learning to love books in the library! The **4K** started taking home the books they check out, learning how to be responsible for them at home and bring them back to check out another one. We have had lots of fun read alouds for **4K, K, and 1st Grade** including some Dr. Seuss classics to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and National Read-Across America Day. The **2nd Graders** are enjoying the sassy antics of Junie B. Jones. The **3rd Graders** have mixed feelings about the very silly time-traveling tale by Neil Gaiman called "Fortunately, the Milk." The **4th and 5th Grade classes** are finishing up "Sideways Stories from Wayside School" by Louis Sachar. In the Middle School, I continue to read the about the brave "Coraline" by Neil Gaiman to the **6th and 7th Graders**, and the **8th Graders** are listening to "The Unteachables" by Gordon Korman. Ask them what they think!

The **Middle Schoolers are still working on the** "Library Achievements" project that we started this 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 is a Starbucks delivery to their library class (no caffeine!) in the next couple of weeks, then I will announce the reward for the last part of the year. 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

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IHM Specials Classes: 1st Trimester 2019 Update

NEW MEDIA ART

The Third Trimester is the culmination of years of work for the eighth-grade students. It is the time when all their skills – in art, computer, writing, web page authoring, and much more come together in a unified presentation. Two months ago, the students began preparation for the project, and since then they have each completed an individual prospectus, tested possible filters in the Gnu Image Manipulation Program, created animated GIFS (Graphics Interchange Format) , worked on photography and image scanning, and began learning the use of a miter saw. As of this week, some of the students have completed their stretcher-bar gluing, and are stapeling the canvases. After this, they will be ready for the impramatura, and the beginning of oil painting proper. We will be using the highest quality oil paints – some made in Wisconsin, and some made in Holland and Spain. The trimester will culminate in the creation of web-site galleries, and the display of their art work and web sites at graduation.

After having spent the first two Trimesters learning how to program robots, the Robotics students will move on to building more complicated machines, including diggers, cranes, tanks, and line printers. The work itself will become more independent, with Advanced Technology classes being composed of a mixture of students in different learning areas. Coding students already have a solid beginning in object oriented programming, and in the Third Trimester they will move on to more advanced concepts. Toward the end of the trimester, we plan on beginning work in python, an easy to learn, powerful, opensource, cross-platform programming language. It has efficient high-level data structures and incorporates a simple but effective approach to computer programming. Python's name is derived from the British comedy group Monty Python, whom Python creator Guido van Rossum enjoyed while developing the language.

PHY. ED.

It is hard to believe we are embarking on our final trimester of the year! Trimester two was eventful especially being back into the swing of things with the kiddos following maternity leave and finishing up the trimester with our first annual Kids Heart Challenge - Jump Rope for Heart.

Ms. Kuechle and I are having a blast watching the children get stronger and progress in their movement skills. Our **ECE** and **Kindergarten** have been having fun working on their solid landing skills by jumping off of various objects in class! Sorry if couches are being used for practice ;) They are also incorporating their skills into endless chase games. **1st through 5th** grade enjoyed playing hockey, team games, as well as various fitness based challenges. During the final trimester our **5th grade** will have a sneak peak at archery.

Middle School wrapped up their second trimester electives with a completion of the full weightlifting movements in **Weightlifting class** and full court basketball games in **Team Sports**. The final trimester for our middle school students will include **Ninja Fitness** – we will be building our strength and agility indoors. As soon as weather permits we will be challenging ourselves on our playground with ninja fitness skills. **Weightlifting** will continue to build upon the foundation set last trimester for some and introduce the sport to a new group of middle schoolers. This trimester we have an opportunity to either observe or participate in the State Weightlifting competition at the end of March happening in Waukesha. **Team Sports** will begin the trimester with volleyball skills and finish with track and field.

As always if there are any questions regarding your child's physical education please don't hesitate to stop by, email or call. The foundation of the physical education curriculum is to maximize the sensitive windows of development each age is experiencing and expose them to a variety of environments in efforts to enhance their true physical education.