

Notes from Second Grade Music

What We're Learning

This month we are finishing our study of dotted quarter notes, eighth notes in groups of three, and quarter note-eighth note pairs. We know how to speak and write these notes, and we will finish up our unit with a rhythm composition project.

About halfway through January we will begin our fourth major unit in our music learning curriculum. This unit will consist of learning about pitches mi, re, and do. First, we will begin working on singing patterns of those three notes as in tune as possible. By the beginning of February we will be learning to identify these sounds in a variety of songs.

Songs in Unit Four: (Subject to change) Shoheen Sho Long-Legged Sailor Go 'Round the Mountain Dem Bones Snail, Snail Sailor, Sailor The Carillon Ostinato by Bizet

In addition to learning about these new notes, we will be continuing to develop our singing voices and explore playing the glockenspiels.

Coming Up!

February is national "I Love to Read" Month. Why is this important in music? First, there are many great children's books available about music and musicians in our library and in area bookstores. Some of Mrs. Herdina's favorites include: "Abiyoyo," "The Jazz Fly," and "Ah, Music!"

Second, music education helps in the process of learning to read. *Fluency*, or the ability to read aloud in a fluid cadence, is something we focus on in learning to read songs and rhythms. Recent studies have shown that students who read to a steady beat can improve fluency. For further information about how music and reading are linked, please visit the following website: <u>http://www.abcmusicandme.com/docume</u> nts/impact of music on literacy.pdf

What We Can Do at Home

- Ask your child to perform their composition from music for you, or, if they prefer, have them write a new rhythm at home!
- Identify instruments on the radio and at sporting events. What is your favorite instrument and why?