

# Specialist Newsletter

Redmond Elementary School  
September 2021



## Music News from Mrs. Schoenen

It has been so much fun getting to know some new faces and see some old friends. This month, the primary students have been moving to the beat, learning songs about animals from the farm and playing instruments along with those songs. We also explored high and low with the story of, "Goldilocks and the Three Bears". Some of the favorite musical stories from the month were; Chickens to the Rescue, Goldi Rocks and the Three Bears, and Five Little Ducks.

In second grade music class, we have been working on beat and rhythm. The students have experienced both with movement, instruments, and notation. The students have also been moving to folk dances and silly songs such as, "Ha, Ha, This-A-Way" and "Carnivalito" with our huge stretchy band.

The third graders have been reviewing rhythms (a favorite game was "Rhythm Imposters" based on the game "Among Us"), moving to silly songs, such as, "Down to the Baker's Shop", and reviewing the pitches Do, Re, Mi. The students were also able to show off their knowledge of beat and rhythm on our classroom drums.

The drums have been echoing throughout the school with our fourth grade and fifth classes this fall. The students started off the school year with a favorite singing game, "Rabbit and a Possum". They have also been working with the World Music Drumming curriculum to learn the first ensemble, which is based on African drumming techniques. To go along with the drumming, they have been working their rhythms with various activities and games. The students learned about the recycled orchestra of Paraguay through the book, Ada's Violin and were able to watch the trailer for the documentary made about the world-famous orchestra, "Landfill Orchestra".

## Music News from Mr. Warren

October is here! That means more fall and Halloween/Harvest themed music lessons and songs for all grade levels! If you have a child that you would prefer NOT participate/sing/play Halloween themed activities, please let me know, and I will do my best to give your child another activity to do during that time.

**Kindergarteners** have been doing a great job working on keeping a steady beat using their bodies and instruments!

**1<sup>st</sup> graders** are learning quarter note, eighth note and half note rhythms/rests, and doing a great job of learning how to be responsible

when holding and using different percussion instruments.

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders** have been getting really good at using body percussion to perform different rhythms, and singing solfege/using hand signs to perform different intervals and rhythms.

**4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders** have been awesome at working together to learn the different note names on a treble clef staff, as well as performing a variety of more complicated rhythms using 16<sup>th</sup> note combinations.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, if you have any questions or concerns for me regarding what your child is learning and doing in music, please don't hesitate to reach out! I'm looking forward to continue to give your student(s) balanced and appropriate grade level music instruction! I'm enjoying getting to know these kiddos!

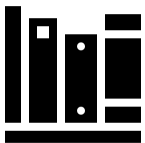


## Physical Education News from Miss Alvarez and Miss Prall

Primary students have been learning the rules to follow during PE time. Students have also started working on fundamental motor skill movements such as skipping, galloping, and hopping. We have incorporated following rules with games like Freeze Dance and Follow the Leader. Primary students in the last few weeks will work with manipulatives, such as scarves and bean bags. For the month of October, students will begin the Bowling unit and also have a racquet and paddle unit to work on hand/eye coordination.

Intermediate students have been working on reviewing gym procedures. We started with sport stations to develop routines during class. We have had a week of Juggling activities with various pieces of equipment. When students are required to be in teams, they will stay with their classroom cohorts for safety. For the month of October, students will begin the Bowling unit and also have a racquet and paddle unit to work on hand/eye coordination.

**Please remember to send your students with the proper footwear to be active during class. Students that do not wear the proper footwear cannot participate in some activities. Please send additional footwear if you send your child to school with rain boots. We want our students to be successful in our PE activities and certain footwear prevents certain movement.**



## Library News from Mrs. Jones

Welcome back to another exciting year! I'm excited to see familiar faces and meet new ones. Book check out began the second week of school for grades 2-5. First graders began check out this past week. Our new kindergarten friends will start checking out books in a few weeks after learning how the library works. Please remind your students to take good care of their books. If they would like to keep their books past the due date, please remind them to ask a library staff member to renew their book. Overdue notices will go home every Friday and will reflect materials turned in by the end of the school day Thursday. There will never be a fine for an overdue book. Prices are marked in the event a book is lost or damaged. These fees cover the cost of replacing a book.

Battle of the Books 2022 is underway. Students in grades 4-5 will receive information this week, but students do not have to wait to start reading. Book lists are available in the library and permission slips are coming home after your child's next library day.