

Music Notes

October has been jam packed with musical learning. Kindergarten students have learned to skillfully play and care for a variety of rhythm instruments including ***rhythm sticks, sand blocks and tubanos***. They have been exploring ways to keep a steady beat on these instruments. First grade students have been exploring a variety of classroom instruments and using them to demonstrate a ***steady beat*** using a variety of ***tempo*** and ***dynamic*** levels. Second grade students have been learning about the *families of instruments in the orchestra* (***strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion***) and describing the similarities and differences between each family. The second graders will be attending a live orchestra performance at the Strathmore Center for the Performing Arts on Friday, November 22. Third grade students have been performing a variety of ***ostinato patterns*** (rhythmic and melodic patterns that repeat over and over in a piece of music). Fourth grade students have also been performing a variety of ***ostinato patterns*** and combining them in layers to create musical ***texture***. Fifth grade students studying about the history of and the musical patterns that are found in the ***blues***. The fifth grade students attended a blues concert at The Strathmore Performing Arts Center on Friday, October 25; they were wonderful leaders and models of respectful audience behavior.

Both chorus groups, 3rd and 4/5, have gotten off to an enthusiastic start and are hard at work in preparations for our **Choral/Instrumental Music Winter Concert** which will take place on **Friday, January 10, 2019**.

It is a pleasure to work with your children each week.

—Mrs. Pfaff