

Music Notes



Highland View students have been demonstrating their musical expertise in many exciting ways in 2020!

- Kindergarten students read the book, The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats. The students brainstormed a list of sounds from the book and practiced creating different ways to make the sounds with voices and body percussion. Lastly, we chose a few sounds from the list and attached a picture to the sound. A sound piece was created with the pictures and the students performed the piece on sand blocks with "Take the A Train" by Billy Strayhorn (Wynton Marsalis version) as background music.
- 1st Grade students read the book, The Three Billy Goats Gruff. The students explored vocal registers (**high, middle, low**) while saying the parts of the three goats. The students then created two rhythms (**using quarter and eighth notes**) from the story and performed them on **tubanos** (cylinder drums).
- 2nd Grade students **improvised and notated** original melodies using the pitches, **sol and mi**, to accompany the story, 5 Little Monkeys.
- 3rd Grade has been learning about how conductors use **time signatures** to know how to help a group of musicians play together. The students practiced conducting in a **2/4 meter (time signature)**. The students have also become masterful singers of **two and three part rounds (canons)**.
- 4th Grade students have been diligently working on their sight-reading skills ... analyzing short melodies to determine pitches and rhythms used. They have also performed a set of **partner songs** that included 2 songs sung simultaneously and a set of **partner songs** that included 3 songs that were sung simultaneously to create **harmony**.
- 5th Grade students have explored the element of **texture/harmony** by singing and playing a **melody** along with a **descant**.

Our Choral/Instrumental Winter Concert was a big hit with students, staff members, and families. Congratulations to our fabulous student musicians!

Warmly,
Mrs. Pfaff