

Opus 5, No.1
Fall 2011

Mr. Snyder's *Opus*

{Latin word for *work*. In music, pieces of music by composers are given opus numbers, which generally run in order of publication.}



Choral Music Calendar

| DATE | TIME | EVENT |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Friday, November 11, 2011 | 10:00 a.m. | Veteran's Day Program 4th & 5th Grade Chorus Sings |
| Tuesday, November 22, 2011 | 7:00 p.m. | Thanksgiving Pie Social (3rd Grade Performs) |
| Friday, December 23, 2011 | 2:30 p.m. | Winter Sing-a-long |
| Monday, January 30, 2012 | 7:00 p.m. | Winter Choral Concert |
| Tuesday, February 7, 2012 | 7:00 p.m. | PTA Meeting (Kindergarten Performs) |
| Wednesday, May 16, 2012 | 8:15 p.m. | Honors Chorus Concert |
| Friday, May 25, 2012 | 2:30 p.m. | Patriotic Sing-a-long |
| Monday, June 4, 2012 | 7:00 p.m. | Spring Choral Concert |

What can parents do to help their child succeed in music?

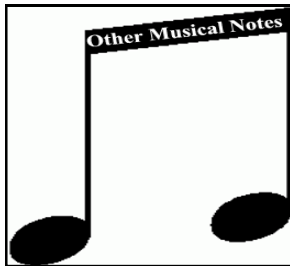
1. Make sure you and your child attend their performances. School concerts and events are listed above.
2. If your child plays an instrument or takes music lessons, have them practice at least **10 minutes** every day.
3. Show your enthusiasm and love for music by singing or playing along with your child.



MRS. COBIAN'S 3RD GRADE CLASS PLAYING THE RECORDERS

FEATURED INSTRUMENT: RECORDER

THE RECORDER IS A WOODWIND MUSICAL INSTRUMENT. IT WAS POPULAR IN MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE TIMES. TODAY, IT IS OFTEN RECOGNIZED AS A CHILD'S INSTRUMENT, BUT THERE ARE MANY PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS WHO DEMONSTRATE THE INSTRUMENT'S FULL CAPABILITIES. THERE ARE MANY TYPES OF RECORDERS: GARKLEIN, SOPRANINO, SOPRANO, ALTO, TENOR, BASS, AND CONTRA BASS. (PICTURED HERE IS A SOPRANO RECORDER.)



• The purpose of the MCPS Elementary Honors Chorus is to bring talented children of various backgrounds together to study and perform choral music representing a wide

variety of historical eras and cultures. Mr. Snyder held auditions for the Honors Chorus in October. Twenty-two students auditioned. Violet Barnhart and Sara Janatkah were selected to represent Washington Grove. Congratulations Violet and Sara!

- For more information about private music lessons and music classes, please contact Mr. Snyder.

The first marking period has passed and students have been working hard on mastering many curricular indicators. Kindergartners have been learning how to use their singing voices correctly and match pitch. They identified whether music moved up or down. Kindergartners also worked on keeping the steady beat through movement and playing instruments. The first grade performed singing games with musical cues and identified the same and different sections heard in music. Second graders learned about the instruments in the orchestra and singing in tune with appropriate vocal technique. The third grade worked on singing in harmony using partner songs and rounds. Partner songs are two or more songs that can be sung at the same time. Third graders also identified musical forms containing contrast and repetition. The form has to do with how the sections of a piece are organized. Additionally, they began to learn how to play the recorder. The fourth grade practiced their recorder skills by reviewing the notes B & A. They continued learning how to sight-read rhythms and melodies using quarter notes, quarter rests, eighth notes, half notes, half rests, whole notes, and whole rests. Fourth graders notated or wrote rhythms too. The fifth grade learned about music styles. Students sang a patriotic song and a song from Jamaica. They also learned about tempo. Tempo is the speed of the beat. The fourth and fifth grade chorus is busy preparing for the Veteran's Day observance and the Winter Concert. They are working on proper singing technique, rhythmic and melodic sight-reading, learning their parts, and singing in harmony.