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MUSIC SYLLABUS

Goal:

The General Music Curriculum and Choral Program at Sacred Heart School is designed to assist the students in learning and experiencing the joy and power of music that will serve to guide and inspire them throughout life. Based on the music curricular guidelines and standards established by the National Association for Music Education, students will be able to gain an understanding of the basic and fundamental working knowledge of music and its history. These learning experiences will enable students in discovering the foundation of music he or she listens to today and an appreciation for America's musical heritage.

Program Description:

The General Music Curriculum is offered to all grades (PK – 8). Students will learn the fundamentals of music theory, notation, music history, and performance. Grades 3-8 will have an opportunity to participate in the music ministry program in the school's Friday Mass. All grades participate in a Lessons & Carols Service in December.

The Sacred Heart School Chorus is open to children in grades 4 – 8, which presents two concerts a year. Chorus members also participate in two choir festivals, the first of which, is in January and is sponsored by the American Guild of Organists. The second is the Children's Choir Festival sponsored by the Mystic Area Ecumenical Church Council and is held in March.

The National Music Standards addressed:

1. Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.
5. Reading and notating music.
6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.
7. Evaluating music and music performances.
8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture

Curriculum Content:

Fall Term

September –

- Assessment of music theory knowledge and skills level – All Grades
 - Rhythms
 - Notation
 - Melody/Intervals
 - Note Reading
 - Fundamentals of singing

- Discovering the meaning of music – All grades
 Grades 3-8:
 Review and preparation of the Friday Mass music
 Grade 4:
 Begin process of creating & designing posters on the meaning of music for
 for display later in the year
 PK – 3:
 Meaning of music through singing songs, movement and dictation
- Chorus:
 Rehearsals include learning the fundamentals of singing and practicing the
 repertoire in preparation for the school masses, concerts, festivals, and other
 special occasions.

October -

- Introduction to the Medieval Period with the focus on the Gregorian Chant, the
 Musical heritage of the Roman Catholic Church
 Pk - 2 Brief introduction by learning songs typical of the early
 Music style.
 Grades 3 – 5:
 Study of Medieval instruments/ notation/composers
 Grades 6-8:
 Brief review of medieval music and how its influence is seen in the
 Study of twentieth century music history: Folk songs, musical theater, and
 American popular music
 Chorus:
 Rehearsals continue for their performances

November / December –

- Preparation for Lessons & Carols Service – All Grades
 Assessing singing skills & coordinating repertoire with the language
 Department
- All students learn & sing Christmas hymns for the Lessons and Carols Service
 Grades 5 - 8:
 Music History Focus: Handel’s “Messiah”
 Comparing of the Oratorio/ Mass/ Lessons & Carols format
 Grade 4:
 Students work on their Design Plans for their “What Music Means to
 Me” projects

Winter Term:

January - March - Lessons & Carols wrap up – All Grades

- Preparation for Catholic School's Week music – All Grades
- Preparation for Friday Mass music - Chorus
 PreK - 2
 Learning winter songs through singing, movement, and
 Rhythm games, introduction to learning and counting note values
 Grade 3:
 Music theory studies through learning to play children’s bells

Grade 5:

Study classical music composers (1700 - 20th cent.) through

Classroom work, music theory review, and written/oral reports

Middle School - Music theory and history review, and student research for

Their report projects begins

6th - Study of the folk song

Classroom work & written/oral reports

7th - Musical Theater

Class room study: "Music Man" & written/oral reports on musical of their choice

8th - American popular music

Classroom study: activity work papers & written/oral reports on popular music and the artist/composer of their choice

Spring Term:

April – June

- Wrap up review & work assignment assessments

Elementary Grades:

Music theory / eurhythmics / performance development

Grades 5 - 8:

Continuation of music history class study,

Research, written/ oral report presentations

Instructional Strategies:

Lecture

Discussions/ Questions

Listening/ Answering/ Dictation/ Repetition

Independence/ Research Learning/ Writing Reports (Grades 5-8 only)

Videos

Computer Applications, Music Technology Integration

Performance

General Assessment/ Grading:

Grades 3 – 8:

Written Assignments/ Projects

Classroom participation

Classroom Behavior

Quizzes/ Tests (verbal & written)

PK –2:

Assessment of progress through class participation: Singing Songs/ Eurhythmics (tapping /clapping & body movement)

Written Work appropriate to age group

Student Expectations:

The expectation is that students

Develop an understanding of music through the study of the basic fundamentals of music Theory & performance

Develop and understanding of the history & meaning of music & its importance &

Influence in today's society & throughout history.

Develop skills in listening and performance of music

Important Calendar Events:

- December -
Annual Christmas Choral & Band Concert – Grades 4 – 8 – Sacred Heart Cafeteria
Christmas Service of Lessons & Carols – Participation by All Grades
- January –
Catholic Schools Week Celebrations
- May –
Annual Choral & Band Spring Concert – Grades 4-8 – Sacred Heart Cafeteria