

Music and Integrated Arts 2022-23

Ms. Neufeld

I have been teaching at Weston school for a number of years and have appreciated all the students and musical experiences that have come through our doors. My specialty and passion is singing, and nothing makes me feel as good as hearing students join together in song. If you had asked me when I was a child where music would have taken me, I would not have dreamed of the opportunities I have had because I sing. I try to share those experiences and that sense of "anything is possible" with my classes and remind them that they never know where what they learn here may take them.



Focus: The focus in the music program is on integration of the Arts- drama, movement, and occasionally art- into music class. Each of the Arts components offer students different ways to improve both academic and social/emotional skills:

First term: The focus and reporting in the first term is on music, with students learning and being assessed on music reading, instrument playing and creative skills. Music enhances students' learning in mathematics, language arts, social studies, and even science. Studies have also shown that students who are part of a music program have better social skills. Singing, especially, is well known to contribute to students feeling of inclusivity and positivity.

Second term: While we continue to work with music, assessment and reporting shifts to the drama curriculum. Drama creates a sense of community in the classroom and encourages students to take risks in exploring ideas and emotions. This year, the focus in drama will be on public speaking and vocal expression.

Third term: This term, we will connect music with dance. Dance offers students a way to develop coordination, improve their fitness level, express themselves using their bodies, and make connections with both music and drama. The emphasis will be on dance language and creativity and individual expression.



Special Opportunities:

Choir: Grade 4-6 choir will be starting late September. This will be a lunch hour club that will meet once a cycle and prepare and sing songs for assemblies and concerts. The only requirement is a love to sing! Depending on the size of the group, Grade 3 students in Rooms 10/11 may be included.

Recorder Club: This will be open to students in Grades 4-6 who enjoy recorder and want more opportunities to grow and play as an ensemble, starting mid to late October and running til Winter break.

Ukulele Club: Open to students in Grades 4-6 who want to advance their playing skills, starting mid-February and running til Spring Break.



In music, students are expected to be: Respectful, Responsible, and Safe.