# WELCOME TO PERFORMING ARTS!

I am very excited to be teaching Performing Arts this year! After almost two years of limited singing, music will be ringing through the halls once again at Champlain. The Performing Arts program has three areas that will be covered: **Music, Dance,** and **Drama.** Here are some of the activities that are planned for this year:

#### MUSIC

We will start the year with a focus on singing as a base for learning in the music program. Students will be singing as a group and will be learning to sing with the correct pitch and tone.



We will also be using our bodies (hands and feet) as well as instruments to keep a steady beat with different rhythms. Students will also identify different instruments in pieces we listen to and discuss how musicians and composers use the instruments to create particular sounds and themes in a piece. Later in the year we will be moving on to learning how to read musical notation by playing melodic instruments such as the recorder, xylophone and glockenspiel. By the end of the year, older students will be performing together as a small ensemble with different instruments.



## DANCE

Dance music and rhythm go hand in hand. Students will be learning a variety of different dance styles from around the world including African, Hip Hop,

Bollywood, Indigenous, Folk dances, and others. Once basic steps are learned students will have the opportunity to create and perform their own dances with a small group.

## DRAMA

In our drama activities, students will be using their bodies, facial expressions and voices to convey a convincing message to the audience. We will start the year exploring how to show basic emotions such as joy, anger, sadness, fear, surprise, and worry in different situations. Students will have the



opportunity to expand their acting skills through a variety of different dramatic forms such as skits, slapstick, tableaux, poetry reading, puppet shows, plays and film/video.



We have two performances planned for the year.

#### **Winter Concert in December**

#### **Spring Showcase in May or June**

Families will be notified in the newsletter when the specific dates have been confirmed. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions please feel free to contact me at the school. The best time is from 11:30-12:00 every day.

Mr. Shymko

"To enter a theater for a performance is to be inducted into a magical space, to be ushered into the sacred arena of the imagination."

- Simon Callow.