



Gwynedd-Mercy Academy Elementary

Music Program

2020-2021



As this school year begins and we work together embrace a world full of new challenges, I am committed to making sure that our students have a dynamic, multi-modal and fun music making experience. While there are many things that we will not be able to do this year, I have encouraged our students to flip their thinking. We will be doing many of the same things as we have in previous years. With this in mind, I am embracing one of my favorite poems, "Ourchestra", by Shel Silverstein when planning and coming up with creative ways to keep our students making music, exploring and growing as musicians and young people. It is my goal that each class will put together a short performance that will be taped and shared with our families.

For families who might be new to GMA, welcome! I am excited to get to know you and your children this year. All grade levels actively engage in a multi-modal approach to music making and learning using the Orff Schulwerk method of music education. "In Orff Schulwerk classrooms, children begin with what they do instinctively: play! Imitation, experimentation, and personal expression occur naturally as students become confident, life-long musicians and creative problem solvers. The Orff approach to teaching is a model for optimal learning in 21st Century classrooms." -AOSA.org

As always, if you have any questions, I am always available by email at LTierney@gmaelem.org!

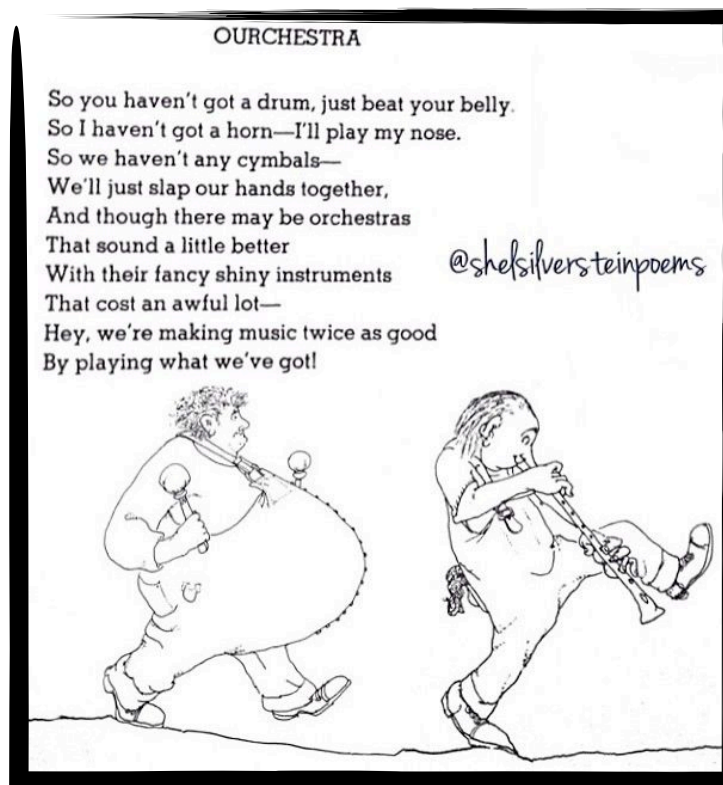
Ms. Tierney

Pre-K (4) & Kindergarten Students:

- Students will have music class in their classroom, 3 times a cycle for 1 Trimester.
- Students will be actively making music curriculum using the First Steps in Music curriculum by John Feierabend in conjunction with singing, moving and making music using the Orff Schulwerk.
- First Steps utilizes folk songs and rhymes as well as classical music are the primary source materials that are used to develop their musical minds and abilities.

1st-3rd Grade Students:

- Students will have music class in their classroom, 3 times a cycle for 1 Trimester.
- The elements of Rhythm, Melody, Timbre, Musical Expression, Form and Harmony will be experienced and developed at each grade level using body percussion, literacy and more!
- In addition to our Orff Schulwerk approach of singing, moving and creating, students will be engage in their music learning using a new resource, Music Play Online!



4th & 5th Grade:

- Students will have music class in the Music Room one time a cycle for the duration of the school year.
- Students will be making music together, in a socially distanced set-up. No recorders this year!
- In addition to our Orff Schulwerk approach of singing, moving and creating, students will be engage in their music learning using a new resource, Music Play Online!
- In 4th and 5th grade we will be using a multimodal approach to refine complex concepts (speech, body percussion, creative movement, composition).

Middle School Elective Classes:

- Students will have their elective classes in the Music room two times per cycle for 1 semester!
- 2020-2021 Music Elective Offerings:
 - 6th Grade: World Music Drumming
 - 7th Grade: Ukulele & Music In The Movies
 - 8th Grade: Broadcast

Music Activities & Opportunities:

- Voice & Piano Lessons
- Band & Senior Choir
- Musical Theater Production (TBD)