

Barbara Billings

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Music Teacher/Choral Director

Sacred Heart School, Groton, CT. 06340

MUSIC SYLLABUS

Goal:

To develop a Choral and General Music Curriculum in which the students learn and experience the joy and power of music, through which, they can develop self-esteem which, hopefully, will serve to guide and inspire them throughout life.

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. The Sacred Heart School Chorus is open to children in grades 4 – 8, which presents 2 concerts a year. In addition, chorus members also participate in 3 choral festivals sponsored by the Connecticut Music Educators Association, The American Guild of Organists and the Mystic Area Ecumenical Church Council. All grades participate in a Lessons & Carols Service in December.

Curriculum Content:

Fall Term

September – Assessment of Music Theory Skills – All Grades

Rhythms

Notation

Melody/Intervals

Note Reading

Review of Friday Mass Preparation – Grades 4-8

The meaning of Music & What it means to them

Grade 4 - Begin process of creating & designing posters

PK – 3 - Meaning of music through singing songs, movement & dictation.

Grades 4- 8 –(members of chorus) Preparation for participation in the music for the Friday Mass

October - Preparation for All Saints Day through the study of music history

Introduction to the Medieval Period with the focus on the Gregorian Chant, the musical heritage of the Roman Catholic Church.

Elementary Grades - Brief introduction by learning songs typical of early music style.

Grades 4 – 8: Study of Medieval

Instruments/ notation / composers/ Gregorian Chant

Preparation of music for Friday Mass - Chorus

November / December – Preparation for Lessons & Carols Service – All Grades

Assessing singing skills & coordinating repertoire with the Language department.

The entire school learns & sings Christmas hymns

Grades 6 - 8: Music History Focus: Handel's "Messiah" comparing of the Oratorio/ Mass/ Lessons & Carols format

Final Design Plan of "What Music Means to Me" projects - Grade 4

Curriculum Content

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

Elementary - Learning winter songs through singing,
movement and rhythm games

Intro to learning and counting note values with flash
cards and work papers

Middle School - Music theory and history review
for report projects

5th - Classical music composers (1700's - 20th cent.)
Classroom work & written/oral reports

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 on
The artist/composer of their choice

April - June

Elementary Grades: Music theory / eurythmics /
performance development

Grades 5 - 8: Continuation of music history class study,
Research, written/ oral report presentations

All grades - Wrap up review & work assessments

Instructional Strategies:

Lecture

Discussions/ Questions

Listening/ Answering/ Dictation/ Repetition

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

Videos

Computer Applications

Performance

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/ Eurhythmic (hand-clapping,
tapping & 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 & it's 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

May –

Annual Choral & Band Spring Concert – Grades 4-8 – Sacred Heart Cafeteria