



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Lacy Pride Chorus PTA Performance December 3, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
- Pieces of Gold Audition December 1, 2009 Time TBA

Mrs. Denny's Music Website:

www.teacherweb.com/LacyElementarySchool/LacyMusic/

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**MRS. DENNY'S MUSIC CLASS
OVERTURE**

Notes on the Grading System for All Grade Levels

In Wake County, we are on a Standards-Based Grading system. Students receive two grades in music, one for concepts and one for participation. This means that concepts are graded on a 1-4 basis, with these levels:

- 1- performing below grade level work
- 2- performing grade level work with assistance
- 3- Can perform independently on grade level
- 4- Performs significantly above grade level.

Participation is graded on a 1-3 basis:

- 1- not participating
- 2- participating inconsistently
- 3- participating as expected.

Students will receive grades twice a year, in January and May.

There are approximately 61 music objectives in the curricu-

lum for each grade level. These are divided into the following nine categories:

- 1. Sing
- 2. Play instruments
- 3. Improvise
- 4. Compose and Arrange music
- 5. Read and Notate music
- 6. Listen, Analyze and Describe music
- 7. Evaluate music and performances
- 8. Understand the relationship between music, other arts and content areas
- 9. Relate music to history and culture

Concept grades will be on

several objectives each semester. Students will receive an interim report if they are at level 2 or below in either concept or participation.

Information is updated regularly on my music web site linked under classrooms on the Lacy Elementary Web Page, under staff, or it can be accessed directly at

www.teacherweb.com/LacyElementarySchool/LacyMusic/ and there is a summary of what each grade level is covering in music. There are also links to helpful sites like the NC Department of Public Instruction, as well as fun pages for students. Parents can also subscribe to email updates for chorus events.

There will be an online newsletter in the spring to provide information on events happening later in the year.

Lacy Pride Chorus and Pieces of Gold

4th and 5th graders are invited to join The Lacy Pride, an extra-curricular chorus which meets on Thursday mornings at 7:45-8:15. We will present a Lacy PTA program on December 3, 2009 at 7 p.m. here at Lacy. We will consider other performances as opportunities arise.

There were school auditions on September 9, 10, 11, or 14 to select 35 students to partici-

pate in a select chorus. This group will go in December to county auditions for Pieces of Gold, a Wake County performance held each year at Memorial Auditorium. Only about 25 schools are selected to represent excellence in the March performance. The ticket sales raise money to support Arts programs in Wake County. Look on the website for details of both of these opportunities.

Main Points:

Kindergarten concepts

1st Grade performance

2nd grade performance

3rd Grade grading system

4th Grade performances

5th Grade performances

Special Needs

Happenings in Fourth and Fifth Grade



Fourth Grade will begin the study of playing the recorder. You may hear your child talk about earning recorder “ribbons” this year. This consists of learning to play music of various levels. Students will be given a folder with selections for the various colors: white, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet, brown and black. When they are successful, they can earn different colors of yarn to tie onto the end of their recorders. This is a fun way for them to keep track of their progress! Later this year we will also do some composing! In the spring we also have a performance of North Carolina music and dance, and students will perform several songs they have learned on the recorder.

The Fourth Grade Symphony field trip will be on February 25. Students will go to Meymandi Hall in downtown Raleigh.

On February 25 we will have a field trip to the NC Symphony. We have been studying the families of instruments and the composers, Beethoven, Rimsky-Korsakov, Copland, Tchaikovsky, Bizet and Saint-Saens, whose works will be featured at the concert. There is also a song the students will sing along with the orchestra from the audience. It should be a very enjoyable experience for everyone!

Fifth grade will explore the history and development of American music, as well as music of Canada and Latin America. We will hear folk music and see where American jazz and popular music began. We will review notation, work

some more on keyboards, and learn part singing. We are also working on music notation, reading rhythms and identifying forms of music. Students have a journal where they will keep information about American Music styles.. Our goal is to develop a vocabulary of descriptive words and musical terms.

The Lacy Pride Chorus meets on Thursday mornings and is open to all interested fourth and fifth grade students in both fall and spring. Fifth graders will sing at Fifth Grade Graduation in June.

Kindergarten and First Grade News

Kindergarten students at Lacy will be learning what music is all about. Our classes consist of singing, playing classroom rhythm percussion instruments like sticks, drums, maracas and bells, and learning about beat, high and low and loud and soft. There will be a lot of sounds coming out of the music room

this year!

Kindergarten will have a performance at the end of the year for the new Kindergarten orientation.

First grade began the year reviewing steady beat, high and low and up and down. We will learn about the different ways to use your voice— whisper, sing,

speak and shout. We will sing fall songs and practice playing classroom instruments to steady beats and rhythm patterns. We will prepare a holiday concert to perform at some local nursing homes in December. Dates and times will be set later. It is a fun way to share with our community!

Second and Third Grade News

Second Grade will be studying about different instruments and their families, and learning how they work. Each week we learn an “Instrument of the Week” and write about it in a journal. We are also exploring basic elements of music like tempo (speed of the beat) dynamics (loud and soft) and melody. With a computer

program they will practice lines and spaces on the music staff, and begin playing keyboards. Second graders will present a performance later on in the year, based on things we are learning. Look for information as dates are selected.

Third graders are learning a Music Term and Symbol of the Week and finding out a little

about writing rhythms. We are learning some basics about music notation, form and style, and will be exploring some multi-cultural music and keyboards.

They are also singing and playing instruments, and in January they will be able to start Chorus. In the spring, third grade will present a performance.