



Grades 1 – 3: Primary Music Program

Russell Leon Hersen

Curriculum Night 2022

Grades 1 – 3

This year the primary students at JICS will continue to focus on a whole-body approach to understand music. Movement and music makes for a deeper understanding of music principals such as rhythm, pitch, melody, dynamics, and more, by better connecting the brain to the body. Thankfully, singing is allowed in the classroom this year. We have started the term discussing proper singing technique, then singing pitches, intervals, scales and songs.

JICS also has many different types of percussion instruments that each student will have the opportunity to play, including maracas, guiros, hand drums, claves, boomwhackers, xylophones, ukuleles, and glockenspiels to name a few. This year we have full drum set added to our ensemble. Any student who wants to perform always has an opportunity to play the piano or any instrument they bring to school for a class performance. The students will continue to learn how to carefully listen/watch different styles of music from around the world, and identify instruments, rhythms, scales as well as discuss the history and social context relating to different music.

Students will also focus on learning to read and write music notation. Each student in the school has a personal manuscript book with both staff paper and lined paper that they will use all year. Learning to notate music combined with a full body movement approach is essential to understanding music at a deeper level. Once basic rhythms and pitches are learned, the students will be able to start composing and performing. Lessons integrate live performance, video/audio examples, I am also working with music software such as Logic Pro X, Chrome music lab, Ear Master Pro and Smart board technology. There will be performances scheduled throughout the year.



Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Grades 4 – 6: Junior Music Program

Russell Leon Hersen

Curriculum Night 2022

Grades 4 – 6

This year the Junior Grade students at JICS will continue to focus on a whole-body approach to understand music. Movement and music makes for a deeper understanding of music principals such as rhythm, pitch, melody, dynamics, ...articulation...more by better connecting the brain to the body. We have started the term discussing, then singing pitches, intervals, scales and songs. For example, Ode'min Giizis (Strawberry Moon) by Tara Williamson was the first song the class learned. Initially we discussed the words and meaning of the song, then the rhythmic feel, time Signature and phrasing, then we sang the song, adding the melody of the chorus on the glockenspiel with piano accompaniment.

JICS also has many different types of instruments that each student will have the opportunity to play, including maracas, guiros, hand drums, claves and glockenspiels, xylophones, ukuleles, guitars, keyboards, and more. This year we have full drum kit added to our ensemble. Any student who wants to perform always has an opportunity to play the piano or any instrument they bring to school for a class performance. The students will continue to learn how to carefully listen/watch different styles of music from around the world, and identify instruments, rhythms, scales as well as discuss the history and social context relating to different music.

Students will also focus on learning to read and write music. Each student in the school has a personal manuscript book with both staff paper and lined paper that they will use all year. Learning to notate music combined with a full body movement approach is essential to understanding music at a deeper level. Once basic rhythms and pitches are learned, the students will be able to start composing and performing. Lessons integrate live performance, video/audio examples, I am also working with music software such as Logic Pro X recording software, Chrome music lab, Ear Master Pro and Smart Board technology. There will be performances scheduled throughout the year.