



MRS. MARTIN'S MUSIC



Dear Parents,

The end of the school year is quickly approaching and I wanted to give you an overview of what the children have been doing in music class throughout the year and what we will be working on in the coming weeks. Over the course of the year, the songs I use in class are all related to their class themes each week. (Example: Friendship, Farm, Pets, Bugs, Garden, Zoo, etc..) I use a variety of instruments such as sticks, maracas, drums, scarves, and sandblocks to reinforce steady beat, motor development, and basic music skills. I have also introduced a variety of musical styles and genres to your children such as 80's, Disco, Rock-n-Roll Oldies, Jazz, Latin, and Motown.

In the 2's classes, we work on motor development with movement to songs using scarves or ribbons and improve hand coordination by playing a variety of instruments. In the 3's classes, they are starting to catch on to the concept of tapping or shaking instruments to the beat of the music. Their motor skills are also being further developed along with learning the differences in fast/slow music and soft/loud music. In Pre-K, their ability to keep steady beat has improved so much over the course of the year. They have also learned to identify quarter notes and eighth notes by sight and sound and to play the different beats on instruments. We even had fun learning the basic of scat singing during our Jazz weeks.

As the school year winds down, in music, we are winding up for our end of the year program in all the classes. I started rehearsing the songs this past week with the children and will be continuing to practice and rehearse until "showtime." The 2's and 3's performance will be on May 17th and 18th. (Check with your teachers on which day your child's class will perform). The Pre-K's performance will be on May 25th. (More details and times will be sent out in future newsletters).

Research has shown that music improves your child's memory, cognitive development, learning skills, and ability to express emotion. Music makes your child a better learner, teaches self-control, improves coordination, enhances creativity, and inspires your child with a lifelong appreciation of music and movement. Plus, it's fun!!

As always, I continue to pour my love for music into the hearts of your children, and look forward to presenting their beautiful voices to you in songs about God and his amazing love.

Musically yours,
Corena Martin