



Music Notes

April 2012

Dear Families,

I wanted to take this time to update you on all our music happenings at SFA.

We will continue Folk Dancing this month by learning some traditional Colonial Line Dances and Reels.



- Ask your Preschooler about the parts of the "Seven Jumps" dance and how they need to listen to the music before they can go to the next step. (*Hint: lift one leg, then the other, then knees, elbows and head!*)
- Ask your Kindergartener about the "Highland Gates" and the partner dance that goes with it.
- Ask your grade 1 and 2 student about "Sasha", a Russian Folk Dance. Ask your child to teach you to count to three in Russian and then share the clapping pattern with you.
- Ask your third grade student about "Going to Alberta" and have them show you how well they can "Polka".

Grades 5 through 8 have been working on a dance from Finland entitled 'T Smidje'. It is a great mixer dance where every time the music/dance pattern repeats you have a new partner to dance with. This dance is viewable on You Tube and the music is available for download from iTunes.



Grade 4 will continue to work on their recorder "Belts". It has been very exciting to watch the students work their way to "Black Belt". They have also been learning their "bead" songs to increase their repertoire. Students have been so enthusiastic about earning their next belt that some have even given up their recess time on Fridays to meet with me to play their song or ask questions about fingerings, notes or problems they have been having. Once a child earns their "Purple Belt" then they also earn a recorder songbook containing all the music and fingerings needed to progress to "Black", "Silver" and "Gold" belts/beads.

Grade 6 through 8 will also work with recorders in April. Please remind your child that they must bring their recorder to school on Thursdays and Fridays. All of the students must have a recorder to use in class.

Stay tuned for more musical happenings and as always thank you for all your support!



Musically Yours,
Mrs. Murray

MUSIC MATTERS!

