What we are learning…

in 1st Grade Music

March

The first grade music classes have been involved in a multitude of activities for the past several weeks. Specific concepts including rhythm, pitch, style, form, and history have been explored. We have also been learning several new games and dances.

Melodic concepts we are studying center on identifying and performing the pitches of **so** and **mi**. We have named these two pitches in some known songs: “Snail, Snail”, “Doggie, Doggie”, and others, and are listening to a series of stories that aid in understanding these beginning melodic patterns. The next step of identifying, writing, and reading them on a staff is well underway. Understanding the music staff is a vital step in becoming musically literate. We plan on adding one more pitch this year.

With the notation of pitch on the music staff, we have been able to reinforce our understanding of music notation. The notation that we know includes: measure, bar line, double bar line, meter sign, quarter note, eighth notes and quarter rest.

Movement is an important part of music study. We have or will learn movement to several songs: “Bobby Shaftoe”, “Bow Wow Wow”, “Naughty Kitty Cat”, “Here Comes a Bluebird”, and others. Singing on pitch continues to improve. The more a child sings, the stronger those singing muscles grow and the greater control he/she gains over his/her voice.