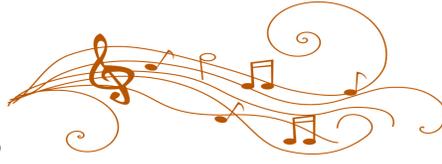


# Mrs. Russell's Music News



## *Welcome to a New School Year!*

This year I will again be teaching first through fifth grade music at Adams and Quincy. I am excited to continue working with the great students at these buildings. Due to frequent traveling, email is the best way to contact me. [jrussell@zps.org](mailto:jrussell@zps.org)

## *Quincy Music and Motion*

At Quincy I will teach Young Fives and Mr. Fosburg and Mrs. Wilson's Kindergarten classes. Music and Motion is a Y5/K curriculum unique to Zeeland. The curriculum includes music and drama activities as well as movement. These classes will also see Mr. Westhouse or Mr. Davelaar (our P.E. instructors) for a second section of M&M. Mrs. Lacny and Mrs. Kraai's students will have both sections of M&M with our PE instructors.

## *September Highlights*

1st and 2nd grades will begin the year with singing and movement focused on steady beat. We will explore classroom instruments.

3rd grade will begin the year with a unit on *The Star Spangled Banner*.

4th graders will receive a separate letter with information about ordering recorders. We begin playing this month!

5th grade will be playing ukulele! It's a fun instrument and learning just a few chords allows us to sing and play many songs!

## *Join us on Facebook!*

I have created a closed group on facebook as a way to share pictures and activities from music class. [Find it here](#). You will then need to "join group." Requests will be approved within twenty-four hours.

I also have a website which includes monthly updates on our class activities. Please bookmark this page: [zpsmakesmusic.weebly.com](http://zpsmakesmusic.weebly.com)

## *Planning to play percussion in middle school band? Plan Ahead!*

Almost all ZPS sixth graders take a music class. Students can elect to take choir, band or orchestra in sixth grade. We are so fortunate to have outstanding secondary music programs in Zeeland! Elementary music is the first step in becoming an important member of these musical ensembles! *If your student is planning to play percussion in middle school band, they must have around two full years of piano experience.* There is a percussion test given to prospective players that involves piano skills.

## *Taking Lessons?*

If you are studying piano, guitar or another instrument, please let me know! I'd love to schedule a time for you to perform in class if you'd like to! It is great fun for your class to support and celebrate your musical learning!

Here's to a great year of music! *Mrs. Russell*

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