

## **Saint John School Music Program**

The purpose of the Music Program at Saint John School is to give each and every student the opportunity to truly value the language of music. Through performance, appreciation and theory, by the time they graduate each student has an understanding and appreciation for the beauty of music. These standards are in accordance with the Massachusetts state standards for music education, and the Archdiocese of Boston Curriculum Standards for the Arts.

### **Level I (Preschool and PreK)**

#### **Melodic Concepts:**

Understands and sings simple folk songs.

Understands and sings simple patriotic songs.

Understands and sings simple game songs.

#### **Rhythmic Concepts**

Understands the beat (faster slower, steady)

Understands rhythm words.

Understands how to keep the rhythm and tempo of the song by playing rhythm instruments.

#### **Form Concepts and Structure**

Understands repeat and contrast.

Understands the difference between refrain and verse.

Understands ABA form of songs

Understands call and response songs

Understands the difference between hymns, patriotic songs and folk songs.

## **Level 2 Kindergarten**

### **Rhythm Concepts**

Understands beat through our “parades” (playing instruments and walking to the music)

Understands rhythm and tempo words

Understands the difference between steady beat and rhythm

### **Melodic Concepts**

Understands high and low sounds

Understands notes going up and down

Understands repeated notes

Understands singing in tune

Understands how to blend their voices

### **Form Concepts and Structure**

Understands repeat and contrast

Understands call and response songs

Understands game and action songs

Understands ABA

Understands the difference between, patriotic, folk, hymns, and folk songs

## **Grade 1**

**Music Theory:** Music theory is introduced in the first grade:

Understands what a staff is

Understands what a G clef is

Understands what a whole note is

Understands what a quarter note is

Understands what a half note is

Understands the names and spaces of the lines and spaces of the staff.

**Rhythmic Concepts:-**All concepts included in Kindergarten plus:

Understands downbeat

Understands reading and writing notes

**Melodic Concepts:** All concepts covered in Kindergarten plus:

Understands being aware of dynamic and tempo changes in a song

Understands how to sing expressively

### **Form Concepts and Elements:**

Understands all concepts in Kindergarten

Understands verse and refrain

Understands introduction of a song

**Grade 2-**This is a grade where much emphasis is getting prepared for the sacraments from February through mid-May.

### **Music Theory:**

Understands all notes covered in grade one.

Understands the numeric value of the notes

Understands how to do music theory worksheets

Understands the notes names of the staff

### **Rhythmic Concepts:**

Understands all of the covered material in Kindergarten and grade 1.

Understands how to be more aware of the rhythm and beat of a song and sing it rhythmically correct.

## **Melodic Concepts:**

Understands all concepts in grade 1 plus:

Understands the difference between singing and not singing well.

Understands the emphasis on pronunciation of words in a song and putting final consonants on the words

Understands how to sing as one in unison.

## **Form Concepts and Elements**

Understands all concepts in grade 1 plus:

Understands hymn forms

Understands repeated phrases

**Grade 3-**This grade the magazine **Music Express** is introduced.

**Music Express** is a magazine published by **Hal Leonard** and comes out bi-monthly. In this magazine, there are songs, multicultural music, classical music and articles on today's performers who children are interested in.

## **Music Theory:**

Understands all notes covered in grade 1`and 2 plus:

Understands eighth notes

Understands and knows well the value of notes by “Musical Math”

Understands and knows well the names of the notes by “Musical Words”

**Rhythm Concepts:** All rhythmic concepts covered in grades 1 and 2 plus:

Understands how to play classroom rhythm instruments to accompany a song

**Melodic Concepts:** All melodic concepts covered in grade 1 and 2 plus:

Understands and has an awareness of singing in phrases

Understands how to be aware of singing accurate notes and listening to the keyboard.

**Music Appreciation:** In grade 3, **Music Appreciation** is introduced. From grades 3-6, we have a **Composer of the Month**. This composer could be a classical composer, a Broadway composer, or a Modern American composer.

**Listening Skills:**

Understands how to really listen to a piece

Understands tempo changes

Understands melodies repeated

Understands the orchestration of a song-many instruments, few instruments, etc.

Understands dynamic changes-loud, soft, etc

Understands mood of the piece by writing "I thought of..." during the piece-answers are discussed aloud and there are never any wrong answers.

**Assessment: Grade is a combination of their music folder with all written work, songsheets, worksheets, etc. Part of their grade is also participation and singing skills.**

**Grade 4- The Music Express magazine is also used in grade 4.**

### **Music Theory:**

Understands all concepts learned in grades 1, 2, and 3 plus:

Understands what a time signature is

Understands what a measure is

Understands what a bar line is

Understands what a double bar line is

Understands various signs and symbols used on the staff-rests, repeat signs, etc

Understands how to put the proper amount of beats in a measure.

### **Rhythm Concepts:**

Understands all concepts covered in grade 3.

Understands more accompaniment skills with rhythm instruments

### **Form and Elements:** all forms covered in previous grades plus:

Understands song form

Understands classical forms such as symphony, minuets and other classical forms

Understands the four families of instruments

### **Music Appreciation:** “Composer of the Month”

Understands basic listening skills

Understands the basic concept of what to listen for in a piece by directed listening

Understands the four families of instruments

**Assessment: Same as grade 3, plus a conduct and effort grade.**

**Grade 5:** The **Music Express Magazine** is also used.

### **Music Theory:** All concepts learned in previous grades plus:

Understands how a song is composed

Understands how to put words with a melody

Understands melodic movement

### **Rhythm Concepts:**

Understands meter

Understands time signatures

Understands beat

### **Form Concepts**

Understands ABA form

Understands song form

Understands all form concepts from previous grades

**Music Appreciation:** All concepts learned from previous grades plus:

Understands what to listen for in a piece by directed listening

Understands different forms of classical music

Understands different branches of “The Music Tree”

Understands different types of songs-folk, spirituals, hymns, carols, etc.

**Assessment: Grade is given for a combination of their folder up to date, and participation. A grade is also given for conduct and effort.**

**Grade 6:** All form concepts learned in previous grades are developed and reviewed. The **Music Express Magazine** is used.

**Music Theory:**

Understands all concepts learned in previous grades plus:

Understands the note names on the bass clef

Understands the grand staff

Understands triads

Understands chords

Understands how chords are built

Understands how chords go with a melody

**Music Appreciation:**

Understands different types of music

Understands what to listen for in a piece

Understands mood, tempo, and dynamic changes

Understands instrument changes in a piece

**Assessment: A grade is given for a combination of their folder and participation. A grade is also given for conduct and effort.**

**Performance:** From Kindergarten to grade 6, religious music is rehearsed for singing at our monthly Liturgies.

**Chorus:** There is a Saint John School Chorus who sings at our monthly Liturgies, Christmas and Spring Concert. The chorus is open to children in grades 3-6.

**Concerts:** There is a Christmas concert in which students from PreK-6 participate. It is directed by myself (Mary Engel) and Mrs. Diana Bradley. It is performed in the church.

There is also a more informal spring concert which all students participate in the school hall in May.