Rockin’ Rhythms!

The 5th grade students at Albert P. Terhune school created four beat rhythm patterns with nickels, pennies, and dimes. Each coin represents a different rhythm. For example, the penny represents the newly learned sixteenth note.

Students performed their patterns for the class saying ti-ti for nickel, ta for dime, and ti-ri-ti-ri for copper penny.

Following, the students wrote down their best pattern on paper. All patterns were performed together with music.
We’re “Nuts” About Music!

The kindergarten students at James Fallon discovered a fall song about an acorn: "I'm a Nut". They found instruments that matched the different sounds they played and acted out in the song, and took turns playing each one at musical stations. Together, we found out it's tricky to wait for your part to play! However, when we sing confidently and listen for the instrument solos, we can make beautiful music together. The instruments they chose for their song were rhythm sticks, castanets, egg shakers, and drums. Can YOU guess which instrument goes with each move?

The first graders explore a new music listening each class and learn a little about its composer. This week's listening was "In the Hall of the Mountain King" by Edvard Grieg. First graders listened to the story of Peer (Peter) Gynt going to the troll king's mountain. They decided which part of the story matched the music listening. Finally, they were able to choose their favorite character to act out the tale and move with the music- getting steadily faster and louder! The photo you see shows the ending of the story: the "Peter" characters have gotten away, triumphant. The "troll" characters have fallen down with the mountain. We can't wait to try that movement activity again!
“UKE” CAN DO IT!

The Mighty Notes Chorus students at John F. Kennedy Elementary are having fun singing and accompanying themselves on the ukulele. This group is made up of 4th and 5th grade students.

Aditya, Aubrey, Laasya, and Kate (right to left) are practicing strumming and singing in preparation for a selection the Mighty Notes Chorus will be performing at their Winter Concert in December. It’s one of the many ways young musicians practice a varied repertoire of music, alone and with others, and combine that with singing to create a unique performance experience.
Lafayette Elementary

The Age of Explorers!

Lafayette's fourth graders presented "The Age of Explorers" on October 14. Students presented information connected with their Social Studies curriculum and incorporated song selections such as "I Believe I Can Fly", "Away to America", "An Adventure!", and "On Top of the World". The end of this piece is a partner song that brings two melodies together. During this rehearsal, students pieced together the parts for one of the first times, and we answered the essential question, "How do musicians improve the quality of performance?" Students provided ideas to answer the questions and explored how different types of songs need slightly different timbres.

What made this production the most special? The students created the props, dances, and acting scenes that brought their program to the next level with minimal teacher guidance. They were able to address cross-curricular standards and give their audience a great treat!

CLICK HERE FOR THE VIDEO!
Spooktacular Work!
The first grade students at Randall Carter are preparing for their annual Halloween program. The students will be performing various Halloween songs, poems, and even plan on telling a few jokes!

Ships Ahoy!
Fourth grade students are excited to see Pirates on the High Seas at NJPAC performed by the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. The concert will include excerpts from The Tempest by Tchaikovsky, Scheherezade by Rimsky-Korsakov, “Victory at Sea” by Richard Rodgers and “Anchors Aweigh” by Charles Zimmerman.

A Salute to Our Veterans
Fifth grade students at Randall Carter will be presenting a Veteran’s Day Program on November 4th. The program is offered as a tribute to the men and women of our armed services who defend our national security and sacrifice so much for our country. It will trace the many wars that have been fought throughout the history of America and the songs that were part of the same time period.
Back to Work!

Preschool and Kindergarten have been performing steady beats and exploring the sounds they can make with their voices using pitch exploration cards during the month of September.

First through Fifth grades have been singing various patriotic songs which focus on the history and pride of our country. Students have also been reading music and using various percussion instruments to perform rhythmic passages.

Our 4th and 5th graders have signed up and are already preparing for the Winter Chorus concert which will feature a variety of solos, harmonies and songs including a holiday mashup of Bill Hailey and the Comets 1950’s “Rock around the clock” and “Jingle Bell Rock”, as well as a special rendition of the 1960’s girl group, The Ronette’s in their version of “Sleigh Ride.”

4th Grade is also hard at work preparing an election themed show entitled “United We Vote” featuring some great bluegrass, pop, rap and traditional patriotic songs debuting November 2016.
Under the instruction of Mrs. Makulinski, Theunis Dey students are very busy learning about all kinds of music:

First Graders are learning to play solfege notes on the xylophones, metalophones, and the glockenspiel. As they play these instruments, they enjoy accompanying fall songs and fall chants.

Second Graders are having fun accompanying fall songs with percussion instruments. They especially like songs like “I Love Apples”, and a variety of “HALLOWEEN” songs. Third Graders are especially excited since they have started learning to play the recorder. So far, they have learned the notes “B, A, G,” and are almost ready to learn familiar melodies. They will be preparing for the concert performance on March 8th.

Fourth Grade students are almost ready for their show “Music Around the World” scheduled for November 2nd. They will sing ten songs - some of which will be in Spanish, Japanese, Arabic, and Hebrew. Each song will have a narrative introduction, and some songs will have dances. Fifth Grade students are learning “All About Jazz,” which includes seven styles of jazz, famous jazz musicians, and well-known jazz songs, which they will perform for their show on January 18th.

The Fourth and Fifth Grade Choruses are preparing holiday songs for the December 14th show.