## PORTER P.E. AND HEALTH NEWS AND NOTES

Thank you to all who attended our 2016 Turkey Trot. With the help of the Leo's, we were able to supply our local food pantry with much needed supplies. In our Pre-K to second grade bracket for girls, our top three finishers were Charlie Pierro, Layah McKusick and Astrid Shaw. The boy's top three finishers were Oscar Shaw, David Bedini and Jonathan

Boardman. In our third, fourth and fifth bracket, the top three girls finishers were Jillian Dingler, Emerson Whalen and Larhamie McKusick. The boy's top three were Fischer Jones, Dimitri Paulson and Jameson Morrison. Great job by all!



## ELEMENTARY MUSIC NEWSLETTER

The PK through 4th grade elementary music students are off to a great start this school year. The Pre-School students are learning to sing simple songs while playing the shape drums, gathering drums and pentatonic glockenspiels. They are doing movement activities to a variety of music including pre-school songs, classical and jazz music. They are also learning about various instruments from the string family and playing a small lyre and harp. They do not perform on stage as they are still discovering their musical abilities through musical exploration with instruments, song games and song stories.

The Kindergarten students are learning to sing using solfege syllables So, Mi and La with correlating hand signs in order to help develop a good sense of pitch. They are learning to play both the pentatonic and diatonic glockenspiels. They are learning to sing concert songs such as "Hop Ol' Squirrel" and "Tideo". They will sing in a concert that will be on the stage in the cafetorium on \*(February 9th, 2017 at 9:00 A.M.).

The First Grade students are learning to sing and make up their own simple solfege songs. They are learning to use the solfege hand signs in order to make up solfege patterns to sing with a partner. They are learning to play glockenspiels for accompaniments used with solfege songs as well as play their own tunes. The first grade students are learning to sing concert songs such as, "Celebrate" and "Play That Music". Their concert will be on stage in the cafetorium on \*(January 19th, 2017 at 9:00 A.M.).

The Second Grade students are working on singing solfege songs and colonial songs. They are singing colonial songs which correlate with song games such as "Oats, Peas, Beans" and "Draw Me a Bucket of Water". They are working on writing music notation as well as composing their own simple tunes with a partner to play on the glockenspiel. They are learning to sing concert songs such as "Proud" and "Festival". Their concert will be on stage in the cafetorium on \*(January 19th, 2017 at 9:00 A.M.).

The Third Grade students are learning to play tunes using the notes B, A and G with a nice, gentle tone. They will be learning to compose their own music on the recorder as well. They are learning about various composers and doing listening activities involving classical composers. They working on identifying and writing music symbols in preparation for composing their own short tunes as well as read simple melodies of various famous composers. They are learning to sing their concert songs such as "Lady Liberty" and "Rollin' On". Their concert will on stage in the cafetorium on \*(February 9th, 2017 at 9:00 A.M.).

The Fourth Grade students are learning to play more advanced tunes on the recorder while expanding their pitch range. They are learning about composers, families of instruments and music theory. They are learning about the elements of music as well. They are learning to sing songs such as "It Don't Mean a Thing" and "Light the Candle". They will not only sing, but will play the recorder at their concert. The 4th grade band will also perform the same evening which will be on (May 11th at 7:00 P.M.). Students will need to arrive at 6:30 P.M. Concert attire is mentioned below.

The Fourth Grade Band is learning to play simple tunes with a nice, controlled tone. It is helpful in the beginning stages to play long tones such as in their warm ups so that they can develop a nice tone on their instruments. They are also learning to play tunes such as, "Merrily" and "Little Star". They are also working on playing with good ensemble within a large group such as with the full band. This group of students is very supportive of each other and demonstrates the interest in learning new tunes quickly which makes rehearsals a lot fun for them. Their concert will be on (May 11th at 7:00 P.M.). \*All fourth grade students will need to arrive at 6:30 P.M. in their concert attire of black pants or skirt and white dress shirts. I am very proud of all of the students. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for supporting the music program. Kathy Francis

