



# Music Notes



“Humans throughout history have used the arts to express themselves to find beauty, attain a higher level of meaning and better understand themselves and their culture. The arts are the most human form of communication and expression.” A Report on Arts

Education in Wisconsin: The State Superintendent’s Blue Ribbon Commission on Arts Education. 2000. Madison, WI: Wisconsin DPI.

Did you know that music training helps under-achievers? In Rhode Island, researchers studied eight public school first grade classes. Half of the classes became "test arts" groups, receiving ongoing music and visual arts training. In kindergarten, this group had lagged behind in scholastic performance. After seven months, the students were given a standardized test. The "test arts" group had caught up to their fellow students in reading and surpassed their classmates in math by 22 percent. In the second year of the project, the arts students widened this margin even further. Students were also evaluated on attitude and behavior. Classroom teachers noted improvement in these areas also.

We value the importance of music education in our school. To show our skills learned this year, the students of Saint John School will perform a Spring Choir Concert on Tuesday, May 25 at 6:30 PM in the school gym. All students from preschool through sixth grade will be performing in this concert. We look forward to seeing you then!

Lori Meinholz—Music Teacher