Guitar 8
Mercer Middle School
Instructor: Mr. Grimes

Contact info:

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Prerequisite: Completion of Guitar 7 or permission of instructor.

Course Description: This is an elective course offering intermediate to advanced instruction on the guitar. You will learn open chords, power chords, moveable chords, extended and embellished chords, accompaniment techniques and a variety of playing techniques and styles including both the pickstyle and fingerstyle approaches to the guitar. The course also includes music fundamentals, theory, songs, performing, listening, composing, improvising, analyzing and learning how to read standard notation and tablature.

Goals:

1. To learn how to play chords, accompaniment and melodies on the guitar
2. To learn to read music notation, chord frames and tablature
3. To develop an understanding of music fundamentals and theory
4. To learn how to perform, write and create music
5. To learn how to analyze, describe and listen objectively to music
6. To learn how to match pitch and sing on pitch
7. To develop an understanding of music in relation to history and culture.

Evaluation:

1. Day-to-day participation, practice, attitude and effort
2. Individual playing and performance tests
3. Group performance tests
4. Successful completion of various achievement standards
5. Objective tests on the fundamentals of music
6. Maintaining a music notebook
7. Working up to your ability- based on the instructor’s evaluation of your musical aptitude
8. Full participation in after school rehearsals and concerts
Practice:

Students should practice a minimum of 30 minutes 4-5 days per week (or the amount necessary to master class assignments).

Required Materials: Guitar for home use (preferably a nylon string classical), picks, tuner (or tuning app), three-hole binder, pencil with an eraser, and the method book:

   Essential Elements For Guitar Book 2 (Bob Morris).

Concert Schedule:

December 7 (Tentative Date), 7:00 PM. Concert with Chorus and Strings. Mercer Auditorium.

April 1-2, All-County Guitar Festival and Assessment at Lunsford MS. Exact times TBA.

May 10, 7:00 PM. Mercer Auditorium.

May 13, Hershey Park (Assessment and time in the park). All day.

Possible additional performances with John Champe Guitars.