

### MEET THE TEACHER

*Mrs. Suppa (soup –uhh) has 30+ years of teaching experience and has taught at Rawlings for six years. She is a local girl who graduated from Fletcher High School, earned a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Stetson Univ. and a Masters of Education from UNF. She is certified to teach Music Grades K-12 and Elementary/Early Childhood Education. Mrs. Suppa lives in Ponte Vedra with her husband and daughter. Her daughter is in 11<sup>th</sup> grade at PV High and her son is a senior at UNF.*

### OVERVIEW

All students attend music class for 50 minutes once every five days. The music program uses an Orff Schulwerk philosophy to teach the Common Core Standards for elementary music education. This philosophy is a child-centered style of teaching which provides students the opportunity to experience and create music while learning important concepts. This year the students will be given a Resource EOC exam. This exam will be short and it will cover Music/Art/PE. We will continue using our teacher designed Notebusters program to encourage and motivate student achievement. This program is aligned with the music requirements for the EOC.



### NOTEBUSTERS

We are excited about continuing our Notebusters program! This program allows students to earn music belts by memorizing specific music vocabulary and passing a written/ aural vocabulary test. In addition, most of the belts require the students to play the melody of a specific song correctly for the teacher. Students may choose to play the melody on desk bells, xylophones, keyboards, or soprano recorder (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> only). Each time a student passes a level he/she earns a colored belt (tassel) to tie around his/her Notebuster card. The goal is to pass through three levels of Notebusters per school year. Students will begin where they left off last year. (New fourth graders will begin on green and new fifth graders will begin on black). Fourth and Fifth grade students will be allowed to pass through the different belts at their own pace. Because this program is new to all the third graders, they will begin on purple and will pass through the levels together.

### MUSIC GRADES

Grading in music will correlate with our Notebusters program. Individual student grades will be a combination of participation, musical knowledge, and performance skills. 70% or better in musical knowledge (80% if working on a higher belt than the class) and 80% performance skills is the minimum score for passing a belt. The report card grading system is as follows:

**M = Meeting Standards**

Students must participate in class AND: PASS one Notebusters Belt each nine weeks (EOC in the 4<sup>th</sup> nine weeks counts as a level).

**P = Progress Toward Standards**

Students must participate in class AND: ATTEMPT TO PASS one Notebusters belt per nine weeks (EOC in the 4<sup>th</sup> nine weeks counts as a level).

**I = Improvement Needed**

Not participating in class/ Notebusters.

### SOPRANO RECORDERS

4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADES ONLY

NOT REQUIRED

Students will learn to play melodies on the classroom instrument (desk bells, xylophones, keyboards) of their choice in music class. Fourth/fifth grade students have the additional option of learning and passing their belts on the soprano recorder. Participation in recorders is optional and we do not focus on recorders during class. However, many students enjoy playing recorders and they will have plenty of opportunities to play in class. Recorders are available for purchase through the school. Extra recorders are provided for use during music class and these recorders are disinfected in the dishwasher after each user.

### 4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE MUSIC CLUB



Music enrichment is provided through our 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade music club. This is a large “show choir” style group that performs at school/community events. This group is limited to 80 members and they practice weekly after school from 2:00 – 2:45. During the first semester, Music Club will prepare holiday songs for the school sing along and community events.

During the second semester, Music Club will prepare for a full spring concert. Also during the second semester, fifth grade members will have the opportunity to extend their Music Club commitment by staying after the initial rehearsal and participating in a small group of their choice. Possible small groups include: drama, dance, and instrumental (Orff/recorders/drums). These small groups will be combined with our full Music Club as part of our spring show.

### RECORDERS FOR SALE

4<sup>TH</sup>/5<sup>TH</sup> GRADES ONLY

Recorders are available for purchase for \$6.00 throughout the entire school year. This price includes a German fingering Angel Soprano Recorder, neck strap, cleaning stick, cork grease, and a case. To purchase a recorder, enclose payment in an envelope and please print your child’s first & last name, classroom teacher’s name, and recorder on the envelope. Payment may be exact change or a check for \$6.00 to PVPV/Rawlings Elementary. Students may turn their envelopes in to the music teacher or to the office. The music teacher will engrave your child’s first & last name on his/her recorder and give it to him/her during the third music class (sooner if ordered later in the school year). If you need financial assistance, please send a note to the music teacher and she will issue your child a used disinfected donated recorder. Students may use previously purchased GERMAN fingering recorders, but please do not buy Dollar Store recorders as they do not play in tune. We recommend that students keep their recorders in their backpacks so they can practice at home and have them for music class. Recorder instruction will begin during the third music class.



### WEBSITE

Mrs. Suppa’s website contains vocab. sheets, sound samples, music and various resources to help the students succeed in the Notebusters program.

<http://teachers.stjohns.k12.fl.us/suppa-l/>