



September 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year. I hope you had a good summer. I am looking forward to an exciting year of learning and hope you are ready for the great year ahead of us.

My summer vacation was wonderful. I did a lot of “staycation” things, day trips, local attractions, museums and theater. I also went to many ballgames...Yankees and Staten Island Yankees (Yankees single A team). For those of you that are new to PS 11, I’m an avid baseball fan and have visited 28 out of the 30 Major League Ballparks. I went to the new Marlins stadium this summer and I thought I’d get to the other 2 ballparks also (Colorado and Arizona) but that didn’t work out...oh well, next summer.

Your child’s music education is extremely important to me. Music is a universal language and a unifying and healing force for humanity. It contributes to the development of the “whole” person. Everyone should have music in his or her life. P.S. 11 is extremely lucky to have a music program and I am honored to be a part of it. I intend to do my very best to give your children a well-rounded musical education. Having spent time with so many of your children over the last few years I know I also have a lot to learn from them.

I have a Music Website for our music program at P.S. 11. You can visit it to read about and get to know me, the music program, what your child is doing in music, music events in school and around town, supplies that some of your children need for music class, our music class wish list, games your children can play to reinforce their music skills, and to view several other interesting pages.

My website address is: [ps11music.com](http://ps11music.com). You can also access it from the PS 11 website...[ps11chelsea.org](http://ps11chelsea.org).

Some of the things we will be studying this year in Music class depending on your child’s grade are: how we hear, the elements of music, how music is made, how to play unpitched and pitched instruments, keyboard skills, singing, the history of music, the different styles of music, and various composers and their works.



Our collaboration with the Music and the Brain Keyboard Program will continue this year, grades K through 2. As part of the Music and the Brain program our K through 2 students will receive keyboard instruction. This instruction is integrated with my music curriculum. Studies show that math, reading, and spatial temporal reasoning skills improve when children are given keyboard lessons. It is a wonderful program and the results we are getting are amazing. I will be sending another letter home about this program.

Please note the supplies your child needs for music class:

All 2nd, 3rd, and 5th grade students need a 2-pocket folder for music class. These folders will be used for their performance music, recorder music, Moving On Celebration music and lyrics.

\*\*\*\*\*3rd grade students will get recorders as a gift this year. They can use their folder for their recorders and recorder music after using it for their 3rd grade show lyrics.



PLEASE NOTE: If your child loses their recorder you must replace it. The cost is \$2.50 for a recorder.

Your 3rd grade child is responsible for bringing his/her recorder to school every time they have music class this year. Instrument playing is an important part of your child's music grade. Please support your child and encourage and help them with their practicing.

Please note that all music and lyrics for our 2nd, 3rd and 5th grade productions are on the PS 11 website and can also be linked to from my PS 11 music website.

\*\*\*\* I can use the following for our music room: tissues (I see a lot of children a week), headphones (inexpensive ones from the Dollar store or Amazon), and any instruments you no longer use at home. \*\*\*\*

If any of you are musicians or are involved in any way in the arts we would greatly welcome classroom visits, workshops or performances you may want to give.

Please feel free to email me and let me know of any musical talents your child may have. Also tell me of any talents you have that you would like to share with us.

Please be aware that I am available to speak with you should you have any questions or comments about your child's work or progress in Music class. You can leave me a note in my mailbox in the office, or you can e-mail me at [sgolub@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:sgolub@schools.nyc.gov).

Thank you and looking forward to a wonderful year.



Sincerely,  
Sharon Golub

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