MEET MRS. GALLA

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Traci Galla, and this is my seventh year as the music teacher at Quaker Farms School. I am thrilled to be a part of the Quaker Farms family!

I am a certified Pre-K-12 music teacher who previously taught for seven years in the Region 15 Public School System. For seven years, I directed the K-12 Norma Pfriem Children’s Choir and served as Assistant Director of Music at United Congregational Church in Bridgeport. In addition, I have taught preschool music at Long Hill Children’s Center in Trumbull. When I am not making music at QFS, I am spending time with my husband and two sons!

WHAT DOES MUSIC-MAKING DO FOR OUR CHILDREN?

Young children learn so much through making music! It supports their cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical development. This year in music class, your child will create, perform, and respond to music, and hopefully come home singing! Lessons are based on the National Core Arts Standards, and include Creating, Performing, Responding, and Connecting. To learn more about the National Core Arts Standards, click here!
http://www.nationalartsstandards.org/

MUSIC CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT PLAN

Please take time to review the following rules with your child at home. These rules are posted in the music room and have been discussed in class.

Music Room Rules

In music class I will:

· Listen quietly
· Control my body
· Handle instruments carefully
If a Rule is Broken

1\textsuperscript{st} time – Verbal warning
2\textsuperscript{nd} time – Verbal warning
3\textsuperscript{rd} time – Removal from activity (sit back down, instrument taken away, etc.)
4\textsuperscript{th} time – Student ‘clips down’ and letter sent home with student
Severe Disruption – Student sent to principal

Rock Stars

Each music class, two ‘Rock Stars’ are chosen for their excellent participation. They will bring home a note that tells their family they were the rock star that day and their names will be displayed on stars on the wall for the week! Students love this recognition of their good work 😊

Quaker Farms School-wide PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports)

QFS STAR Students Show kindness, Try our best, Act safely, and Respect others!
Students may ‘clip up’ or ‘clip down’ for their behavior in music class.

MUSIC ENRICHMENT CLASSES

Each week, a different small group of students will come to the music room for a music enrichment class.

I am asking families to send in a few household items so we can reduce waste, and cost! Thank you to those who have already provided so many materials! Please send the following items to school with your child on their music day:

- Empty tissue boxes (rectangular with hole on top, not side)
- Empty oatmeal/bread crumb/lemonade/coffee cylinders
- Paper towel tubes
Kindergarten Enrichment

Students will create and decorate drums out of recycled materials. We will also read the book ‘Drum City’ by Thea Guidone, and learn about different kinds of drums from around the world.
First Grade Enrichment

Students will create and decorate rain sticks out of recycled materials. They will also read the book ‘Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain’ by Verna Aardema, and learn about the history of the instrument, and the importance of rain to all cultures around the world.
**Second Grade Enrichment**

Students will create and decorate guitars out of recycled materials. They will also learn about scientific terms such as pitch, frequency, and vibration, and how they apply to instrument building and playing.
LOCAL EVENTS TO CHECK OUT!

New Haven Symphony Orchestra
The NHSO offers several educational opportunities for children and their families, from program notes to discounted tickets.

https://newhavensymphony.org/parents-kids/

Hartford Symphony Orchestra
Check out the HSO website for their family-friendly activities throughout the year!

http://www.hartfordsymphony.org/education-community/

United Girls’ Choir
The UGC is a local choral program out of New Haven, which has chapters in several different towns across the state, and includes girls from first through twelfth grade. Each year, a staff member from the UGC holds auditions for girls at QFS, and several girls from Oxford are members of the choir. Check out their website for more information, and concert dates!

https://unitedchoir.com/
SECOND GRADE PRECORDERS

The following notice went home with second grade students. Please return to school with your child. If a new form is needed, you may print this page. Thank you!

Children in second grade at Quaker Farms School will soon be learning to play a simple woodwind instrument called a precorder. It is similar to a recorder, but smaller, and easier for small hands to learn the fingering.

Each student will need a precorder and an instruction booklet to use in class. At the end of the school year, your child will be able to bring the instrument and booklet home.

I am requesting that parents/guardians purchase the precorder and instruction book.*

The total cost is $6.00. Please send in a check or money order made out to QFS, for the exact amount. **CASH CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.** Please place the check or money order in an envelope along with the form below, and return to Mrs. Galla.

Thank you for supporting your child’s music studies at Quaker Farms!

Traci Galla, Music Teacher

*Please note that your child may use a precorder & booklet previously purchased for an older sibling when he/she was in second grade. Keep in mind this is different from the larger recorder they play at Center School! Please fill out the form below appropriately, indicating that you already have a precorder or booklet for your child, and send it in to school with your child (labeled with his/her name.) If your child only needs an instruction booklet or precorder, please only send in the amount listed below.

_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please tear off and return to Quaker Farms Music Teacher

Child’s Name ________________________________ Classroom Teacher’s Name ________________________________

Please Check One:

_______ I have enclosed a check or money order for $6.00 for a precorder & booklet.
_______ I have enclosed a check or money order for $3.00 for a booklet only. He/she will bring the precorder into school.
_______ I have enclosed a check or money order for $4.00 for a precorder only. He/she will bring the booklet into school.
_______ My child already has a precorder AND booklet, and will not need to purchase. He/she will bring them into school.