

Music:

Mr. Scozzaro is our new Music teacher and Band director. His enthusiasm is contagious and his talent instructing, motivating and teaching our students is displayed at all performances. You can listen to our students' singing and playing at our holiday shows and at special concert performances that take place at the Civic Center for our senior citizens. The dates and times are posted throughout the school and will be announced in advance so you will not miss our talent youngsters. Ms. Laguerre, as always continues to practice and lead the elementary school chorus while maintaining an enthusiastic approach which continues to enhance the already established program.

Art:

Ms. Christine Mecca is teaching Art for the second year at Gavlak School and Jefferson School. Ms Van Blarcom, our high school teacher, and Ms. Mecca will continue to work together to enhance the Art program in Wallington. We have students in the high school work on the various stage designs at the elementary school, acting as a support for the lower grades and also working to build the program and add to the continuity at the high school level. Ms. Van will be our play director this year and will lead the Art Clubs and "play crew" so that many more of our students can be involved in the program that is in place.

A new class has been added to the Related Arts Department to fulfill the 5 credit requirement in this field of study. Ms. Van Blarcom and Mr. Scozzaro will be teaching the Visual and Performing Arts class which will incorporate "hands on" music, drama, set design and instrumental techniques. This program will take place period 8 of each school day and is in accordance with the Core Curriculum Content Standards of education. Our teachers and our students are looking forward to the class and the enthusiasm is contagious.

Home Economics/Family Living:

Ms. Linda O'Neill is preparing to welcome a new group of preschoolers this year while preparing the Parenting class to assist in the various activities that continue throughout the school year. The busy schedule is broadened by the use of technology in the classroom while everyone gets ready for the holiday celebrations and activities during the school day. Ms. O'Neill works with students each Wednesday on various skills and projects, forming a cohesive after school group and this adds to the interest in the Related Arts program as well, which is the common goal of the department. A new text has been added to the Family Life course which will enable our students to actively participate in a more diverse interactive group instructional period while adding diverse techniques and projects.