

♪ Musical Notes ♪

September 2021

What's happening in the music room?

- ❖ K-2 reviewed how to find and keep the beat of a song. K-1 are now working on opposites in music (like loud and quiet) and learning lots of fun songs and games. 2nd grade is working on identifying quarter note and eighth note rhythm patterns.
- ❖ 3-5 started off with a song for fun, and then spent time learning the national anthem. They not only learned the lyrics, but some of the history behind the song.
- ❖ 6th grade is learning about genres of music. 7th is exploring music from other countries. 8th is getting a brief overview of music history.

Composer-of-the-Month



George Frederic Handel

- ◎ **Lived** 1685 - 1759
- ◎ **Nationality** German (but also became a British citizen)
- ◎ **Style/Period** Baroque

George Frideric Handel was born on February 23, 1685 - the same year and less than 100 miles

from composer Johann Sebastian Bach! George had some music lessons as a child and loved music dearly, but his father wanted him to be a lawyer. Respectful of his father's wishes, Handel began to study law at the age of 17.

After his father died, George returned to music. He wrote beautiful vocal music in three different languages, including many famous operas and oratorios. By 1740, Handel completed his most memorable work - the Messiah. It is said that when the king first heard the "Hallelujah Chorus" he was so filled with emotion that he rose to his feet. This tradition continues today.

George became blind near the end of his life, but he continued to perform on the organ and to compose music by dictating it to a friend who wrote it down for him. He died on April 14, 1759.

Listening suggestions : *The Messiah, Water Music*