

# The Arrival of Jim Wickham

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Is that the sound of the *Jackson 5* coming from the stage? On Grandparents' Day? That's right! Such are the performances at Mont Vernon Village School under the direction of our new music teacher, Mr. Jim Wickham.

The performance year kicked off with a "Motown" themed performance for Grandparents' Day, where each grade performed a different song from the "Motown" era. Even Mr. Jordan could be seen tapping his foot along to the music! Next, Mr. Wickham also worked with the chorus to put on a Veterans' Day ceremony to honor our

Veterans and to educate our students on the importance of Veterans' Day. The chorus attended a Manchester Monarchs game in December, where they performed the National Anthem with other schools from around the area.

The "icing on the cake" was our traditional holiday concert in December. This was an important showcase for the Village School's band and chorus (which included a performance of "Christmas Canon" that won't soon be forgotten). It was the culmination of a lot of hard work by Mr. Wickham and by the students in the band and chorus, and the concert was a spectacular success!

Even though he is new to the school, he has certainly hit the ground running with lots of ideas for involving our students in the arts.

In addition to his work at the Village School, Mr. Wickham also teaches part time in Bow, NH (where he also coaches the middle school boys' soccer team). Mr. Wickham is a graduate of UNH, where he earned a BA in Music and M.Ed in Secondary Education.

*Written by Peter Denio*