

# Elementary Praise Band Rocks It Every Thursday!

November 5

*by Heather Parsons*

The elementary praise band has been around for about seven years now and is an awesome activity for students from 4<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> grade to participate in if they have the desire to do so. This year's band consists of Madison Haney, who plays the piano, Shannon Johnson, Brittany Heslin, Mellanie Zamora, Julia Gill and Madison Hansen, who are the singers, along with Megan Wilkerson and Mr. Whitmire, who also play guitar and sing. This year, Mr. Whitmire couldn't find a drummer, so in place of that, last year's drummer, Kiriah Barbin, plays the drums along with the band in chapel. The students tried out for praise band during the second week of school and had to prove their musical talents and be judged during their auditions. The group plays and sings joyously on Thursday mornings during the elementary chapel. The popular songs usually sung in chapel are "Pharaoh Pharaoh", "More" and "Get Down". They lead the worship with about three songs a week. "Praise band is doing really well this year and perform well as a group," says Mr. Whitmire. Rosa Nguyen says, "the song 'Get Down' is my favorite to sing in chapel." Madison Haney was asked what her favorite part about being in praise band is, and she said "having the best music teacher, who is really awesome."