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Families join to enrich home school

PALS program offers unique classroom options for parents and kids

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By Bette McDevitt



Lake Fong/Post-Gazette

From left, Joseph Vresilovic, 9, of Greenfield, Andrew Smith, 9, of Sandy Lake, and Liam Costa-Malcolm, 8, of Highland Park, are among home-schooled students who use their handmade musical instruments to perform at the Wilkins School Community Center in Swissvale. Students there participate in the PALS Enrichment program.

Home schooling is not about staying at home.

Most home-schooled children in Western Pennsylvania are exploring the community and beyond, attending classes for home schoolers at Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, the Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium, libraries and nature centers.

One constant for some of them is PALS Enrichment, which meets weekly in the Wilkins School Community Center, Charleston Avenue, Swissvale.

"If it were about staying home, just me and my children, I wouldn't be doing it,"