

Band Letter: Sept. 17th and 18th, 2014

Dear Band Parents,

We are having another great start to the week in the band classroom!

The assignment for this week is:

- Standard of Excellence Book: Pages 2 and 3 - how to set up and hold your instrument or mouthpiece.
- Band Pack – Rhythm Studies #1-10 (Or the whole page if they are ready!) Played on mouthpieces or open tones

Please note the following:

-**Saxophones** and **Clarinets** will continue to work on putting together their mouth pieces, reeds and neck (saxophone) or barrel (clarinet). Your children should just be playing on their mouthpiece/neck or barrel combinations and NOT putting together their instruments yet please!

-**Flutes** will continue working playing just on their MOUTHPIECES – they should not put together their instruments yet, either please!

-**Trumpets, Baritones, French Horns, and Trombones** will work on **Buzzing** (blowing raspberries to make a tone) on their mouthpieces, and carefully assembling and playing Open Tones (they will not use valves yet!) on their instrument.

Our first rehearsal is **TOMORROW Thursday, Sept. 18th in the gym. Students should arrive at 7:50am through the entrance by the gym to set up. Since the school is locked at that time, I will hold open the door to greet students ONLY from 7:50-8:00am so please plan accordingly to arrive on time.** Students who have not turned in their signed band contract can bring them to Rehearsal tomorrow morning.

-**Rehearsals** are for the entire ensemble and include all instrument groups. Rehearsals are the **only time** the band meets before school and will only take place on Thursdays. They will take place each week unless I let you know otherwise, or if a holiday falls on a Thursday.

For example, we will NOT have rehearsal next week because there **is no school on Thursday, September 25th**. We will resume our rehearsals the following week: **Thursday, October 2nd**.

-**Lessons** are in small groups by instrument on either Wednesday Morning or during the day Thursday. These take place as pull-out lessons during the school day. Each student will receive a lesson schedule this week which lists their lesson group and lesson day –either Wednesday or Thursday.

Although your child's lesson day will stay the same each week (either Wednesday or Thursday), your child **may** have their lesson at a different time each week. All of the 5th grade teachers have a copy of the lesson schedule in their classrooms and it is your child's responsibility to check what time their lesson is depending on the day (a,b,c,d, or e) .

Please let me know if you have any questions – much of the information that I wrote above was in the “Welcome to Band” packet handed out two weeks ago – please keep that sheet on hand for future reference.

Just a friendly reminder that I work Monday-Thursday in the district and I will be at Mill Hill on Wednesday Mornings and all day Thursday. Please note that I do not usually have access to an outside phone line when teaching, so the best way to reach out to me is **by email**.

I have already enjoyed getting to know your children these past few weeks and look forward our first rehearsal tomorrow!

Warm Regards,
Julia Brion