

Band Letter 6: Oct 22nd and 23rd, 2014

Dear Band Parents,

Our assignment for this week will be:

- Standard of Excellence Book: **Page 7 (and in some cases, 8)**

A special note regarding practicing this week:

We are all (with the exception of the percussionists!) working on concept called “tonguing”. This is simply starting and stopping the flow of air with your tongue as you play your instrument.

Students should be practicing new notes (whole, half and quarter notes, and switching between notes) using this technique each week by either touching their tongue to the back of their front teeth, or touching their tongue to the tip of their reed to start and stop the air (depending on their instrument).

Focusing on this concept carefully right now will help students set up their technique correctly and will translate into a quicker and more consistent learning process as we progress into the harder music in the lesson book.

Have a wonderful week and feel free to check out this short (less than 5 min) TED-talk video on the effect that music has on the brain:

<http://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-playing-an-instrument-benefits-your-brain-anita-collins>

Warm Regards,

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