

# WELCOME TO Music CLASS!

Dear Chestnut Parents:

I hope everyone has enjoyed a wonderful summer and that we are all ready to get back to school. I also hope to provide a year of exciting and enjoyable music education for your child.

**4th Graders** will be singing in two part harmony. We will study the famous composer Johann Sebastian Bach, his life and music. All 4th Graders will be required to purchase a recorder and book as we learn to read notes and play songs. This part of the 4th grade curriculum promotes a basic understanding of music theory, and is a great preparation for students who will be playing band and orchestra instruments next year. Order sheets for recorders and books will be sent home later this fall. 4th Graders are encouraged to join the Black and Orange Choir, which meets every Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. Tryouts will be during Music class and flyers will be coming home. Our musical this year will be on March 20th and 21st. It is entitled *The Emperor's New Clothes*. The 4th Grade Dance Unit will involve many kinds of motor skills as we perform various forms of line dances.

**5th Graders** will be singing, dancing, and playing class guitars. This year we begin Band and Orchestra instruments. The District Band/Orchestra Information meeting will be held on Tuesday, March, 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the North Olmsted Middle School auditorium. This meeting will include an opportunity for students to play the instruments as they decide which one is right for them. If you already have an instrument that your child will play, it would be a good idea to take it to one of the music stores and get it checked out. I will be sending more information this coming week concerning the Chestnut Band and Orchestra Program. 5th graders are also invited to join the Eagle Choir, which meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. Tryouts will be during Music class and flyers will be coming home. 5th Graders will learn about opera by studying Georges Bizet and his opera *Carmen*. The 5th Grade musical, called *The Best Little Theater in Town*, is scheduled for May 8th and 9th. Our dance unit will focus on the many aspects of Broadway Dance.

**6th Graders** will perform the first musical of the school year. *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* is scheduled for November 1st and 2nd. All 6th Graders are encouraged to sing in the Eagle Choir on Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. We will have several performances throughout the year. 6th Grade Band and Orchestra has already begun. This year the schedule is different, so please check the monthly calendars that your child brings home so that they have their instrument and music at school on the appropriate day. 6th Graders will study the life and music of Ludwig von Beethoven. We will then become composers ourselves, writing and performing original pieces of music. We will study jazz, a truly American musical art. Our Dance Unit will involve various forms of American and international dances including square dancing and contra dance. The final music unit of the year will be Keyboarding. All students will learn to play simple and/or complex pieces on keyboards, which will be set up in our keyboard "lab".

The musicals for each grade level have evening performances. ALL students are expected to attend their class performance unless they are absent from school that day. The performances are the culminating evaluation for the musical theater unit.

Therefore, missing a performance without an excuse, will result in a lowered letter grade for that quarter in Music. I look forward to working with your children, and to an exciting year of music at Chestnut Intermediate School.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Christine S. Kibane*

---

\*\*\*\*\* Please sign and return to Music class: I have read the Music Syllabus and understand that my child is required to participate in all music activities related to their music grade.

---

signed

---

date