

# O'Fallon District 90 Bands 5th Grade Band Newsletter

Week 12, November 26th-December 1st

## Supplies/Repairs

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Music & Arts is our primary partner for repairs and supplies. If you order anything, designate "deliver to school" and it will be brought straight to the band room. [www.musicarts.com](http://www.musicarts.com)

Phone: (314) 739-4265

## Private Lessons

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Private Lessons are the best thing you can do for your child's Music Education. We have a lot of great teachers and mentors who are eager to work with Jr. High Students. Email me at [mdonahue@of90.net](mailto:mdonahue@of90.net) and I can help put you in touch with a great teacher.

## Concert Coming Up

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On December 6th, we'll have our first performance, Christmas in O'Fallon held at the OTHS Panther Dome. This concert features 5th grade through 12th grade band students performing a variety of holiday music. The concert will start at 7pm, with 5th graders needing to be there by 6:15pm.

## Concert Attire

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Concert Attire is white and black. White collared shirt or blouse and black pants or long skirt. Overall, our goal is to look somewhat uniform, but most importantly, to look nice! Target has a good selection of nice clothes in youth sizes.

## Percussion Auditions

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Auditions for positions in the percussion section are this week. There are two clinics where all band students are invited to come learn about percussion, find out about the auditions, and try playing percussion. Students should plan on attending both clinics if interested. After the two clinics, auditions are scheduled by appointment. Parents are asked to come to the beginning of the first clinic for a brief presentation. The Dates are:

Wednesday, November 29th, 6-8pm in the Carriel Band Room  
Monday, December 11th, 6-8pm in the Carriel Band Room  
Wednesday, December 13th, auditions by appointment in the Carriel Band Room.

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## Calendar Information

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For the most up to date calendar information, check out the [website calendar](#).

## Questions or Concerns?

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If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email me at [mdonahue@of90.net](mailto:mdonahue@of90.net)

## Older Stuff/Reminders:

### Students need to bring their Beginning Band Books!

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This week, we will begin using our *Essential Elements* band books. Students should label the books with their name, teacher, and school and should bring them every day.

If your student does not have an *Essential Elements* book, they can get [one online](#) or at most music stores.

## Google Classroom

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To aid in communicating with students and to provide them with additional resources, we are slowly creating google classrooms for each instrument. The first two are up, and students can add themselves using their @of90student.net email and the following codes:

- Trumpets: 1fom1s
- Trombones/Baritones: syl2y6n
- Clarinets: 9d92lf

## This Week in Band...

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- We will work on pages 6-7 in the *Essential Elements* book.
- We will begin working on songs for our concert in December
  - #38-Jingle Bells
  - #57-Ode to Joy

## Private Lessons Reminder

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Due to the steep learning curve for the French Horn and Oboe, these students are required to take private lessons. There is still time to sign up for lessons with the outstanding mentors we have in our area. We require this to ensure that your student is going to be successful on their instrument. If you have any questions about finding a private lesson

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teacher contact myself at [mdonahue@of90.net](mailto:mdonahue@of90.net) or Mr. Kennedy at [akennedy@of90.net](mailto:akennedy@of90.net).

### What should I hear and see at home?

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- Long, sustained notes on the mouthpiece/headjoint, and the instrument.
- Great, seated posture when playing the instrument with back away from the back of the chair
- Short practice sessions focusing on long notes, not using a music book or stand yet.
- Students taking the time to clean their instrument when they're done practicing.
- Playing #38 and #57 from the book

### Repair Information

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Heaven forbid, if an instrument breaks and you need an instrument repair, the best way to accomplish it in a timely manner is:

- [Fill out this form](#)
- Have your student take out their reeds, mouthpiece, supplies, etc. from their instrument case for use with their loaner instrument.
- Michael, our M&A rep will pick up the repair (usually on Fridays).
- Repair should be completed within about a week.
- Feel free to contact our rep, Michael Bryant at:
  - William Bryant <[William.Bryant@musicarts.com](mailto:William.Bryant@musicarts.com)>