

O'Fallon District 90 Bands 5th Grade Band Newsletter

Week 5, October 15th-19th

Supplies/Repairs



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

Phone: (314) 739-4265

Private Lessons

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 and I can help put you in touch with a great teacher.

The Honeymoon Phase

For some students, the honeymoon period of playing their instrument is ending, and they're realizing that playing an instrument is HARD! Some students face challenge and frustration early in their music career, some much later. Regardless, no student will have a completely easy time learning their instrument. When they hit those walls and frustrations, we will help them through it. The best thing you can do is to keep encouraging them, and remind them that nothing worth doing comes easy. We appreciate your support and encouragement of your student!

This Week In Band

- We will be focusing on our first 5 notes.
- We will continue working on articulation or tonguing; using our tongue to separate sounds
- We will be working on our second and third songs, *Mary had a Little Lamb*, and *Ode to Joy*.
- We will be meeting with students one on one to check on their progress and give them individual instruction and help.

Older information:

Attendance

The biggest predictor of success in band is regular attendance. Just a reminder to aim to drop off before 7:10am. For security purposes, we will lock the front doors at 7:15am to ensure the campus is secure while we're there.

Also, we do track attendance, so we appreciate a quick email if a student is ill or absent.

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Oboe/French Horn Lessons

Calendar Information

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

Questions or Concerns?

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email me at mdonahue@of90.net

French Horn and Oboe players should have had their first lesson by now.
If you need help setting these up, please let me know.

French Horn Teachers

- Gwen Musenbrock (OTHS Mentor)-618-444-9270
- Mackenzie Brown (OTHS Mentor)-618-795-6895
- Lisa Cripe (Professional)-lcripe@of90.net
- Hailey Kingston (McKendree Student)-618-616-3764

Oboe Teachers

- Dawn Striker-Roberts-oboe11@icloud.com
- Morgan Barnum (OTHS Mentor)-618-402-1441
- Austin Dichsen (OTHS Mentor)-618-791-0745
- Rebecca Graf (Professional)-rebecca.graf@att.net

What should I hear and see at home?

- Great, seated posture when playing the instrument
- Short practice sessions focusing on long notes, not using a music book or stand yet.
- Practicing going between the first 3-5 notes, slowly.
- *Ode to Joy, Mary had a Little Lamb, Hot Cross Buns*

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Friday Drop Offs

Due to the traffic we're experiencing, especially on Fridays, we are going to adjust our drop offs. Both the drop off lane off of the parking lot, and the circle are open to drop off. Especially on Fridays, Northbound traffic should plan on using the circle, while southbound traffic should use the parking lot lane, see below:



Instrument First Lesson Reviews

[Flute Review Video](#)

[Clarinet Review Video](#)

[Saxophone Review Video](#)

[Trumpet Review Video](#)

[French Horn Review Video](#)

[Trombone Review Video](#)

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[Instrument Pick Up Night Presentation](#)

Bus Numbers (No Changes)

- EK- BUS 1981
- Schaefer- BUS 1913
- Moye- BUS 1984
- Evans & Hinch- BUS 1919
- Students taking the time to clean their instrument when they're done practicing.

Repair Information

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>