

O'Fallon District 90 Bands 5th Grade Band Newsletter

Week 11, November 26th-30th

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.

Percussion Clinics

For students who are interested in auditioning for percussion, we will have two clinics before auditions. The clinics are:

- Wednesday, November 28th-6-8pm at Carriel
- Monday, December 10th-6-8pm at Carriel
- Wednesday, December 12th, Auditions by appointment at Carriel.

All students are welcome to come try percussion at the clinics, they are taught to be the first two percussion lessons, so students get a very accurate experience to what being a percussionist will entail. Students must attend the clinics in order to sign up for an audition, and should plan on attending both clinics.

Concert Details

We have our first concert coming up next week!

Who: This concert features All band students from 5th-12th grade in O'Fallon! The concert typically lasts one hour.

Where: OTHS Panther Dome

When: Wednesday, December 5th

- Call Time: Students need to be ready to play at 6:15 in the Multipurpose Room (MPR) at OTHS Smiley. We will have signs and High School students help direct students there.
- Concert Starts at 7pm (it's a huge concert we recommend telling friends or family to show up early)

What should students bring?:

- Their Instrument in their case
- Their Music Stand (labelled with their first and last name)
- Their Music

Audience Info: I strongly recommend showing up early, as there are large crowds. I also recommend dressing in layers. The Panther Dome is heated, but some years, if the weather is warm, the Panther Dome becomes very hot.

Concert Attire

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Calendar Information

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

We are coming up to our first concert on December 5th, the Christmas in O'Fallon Concert, 7pm at the OTHS Panther Dome. Typically, the students wear white on top and black on bottom. Boys wear a white collared shirt and black slacks, and girls wear a white blouse and black bottoms.

First priority is we try and look professional and nice! As kids grow a lot, we recommend trying to make things from their current wardrobe work, rather than buying something they may only wear a few times. Target does carry low cost options that work well. Again, our goal is for the students to look nice!

Questions or Concerns?

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

Older information:

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Books

All Students should bring their Band Books. If you still need a band book, you can order one here:

[Essential Elements for Band](#)

Or purchase one at Music & Arts in Fairview Heights.

Please have students write their first and last name in their book, as well as their school.

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.

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!

Oboe/French Horn Lessons

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

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- 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

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

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[Flute Review Video](#)

[Clarinet Review Video](#)

[Saxophone Review Video](#)

[Trumpet Review Video](#)

[French Horn Review Video](#)

[Trombone Review Video](#)

[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>