

4/9/08

Dear Parents of Chorus students,

Greetings! Congratulations to the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade choirs for their successful performance in our Music in our Schools concert before Spring Break! The soloists all did a great job, as did all the students on their choreography. The 7/8 grade choir did a song in 3 part harmony for the first time, and all three parts were present at the concert! Congratulations to all on an accomplishment that required a lot of hard work!

As we look to the future, our next major concert is the Spring Sing on May 1st at 7:15 P.M. This will include all 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade Chorus members. All students should plan to be in the music room by 6:45 P.M. Therefore, please arrive a few minutes early so you can be in the room at that time, not just walking in the front door.

5th graders should be wearing white shirts on the top (something dressy, if possible) and black on the bottom. 6th, 7th and 8th graders should be wearing their red music polos and black on the bottom. Again, "black on the bottom" means you should be in black from the waist down - pants, skirts, tights and/or socks, and shoes. All music polos need to be tucked in, so please keep that in mind when you're selecting what to wear on the bottom. Skirts should be at least knee length, while floor length is ideal. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter! We want the students to look as professional as possible!

For some students, the next event on their horizon is the Visual & Performing Arts show. This event will take place on April 24th from 6 - 8 P.M. in Young Auditorium. A student art show will be set up for us to peruse, and for entertainment, our music department students will be performing solos and small ensembles during the show. If your 6th - 8th grade choir student would like to perform at the Visual & Performing Arts show, please have him/her get together with me as soon as possible to pick a song & work on it with me. The song will need to be memorized. This is a great opportunity for our students!

This quarter, due to some scheduling conflicts, some of your 8th grade Chorus members are not able to take part in Chorus class. We (Mr. Mollet, Mrs. Cinnamon and myself) have tried to remedy this situation, but we won't be able to do so for this year. We have learned from this experience how to avoid a

conflict of this nature for next year, but in the meantime, we have to live with it. Because of that conflict and the rapidly approaching Spring Sing, please remind your 8th grader to come to Lunch Chorus at every opportunity. It meets Thursdays & Fridays at lunch recess. In addition, if any student would like to work on the music with me after school or during advisory, all they need to do is let me know when they'd like to come. I'd love to have extra time to work with them on our music!

I'd like to welcome our newest Chorus members who have joined within the last month: Natalie L., Kerry G., and Jeremy S. We're thrilled to have you!

After the Spring Sing, our next event will be the Choir Clinic/Wicked field trip on May 16th for 6th - 8th graders who are signed up. The clinician who will work with the students will be Mr. Matthew Hanes, who is currently the choir director at Maine West High School. The students at the middle school I used to teach at fed into Maine West, so I've known Mr. Hanes for three years and I greatly respect his musicianship and the way he works with choir students. We're fortunate to have him coming to work with us!

After that, the only event left will be the 8th graders' performance at Graduation! How the year has flown!

As we move into planning for next year, please encourage your 5th - 7th grader to sign up for Chorus when they sign up for their classes for next year. I really value the chance I've had this year to start getting to know the Chorus students this year, and I want to continue to be able to work with them and get to know them more next year. They are people worth knowing, and their talent adds a lot to our Chorus! Thanks for all you do to help us be more successful.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Rachel Loos

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Upcoming Events

Visual & Performing Arts Show

Selected soloists & small groups

Thursday, April 24th

6 - 8 P.M.

Spring Sing

5th, 6th, 7th & 8th Grade

Thursday, May 1st

call time: 6:45 P.M.