

August 28, 2007

Dear Lewis and Clark Parents and Students:

Welcome back! We are excited to hit the ground running with our music activities this year. Music is important at Lewis and Clark, and our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students have an opportunity to be involved in band, orchestra, and choir (5th only). It isn't too late or too early to start learning an instrument, or to become part of a special music ensemble. It can be a challenging, but very rewarding experience!

Students involved in **band and orchestra** will need an instrument and the method book to participate. Lewis and Clark has several string instruments students can borrow for the school year. We also have a couple of band instruments, but they are very limited. Band and Orchestra classes meet before school two days a week from 8:00-8:35. In addition to rehearsal time, students are expected to practice at home for 15 minutes daily (minimum). Regular at home practice is imperative for student success. Practice time is considered daily homework.

Practice leads to excellent performances. Performing is a very important part of music. The students involved in **band, orchestra, and choir** will have a few performance opportunities throughout the school year (at least once in December and once in May). For performances, students should plan on wearing black and white. If this is a problem for your family, please contact me. I have some black and white clothing for those who need it. I do not expect any family to go out and buy something new, or not come to the performance because they do not have black and white clothing. The students work hard and deserve the chance to perform.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. I am looking forward to another fabulous year at Lewis and Clark!

Sincerely,

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