

Band and Orchestra News

Epiphany 2

Miss Aislinn Bohot

UPDATES

There are no major updates this week! I hope you all stay safe and warm this weekend!

PRACTICE ITEMS

Kindergarten

Essential Elements pg. 7: We are starting to work on playing songs on the D string using the 4 notes we have learned so far!

1/2 Orchestra

Essential Elements, pg. 12: Now that we know all the notes in the D Major Scale (yay!), we are working on simple songs that use these same notes. It is very important that the students remember where the notes go on the staff, because the letter names inside the notes will be going away on page 14!

Techniques: In general, we want to get better about using up more space on the bow when playing. It will be helpful to watch the students and make sure they are extending the arm all the way outward and folding it all the way inward to take advantage of all that bow space!

3/4 Orchestra

Individual Pieces: Each student in this class is working on a piece they have chosen. We are focused on playing without any pauses. If it is difficult to avoid pauses, try playing it slower!

5 Band

Standard of Excellence, pg. 14: We are continuing to work on rhythms with eighth notes. All students have gotten the hang of counting eighth notes, but now we want to work on maintaining our tempo, as the tendency is to slow down when playing these rhythms. Continue practicing with a metronome! This will make a huge difference.



6 Band

Standard of Excellence, back cover: Continue working on the chromatic scale.

Sectionals: Continue working on any assigned small ensemble pieces.

7/8 Band

Fantasy on an Irish Hymn Tune: Continue working on any tricky sections, especially in places with time signature changes!

Sectionals: Many of the sectional groups received small ensemble pieces to work on this week.

WHAT'S ON MY PLAYLIST?

My recommendation for you this week is Black and White by Masayoshi Soken. Whenever it's cold out, I like to listen to music from snowy areas in videogames. This is one of my favorites. The soft piano gives this song a peaceful, pensive feel fitting for the winter weather we'll be getting this weekend. You can listen to it [here!](#)