

INNISFAIL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

WELCOME TO THE BAND!!!

(INFORMATION PACKAGE)

Through the leadership provided by the Chinook's Edge School District #73, the Innisfail Band Parents' Association, and the community of Innisfail, we are able to realize the "Innisfail Instrumental Music Program" (IMPS), which commenced operation in January, 1970. Each student enrolled receives classroom instruction in brass, woodwind, or percussion, and instrumental techniques using the concert band as the basic medium of instruction.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Beginning Band program is intended to be exploratory, so that the students, parents, and instructor can decide whether or not the student is suited to this subject or instrument.

CLASS TIME

All grade 6 students will be in the Beginning Band this year on Day 1. As an exploratory course, grades will be determined based on the child's willingness to participate and improve on their instrument and being prepared for class with their instrument and music.

WEBSITE

The Innisfail Music Program has a website that will be updated with information about concerts, fundraisers, band parent meetings, schedules, and general information. The address is: www.innisfailmiddle.ca then click on band. Email will be the primary means of keeping parents up to date about what is going on with the band program.

FUNDRAISING

If you are interested in the fundraising our band program does, please see the website or contact me by email for more information. It is optional for you to participate in fundraising but the opportunity will be shared with you to make that decision. Our first fundraiser is Admazing Savings Coupon Book is available for \$25. You can send the money to school with your child and email me to let me know how many you would like. \$7 from each book gets directly credited to your child's band account.



PERFORMANCES

Our Christmas Concert will be held on Tuesday, **December 10** at 2pm in the IMS gym. Music Monday will be held on May 11 at 11am in conjunction with JWES and IHS. There will be a Dessert Concert fundraiser/50 Years Celebration on Sunday, **March 22** at 2pm and our year end performance and awards will be held on Wednesday, **June 3**, 7pm.

INSTRUMENTS OFFERED

This year students will be trying similar instruments as a class and then rotating until Christmas break. After that, the instruments offered for band instruction are the flute, oboe, clarinet, trumpet, sax, horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. These instruments will be provided by the School and the Band Parent's Association to allow all students access to quality instruments for their first year.

Students will be given the opportunity to choose an instrument from a list of available school instruments. My job will be to balance each class so that they can have the best possible sound. We will be discussing switching instruments during the first few months.

COST

1. Students in beginning band at Innisfail Middle School will pay a \$15.00 school fee.
2. Students/Parents will be responsible for the repair costs of any school instrument due to the student's carelessness or neglect.

"THE MUSICAL PARTNERSHIP"

PARENTS AND HOME PRACTICE ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF SUCCESS

Music study is a three-way partnership composed of teacher, student, and parents. Each member of the partnership has a responsibility. Most parents are eager to be an active member of the musical partnership, but need guidance and definition,

PARENT, GUARDIAN, & TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES

What are the parent's/teacher's responsibilities in the musical partnership?

- 1) **Patience** in repeatedly reminding the students to do his/her daily practicing on his/her instrument, and doing this kindly, but firmly.
- 2) **Encouragement** when the going is rough. Some things in music are learned easily; others require intensive and repeated application. Parental/teacher sympathy and understanding are important.
- 3) **Imagination** in creating a musical atmosphere in the home/school, by tuning in interesting musical programs on radio and TV; inviting friends who also play an instrument into the home, and playing for one another as part of the occasion; adding an attractive recording to the record collection at frequent intervals.
- 4) **Common Sense** in avoiding undue stress on musical work. All healthy children want and need a considerable daily portion of vigorous physical activity. Trying for a balanced schedule of interests into which music practice fits as a natural and compensating element, will pay big musical dividends.

NEVER TREAT MUSIC AS A FORM OF PUNISHMENT.

- 5) **Education** of the student is a primary concern of the music teacher. The teacher will try to the best of his ability to create a learning environment which will lead the student to a creative and productive musical education.
- 6) **Communication** between the parent/guardian and the teacher will help the success of the student. If you feel your child is having excess difficulties or is stressed in any way, please contact the teacher as soon as possible.
- 7) **Success** will be attained when he/she understands that the more he/she practices now the more fun and enjoyment he/she will have later. The skills on their instrument can be used all through their school career and life.

STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

- 1) **Doing your best** is the most important thing you can do to improve your playing. By working hard and trying you will see improvement in your playing with great regularity.
- 2) **Daily Practicing** is an essential part in improving one's performance. Success in playing a musical instrument is determined by the amount of daily practice.
- 3) **Attendance** at all band rehearsals, clinics and performances is very important in improving as a musician. It is also an asset to your band program.
- 4) **Your instrument must be taken care of if you want to perform well.** Make sure you take good care of your instrument and if there is a problem with the instrument, see your band director immediately. You can play only as well as your instrument works.
- 5) **Have fun in band!** The harder you work the more fun and enjoyment you'll have playing your instrument.

FAVORABLE PRACTICE CONDITIONS

- 1) Schedule a regular Daily time for practicing.
- 2) Try not to interrupt the student's practice time.
- 3) Provide a regular place to practice which is well lit, with a straight backed chair, and a music stand.
- 4) Keep the instrument in good working order. Nothing is more discouraging than an out-of-tune piano, a clarinet key that sticks or a defective reed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at
IMS 227-0060, Home 865-4515.
Emergency or field trip times Cell 598-0182

The rewards of music are immeasurably greater than the cost in time and money.
Let's sow the seeds of future satisfaction and accomplishments
by encouraging our youngsters to Keep On Playing!

Notefully Yours,

Chris Bushell

For updates, be sure to place your email below and update during the year as needed.

Student Name: _____ Parent/Guardian _____

Email Address _____

Phone: _____

Please have your parent/guardian read your course outline, then sign and return this page by Friday, September 13. You will have your name entered in a draw for a prize!!!!

I have read this course outline and understand the expectations for Beginner Band this year:

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____