



Band Notes

Newsletter of the Herndon Middle School Band Parents Association

REMEMBER BAND THIS SUMMER!

1. Go to a local music store for some fun new music – many books come with CDs to play along with.

2. Practice and memorize your scales! Don't let the accomplishments of this year slip away by forgetting scales over the summer.

3. Consider giving your instrument a tune-up this summer – it will be ready when you need it this fall!

4. Practice, practice, practice! A little practice this summer will make a world of difference in September!

5. Attend a summer band camp – for a list of camps, check out the HMS Band web site.

Have a safe, musical summer!

A Note from the Director...

I would like to thank the H.M.S. band members for their hard work and dedication. The band students here are SUPERIOR in every way and a joy to work with! Also, my sincere appreciation goes to the band board members and the many parents who have volunteered throughout the year. Their consistent support of our program is a tribute to their high level of dedication. We have had an incredibly successful musical year and I am proud of the many accomplishments of our band students. Have a wonderful, safe and restful summer vacation. A new, exciting, music-filled year awaits us!

Ms. Bonneau

Celebration & Awards Night Re-cap

On June 1st Band Celebration and Awards Night was a BIG success. Our Jazz Band “wowed” us with a great concert. Many certificates, medals, and trophies were given out to our well-deserving musicians.

VA Tech Honor Band: Christine Horting, Michelle Huchette, and Ronan O'Day

All-District Band: Robert DuBois, Christine Horting, Ronan O'Day

Solo and Ensemble Festival: Too many to list here! 7 Excellent Ratings, 21 Superior Ratings

Master Musicianship Award (7th grade): Kayla Magee, Emily Millar, Tucker Phillips, Julia Picchiottino, David Rea, Jacob Reeves, Aimee Toner, Peter Trapp

Outstanding Musicianship Award (8th grade): Christine Horting and Ronan O'Day

Eric Hirt “Spirit of Herndon” Award: Christine Horting



Remember to Visit our Website!

The Spirit of Herndon band website provides a wealth of information.

You'll find the band calendar, blank assessment charts, reminders and up-to-the-minute news and information.

It also includes many fabulous pictures from all of the year's events!

Check back in August for back-to-school information.

Check out the website at www.herndonband.org/hms



From the HMSBPA President...

As I reflect on the past school year, I'm amazed at all our band students have accomplished. They have had a wonderful year, with successes and outstanding accomplishments at every turn. We have watched them grow and mature, both as musicians and people, and Ms. Bonneau has been there all along the way to lead, guide, and encourage each student.

As I get ready to pass the baton to Suzy Orr as President of the HMSBPA for 2011-2012, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the board members – these volunteers have gone above and beyond all year to organize events and make each one of them memorable. I would also like to thank the many volunteers who willingly gave of their time and talents to make these events possible. Through active parental support, we are able to offer many opportunities to our band students.

I wish you all wonderful summer.

HERSHEY PARK BAND COMPETITION

On May 6th, the Concert and Symphonic Bands performed at the "Music In the Parks" music festival in Hershey, PA. After the students completed their performances, they went to Hershey Park to enjoy several hours of fun. This very special event is a great band competition experience and the kids had a terrific time!

The Concert Band earned a "Superior" rating and placed 1st in Division 1C. Symphonic Band was rated "Superior" and placed 1st in their Division, 1D.

WAY TO GO, HMS BANDS!

BAND PICTURES AVAILABLE ON-LINE

The band web site is FULL of beautiful behind-the-scenes pictures from our events this year! And...you can print your own copies of those pictures through **Shutterfly** or download them to your computer or digital frame!! ☺

Check it out at www.herndonband.org/hms and click on the "Photos" link on the left side.

To print, just click an individual photo and then click the "Print on Shutterfly" option on the left. To download an image, click the image to enlarge it, and then right-click for the download option.

A very special thanks to Craig DuBois for capturing the year for us to enjoy!



WHY PLAY OVER THE SUMMER?

Musicians are athletes and strategic thinkers. We train our muscles to perform precise actions, and use our brains to do the detective work involved in fixing musical problems. **When we use our musical skills, we make them stronger, sharper, and better.** On the other hand, when we stop practicing, we become out-of-shape. Just like having to go on a diet after overeating on Thanksgiving is no fun, **returning to music at the end of a practice-less summer is very frustrating!** When you keep playing, you prevent yourself from growing a musical potbelly, and you build musical muscle with every note you play.

Practicing over the summer doesn't just help you grow musically; it keeps your thinking skills polished as well. Playing music presents us with a variety of problems to solve, like "Why did I miss that note?" and "How is this supposed to go?" When you practice thoughtfully, you're building valuable problem solving skills that can help you in many subjects besides music. By practicing, you're actually preparing yourself to do well in school next year—no textbooks required!

Another reason to keep practicing is practical—to keep your instrument in good working order. Regular use keeps instruments healthy; when you don't play your instrument for months on end, problems develop that can result in costly repairs. If the valves on a trumpet aren't moved regularly, the oil dries up and the valves get stuck. Likewise, stashing a clarinet in the garage all summer can cause its pads to pop off, making it unplayable. Every fall, repair shops are flooded with instruments that are broken due to a summer of neglect. If you play all summer, though, you can save that repair money to buy something you'll really enjoy.

Instruments aren't the only things that suffer when left unused. Imagine your first day of band class after summer break. You take out your instrument just like you did last year, but something's different. That pretty tone you developed last year is gone, and you've forgotten half your fingerings. The instrument that you once played easily now feels awkward in your hands. Discouraging, huh? Fortunately, this story doesn't have to come true. **If you choose to play over the summer, odds are you'll return to school sounding GREAT!**

excerpt from <http://www.wileyelementaryband.com/blog/>

BAND SKIRT DONATIONS

If your 8th grade daughter has no further use for her band skirt, would you please consider donating it to the Herndon Middle School Band program?

We would love to have some extra skirts on hand for those who may not be able to afford to purchase a skirt or for those that have outgrown theirs.

If you have a skirt to donate, please just send it to school with your daughter and have her give it to Ms Bonneau.

THANK YOU!



VOLUNTEERS

We would like to thank everyone who has volunteered to help with band events throughout the year.

You have helped make all the events flow smoothly and allowed Ms. Bonneau to focus on the wonderful performances.

Thank you again for all of your contributions to help make the HMS Band program so successful!



PLANNING AHEAD...

Sep 6 – First Day of School

Oct 22 – Homecoming Parade

2011-12 Board Members Needed!

Would you like to become more involved with the band program next year? It's your lucky day! We have openings on our band board, so please consider this opportunity. If you know any rising 7th grade parents whose students are joining the band program, please forward this newsletter to them and share the web site with them. We have lots of opportunities for them to get involved next year!

President

8th Grade Suzy Orr

Vice President

7th Grade Vacant

Treasurer

8th Grade Jennifer Loudenslager
7th Grade Carlene Cicchetto

Volunteers

8th Grade Kristen Jasmann
7th Grade Vacant

Parade

8th Grade Kim Kelly
7th Grade Vacant

Uniforms

8th Grade Michele Hitti
7th Grade Lori O'Day

Newsletter

8th Grade Christa Soltis
7th Grade Vacant

Hospitality

8th Grade Amy Millar
7th Grade Lydia Gough

Fundraising

8th Grade ***VACANT***
7th Grade Yesmin Chabebe

Photographer

8th Grade Keith Pirnat
7th Grade Norma Melendez

PTA Liasion

8th Grade Cindy Rea
7th Grade Vacant

Webmaster

8th Grade Red Fehrle
7th Grade Trish Heiman

