



ECOLE VAN WALLEGHEM BAND HANDBOOK

2018-2019





THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM



ECOLE VAN WALLEGHEM

September 2018

The Band Program at Van Wallegghem is part of a proud, long standing tradition of high quality music programs offered in the Pembina Trails School Division. This Handbook provides an organizational framework and reference guide for students and parents outlining the philosophy, assessment procedures, policies, and expectations for students enrolled in Band in grades 6 – 8 for the 2018 – 2019 school year.

Please read through the following material, make note of important dates, and acknowledge receipt of the information contained here by responding either in writing or via email to me at your earliest convenience.

Thank you,

Matt Neufeld
Band Director
Ecole Van Wallegghem
mneufeld@pembinatrails.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

NEWS AND GENERAL UPDATES

Please bookmark our website, <http://www.mneufeld.weebly.com>, for regular updates.

CONCERTS

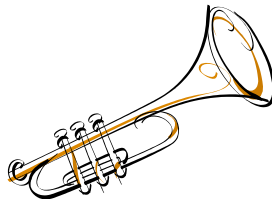
Concerts are an integral part of any performance based music curriculum. They serve as a culminating moment when months of hard work come together to present a polished product. In many ways, concerts are the most rewarding aspect of the program, as students have the opportunity to share their accomplishments with the people who are most important to them. Attendance at concerts is, therefore, extremely important, not only to individual students, but to the Bands as a whole, who rely on the contributions of every member in order to be at their best. With this in mind, I would urge all students, with the support of their parents, to keep track of concert dates and deal with conflicts in a timely manner. These dates and other important events are listed in this booklet, and on the school calendar.

UNIFORM

The school Band uniform for students in grade 6-8 is as follows;

- BLACK PANTS/SKIRT
- WHITE BLOUSE/DRESS SHIRT
- BLACK SHOES AND SOCKS

Students are asked to keep Band instruments on the shelves in the Band room during the day. All instruments must be clearly labeled with the students' name.



MUSICAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

November 9	Remembrance Day Service (Grade 7s/8s perform)
November 13 and 14	Grade 8 Divisional Honour Band (selected 8s only)
December 5	Winter Concert (Grades 7-8, Choir, Jazz Band) 7 PM in VW Gym
January 17	MBA Solo/Ensemble Festival
February 6	Grade 6 Debut Concert (Grade 6, Jazz Band) 7 PM in VW Gym
February 20 - 22	Optimist Band Festival (Grades 8) <i>Specific Dates & Times T.B.A.</i>
Feb. 26-March 1st	Optimist Jazz Festival (Jazz Band) <i>Specific Dates & Times T.B.A.</i>
April 30 – May 3 rd	Level One Band Festival (Grade 7 Band)
May 3-5	Manitoba Provincial Junior and Intermediate Honour Bands
May 29	Spring Concert (Grade 6-8 Band, Jazz Band, Choir) 7 PM at MyChurch (formerly Immanuel Pentecostal)
May 31	Oak Park Jazz Café (Jazz Band)
June 26	Grade 8 Farewell (grade 7 Band performs).



WHY BAND?

Students today are faced with many challenges that did not exist even ten years ago. The prevalence of social media sites, cell phones and interactive computer games may give the impression that our children are more “connected” than they were a generation ago, but often these technologies can have an isolating effect.

Studying a musical instrument and playing in a Band can help to balance this trend by giving students an opportunity to develop their musical abilities, through hard work and persistence, in an atmosphere that encourages group cooperation and communication in a unique way. Being involved in music engages every aspect of brain function, while making us more aware of our connections with others, not only inside the ensemble, but outside as well. Through the study of music, students can connect with the past and foster their own creative energies for the future. Perhaps no other single subject studied in school has the potential to so fully engage the hearts and minds of its clientele.

Playing in the Band has huge benefits for students artistically, intellectually and socially, and can have particular relevance for students in the middle years as they begin their struggle to find their place in the world and plan for their futures as citizens of the 21st century.

CONTINUITY

Band programs are designed as a seven-year program option (Grades 6 – 12). Those students who participate in band at the middle school level have the opportunity of continuing this option in any of the senior high schools in the Pembina Trails School Division.

CONCERT BAND

Concert Band consists of all woodwind, brass and percussion instruments. Grade 6 students learn to play flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone or euphonium. After completing one year of band studies, can audition to play percussion, French horn, tuba, bass clarinet or saxophone for grade 7. Each grade level will form its own Concert Band and each band will consist of all band students in that grade. The Concert Band is the core of the band program at HGI. It is through Concert Band that we develop most of our musical concepts and rehearsal techniques.

JAZZ BAND

Jazz Band is offered at Van Walleghem. The *Jazz Band* is offered to grades 7 & 8 Band students, and grade 6 students by invitation or audition.

In Jazz band, students must be registered for Concert Band as well.

PRACTISING

- Regular, scheduled home practice is an essential part of any Band program, but it can be difficult to find the time to practice every day. Research shows, however, that skill reinforcement is an essential part of learning and is best done in small, regular sessions. With this in mind, we are asking all Band students to make every effort to practice daily, even if there is limited time available to them. Practising is a habit that cannot be taught, it must be engendered. Please support and encourage this habit in our young people. It will pay a lifetime of benefits!
Students in grade 6 must begin with short practice sessions of about five minutes at a time. As strength and endurance are built, more time can be spent at one sitting. By the end of the year students should be aiming for 30 minutes for each practice session.
- Below are some guidelines for effective practice. Parents are asked to support and encourage this activity. Please contact me if you are noticing any issues with practising.

ROUTINE

Make practising a routine during your day and practice at the same time every time you practice.

Appropriate times are after school or just before/after supper or in the morning.

Practice in a quiet place, away from any distractions.

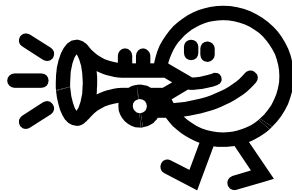
STRUCTURE

Set measurable goals before you start practicing (e.g. work rhythm #3 up to 120 beats per minute starting slowly with a metronome, achieve a clear, free tone on a concert F when buzzing on the mouthpiece, play measures 24-32 with an easy-to-hear melodic shape).

Include warm-ups, scales, method book exercises, band parts, and fun time (own choice) for each practice session.

LISTENING

Encourage family members to listen to your practising. Listen to recordings of your instrument.



PRIVATE LESSONS

No matter what level a student is at, everyone can benefit from taking lessons. Here is a list of private teachers that I personally know and can vouch for their professionalism and excellent musicianship.

Flute:

Katy Abraham Winnipeg – River Heights katy.a.abraham@gmail.com 226-0855
Charmaine Bacon Winnipeg – South charmaine.bacon@gmail.com 894-5684
Julie Husband Winnipeg info@elegantmusic.ca 257-2227

Oboe:

Julie Husband Winnipeg info@elegantmusic.ca 257-2227
Kelsey Nordstrom Winnipeg - River Heights - 291-5750

Clarinet

Chris Byman 204-612-3276
Colin Mehmel 204-880-4935
Elizabeth LaRue 204-990-7426

Saxophone

Alena Arnason Winnipeg – Windsor Park aarnason@pembinatrails.ca 295-0885
Janice Finlay Winnipeg – St. James info@classactmusic.com 661-4834
Chad Pollard Winnipeg cpollard@pembinatrails.ca 218-2035

Trumpet

Jeni Taylor Winnipeg – Fort Richmond taylor_jeni@hotmail.com 612-8518
Darryl Ferguson Winnipeg daferguson@pembinatrails.ca 269-3787
Derek Fraser Winnipeg – South dfraser@pembinatrails.ca 803-5554

Horn

Shannon Moses Winnipeg – St. Boniface shannon.moses@hotmail.com 416-4575
Michiko Singh Winnipeg – Charleswood singhmichiko@gmail.com 421-4336

Trombone

Matthew Guidry Winnipeg – South St. Vital mguidry254@gmail.com 612-2408
Jay Harrison Winnipeg – Polo Park bigjayh@shaw.ca 250-4596
Jason Kehler Winnipeg – St. James jkebler@sjsd.net 782-4739

Euphonium

Michelle Funk Winnipeg mfunk_@hotmail.com 792-3449

Tuba

Bobbie Fast Winnipeg – South bobbiefast@hotmail.com 223-7409
Rob Monson Winnipeg – South rob.monson@lrsd.net 417-6746

BAND ASSESSMENT

Assessment in Band is both formal, as in the case of playing tests and written assignments, and informal. Informal assessment consists of ongoing observation of student progress during classes and rehearsals, and is largely for the purpose of monitoring student progress in order to inform our teaching. For students, class participation, preparation, and attitude are important so that all students' instructional needs are met.

Students will have several playing tests per term. Grade 7s and 8s will submit all playing tests through Google Classroom. Tests will be recorded at home, on video, with the students' face and hands visible.

Google Classroom class codes:

Grade 8s: kv2zppy

Grade 7s: g10yhtq

Grade 6s will have a combination of in-class and pre-recorded playing tests.

In addition to playing tests, there may also be one or two written tests or assignments per term in order to evaluate reading and comprehension skills.

Marks will be assigned as follows:

Grade 7s and 8s:

Playing Tests: 40 Marks

In-Class Work and Class Preparation – 40 Marks

Written Work – 20 Marks

Grade 6 students will not receive a numerical grade for Band, however the basic outline of the course is in line with guidelines from the provincial curriculum.

INSTRUMENT RENTAL

All students are required to supply their own instrument, with the exception of tuba, French horn, euphonium, bass clarinet and baritone saxophone.

These instruments are rented from the school division at a cost of \$180 per year. A contract will be provided to students who will be renting these instruments in early September.

All other instruments can be rented from any of the music stores listed below:

MUSIC STORES

<i>Long and McQuade</i>	Stafford & Pembina	284-8992
<i>St. John's Music Ltd.</i>	1330 Portage Ave.	783-8899
<i>Accord Music</i>	6-1373 Pembina Hwy	452-1235

INSTRUMENTAL ACCESSORIES

All instruments require accessories for maintaining proper and vital functioning of the instrument. The following instruments need accessories:

- **FLUTE**

soft cotton cleaning cloth, cleaning rod

- **OBOE**

weighted cleaning cloth, reed case and at least two reeds

- **CLARINET and SAXOPHONE**

weighted cleaning cloth

box of reeds (2 1/2 strength) and reed case

mouthpiece brush

- **TRUMPET**

Valve Oil

mouthpiece brush

valve brush

tuning slide grease

cleaning snake (to be left at home)

- **FRENCH HORN/EUPHONIUM/TUBA**

valve oil (rotary for horns)

tuning slide grease

mouthpiece case

cleaning snake (to be left at home)

- **TROMBONE**

mouthpiece brush

slide care kit (slide grease and spray bottle)

tuning slide grease

cleaning snake (to be left at home)

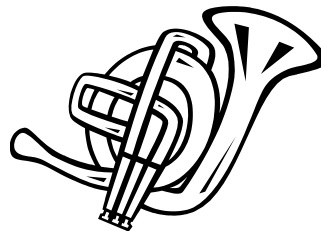
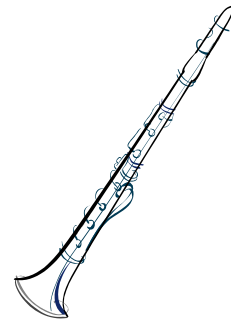
- **PERCUSSION**

drum sticks (Vic Firth SD1s or SD1 Jrs.)

stick bag

timpani mallets

bell kit and practice pad (rented)



METRONOME AND TUNER

It is essential for every musician to own a metronome and tuner. I prefer a physical metronome and tuner, but many good free apps are available. These two tools are very important for efficient and effective practice at home.

MUSIC STAND

It is highly recommended that all students purchase a music stand to use during his/her practice sessions at home. The use of a music stand promotes good posture and playing position.

BAND METHOD BOOK

All Band students will receive a Band method book, which they must return at the end of the school year. Lost or damaged books must be replaced at the parents' expense.

Students are responsible for bringing their instrument, method book, music, pencil, and folder to *each* band class.

Grade 6 FI students have band on days 1, 2, 3, 5, and sectionals on 6.

Grade 6 English students have band on days 2, 3, and 5, and sectionals on day 6.

Grade 7 students have band on days 1, 2, 3, and 6, and sectionals on day 5.

Grade 8 students have band on days 1, 2, 3, and 6, and sectionals on day 5.

Please see my Weebly for which instrument group has sectionals on any given day.

I look forward to sharing a wonderful year with you!

-Matt Neufeld

mneufeld@peminatrails.ca

<http://www.mneufeld.weebly.com>