

Dear Parents:

This has certainly been an interesting 2020! It's time to start thinking about enrolling your child for band. My classes are going to look a little different this year. To be able to keep everyone safe (kiddos and myself), we will be social distancing during rehearsals and lessons. Below is an outline of my classes:

**Advanced Band** (any student who has been playing at least a year): I will be having small group ensembles so that the musicians still have an opportunity to play with other students, however we may have to wait until this Pandemic is over before we get the entire band together. I will let you know the schedule as soon as I get it finalized. So each student will have one individual lesson and one small group ensemble rehearsal with me every week.

**Beginning Band** (any student who has not played an instrument yet and would like to try out): I will be making appointments with families to test 4<sup>th</sup> graders and up. Every child has different facial characteristics and different listening skills for playing instruments. I am confident that 99.99% of the time, I choose the right instrument for my students. *Please call me to set up an appointment to meet at the school and test instruments.* I will be scheduling families 30 minutes apart so I can properly clean the instruments between kids. Lessons will start as soon as I can get the students scheduled. Each child will receive 1 private or small group lesson with me each week. When I think they are ready, we will start meeting before school for full band rehearsals.

**Bell Choirs** at St. Joseph are on hold until we see how the coronavirus is going down. Since students rehearse together, side-by-side, and they share bells a lot, we thought it was for the safety of all to put the bells on hold for awhile. I will keep you updated as we go through this school year.

Please fill out the Instrumental Registration Form to sign your child up for Band. When I see what the enrollment is, I will then make decisions about the schedule.

Thank you,

Mrs. Gervais "Mrs. G"

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