

FOURTH & FIFTH GRADE CHORUS

9/7/09

Dear Parents & Guardians,

The Great Oak Chorus is open to all 4th and 5th graders who wish to participate. Chorus provides students with the opportunity to be part of a larger performing ensemble, to make music with their friends from other classes and grades, and to share in the joy and sense of accomplishment that come from performing together in concert. The process of working together as musicians encourages artistic growth, builds teamwork and leadership skills, and helps establish a healthy community.

Chorus meets before school on Fridays. I know it can be a challenge to wake up early, but there are advantages. Morning rehearsals prevent the need to pull students out of class, and they allow us to avoid conflicts with instrumental lessons and other scheduled classes and events, including after-school sports and clubs. Morning is also the best time for learning. Our early rehearsals help students get energized and focused before the regular school day begins (our warm-ups and stretches are especially beneficial to those who are not quite awake!). Since band and chorus meet on different days, students can participate in both without any conflict.

I encourage all students to join, keeping in mind that those who participate must take their responsibilities seriously in order to make the most of this opportunity. Students who choose to participate should **return the form at the bottom of this page by Monday, September 21st**. Please keep this top portion as a reference.

Chorus will begin on Friday, September 25th (the second full week of school). **Rehearsals start promptly at 7:35 AM.** Students should enter through the gym door. **Chorus members should plan on arriving by 7:30 and be ready to sing at 7:35. Members are expected to attend all rehearsals except in cases of illness or emergency.** Please provide a signed note in advance if you know your child will miss a rehearsal due to an unavoidable conflict. An attendance policy will be sent home with all members.

The band and chorus winter and spring concerts are tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, December 16th (during school) and Thursday, June 10th (evening performance). The chorus will also perform for our school Memorial Day observance on Friday morning, May 28th.

Also, please let me know if you are interested in playing piano with us occasionally or know someone who might be. I look forward to a wonderful year of music-making!

Sincerely,
Mr. Nick Wild

Please return to your child's classroom teacher by Monday, September 21st.

My child, _____, has chosen to join chorus and understands the responsibilities of membership.

Classroom teacher: _____

Parent signature: _____

Date: _____