



Issue 1 Volume 1

July 2013

Ready, Get Set, Make Music...

Hello everyone! It's that time of the year when music is in the air. My name is Derrick Black and I am the general music teacher at Barrington Place Elementary. My goal is to share the joy of music with your child and provide them with a foundation for lifelong music appreciation! I will see each student in Grades K-5 at least once a week for 50 minutes. Our time together will include a variety of musical experiences such as singing, dancing, playing instruments, listening to various musical styles and creating music of their own.

The four rules we have in our music room spell out the word S.T.A.R. and the very first thing we do when students enter the music room is sing the S.T.A.R. rules song (ask your child to sing it for you!). I have high expectations for all of my students and they will receive two grades on their report card from me each nine weeks (one content grade and one conduct grade).

We will be singing our nation's

most cherished patriotic songs during the first few months of school in music class. One way to reinforce this at home is to encourage the entire family to memorize the words to our national anthem (The Star Spangled Banner)! Many of you may be wondering when our music performances will be this year and believe me I can hardly wait myself! I try to make sure that every grade level has an opportunity to perform for their parents and the community in some way each year. Inside this issue you will find a list of the 2013-2014 music performance dates. Please mark your calendars now and as always, feel free to email me if you have any questions. I look forward to meeting each of you in person and thank you for sharing your most precious gift with me each day... your child!

Musically Yours,

Derrick L. Black

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10 Ways Music Benefits Children

<http://www.sheknows.com/parenting/articles/814331/>

(Part 1 of 2 Part Series)

For children, music provides many, many benefits. Experts agree, there are lots of good things about letting your child learn to play an instrument. Here are 10 reasons why your child should put down the remote and pick up a musical instrument.

1. It will boost their brain power

More and more studies show a correlation

It will boost their brain power...

between higher

academic achievement with children who are exposed to music," says children's music specialist Meredith LeVande of MonkeyMonkeyMusic.com.

2. It will improve their memory

Help your kids remember more (and learn more!) with music. "Further research has shown that participation in music at an early age can help improve a child's learning ability and memory by stimulating different patterns of brain development," says Maestro Eduardo Marturet, a conductor, composer and musical director for the Miami Symphony Orchestra.

3. It helps them socially

Picking up an instrument can also help your child break out of their social shell too, experts say. "Socially, children who become involved in a musical group or ensemble learn important life skills, such as how to relate to others, how to work as a team and appreciate the rewards that come from working together, and the development of leadership skills and discipline," says Marturet, who also oversees the MISO Young Artist program in South Florida,

4. It's a confidence builder

Are there any areas of life that aren't enhanced by having good confidence? Probably not. And if you want your child to develop their confidence, learning to play a musical instrument can help.

5. It teaches patience

When you are playing in a band or orchestra (and most musicians do), you have to be willing to wait your turn to play otherwise the sound is a mess. That inadvertently teaches patience.

Recorder Time!

By Derrick L. Black

All fifth grade students will have the opportunity to learn how to play the recorder. They will continue their learning experience by completing a unit in Karate Recorder. Every student should have an instrument recorder by Friday, October 4th so that everyone can start the lessons at the same time. Those who do not have a recorder can purchase one at Music & Arts store in Sugar Land's Town Center. The new recorders come in a variety of colors and will cost \$4.95. If your child already owns a recorder, you will not need to purchase a new one.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Black via e-mail (Derrick.Black@fort-bend.k12.tx.us) or school telephone (281-634-5059).



Bronco Choir News!!!



The Barrington Place Elementary Choir will be performing at the Fort Bend Education Foundation International Festival on Saturday, November, 2nd at 11:15 a.m. Choir members should be dropped off at the Performance/Volunteer Entrance All participating choir members need to arrive no later than 10:30 a.m. for choir preparations

**YOU ARE MORE THAN
WELCOME TO STAY...
AND ENJOY THE MANY
BOOTHS AND FUN ...**

and vocal warm-ups. The choir attire for the performance will be the choir T-shirts, blue jeans, and sneakers. Parking will be available with Shuttle Bus service to the Main Entrance of IFest. The Main Entrance will be next to the Main Stage. The Main Entrance will NOT be in the same location as the Performance/Volunteer Check In. Parents and guardians will be responsible for bringing students to the event and picking them

up immediately following the performance. You are more than welcome to stay after the performance and enjoy the many booths and entertainment that will be available at the festival. Admission and entry is free.

In order to ensure that we have an accurate count of how many choir members will be participating, please fill out the bottom portion of this letter and return it to Mr. Black no later than Friday, October 25th, indicating whether or not your child will be in

2013-2014 Choir Performance Schedule

| | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 11/2 | Fort Bend Educational Int'l Festival |
| 12/5 | Winter School/PTA Mtg Performance |
| 12/20 | Winter Holiday School-wide Sing-along |
| 12/13 | Houston Zoo Lights Performance |
| 2/28 | Black History Month Performance |
| 3/8 | Health Fair Performance |
| 4/11 | Houston Rockets Performance |
| 5/8 | Spring School/PTA Mtg Performance |
| 6/5 | 5th Grade Graduation Ceremony |

Hello to All the Children of the World

Refrain

Hello, Bon-jour, Bue-nos Di-as,
G'- day, Gu-ten Tag, Kon-ni-chi wa
Ciao, Sha-lom, Do-brey dy-en,
Hello to all the children of the world!

Verse 1

We live in different places, from all around the world.
We speak in many different ways.
Though some things might be different,
we're children just the same,
And we all like to sing and play.
(Repeat Refrain)

Verse 2

There's children in the deserts, and children in the towns.
And children who live by the sea.
If we could meet each other, to run and sing and play,
Then what good friends we all could be.
(Repeat Refrain)