



## Millstone River Chorus News

October 12, 2018

Dear Millstone River School Chorus Parents,

The 4th and 5th grade chorus students and I are having fun, working hard and learning what it takes to be a strong and smart singer. We have been working on sight reading, using the entire body for an overall good sound and listening closely to blend with the singers around us.

One of the goals of the Choral Program is to make performances a positive experience for the children. Given that a commitment to chorus is crucial to the success of the group, I am asking for parental support by ensuring that each child participates in our two daytime assemblies and the evening concerts. Please check your schedules and calendars to avoid any conflicts with our school concert dates:

### **WINTER EVENING CONCERT: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2019**

**Call Time (the time your child has to be at school):** 7:30 PM

**Concert Time:** 8:00 PM

**Place:** The Millstone River Cafetorium (parents and guests will line up in the hallway as we warm-up our voices)

**Dress:** A White Shirt and dark slacks OR skirt. Comfortable shoes.

**In-School Assembly:** Thursday, January 10th

### **SPRING EVENING CONCERT: THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2019**

**Call Time (the time your child has to be at school):** 7:30 PM

**Concert Time:** 8:00 PM

**Place:** The Millstone River Cafetorium (parents and guests will line up in the hallway as we warm-up our voices)

**Dress:** A White Shirt and dark slacks OR skirt. Comfortable shoes.

**In-School Assembly:** Friday, May 31st

In the past, we have found that coaches, dance instructors, private music teachers, and other outside school activity teachers are very amenable if they are given advance notice about school concert dates.

Please fill out the form below OR send this email back with the information below filled in and return it to Mrs. Fernandez. This confirms you have received this email and the concert dates are on your family calendar. Thank you in advance for your support of your child's choral education. We look forward to a great year of singing and learning! Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Sincerely,

Maureen Murphy-Fernandez

Vocal Music Teacher

E-mail: [maureen.murphy-fernandez@ww-p.org](mailto:maureen.murphy-fernandez@ww-p.org)

## **What do young people learn while singing in a choir?**

When they become aware that their voice is heard above the others and they begin to blend their voices, they learn teamwork.

When they follow their music director’s hands through a series of meter and dynamic changes, they learn accuracy.

When they begin to appreciate, or “grow into” a piece of music, they learn patience.

When they refrain from talking and interrupting in a rehearsal, they learn respect.

When they listen and concentrate during rehearsal, they learn self-discipline.

When they bound out of their singing positions to give a “high five” because they finally sang their most difficult piece straight through for the first time, they learn perseverance.

When they volunteer or are asked to sing a part alone or in a very small group, they learn risk-taking and self-confidence.

When they perform successfully in a concert, they learn genuine pride and self-esteem.

Research shows time and again that students have only to gain from involvement in the arts.

A well-organized sustained education in music gives your child intellectual and creative skills that last a lifetime.

I look forward to sharing this year with you and your child, but most of all I look forward to their personal and musical growth along the journey of this school year. Maureen Murphy-Fernandez

(Please return only the bottom portion of this paper)

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*Please print all information*

**Chorus Permission Form**

**By signing this document OR emailing this back, you are confirming you are aware of these dates and they are on your family calendar.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student first and last name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Homeroom teacher

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of parent or guardian