

Woodside Elementary School Choirs

2017/18 School Year
Dr. Ireland D'Ambrosio

Welcome Back! This packet is meant to help you understand your responsibilities and my expectations. Please carefully read the information before signing and returning the last page to me.

Thank you,
Kara Ireland D'Ambrosio

Chamber Singers starts WED 7:30 AM 8/30
Woodside Whistlers starts THURS 7:30 AM 8/31

OBJECTIVES

- ❖ -Music instruction is important to all students' education. Through musical experiences and performance students will learn to discover, think, feel, listen, and create.
- ❖ -Students will continue to develop their performance skills – demonstrating an understanding written and aural information with more rigorous repertoire than a typical general music class.
- ❖ -Students will develop discipline in and commitment to music.
- ❖ -Students will learn to listen to each other and work with others as members of the same team – each individual is equally important.
- ❖ -Students will develop an appreciation for music that will follow them throughout their lives.
- ❖ -Choir is an elective – you elect to be there, therefore I expect excellent, positive behavior or this may not be the right fit for the student.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Music Provided.

Check website at least once a week to stay updated on current events & to practice you singing/choir songs outside of choir rehearsal. You may request a hard copy of music and a listening/practice CD if you are unable to use the internet.

If students are not prepared for choir rehearsals (by practicing outside of choir) it may affect their choir grade (middle school only) and/or they may be asked to take a break from choir.

Choir Fee: \$35 per student – for Woodside Whistlers and Chamber Singers

This fee covers:

- 1) Portion covers the pianist fees for the year
- 2) Choir festival/Clinician Fees and music purchases.
- 3) Various Choral expenses (cleaning of robes, shirts, purchase of replacement uniforms if needed)

Please send in a CHECK written to WES for \$35 (for WW or CS)

Uniforms unite us as a strong team and unite our spirit of performance! Please note that if you are joining the CHOIR TEAM – you are wearing the following REQUIRED Uniform for EVERY* performance.

***There may be a few performances where I do not require the uniform – but please see emails to confirm this!**

Woodside Whistlers – ROBES.(Provided)

Please wear Black CLOSED toes shoes.

Highly Recommended:

White collared shirt under the robe.

Chamber Singers – Choir-Jazz t-Shirts & Black pants, Black shoes

****Jazz Band shirts are allowed at all concerts that we perform.**

REHEARSAL RULES

- ❖ -Demonstrate active listening skills, patience, and respect.
- ❖ -Be on time! Get into class and be ready to sing *quickly and quietly*. Have all materials you may need with you at your seat (pick up your music on the way in the room)
- ❖ -Be focused! Every minute is valuable to our goal to perform well.
- ❖ -Keep the music room clean and class materials in their proper places.
- ❖ -4th - 7th-8th Graders – I am expecting impeccable LEADERSHIP!
- ❖ -No food and no gum in the classroom. (Eat breakfast before or after choir!)

CONCERTS/PERFORMANCES

-Performing is one of the highlights of being a musician and the best way for students to show friends and family what they are learning. There is a tentative performance schedule in this packet and on the website. You will be notified immediately if anything is added or changed.

-Students are REQUIRED to attend ALL of their group's performances scheduled throughout the school year! Failure to participate without a valid reason will result in a student being asked to leave choir or your MS grade may be lowered.

-Our big educational choral activity is the SJSU choral workshop (or another festival)– usually held in Feb-April. This is a very important, educational activity. Although it is not required, it is HIGHLY recommended! Once the exact date and place is set – you will be notified and asked to make a COMMITMENT to this festival. If you cannot attend, you need to inform the director – and this may mean you will be asked to not participate in rehearsal prior to the festival – and celebratory - COMMAND PERFORMANCES that will be CMEA participants only.

ASSIGNMENTS & TESTS

Practice: Please listen to the on-line music or request a listening/practice CD from Dr. D and listen/practice/sing each choir song at least once a week outside of the choir rehearsal.

GRADING POLICY-6th-8th Only

(2nd-5th do not get a grade for choir, however sometimes a choir participation grade does appear on your report card.)

Everyone begins with an “P”. To keep this “P”...

- Participate (which means: pick up your materials at the door, follow class rules, respect others, have a positive attitude, and always do your best)
- Attend all required performances
- Practice

Your grade will be lowered if you...(Possibly a “F”)

- Miss performances (grade will be lowered 2 whole grades)
- Do not practice
- Have excessive tardies
- Do not meet class participation expectations (daily participation grade)

CHOIR GRADE IS P (pass) or F (fail) with a Citizenship grade.

BEHAVIORAL CONSEQUENCES (2nd-8th)

The following is a list of consequences for students who behave inappropriately:

- 1) Warning
- 2) Parent contact
- 3) Dismissed from Choir

WHEN WILL CLASSES MEET???

Woodside Chamber Singers (5th-8th Grade) WEDNESDAYS 7:30 AM
Woodside Whistlers (2nd-4th Grade) THURSDAYS 7:30 AM

TENTATIVE PERFORMANCES

Fri, Dec 15 1 PM – WINTER CONCERT – WW & CS & JAZZ
January – HONOR CHOIR – Some CS representatives
Wed, March 28 6:30 PM – WW & SHOW Concert (W/ MS Band)
Tues, April 3, 6:30 PM – CS Concert (w/ Jazz, PERC)

Clinics to be determined

More performance information will be posted on the choir website and emailed to the choir members – **PLEASE make sure I have your email.**

If you have any questions throughout the year please do not hesitate to contact me. I do best via email, but you may also contact me by phone. Also, please check my website on a regular basis for important information and updates.

School Office: (650) 851-1571 x1036

EMAIL IS THE BEST WAY TO REACH ME.

Please also check the website – I do my best to keep it updated.

Email: kdambrosio@woodsideschool.us

Parents – do you play an instrument? Guitar? Piano? Brass? Woodwinds? Strings? Would you like to accompany the choir? Email me and let me know your special talents!

We have a few songs that need – Percussion, violin/C instrument, Bass and/or flute!

RETURN THIS PAGE BY SEPT. 15

With a CHECK written to WES for \$35 (WW or CS)

WOODSIDE WHISTLERS-----CHAMBER SINGERS

*(circle the name of the group you will be in or **BOLD** if you are returning via EMAIL)*Student Name (print) _____
last firstGrade _____ Homeroom/1st period Teacher's Name: _____

I read and understand the information given in the music information packet and will keep it as a reference throughout the year. I will wear the required choir uniform.

*(You may E-Sign by typing in the names below)*_____
Student signature date_____
Parent/guardian name (print) Parent/guardian signature date**Parent/Guardian contact information:****THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT – I often contact via email!!!****PRIMARY EMAIL:**Email address: _____
(Please print clearly)**SECONDARY EMAIL: (The second email isn't required – just offered to make sure everyone is informed – your choice to send this or not.)**Email address: _____
(Please print clearly)

If you want me to update your child directly – please provide their email address:

In giving me their email – you agree to the following:**I give permission for my child and music teacher to communicate about school-related information via email.**Student Email address: _____
(Please print clearly)*****This is the 1st assignment. Please return to Dr. Ireland D'Ambrosio by September 20*****