

Dear Band Parents,

February 2010

Once again Lynne and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for our Christmas Gift! Thank you again so very much! You never cease to amaze us with your generosity.

Chicago Trip-The Band Boosters are once again hosting the 7th annual trip to Chicago. We would love to fill up the bus! On Saturday, February 27th, we will depart from Olivet at 7 am and return at 11 pm. Enjoy shopping in downtown Chicago and the Magnificent Mile, Museums, The American Girl Place and more! Cost is \$65.00 per person ~ everyone is welcome! (Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult). Price includes deluxe motor coach transportation, breakfast, prizes, snacks and lots of fun! If you would like more information please contact Brenda Dedafoe at 269-749-9953 or dedafob@olivetschools.org

6th, 7th, and 8th grade bands have new practice sheets for the 2nd semester which were handed out last week. Please turn in the sheets weekly (Monday's) so it does not adversely affect your child's grade. Please use these forms only. Do not use your own form. Replacement forms are available in the band room.

6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Band Students, if you have not turned in your \$5.00 uniform fee for the 2009-2010 school year, please do so as soon as possible. You may put it in the green box in the band room. Thanks!

Free tutoring help is available for **5th & 6th grade students** immediately following school each Wednesday. Instruments that are available for tutoring are trombones, saxophones, flutes, and clarinets. Tutoring sessions are run by several of our outstanding high school band students. Students can stay after school on the appropriate day. 6th grade students need to be picked up @ 3:30, and 5th grade students should be picked up at 4:15 p.m.

On Wednesday, **February 24th** the **7th, 8th and High School Bands** will be giving their annual pre-festival concert at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. 7th & 8th grade students need to arrive at 6:15 p.m. wearing their concert attire. High School students need to meet at 7:00 p.m. in the band room. Students need to plan on staying for the entire concert.

The **5th & 6th Grade Winter Concert** will be held on **Thursday, March 2nd**. Students need to arrive at 6:30 p.m. wearing their concert attire. The concert will begin at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. I am very excited about having the 5th & 6th grade band kids performing together. The kids will be demonstrating our new music program Smart Music during the concert.

Band Festival for the **High School Band** will be **Saturday, March 6th** in the Charlotte High School Auditorium @ 12:00 noon. Students need to be in the band room, dressed by 10:30 am. The full concert band attire is required. Year after year, adjudicators recognize us for our strong parental support. Please make every effort to attend your child's performance.

Olivet has once again been selected to host the **MSBOA District 8 Band and Orchestra Festival on Friday and Saturday, March 19th and 20th**. We were very pleased with last year's festival and are looking forward to duplicating that experience for the 20 bands that will be performing here throughout the weekend. Last year our band boosters made approximately \$1500.00 selling concessions. We are in need of many parents and students to help run the festival. If you are available to help, we would appreciate you completing the enclosed form and returning it to school as soon as possible. We will be looking for people to do a variety of jobs from helping in the concession stand, monitoring the auditorium, helping in the percussion storage/loading dock, being greeters and helping at information tables. Thank You!

Band Festival for the **7&8th grade bands** will be **Friday, March 19th**. The 7th Grade Band will perform at 4:00 pm and the 8th grade band will be performing at 5:30 pm in our auditorium. Please make sure that your child has the correct middle school band uniform and they **BRING IT TO SCHOOL** on Friday. ➡

The uniform consists of **WHITE** pants, a **WHITE** shirt with a collar or turtleneck, and **ALL WHITE** shoes! Please call if you have questions. Please make every effort to attend this performance – your presence has a tremendous effect on the kids!

High School State Solo and Ensemble Festival will be held on **Saturday, March 27th** at Okemos High School. Students who received a First Division Rating at District Festival are eligible to participate.

The **5th Grade Band** will be going on their annual bowling trip on **Friday, March 26th**. The permission form is enclosed in this mailing. As always I will be looking for many chaperones. The cost for students to go on this trip is \$5.00 and covers bowling, lunch and transportation. The band boosters help subsidize this event.

5th Grade band: Please find enclosed a copy of your schedule for specials. We have had many students who are forgetting which days to bring their instruments. It is difficult for them to improve when they don't have their instrument for band class. Remember: **When in doubt – BRING YOUR INSTRUMENT!**

Smart Music ~We are hoping that many of the 5th & 6th Grade students have talked to you about the Smart Music program that we are implementing this semester. We are very excited about the results that we have witnessed just in our 1st week of using it! We will be making a presentation using some of the 5th and 6th grade band students at the concert. We will also have information about how students can purchase a subscription for smart music to use at home. There are many wonderful activities and tools for the kids to use at home and have fun, while at the same time, improving their skills.

See enclosed information about the 7th & 8th Grade Trip to Cedar Point in June!

IMPORTANT DATE: High School Band Camp August 1st – 6th, 2010. We are very pleased that because of the support from the Band boosters we will be able to keep it the same price as last year \$200.00. However, we will be in need of donations. More information will be included in the next newsletter.

Thank you again for your tremendous support. Our band program continues to be recognized as one of the leading programs in the state! We couldn't do it without you!

Sincerely,

Dave

Newsletter Homework

Cut and return lower portion – Please save the newsletter for future reference! ☺

STUDENT NAME _____

GRADE _____

I have read the February 2010 newsletter.

Parent Signature

DATE _____

TO RECEIVE 25 POINTS CREDIT THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED BY MONDAY 2/15/10