

November 2022 Newsletter

What's Happening in the Band Room?

It's hard to believe we are already well into November; but it's true. The beginning of the school year always seems to go by so quickly, and this year has been no different! Here is a snap shot of what we are currently working on in the band room.

Our grade 7 students have been working on their "number songs" since getting their instruments in October. This includes learning the first 6 notes on their instrument. Some songs that you might be hearing a lot of are "Hot Cross Buns" and "Mary Had A Little Lamb" so far.

Our grade 8 students had a very successful band camp day at the end of September. Since then, we have been working hard to learn O Canada and another piece to perform at the Earl Oxford Remembrance Day service.

Below you will find more information about what is happening in the band room. If you have any questions, please contact [Ms. Dodds](#) or [Ms. Friesen](#).



Upcoming Dates

Saturday, December 3rd

TUBA Christmas

An extra-curricular event for tuba and euphonium players

Rehearsal in the morning and performance in the afternoon. More details to come.

Tuesday, December 6th

Gr. 8 band students perform at the CPN Winter Concert.

Dress rehearsal during the day.

Concert at 7pm at the WMCA

Students' Band Account for Fundraising

Throughout the year, there are a few optional opportunities for students to fundraise for the different trips and events that happen in band. Once a student joins a Brandon School Division band program, they have a "band account" that is their own for their fundraising money. Money in this account can be used towards any East Side Band fee: supplies, instrument usage fees, or band trips. This money stays with the students for as long as they are in band and can be used in high schools for band trips or other expenses but cannot be redeemed for cash.

If/when your child leaves the East Side Band program, there are a few options for this fundraised money:

Option 1— If your child is continuing band in high school, your child's band account funds will be transferred to their high school band account. This money can be used for band events at their new high school.

Option 2— If your child is no longer continuing in band (either in high school or grade 8), we can transfer the fundraised money to another sibling/cousin/etc. who may be starting band this year, or in the near future.

Option 3— This money can be donated back to the band program. Throughout the year, we offer financial assistance to students so that they can attend different band events, such as the two trips in grade 8.

If you have had an older sibling in the band program, and would like to check to see if they have any funds left to transfer to your child's account, [please contact Ms. Dodds to find out and request the transfer](#).

If at anytime you would like to know how much money is in your child's fundraising account, please contact [Ms. Dodds](#).

Sobeys Gift Card Fundraiser

The East Side Band Parent Council will be running a **Sobeys gift card fundraiser** continuously throughout the year and in the past, it has been a great fundraising opportunity for individual student accounts year in and year out. The gift cards can be used at Sobeys' or Safeway. Cards are available in \$50 denominations with 5% of each card going directly into students' band accounts. Students in the past have been able to pay for their entire Grade 8 band trips on Sobeys vouchers alone!

If you are interested in purchasing Sobeys' gift cards, or know of someone who might be, please contact our Fundraising Coordinator:

Brenda McDermid – call or text 204-724-6814

email brendamcdermid@gmail.com

Sobeys Gift Card Fundraiser

The East Side Band Parent Council will be running a Sobeys gift card fundraiser all year!

The gift cards can be used at Sobeys' or Safeway.



If you are interested in purchasing Sobeys' gift cards, please contact our Fundraising Coordinator: Brenda McDermid

Call/Text: 204-724-6814

Email: brendamcdermid@gmail.com

Gift cards can be purchased by cash, cheque (made payable to East Side Band Parents) or e-transfer to



eastsidebandparents@gmail.com

Cards are available in \$50 denominations with 5% of each card going directly into students' band accounts.



Reeds for Clarinets and Saxophones

Certain instruments require reeds in order for them to play. All clarinet and saxophone players are responsible for purchasing and maintaining their own reeds. We recommend that students have at least 3 reeds in their case at all times. We recommend this so that students can be rotating the reed they use each class so they last longer. It also is important to have extras as reeds are very fragile and can break very easily.

While we do have emergency reeds in the band room, it is the students' responsibility to have their own reeds.

In our band room, we have a specific space for each student to leave a spare reed with their name on it. This is a place for every student to leave a reed to use in case all of theirs are broken, or if they forget their instrument one day. They can use this reed whenever they need, without having to buy a new reed from us. We strongly encourage all students to leave a spare reed in the band room in case of emergency!

If you are unsure of what reeds to purchase, or where to purchase them, please [click here to see our information page about purchasing reeds on our website](#).

BSIMA Instrument Usage Fees

The usage fee for renting an instrument from BSIMA is \$125. If you have chosen a payment plan, please make sure you are continuing to make payments.

Payments for BSIMA instrument usage fees:

Full payment: \$125

2-payment plan: 2 payments of \$62.50

4-payment plan: 4 payments of \$31.25

Payments can be made cash or cheque (payable to BSIMA) and brought to band class.

E-transfer payments can be sent to adminofficer@bsima.ca.

Financial assistance is available to any family. There is a secondary form to fill out and we will cover a portion of the payment, or the complete payment. Please contact [Ms. Dodds at \[dodds.erin@bsd.ca\]\(mailto:dodds.erin@bsd.ca\)](#) to receive a financial assistance form.

If you have any questions about upcoming band events, or anything that is happening in the band room, you can contact Ms. Dodds or Ms. Friesen by email, dodds.erin@bsd.ca or friesen.brooklyn@bsd.ca, or call the band room at 204-729-3277.