

Prairie Wind Elementary At Home Band Activity #1 for Week of March 30th – April 3^d, 2020 Instructions for 5th Grade Band Students

Hello Prairie Wind 5th Grade Band Students and Parents!

Before giving you any instructions, **I want to share with you all how much I miss seeing you for band lessons twice a week!** While we all complained a little having to squeeze everyone onto the very warm stage for band lessons, I think we all would agree that our current “social distancing” situation is definitely more frustrating than having to be a little warm on the stage!

I also wanted you to know that I attended several online meetings with building administrators this past week. After attending these meetings it appears that we will be away from school for the foreseeable future. **Staying at home is a new experience – for you, but also for me.** I never imagined I would need to help you learn to play your instruments without being able to hear you “live and in person.” But know that **I am working hard to adapt to this new situation and hope you are too.** I have come up with some ideas to help you keep improving on your instruments- it will probably not work perfectly right away but we will all be flexible and make it work the best we can. Please read on for instructions on how to make this work:

Here is a list of things we had been working on in band lessons before spring break:

- Band Warm-up, Version 2.0 = all lines.
- Sound Innovations book =
 - Review- pages 14-15.
 - New- pages 16-18.
- Sheet Music =
 - The Lost Kingdom.
 - Academic Festival Overture.

As you and your parents work to plan out your days at home, I suggest setting aside 20 minutes a day to practice your instrument. You are fortunate in that all of you (hopefully) took your instruments and music home over spring break. So you can practice any time you want at while at home!

After you have practiced for a few days on your own you will probably starting wondering “Hey, am I doing this right?” I would love to listen to you play to tell you what you are doing well and give you suggestions for improvement! **We are going to use Flipgrid to record yourselves playing anything on the list on the first page.** Once you have recorded yourself I will listen and give you feedback so you know what and how to practice moving forward.

Step-by-Step Instructions: **Choose a couple of short examples from the list on the first page and record yourself playing them using Flipgrid.** Below is a detailed explanation of how to record yourself using Flipgrid:

- Step #1: Open a browser on your computer. (Chrome or Firefox works best) OR download the Flipgrid app from the app store on your smartphone or ipad. (NOTE: Flipgrid will never ask you to pay anything- if is FREE!)
- Step #2: If using a browser, go to this website: www.flipgrid.com
- Step #3: Scroll down and click on the "ENTER CODE" button.
- Step #4: Enter the code for your band class. Here are the codes:
- Prairie Wind 5th Grade Band = cosby7906
- Next, click on the RED Microsoft button and log in using the same log in and password that you use when you log in to a computer at school.
- Step #5: This should take you to your Prairie Wind 5th Grade Band class... click on **At Home Band Activity #1**.
- Step #6: Using the tools that Flipgrid will put on your screen, record yourself playing some things you have been practicing. When you are done recording you can listen to it and decide if it is your best effort. If you want to redo your recording just click the trash can button and you can start over. NOTE: make sure to give Flipgrid access to your camera and microphone so it can see/hear you. Click the next button when done.
- Step #7: After you record your video, take a selfie- this makes it faster for me to know who you are! Click the next button when done.
- Step #8: Next, **type your first name and title your video ACTIVITY1**.
- Step #9: Lastly, click submit my video and you are done!

Once you submit your recording for activity #1, I will review it and send you feedback either by email or through Flipgrid so you will know what to practice at home moving forward. **Keep in mind this is NOT a graded assignment- this is meant to be a fun band activity that will keep you moving forward on your instruments!** I'm not looking for perfection... instead, I want to hear you play so I can make sure you are on the right track and not practicing "bad" habits while at home!

Any questions? Feel free to email me at thomas.cosby@ops.org and I will do my best to help.

Happy Practicing!

-Mr. Cosby