

Swift Creek Band Newsletter

WEEK OF MARCH 30, 2020

Dear SCMS Band Family,

What a crazy and unexpected time we find ourselves in. With so much uncertainty in our everyday lives, I have very much been looking forward to getting back to some of the things that bring joy to my life every day, including teaching music to the awesome band students at Swift Creek!

With all the upcoming adjustments to remote learning, I wanted to put together this newsletter to give everyone a preview of what band will look like in the next couple of weeks. First, there will be no “graded” assignments for elective classes during the next two weeks. Instead, I will be posting some fun and interactive challenges, activities, and resources to keep us connected and playing our instruments. There will be lots of opportunities to connect with band friends, show off a little, laugh a little, and keep having fun with music! Please carefully read the information below about when, where, and what to look out for.

It is my hope that everyone is staying healthy, safe, and making the most of this time with their families... and taking advantage of all this free practice time! 😊

Sincerely,

Ms. Haley

VIRTUAL BAND ROOM

Our new website, or “virtual band room,” will be the central hub of operations for the next few weeks. It will be linked on my main school website, or follow this link:

<https://haley4.wixsite.com/scmsband>

THIS WEEK’S CHALLENGES

1. The Band Meme Challenge

Since I greatly miss hearing the witty bantering of middle schoolers every day, I am looking to see who can come up with the best band memes! The winning memes will go on the virtual “Meme Wall” on the new website. This will be an ongoing contest with many rounds! Follow this link to read the rules and submit your answers:

<https://forms.gle/TGophaQ6sKqosQb46>

2. Band BINGO

Coming soon to the Virtual Band Room! The best BINGO entries will be featured on the website. All entries must be emailed to

haley@leonschools.net.

PSA

Clean your instrument! Read how:

<https://www.musicnotes.com/blog/2015/08/27/musical-instrument-care/>

FOR FUN

Want to play some new, fun music and feel like you’re playing with a full band? Composer Brian Balmages has made some of his pieces FREE on SmartMusic- you don’t even need an account! Watch the conductor direct the pieces as you play your part with the full band recording.

<https://www.smartmusic.com/brian-balmages/?fbclid=IwAR33SCiLyMYWims0UN7LBabr6ZOwz8i7x0eUY5vtx0eVE9clz6wXkwwqE3k>

Suggested Pieces:

Beginning Band: Starsplitter Fanfare

Concert/Symphonic: Any of the “Medium Easy” band pieces