

This Week In Band: 11/25

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Hi Everyone,

I hope you all had a wonderful weekend! We were very productive, which was great! We're traveling to Big Bear for Thanksgiving this year, so we wanted to get our decorating done before we leave. We were able to transition the living room and put up our trees as well as the rest of the indoor decorations, and my husband put up phase one of our outdoor decorations. We also watched 3 of our favorite Christmas movies (The Santa Clause, Home Alone, and Home Alone 2). We also watched Far and Away since we're playing a medley from that movie at the Tempe Winds concert Tuesday night, and Alex really enjoyed it! If you have any other history buffs in the family, it's available on the free streaming app Tubi right now. He got a kick out of seeing Tom Cruise do an Irish accent!

How was your weekend?

Happy Thanksgiving!!!

I want to take the time to wish you all a wonderful, memorable, delicious, magical Thanksgiving! We've been sharing Thanksgiving traditions in class this week and will share our favorite Thanksgiving foods tomorrow. I love what the students have been sharing! You all have some really fun traditions! I hope you make many new memories and enjoy the time with your families as much as you can. I am so grateful to get to teach music to your wonderful young humans and to share in this journey with all of you!!! Happy Thanksgiving!!!!

SHOUTOUT: Pueblo Jazz Band!!!

Our Pueblo Jazz Band gave their first performance of the season on Saturday at the annual Dayspring Holiday Boutique, and they were fantastic!!! I am SO proud of all of the students and so excited for all that is to come!! Thank you SO much to all the families who helped transport equipment and helped us with set-up/tear down. I appreciate you all so much!!!

Save the Date: Pueblo Winter Band Concert December 18th at Desert Vista

Here are the details:

Concert Date: Wednesday, December 18th at Desert Vista High School

Warm-Up: 5:45pm in the Desert Vista Band Room

Concert: 6:30pm in the Desert Vista Auditorium

Concert Dress: Same band concert uniform as the fall concert plus optional holiday accessories (santa hat, elf ears, Hanukkah attire, holiday socks, holiday jewelry, etc)

Instrument Decorations: Students can dress up their instruments/mallets/drumsticks as long as the instruments still work, the decorations can be removed, and the instrument doesn't get damaged.

Cookies: We will need people to donate cookies and other finger food type desserts for our annual Cookie Reception following the concert. We'll need help with collection and distribution as well, so be on the lookout for a Sign-Up Genius in December.

Extra Credit Concert TOMORROW: Tempe Winds 7:30pm at Desert Vista

I am excited for our first concert for Tempe Winds tomorrow (Tuesday) night!!! We will be performing in the Desert Vista High School auditorium at 7:30pm. Park in the main parking lot at the back of the school and enter campus through the gates. The auditorium will be the tall building on your left.

Tickets are \$5 each and will be sold at the door. I will offer 100 points of extra credit for students who are able to attend (there's no school the next day, so no worries about being out late on a school night!). I told students to meet me in front of the stage at Intermission so I can make a list of students. They can wave at me on their way out at the end.

We are performing a wide variety of pieces including a salute to the armed forces, music from Porgy and Bess, John William's music from the movie Far and Away, Italian Rhapsody, and more!

For your planning purposes, we will also have concerts on January 28th (7:30pm) and April 19th (2:00pm). Those concerts will most likely be at McClintock High School, but I will confirm. We are working on adding a date in May as well, so I'll keep you posted about that!

Save the Date: Cookie Dough Delivery Next Thursday! Volunteers Needed

Cookie dough orders will be delivered to Pueblo next Thursday, December 5th and may be picked up from 3:00-4:30pm (orders will be organized by the seller's last name). We have been planning on the MPR, but it may need to be moved if there is Wrestling Club practice that day (I'm looking into this as we speak—it's been a recent addition to the Pueblo schedule).

We need parent volunteers to help with distribution, so please email me or our Band Boosters at puebloperformingarts@gmail.com if you are available/interested. The items will be delivered around 12:00pm to the school, and distribution will be from 3:00-4:30. I will help with distribution once the band room has cleared out.

Practice Records: Week 5: Due Next Tuesday!!!

We are in Week 5 of our current Practice Record, which will be due next Tuesday, December 3rd. I understand minutes will be lower this week with the holiday, which is completely fine!

As a reminder, I check everyone's Practice Record on Mondays. Students who have a parent/guardian signature and minutes written in can earn 2 Dawg Tags! I have many extra practice records, so your student may ask any time if they need a new practice record. Students must have all 5 signatures, minutes recorded for each week, their name, start date, due date, practice assignments written (on the back), and turned in on time in order to earn their 100 points. Remember—time spent playing their instrument outside of their class period (including practicing saying their note names and fingerings/studying their fingering chart) all counts as practice minutes. Please let me know if you have any questions about practice records.

7th and 8th Grade Scale Tests Update

Each quarter we will be checking off 3 scales, and we had our first check off day last Thursday, November 21st (Symphonic Band will be Thursday for most Brass and Percussion and Friday for the Horns and Woodwinds due to the size of the class). This quarter we will be testing on concert Ab, Db, and C major scales. Many students checked off scales, and it was great celebrating all their hard work!

Our second check-off day will be next Thursday, December 5th, and our final day will be December 12th. Students may also check off scales before school on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday mornings in the band room starting at 7:50. Since we don't have Jazz Band this week, students may also check off scales before school on Tuesday, November 26th. Students will need to check off all scales by Friday, December 20th for their 100 points.

8th graders must play all three from memory for their 100 points. 7th graders (and new 8th graders) can earn extra credit for memorization, but it is not required. Both grades can earn extra credit for extra octaves, and 8th graders can earn extra credit for speed (120 bpm or above).

7th and 8th Grade All State Band Auditions Due Next Friday (12/6)

This is a reminder that recordings will be due by next Friday, December 6th. Recordings are to be audio only (except for percussion), and these need to be emailed to me (I will then upload them to the audition site). Students can record at home or at school. I will be checking in with the students to help with this process. I'm happy to help students with their audition music before school on any non-Jazz day (Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday).

6th Grade Update: Band Karate

- Congratulations to our first 2 Band Karate Black Belts: Bryce Hocking (horn) and Ricardo Lopez Soto (percussion)! They are now moving onto the Jedi Levels! I am excited to see more students join the Black Belt club!
- We will NOT have Band Karate this week due to the holiday. We will continue with Band Karate next week with Woodwinds on Thursday and Brass/Percussion on Friday.
- As stated in the directions, students may also email me videos to check off songs and/or check them off before school on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday mornings (the band room opens at 7:50 each morning).
- Students will earn a treat for each belt they complete and will earn one Dog Tag per song they complete.

Jazz Band Update

The gate opens at 7:00 and closes at 7:05. Please email me or send a message to the Remind if your student will be absent or is running late so I can send someone out to get them (text @puebloja to 81010 if you haven't joined our Remind Jazz Band group yet). If you don't hear from me, **please call the band room phone number if your student will be there after 7:05: 480-541-6990.**

- **2nd Quarter Jazz Band Performances:**

- **Our next performance will be at Paloma Elementary School on Wednesday, December 11th.**

- I will need students to meet at the Jazz Band gate by 7:05 ready to load equipment.
- We will be able to wheel over racks of chairs and stands, but we'll need several vehicles to transport the drumset, amps, and all mallet instruments. **Please email me if you can help move equipment.** We'll need you from 7:05-around 9:15am.
- Students will miss first period but should be back in time for 2nd period.
- We will wear our Jazz Band shirts with holiday pajama pants for that performance (it will be indoor). Students can wear their pajama pants over their regular pants if they don't want to wear their pajama pants all day.

- We will perform at the Pueblo Winter Band Concert on December 18th (they'll be on first at 6:30pm and will wear their concert uniform for their regular band class).

- Our final performance will be at the Pueblo Winter Pep Assembly on Friday, December 20th. Please let me know if your student will not be at school that day. The assembly will be from 2:00-3:00pm in the Pueblo Gym.

- New Jazz dates for next semester:

- **Pueblo 5th Grade Showcase: January 22nd**

- We will perform at the annual Pueblo 5th Grade Showcase on Wednesday, January 22nd.
- Students need to be in the band room at 4:30pm for warm-up, and we will perform as part of the 5:00pm presentation. We will go back to the band room afterward to play while families are touring campus.
- I am still thinking about what to have them wear and will update you on that.

- **Tucson Jazz Workshop Daytrip: February 19th**

- I am thrilled to announce that we will be returning to Tucson this year! Unfortunately the Jazz festival date did not work with our calendar, so we will be going to Rincon/University High School to do a performance for the Rincon/University Jazz Band on Wednesday, February 19th! Their Jazz Band will perform for us as well, and we'll have a clinic with their amazing director, Mr. Jeff Marchant!!! They have one of the best Jazz Bands in the state, and this will be a fantastic opportunity!!!
- Here's a rough outline of the day: We will meet at 7:05am, leave at 7:30am (charter bus), do our performance/clinic, have lunch (probably U of A Student Union again), go to Reid Park Zoo, and head back to Pueblo with a return time of 5:00pm.
- We will need chaperones, so please email me if you would like to attend.

- **Pueblopalooza: April 11th**

- We will once again be performing at the annual Pueblopalooza festival on Friday, April 11th.
- I don't have our exact performance time yet, but plan on having your students available from 5:00-7:00pm that evening.
- Students will wear Jazz Band shirts with nice jeans and will need to have their music in a binder with sheet protectors.

Here is the band mentor schedule as a reminder:

Band Mentors

Please make sure they contact their partner anytime they are unable to make it to band mentors. It's not too late to get a mentor! Please have your student submit a form ASAP if they're interested. Here is the schedule:

Student Last Name	Student First Name	Partner Name	Day
Albright	Savannah	Holland Chapman	Thursday

Badillo	Griffin	Micah Berkowitz	Monday
Ball-Perez	Emma	Bryce Hocking	Wednesday
Ball-Perez	Emma	Lucas Miller	Thursday
Barbaree	Jack	Alex DuPlessis	Monday
Bassett	Lillian	Grey Ward	Thursday
Berkowitz	Ari	Savannah Quezada	Thursday
Berkowitz	Micah	Griffin Badillo	Monday
Blinick	Victoria	Zoe Fernandez	Wednesday
Bond	Ace	Elaina Zemke	Thursday
Brish	Solomon	Shane Werkman	Thursday
Butler	Paige	Layla Larson	Thursday
Chapman	Holland	Savannah Albright	Thursday
Coggins	Sophie	Rowan Dowling	Wednesday
Dowling	Rowan	Sophie Coggins	Wednesday
DuPlessis	Alex	Jack Barbaree	Monday
Fagerman	Julia	Nina Griggs	Thursday
Fernandez	Zoe	Victoria Blinick	Wednesday
Foreman	Landon	Luke Shaw	Wednesday
Garcia	Josh	Emma Hocking	Thursday
Garcia	Sable	Ryan Hesselbacher	Thursday
Griggs	Nina	Julia Fagerman	Thursday
Hannah	Parker	Max Ohlgren	Wednesday
Hesselbacher	Ryan	Sable Garcia	Thursday
Hocking	Bryce	Emma Ball-Perez	Wednesday
Hocking	Emma	Josh Garcia	Thursday
Hsieh	Morgan	Kira Lee	Wednesday
Jarvis	Simryn	Xochitl Martinez	Wednesday
Jimenez	Ehlias	Safiya Underwood	Monday
Keiter	Steven	Lyla Sutton	Wednesday
Larson	Layla	Paige Butler	Thursday
Lee	Kira	Morgan Hsieh	Wednesday
Macziewski	Tori	Safiya Underwood	Thursday
Martinez	Xochitl	Simryn Jarvis	Wednesday
Martinez	Xochitl	James Olson	Wednesday
Miller	Lucas	Emma Ball-Perez	Thursday
Ohlgren	Max	Parker Hannah	Wednesday
Ohlgren	Charlie	Evan Sackett	Wednesday
Olson	James	Kai or Xochitl	Wednesday
Quezada	Savannah	Ari Berkowitz	Thursday
Sackett	Evan	Charlie Ohlgren	Wednesday
Shaw	Luke	Landon Foreman	Wednesday
Sutton	Lyla	Steven Keiter	Wednesday
Underwood	Safiya	Tori Macziewski	Thursday
Underwood	Safiya	Ehlias Jimenez	Monday
Ward	Grey	Lillian Bassett	Thursday

Werkman	Shane	Solomon Brish	Thursday
Zemke	Elaina	Ace Bond	Thursday

Thanks everyone! I hope you all have a wonderful week! Reach out with questions anytime!

Arlie DuPlessis | Director of Bands

Kyrene del Pueblo Middle School

A+ School of Excellence 2015-2018

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 **Kyrene School District**

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