



YORKTON ELEMENTARY



Beginner/Gr. 5
Band Handbook
2024-2025

Why Band?
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Registration

Mrs. C. Karapita

Email: colette.karapita@cttcs.ca

Text: 621-5856 (personal #)

Fax: 786- 6729 (St. Paul's)

Phone: 783-9212 (St. Paul's)

Or leave a message at your school for me

1. Why be part of the Band?

You get to play, make friends, perform, and even go a trip, AND music improves mental health!



2. The Band Schedule

In the Yorkton Catholic Band program, we have 2 sets of classes:

1. My schedule is the same as last year (but you may not have Band every time):

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
AM	Paul's	Al's	Paul's	Al's	Paul's	Mary's
PM	Mike's	Theodore	Mike's	Mary's	Mike's	Theodore

2. **And Full Band @ Sacred Heart High School!**

The 4 city schools practice together @ 8 AM (Theodore, please come whenever you can):

- Mondays: Grade 5, beginning *after* Thanksgiving, **OCT** 21
 - Arrive @ 7:50 to set up and warm up your instrument.
 - If your child doesn't have a ride for 8 AM, **let me know**.
 - Students are bussed to their own schools for 9 AM
 - If your child is unable to attend (ex. illness), just let me know.
 - Early-morning Band runs until June 10.

3. **Beginners:** need an instrument for the Beginner Band clinic

- **Fri. Sept. 20** (7-9 P.M.) **and Sat. Sept.21**-(9-11:30 A.M) @ Yorkdale School
- It's free! (paid in full by Band Boosters)
- You will learn how to assemble, hold, and care for their instrument, produce a good sound, and play the first notes correctly.
- Sat. AM parents will have a Band Boosters AGM meeting
- 11 AM go listen to what your children learned.

4. **Fees**

- Band Fees are due in Sept.
- \$20 of your fee goes to Band Boosters membership, i.e., \$2/month
- Gr. 5 = \$50 (\$20 to BB, \$15 book, ***\$15 blue shirt**, \$0 to our Band program)
- If you cannot pay at this time **just let me know.** (You could borrow a shirt from someone, pay for the shirt next month, pay your fee pay later, pay less, or whatever you need.) No problem!
- Please pay your school office. ***If you already have a band shirt**, let the office know and **do NOT pay for one.** It's a big process to issue refund.
- St. Mike's prefers **credit card or debit** (can be done over the phone)
- Other schools: **Cash or cheque** to "Christ the Teacher R.C.S.S.D. No. 212"
- No refunds after **Nov.**

5. **Other Expenses** (again, **let me know** if you need assistance)

- Instrument & supplies
- BLACK dress pants/skirt, shoes & socks for Dec. concert etc.
- Trip: Gr. 5 \$55 ??

6. **Expectations of students**

Stay on task which means:

- Be prepared (bring your instrument, music & pencil to class. Play at home as required).
- Be respectful.
 - Don't touch other instruments, *especially* percussion equipment.
 - If the teacher is working with part of the class, practice *silently*, not distracting others.
 - Stay in your spot.

Rewards: It's fun to work and play in Band!

Consequences: Since Band is an *optional* class, we shouldn't *have* to spend time with discipline; it's not fair to those who *want* to be here. If you are disrespectful or unprepared, it appears that you no longer wish to be in Band. If this is the case, have your parents let me know.

7. **Expectations of Parents:** Keep this Handbook so you can refer to the schedule, etc.

- Beginners **need to play** their instrument a **minimum** of 10 minutes/day (average). Email me the total each month. If your child cannot play at home, please ask your teacher if they can miss 1 recess/day to play.
- Since Band is a performance art, your child is expected to attend Full Band, concerts, Festivals, trips, etc. **If your child cannot attend their trip, please let me know ASAP** as it affects the price per student.
- Communication is mainly through emails & monthly calendars (or text, send a note, or ask your school to email me.)
- As a Band parent, you belong to "Yorkton & District Band Boosters." Since a Band program is so expensive to run, we are fortunate to have one of the most supportive parent groups in the province! They contribute towards clinics, band camps, etc. We have **only 2 meetings** a year (Sept., June) so please attend!

Google Classroom:

- Google Classroom will be used to post recordings of the music we are studying.
- It can also be used for technique videos, communication, music literacy, history, fun music, handouts, and playing exams.

Google Classroom at home:

- Go to Google
- In the upper right-hand corner are 9 dots ("waffle"). Click whatever is to the right of that (*mine* is a green circle with a "C" for "Colette")
- Click on your child's **school** account. If it's not there, click "add another account" and type your **child's school email address** (which ends in cttcsed.ca)
- It may ask for your **child's school password**.
- Then go back to the waffle and click on it
- Click on "Classroom"
- Click "Gr.5 Band"
- Class code: Gr. 5: **53frd5h**
- *Then* parents can also join the class.
- Note: **If we type something in the "Stream," it will be seen by Band students from 5 schools, all their parents and me.** You may prefer to send me a private message.

Send the following to each band class (labelled with your child's 1st name, school, & division)

- **A pencil**
- **instrument & supplies** (after Sept. 21):
 - in good-working condition
 - flutes: cleaning rod and cloth
 - clarinets: cleaning swab
 - clarinets/saxophones: 3 good reeds to alternate (reed guards recommended)
 - trumpets, trombones, baritones: valve oil
 - trombones: a small spray water bottle
 - percussionists: sticks & mallets
- **music** (provided) in a slim 3-ring binder (with pencil slot) or folder (provided)
 - If you think your child may lose music, make extra copies.

8. Evaluation on a scale from 1 – 4:

- Instrumental Proficiency (i.e., how well you play) which may be affected by:
 - bringing all items to class
 - playing at home
 - attending Full Band
 - Technique: instrument assembly, posture, hand & instrument position, embouchure, tuning, tone, etc.
 - listening & ensemble skills
 - end-of-month playing exams (video may be submitted through Google classroom, Google Drive, email, text, iCloud, or youin-class)
- Musical Literacy (i.e., how well you read music)
 - End-of-month written exam (notes, rhythms, terms, symbols).
 - 1st **written and playing exam** is **end of Sept.**

Insert Sept. calendar

Sept.

- Fri. 20 (7-9 P.M.) **and** Sat. 21 (9-11:30 A.M): free mandatory **Beginner** Band Clinic @ Yorkdale
- Sat. Sept. 21: 9 AM Band Boosters AGM (**for ALL Band parents**) @ Yorkdale
- Sun. Sept. 22: start playing *at least* 10 minutes/day at home.
- End of each month: 1st playing & written exam.

Oct.

- 1st week of each month: Beginner parents submit practice minutes
- Sell chocolates (Band Boosters)
- Mon. Oct. 21: weekly **Beginner Full Band** begins (@SHHS)

Dec.

- Tues. Dec. 10: Band Christmas concert @ Sacred Heart Theatre

Jan.

- Jan.13: Full Band classes continue
- Wed. Jan. 29: entry deadline for Yorkton Music Festival
 - Optional solos, duets, trios, etc. (many scholarships available!)
 - Also consider Speech Arts (ex. poetry, Bible reading)

Mar.

- We will perform in the Yorkton Music Festival
- Sun. Mar.23: Yorkton Music Festival Hi-Lites and Awards concert
- Mar. (24–27) Gr. 5 Band 1-day trip to Regina Optimist Festival

May/June: Final parent meeting (Band Boosters)

June

- **Thurs. June 12:** final Band concert & awards (SHHS gym)
- no (8 AM) Full Band after concert, but Band classes continue
- We usually preform “O Canada” at school year-end awards program

Aug.

- 17-22 (tentative): Yorkton Band camp!



YORKTON CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY

Beginner Band

Please return this form next class
This information is for the Band teacher:

Student's 1st & Last Name: _____

School: **St.** _____

Shirt size: youth **or** adult & S/M/L/XL _____ **or** do you have one? _____

Are you able to bring your child to Full Band classes? _____

- If not, I will see if I can find someone able to provide a ride, where do you live?

Have you been receiving my group emails (check your junk file)? If not, please list all parents' emails that I should add to my email list:

Over (**required**)

Acknowledgement
(required):

_____ I am giving **permission** for my child to participate in the Yorkton Catholic Schools Band Program in the 2024/25 school year.

_____ I have **read** this Band Handbook.

_____ I **paid** the Band fee, **or** I contacted the Band teacher **or** the school.

Volunteer and/or Chaperone

(optional):

I/We can **volunteer** in the following ways:

_____ I can **provide a ride** to Full Band to another student.

If so, what area of town do you live in? _____

May I give your email and/or phone # to parents to contact you directly? _____

_____ supervise students for Christmas concert.

_____ volunteer: Yorkton Music Festival

_____ volunteer Band Boosters (committee, executive)

_____ supervise students for Final concert.

We need a few parent chaperones. Please consider me as a **chaperone** for:

_____ Mar. 11-13: ½ day @ Yorkton Music Festival.

_____ Gr. 5: daytrip to Regina in Mar. (May cost you an additional \$55).

Is this mom or dad? _____

Contract:

_____ My child will bring a pencil, a working instrument, and music for Band classes.

_____ My child will play an average of 10 minutes/day (Sept. 22, 2024 - June 11, 2025)

Parent's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Student's Signature: _____