 2015-2016

Teacher: Mrs. Andrea Cross

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**Music Classroom Goal:**

The goal of our classroom is to find an understanding and appreciation for music and learn the appropriate skills in order to be a successful musician in an ensemble. Music is the most natural form of expression in praising our Lord and so our classroom will work to lift our music in order to give Glory to God.

**Course Descriptions:**

**Elementary General Music:** Elementary music classes focus on multiple areas of music education: Rhythm, Melody, Harmony, Tone Color, Form, Expression, & Music’s role in our Catholic faith. Students will also explore the connection of music to world culture and other content areas.

**Academy General Music:** A mixed voiced ensemble of male and female singers in grades 6-8. This class will focus on appropriate singing techniques and will also discover music theory & history, through exploration of various composers, their cultural influence, and music’s historical influence in multiple content areas throughout history. These students will also use their music skills to learn and participate in two and three part vocal music.

**Classroom Policies**

Music Classroom “Dos”:

* DO Leave all food, gum and drink in the cafeteria.
* DO sing with correct posture
* DO sing with gusto and energy
* DO have the correct music open and watch the conductor
* DO stay positive and have a smile on your face
* DO treat all peers and teachers with respect.

Let’s remember what “MUSIC” means:

**M** – Make good choices.

**U** – Use kind words.

**S** – Show respect (to classmates, teacher, and music)

**I** – Involve yourself (that means participation counts)

**C** – Care for our room and instruments.

All other classroom policies are concurrent with the Guardian Angels School Policies.

Some General Concert Etiquette Rules:

* All choirs will bow together after each performance. Correct bows will be practiced by the ensemble the class period before the performance.
* Remind your guests of the following procedures appropriate for audience members:
	1. Enter the auditorium quietly
	2. Turn all cell phones or other electronic devices off.
	3. No flash cameras allowed during the performance.
	4. If you must arrive late, only enter in between music selections.
	5. Applause should occur when the conductor faces the audience.

Attendance Policy

All students are expected to attend class and the required performances (PreK-8 Christmas, PreK-5 Spring) since the success of the ensemble depend upon the attendance of every member.

**Concert Dress**

All students are expected to wear appropriate church dress clothes for concerts or other performances. No jeans or tennis shoes. If you are participating in band, the all band shirt with black clothing is acceptable.

**Grading Procedures**

Conduct Grade: Students attend music twice per week. Each class period they will receive one free warning, if the negative behavior persists, the student will receive a behavior mark for that class period. At the end of the quarter behavior marks will be counted and their conduct grade will be lowered once for every 4 marks.

Academic Categories Percent of Final Grade

Concert Participation (or equivalent project) 35%

Daily Classroom Participation 40%

Classroom/homework assignments 25%

**Healthy Voice Tips**

1. Drink LOTS of water
2. Do not abuse your voice (that means no yelling!)
3. Minimize throat clearing
4. Only minimally use your voice when you are sick
5. Get enough rest…sleep, sleep, sleep!
6. If you are sick or are having sustained vocal issues, visit a medical professional.