

APS Elementary Music Ensembles
Newsletter #3
September 20, 2024

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Monday, September 23–2nd Grade Falcon Kids Choir Rehearsal @ 7:45 AM

Tuesday, September 24–3rd Grade Drumtastix Rehearsal @ 7:45 AM

Wednesday, September 25–3rd Grade Falcon Kids Choir Rehearsal @ 7:45 AM

Thursday, September 26–4th/5th Grade Drumtastix Rehearsal @ 7: 45 AM

Friday, September 27–NO REHEARSALS/NO SCHOOL

Monday, September 30–2nd Grade Falcon Kids Choir Rehearsal @ 7:45 AM

Tuesday, October 1–3rd Grade Drumtastix Rehearsal @ 7:45 AM

Wednesday, October 2–3rd Grade Falcon Kids Choir Rehearsal @ 7:45 AM

Thursday, October 3–4th/5th Grade Drumtastix Rehearsal @ 7:45 AM

Friday, October 4–Xylophonix Rehearsal @ 7:45 AM

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE–MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The only dates I currently have ensembles scheduled for are as follows:

October 18–4th/5th Drumtastix Demonstration Group @ 6 PM; afternoon rehearsal TBD

November 6–Pictures for 2nd AND 3rd Grade Falcon Kids Choir & 3rd Grade Drumtastix

November 7–Pictures for 4th/5th Drumtastix & Xylophonix

December 16–Holiday Performance–ALL ENSEMBLES–Including SINGING FALCONS
(*this date may be adjusted. I will let you know ASAP*)

January 28–Oakwood Talent Show–4th/5th Drumtastix & Xylophonix

March 25–Elementary Fine Arts Night–3rd Drumtastix and 2nd & 3rd Falcon Kids Choirs

April 1 and/or 2–Oakwood Fine Arts Night–4th/5th Drumtastix & Xylophonix

More dates to come for Life Stream Tree Lighting, Whitecaps National Anthem, Festival of the Arts & potential Michigan's Adventure performances.

SHIRTS–STORE CLOSING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20!!!

If you have already ordered a shirt for your child, you are all set. If you have not, please use this [link](#) to do so. If your child has a Falcon Kids Choir shirt from last year or a sibling, they may use that shirt. ALL XYLOPHONIX and DRUMTASTIX students will need new shirts. XYLOPHONIX has navy blue shirts and DRUMTASTIX has bright green shirts for BOTH groups this year.

VOLUNTEERS

It would be great to have some folks who are willing to volunteer for rehearsals for our bigger shows–in December, at the talent show and Fine Arts Nights–to help oversee groups when they are not practicing. It would also be great to have someone who is willing to be a photographer/videographer at our performances. Contact me if you are interested.

COMMUNICATION

All communication will be sent via email, basically every week in this newsletter format. For second and third graders, reminders will also be sent via Class DoJo. Please feel free to reach out with any questions to dezwaandan@apsfalcons.net. *It is helpful when you contact me to let me know your child's name and which group you are contacting me about as we have such a large number of students involved in five different groups.*

ARRIVAL

Each rehearsal starts at 7:45 AM. All groups will rehearse at Evergreen. Students may arrive as early as 7:30 AM thru the Evergreen West Office Door (Door M) and continue to the Evergreen West Music Room. If your child goes to Good Time Friends, they will be sent at the appropriate time to rehearsal.

FOURTH AND FIFTH GRADE GROUPS

Fourth and Fifth Grade DrumtastiX and Xylophonix will have rehearsals at Evergreen in the Evergreen West Music Room. Rehearsals will end at 8:15 AM and students will walk together over to Oakwood.

BREAKFAST & GOOD TIME FRIENDS

If you are planning on your child getting breakfast, they will be leaving rehearsal in time each week for breakfast. If they are not getting breakfast, they will leave each week as a group to the playground.

Students who participate in Good Time Friends will walk from the Evergreen cafeteria to the Evergreen West Music Room prior to our rehearsals starting. Please communicate with myself or GTF staff if there are any issues with this.

ATTENDANCE

The success of our ensembles is directly tied to the level of regular attendance and participation of each member. In order to encourage weekly attendance, all students who arrive by rehearsal start time (7:45 AM) will be able to enter into a drawing for one student to win a prize each week. All of those who do not win each week will have the opportunity to win a 'bigger prize' periodically throughout the year.

The expectation for all groups is that students will participate appropriately in all rehearsals and ensembles. Part of this expectation is that students are committed to being involved in our groups for the entire year. This is particularly true of DrumtastiX and Xylophonix who have limited instruments and therefore have limited numbers of students who could sign up for this. Please respect the fact that others who wanted to be in these groups were not able to because of those limits.

PEOPLE TO KNOW

Mr. De Zwaan—Director of Xylophonix, Drumtastix, Falcon Kids Choir
Mrs. Green—Falcon Kids Choir Accompanist

Mr. Wells—Grand Valley First Semester Student Assistant