

Springdale Park 3rd and 4th Grade General Music/Chorus Information

This year General Music at Springdale Park for 3rd and 4th grade is based on the State of Georgia Quality Core Curriculum for General and Choral Music. Students will learn proper vocal techniques and performance practices for all types of stage performances, but they will also learn about the elements of music, drumming and other percussion, movement, music history, composition, improvisation, aesthetic listening, and reading music. General Music is just that—a General class about a wide variety of musical topics—but our focus for 3rd and 4th grade General Music this year is Chorus. Chorus is built into the General Music class, so we have a “Performer” option and a “Non-performer” option. Students will never be forced to perform if they do not wish to do so, but I encourage all kids to give it a try.

Performers will complete all regular coursework and be expected to attend performances, field trips, and other Chorus functions.

Non-performers will be expected to complete all coursework, but will not be expected to attend performances, field trips, or other Performing Chorus functions, unless they have signed up for one of our 4th grade “Performer Support” jobs--serving as sound assistants, stagehands, or ushers. Each job requires extra training time and commitment, but the opportunities are available to students who do not plan to sing with the Chorus, but who still want to be involved. Non-performers may choose to change their status to become Performers anytime; however, switching back and forth is not allowed.

Q: Can my child be in Band or Orchestra AND Chorus?

Absolutely! The Springdale Park Band, Orchestra, and Chorus teachers will be sure to avoid any conflicts between our performing ensembles, and we will have the same performing attire for all of our performing ensembles. Also, Students are often invited to accompany the Chorus on instruments, choreograph dances for songs, conduct the Chorus, promote concerts, and compose music for concerts. We welcome all talented kids in Chorus!

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE for Band, Orchestra, and Chorus

- Springdale Park Music logo embroidered shirt (ordering info coming soon!)
 - BLACK full length pants no cropped pants or shorts, please.
- Black shoes/black socks No crocs, flip flops, sandals or high heels, please.

Advanced Chorus This after-school ensemble will meet on Friday afternoons from dismissal until 4:00pm. **Advanced Chorus** will be made up of singers who can already hold their own harmony part by themselves, without help from other singers and/or students who wish to improve their singing through extra rehearsal time. Students who sign up for Advanced Chorus will be expected to attend Friday afternoon rehearsals and special performances throughout the full school year. Students with excessive Friday rehearsal absences will be dismissed from the group. Rehearsals will begin Friday, September 18th. Students may sign up for Advanced Chorus in the Music room beginning in September.

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Please return the bottom of this form to Ms. Turgeon by September 4th

Student: _____ Homeroom: _____

Parents' Names _____ phone: _____ email: _____

Please select from the following choices:

Performer	Non-performer	Performer Support (4 th graders only)
Completes all coursework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily—folder information and participation Semester Project Tests/quizzes Attends concerts, field trips, and special Chorus events. <input type="checkbox"/> Interested in Advanced Chorus	Completes all coursework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily—folder information and participation Semester Project Tests/quizzes Does not attend concerts, field trips, and special Chorus events.	Completes all coursework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily—folder information and participation Semester Project Tests/quizzes Completes training for his/her chosen job. Attends concerts and special Chorus events.



Children who sing in choruses have academic success and valuable life skills.

Several of Chorus America's study had major findings for young singers including:

- There are approximately 10.1 million American children singing in choruses today.
- The majority of parents surveyed believe multiple skills increased after their child joined a chorus. Seventy-one percent say their child has become more self-confident, 70% say their child's self-discipline has improved, and 69% state their child's memory skills have improved.
- More than 80% of educators surveyed—across multiple academic disciplines—agree with parent assessments that choir participation can enhance numerous aspects of a child's social development and academic success. Educators also observe that children who sing are better participants in group activities, have better emotional expression, and exhibit better emotional management.
- Ninety percent of educators believe singing in a choir can keep some students engaged in school who might otherwise be lost—this is particularly true of educators (94%) who describe the ethnicity of their schools as diverse.
- Children who participate in a chorus get significantly better grades than children who have never sung in a choir. Forty-five percent of parents whose children sing state their child receives “all or mostly A's” in mathematics (vs. 38% of non-choir parents) and 54% get “all or mostly A's” in English and other language arts classes (vs. 43%).