

# ARBUTUS MUSIC

## October Newsletter

### Upcoming Events:

**October 25:** Poinsettia Orders Due

**November 10:** Remembrance Ceremony. Choir, Grade 8 Band and Summit Strings perform.

**November 30:** Poinsettia Concert: Choir, Intermediate Strings, Summit Strings, Avalanche Band, Grade 7 Band

**December 1:** Poinsettia Concert. Junior Strings, Summit Jazz, Grade 8 Band, Grade 6 Band

**January 25:** Elementary School concerts during morning. Choir, Band 8 and Intermediate/Summit Strings.

## Fundraising

Over the next two months the Arbutus Music Department will be very busy with concerts and fundraisers. We greatly appreciate the support of parents during this busy time.

Each year Grade 8 music students (in Band, Choir or Strings) have the opportunity to travel overnight. We hope to offer a trip this year if policies allow. To aid in the cost of this trip, we provide fundraising opportunities to our students such as Poinsettia Sales. Each time a student raises money in these events, a portion of money raised is placed in an account under the student's name. Once we begin the application process for traveling with the ensembles, fundraising totals will be subtracted from the total cost of the trip. The balance of your child's account will be provided in their Grade 8 year when trip preparation begins. Any money raised that does not go toward a trip benefits the music program for purchase of instruments and other necessities.

### Silent Auction Fundraiser

In the years prior to the pandemic we had a Silent Auction at our Poinsettia Concert to provide students with an opportunity to fundraise for their Grade 8 trip, run by parent volunteers. If you are interested in helping organize a silent auction please contact us at [arbutusmusic@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:arbutusmusic@sd61.bc.ca)

## Uniforms

The Arbutus Music uniform is black Shoes (with no markings), black socks, black pants and the Arbutus Music t-shirt. T-shirts are \$15 and are available from Mr. Mazza or Mrs. Hill. No child will be denied access to a resource because they cannot afford to pay. Please contact the principal or teacher if finances are an issue for you and a solution will be worked out. Privacy will be respected.

## Remembrance Ceremony

The Grade 8 Band, Choir and Summit Strings will be performing in this ceremony on Thursday November 10. All students in these ensembles are expected to arrive at school in full uniform for this performance.

## Contact Information

Mr. Mazza, Mrs. Hill

E-mail: [arbutusmusic@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:arbutusmusic@sd61.bc.ca)

School phone: 250-477-1878



## Poinsettia Sale Fundraiser

Music students are invited to take part in this fundraiser. Funds raised through the sale of poinsettias benefit the music program, and individual student travel accounts. The order forms are attached for this fundraiser. Here is the process:

**Step 1:** Let friends/family/neighbours etc. know about this fundraiser. There is a sheet than be used to hand out to advertise, with a place for your contact information.

**Step 2:** Fill out the order spreadsheet so that each order is accounted for.

**Step 3:** Place the total sales numbers for each type of plant and total money collected a the bottom of the spreadsheet.

**Step 4:** Hand in order spreadsheet and money collected (cash or cheque) to Mr. Mazza or Mrs. Hill **no later than October 25.**

**Step 5:** Collect the poinsettias you sold after your Poinsettia Concert and distribute to customers.

## Practicing

Daily practice is essential for your child to make progress as a developing musician, and is necessary for the overall development of the ensemble. Parent involvement is encouraged to help students develop effective practicing habits. Here are some tips you can follow to help your child succeed:

- Students should play their instruments daily for development of the muscles required to play their instrument/vocal chords. Practice sessions should be a minimum of 20 minutes to help increase stamina. We encourage students to practice at home on the days that they do not play their instrument at school.
- Find a place in your home that is free from distraction and a spot where the child can make noise without feeling the need to dampen their sound. A good chair and music stand are necessary for proper posture.
- Students should review the exercises taught in class. Practice the difficult parts in the music. When mistakes are made they should be reviewed and performed correctly. Practice makes permanent.
- Ask your child to teach you and play for you. Information is best retained when students teach others what they have learned.