

# Choir 1

Mrs. Clark

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Choir is a group of singers working together to create harmony. Much of choir is based on participation and demonstration of certain skills. Students will learn to sing using proper technique and appropriate rehearsal skills. Skills will be learned and developed as we sing and perform a variety of music. Students will learn to create, perform, respond and connect to the music around them.

Some of the skills we will learn include proper posture, breathing, rehearsal habits, note/music reading, sight singing, vocal tone and placement, performance and audience etiquette, stage presence and personal performance projects.

Students should come to class prepared to participate appropriately. We will sing every day. Singing is not a passive thing. It requires dedicated effort every time in order to improve and sound the very best we can as a choir.

Even during a pandemic, choir can and should be enjoyable. Please come with a good attitude and a willingness to learn. We can still sound amazing and build strong relationships.

## Materials

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- ♪ A three-ring binder with pockets on the inside (binder may be shared with other subjects)
- ♪ At least two pencils w/erasers (mechanical preferred).
- ♪ Dividers for the binder labelled:
  - Choir (if binder is used for other subjects)
  - Sight-Reading
  - Notes
  - Handouts
- ♪ At least 50 pages of lined paper to place in the “notes” section
- ♪ Comfortable face mask for singing
- ♪ School issued laptop with personal headphones (preferably with a microphone)
- ♪ A full personal water bottle (highly recommended)

These items should be brought to class every day.

## Safety

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- ♪ Students will sanitize their hands as they enter the classroom and as they leave
- ♪ Students will be assigned seats
- ♪ Seats will be spaced with as much space to the sides as possible and at least 6 feet of space in front
- ♪ Students will be expected to wear their masks when in the classroom
- ♪ We will sing outside as often as the weather allows. Students may remove masks when singing outside, but will be spaced at least 6 feet apart
- ♪ Students will be issued their own music and materials
- ♪ Any community items – pencil sharpener, tissue box, hall pass will be sanitized between each class

# Choir Expectations

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## Choir Rules

- ♪ **Community-** I am a member of the choir. I will work with the class to build a safe learning environment where we can create and discover together.
- ♪ **Harmony-** I will compliment others. I will work hard individually and with others to make sure that every member succeeds.
- ♪ **Organization-** I will come prepared to learn every day. I will turn in work on time. I will set aside a time to practice daily.
- ♪ **Involvement-** I will involve myself fully in activities and rehearsals.
- ♪ **Responsibility –** I will be responsible for my own behavior and my personal learning. I will treat myself and others with respect.

## Choir Procedures

- ♪ **Be on time.** Wait against the wall in the hallway until the other class has left the room.
- ♪ **Entering -** Scan your ID on the way in then sanitize your hands. Go directly to your assigned seat. Make sure your cell phone is on silent and is in your backpack. Store your backpack under your chair.
- ♪ **In Class-** Students will stay in their assigned seats unless given permission to move. I will give students as many opportunities as I can to move about and interact safely.
- ♪ **Hall Pass-** Only one student may leave the room at a time. Students will have 5 minutes to use the hall pass. Excessive requests to use the hall pass may result in loss of privileges.
- ♪ **Choir Music-** all choral music is to be left in the choir room in the designated folder and storage slot. Digital copies will be on Canvas for at home use.
- ♪ **Exiting-** students will be given time to clean up at the end of class. Students will sanitize their hands on the way out of the room. Please leave in a quick and orderly fashion.

## Calendar

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- I have scheduled some concert dates this year in the hopes that we will be able to have some form of a live concert each term. However, we may have to be flexible and infinitely creative this year. Here are the tentative dates:
- Fall Concert- October 7, 2020
- Holiday Concert- December 11, 2020

If live concerts don't happen then we will do them virtually.

I am excited that you have chosen to take choir – especially this year. This will not be a normal year, but I believe it can still be a great one. I am committed to making choir a wonderful experience even with these unique circumstances. If students will take the at-home assignments seriously, I believe that our once-a-week rehearsals can be productive and even amazing. I do not plan on giving “filler” assignments. It is my hope that the work done at home can help create literate musicians who will be much better prepared to rehearse and perform in a choir. Let's use this opportunity to become better!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Clark*

FFJH Choirs