

Studio Notes

Welcome!

Welcome, new and returning students, to a fun-filled piano year with the theme: *Jigs, Reels, & Pipes: A year of Celtic music.*

30 Consecutive Days of Practice

Like last year, all of my students (with the exception of my *KiddyKeys* students) will begin this year by attempting to create a practice habit. Can your child **get to the piano** for 30 consecutive days? Before you panic, please take a look at the **30 Consecutive Days of Practice** contest sheet (attached). You'll notice that there isn't a set amount of time your child should practice (some days are definitely busier than others) nor is it required that your child practice every assigned piece every day. Rather, your child has the freedom to choose a daily practice activity that fits within the amount of time he/she has available. There are even two practice activities that can take place away from the piano, in case your family will be traveling in the first month of this piano year.

Here's the catch, though. If your child misses a day of getting to the piano, the contest must start over. You may wish to make a few copies of the contest sheet "just in case." There is no shame in starting over. Rather, you and your child will gain my utmost admiration and appreciation for your honesty. Truly, if your child (on his/her own) says, "Hey, I need to get to the piano today" you will have made great strides in helping your child develop a practice habit. Your job as "practice enforcer" will be greatly minimized by your child's practice independence. Please note: **Remind your child to both CROSS OFF AND DATE the activity he/she chooses to do each day.** Once a student has filled out the entire contest sheet and you, the parent, have signed off on it, your child should bring the completed contest sheet to me to receive a well-deserved prize.

Spring Piano Recital — *March 10, 2024, 4 PM* **Mark this date on your calendar!**

On **Sunday, March 10, 2024, at 4:00 PM**, students participating in my studio's *Jigs, Reels, & Pipes: a year of Celtic music* recital will share their music talents at Oakwood Auditorium (West). If your child is participating, he/she should indicate that he/she is participating on the **Parent/Student Agreement** (two agreements are attached—one for elementary/middle school students and the other for my high school students.). A completed **Parent/Student Agreement** should be sent with your child to his/her first fall piano lesson. Participating students will begin working on their Celtic pieces right away.

Dates to note:

- **September 7, 12-13** — Piano lessons begin/Piano payments due
- **October 3-5, 10-12** — NO piano lessons (Mrs. Hunter is unavailable)
- **October 26** — NO piano lessons (MCPASD teachers' conference)
- **October 31** — NO piano lessons (Halloween)

Sick days/Snow days

Thanks to technology, cancelling piano lessons for illness and inclement weather is no longer necessary. Should a snow day be called, lessons can still take place as scheduled via **Google Meet** or **FaceTime**. If your child is absent from school due to quarantine or minor illness, lessons can still take place virtually. Email me (karenhunterpiano@gmail.com) or text me (608-354-1827) if you'd like to make a temporary change to virtual lessons via **Google Meet** or **FaceTime**.

Note-able Quotable

Music is the shorthand of emotion.

—Leo Tolstoy