

Pope Band Notes

www.popeband.com

3001 Hembree Rd. Marietta GA 30062

- The Middle School Edition -

SAVE THE DATE

Rising 9th Grade Informative Band Meeting

Tuesday, February 24th

7pm

Pope Band Room

The Pope Band Parent Association (PBPA) will host an informative Meet –n- Greet in our band room for all prospective students and their parents. Our directors, Mr. Gary Gribble and Mr. Josh Rudolph will be on hand to give you an overview of the band program, upcoming trips and answer any questions you may have. Current parents and band members will also be on hand to give you their perspective and share some of their experiences. We hope to see you there.

THE POPE BAND WEBSITE

Your best resource for all things Pope Band

As you begin to navigate your way through the process of transitioning your student from Middle School to their time as a Pope Greyhound, you will be looking for those couple of valuable sources of information and reference. Along with the Pope High School website (www.cobbk12.org/pope) you'll want to bookmark the Pope Band website at www.PopeBand.com.

The band website has a section dedicated to information relevant to current middle school students and their families. If you are wondering how our program is structured and what sorts of groups we offer, how to get the most from your high school band experience, or what a sample 4 year schedule might look like if you were to participate in band... I highly encourage you to visit the website. Once you arrive at the Pope Band home page you will find a pull down menu running across the top of the page. Look for "MS & Alumni" all the way on the right of that menu bar and click on this option; then select "Middle School Info." and you'll be directed to the Middle School Information homepage. From there you can click on the links throughout the home page to be redirected to other sources or just poke around and explore the whole site.

Over the next 4 years you and your student will find the site to be a valuable source of information, reminders and resources. Why not help yourself and bookmark it now?



DRUMMING SESSIONS

Interested in participating in the Pope HS drumline for the 2015 Fall Marching Band Season?

Join us for a few informal drumming sessions that will take place on

February 16th and 23rd

in the Pope HS band room
from 5:30-6pm.

These sessions are intended to welcome and introduce rising freshmen to our current students and our program through drumming. Participants should bring drumsticks and a drum pad and be ready to have fun drumming together.

Interested students may contact percussion director Paula Williams at kindred65@mac.com with any questions or to let her know you will be participating. We hope to see you all there.

SPIN CLUB

Spin Club is a program that introduces middle school aged students to the art of color guard. Rehearsal dates are:

- February 3, 17
- March 3, 17
- April 14, 28

From 6:00 – 7:30pm

Spin Club will be performing at the band theater event "Explosion" on May 7th, 8th and 9th.

Contact Alexis Velez for additional information at:
alexisvelez@gmail.com

POPE GUARD

BAND EVENTS COMING UP

One of the best ways to see what's happening at Pope High School is to show up and see for yourself. There are some great events coming up in the next few months, mark your calendars and come join us for the fun, meet some great new friends and find out what the Greyhound Nation is all about first hand.

- **SWING & SWEETS:** *Friday, February 13th @7pm* Join us for an evening of music by the Pope Swingphonic & Pope Jazz Bands directed by Mr. Ravan Durr and featuring his Saxophone Combo. \$5 admission includes a selection of one tasty sweet treat.
- **Pre-LGPE Concert:** Tuesday, March 3rd, Hightower Trail Middle School Theater, Free. All 3 of the Pope bands will be performing their LGPE repertoire.
- **Greyhound Nation Celebration:** Join the community for a night of fun, great food and unique auction items on *Saturday, March 7th at Keegans Pub*
- **UGA Percussion Ensemble Concert:** *Saturday, March 28th, Free, Pope Band Room.* Come out and listen to the UGA Percussion Ensemble under the direction of Mr. Tim Adams.
- **Pope Percussion Ensemble Concert:** *Thursday, April 23rd, 7pm, Free, Pope Band Room.* The Pope Percussion Ensemble will be performing the material that they will be performing at the Lassiter Percussion Festival later that week. Support this group of amazing percussionists and send them off to the festival with lots of support and cheers.
- **Spring Concert:** *Tuesday, April 28th, Free*
- **X-plosion:** Musical performance theater at it's finest. *May 7th, 8th and 9th in the Pope Theater, admission TBA* All aspects of the Pope band program will be represented, Concert, Marching, Guard, Percussion, Ensembles and even some middle school JV groups! Don't miss it.

For additional information be sure to visit the band website at www.PopeBand.com . You'll find lots of information under the pull down menu "Big Dates".

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING IN BAND?

Musicians do everything better... Well not every thing... but just about!

Students of the arts continue to outperform their non-arts peers on the SAT, according to reports by the College Entrance Examination Board. A recent report from the College Board found that students in music performance groups scored 57 points higher on the critical reading, 43 points higher on the math and 58 points higher on writing than students with no arts participation; students in music appreciation scored 62 points higher on verbal, 41 points higher on math and 61 on writing. - *The College Board, Profile of College-Bound Seniors National Report.*

While learning in other disciplines may often focus on development of a single skill or talent, the arts regularly engage multiple skills and abilities. Music requires the integration of eye-hand coordination, rhythm, tonality, symbol recognition and interpretation, attention span, and other factors that represent synthetic aspects of human intelligence. In addition, critical thinking, problem-solving, and learning how to work cooperatively toward shared goals are all skills which are reinforced through music education.

Music is one of the seven intelligences identified in the brain and the only one that utilizes all seven intelligences simultaneously. Students who participate in music courses exercise more of their brain than in any other course they take in school.

Band reinforces the skills of cooperation which are among the qualities now most highly valued in business and industry, especially in high-tech contexts. Members are required to shift from an I/Me focus to a We/Us focus. Instead of the logic being, "what's in it for me," it becomes, "what's in it for us?" Band is a group effort which focuses on group goals and the completion of those goals in each and every rehearsal and performance.

None of this is new or earth shattering, but it's just so much fun to prove that yes...

Musicians pretty much do everything better.



If you have any questions that aren't covered here or on the website, feel free to contact your middle school liaison:

Dodgen MS
Linda Parker
Lcp4671@gmail.com

Hightower Trail MS
Ashley Reese
reeseac@aol.com