

PIANO LESSON POLICY STATEMENT

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Why take piano lessons?

- Taking piano lessons allows the student to gain a knowledge of music, develop self-discipline, use his/her God-given abilities, increase coordination of the body, develop both sides of the brain, and potentially provide a lifetime source of enrichment and enjoyment. Studies have also shown a connection between the study of music and an increased understanding in the areas of math and science!

Who and What?

- Students in gr. 2-8 who are in good standing academically are eligible
- Music theory, notation, technique, literature and performance practices will be studied
- A 30 minute private lesson will be given once a week - schedule may make it necessary for the student to lose a recess or miss a class for the lesson

How much will this cost?

- \$15 per half-hour lesson each week plus the cost of music books needed or fees for any festival participation. (The average student receives about 30 lessons throughout the course of the entire school year, so expect the total cost for the year to be approximately \$450 per child.)
- Lesson books will be given to the students to keep and charged to the parents
- Missed lessons because of illness, vacation or fieldtrips will be considered excused and will not be charged for
- **Forgetting books or not being prepared due to lack of practice is not an excuse** – a lesson will be held anyway and the student will be charged for the lesson
- Payment can be made by check or cash. **Checks should be made out to Jessi Kolberg, NOT to the school.** Any bounced checks will need to be reissued with an additional \$20 fee. In the event of multiple bounced checks, Ms. Jessi may request future payments to be made in cash. Multiple lessons can be paid in advance for any number of lessons, or payments can be made weekly on the day of the lesson. Send the payment with your child to give to Ms. Jessi, or leave it at the front office with a note designating it for piano lessons. If requested, a receipt can be returned though the student when payments are received. If payments are not made regularly, Ms. Jessi reserves the right to suspend lessons until the account is paid, or to terminate lessons if no effort is made toward paying the account.

What about practicing?

- **Students need a working piano or keyboard at home in order to take lessons.** If you have questions about where to purchase a keyboard or what would be recommended, you can call or text Ms. Jessi at the number above.
- 20-30 minutes/5 days per week is a reasonable amount of practice time.
- **NO PRACTICE - NO PROGRESS – it's that simple!!** The success of piano lessons is largely dependant upon the amount of work put in at home **BETWEEN** lessons.
- **Parents need to be committed to making sure children practice – it's like homework!**

What about quitting lessons?

- Contact Ms. Jessi and explain the situation.

Performance Opportunities:

- Sacred Christmas songs are eligible to be performed before the children's Christmas services
- A small Christmas performance will be held for the classmates in each classroom during the Christmas party on the half-day before break.
- Selected students will have the opportunity to participate in the annual Grade School Piano Festival held at WLHS sometime in March.
- Selected students may be asked to perform at the Grandparents' Luncheon.
- All piano students are invited to participate in the end of the year spring recital which usually takes place the Tuesday after Memorial Day in the evening at Wisconsin Lutheran High School. All parents, relatives, and friends are invited to attend!

Jessi Kolberg is an independently contracted piano teacher and musician in the Milwaukee area. She is a graduate of WLHS and WLC with a music degree in piano performance, vocal performance and church music. This will be her 11th year teaching at Atonement. She is also the piano and voice teacher at WLHS, a pianist for the Milwaukee Ballet, the staff pianist at Alverno College, organist for Trinity Lutheran Church in Mequon, and sings with the Bel Canto Chorus and the Milwaukee Chamber Choir.



Piano Lesson Registration

(Please return to Ms. Jessi or the school office)

Student Name: _____ Gr. _____

Parents/Guardians: _____

Address: _____

Cell phone: _____

E-mail: _____

As a parent/guardian, I will make sure that my child practices regularly and brings books to school on lesson day each week. I understand that in registering my child, I will need to make payments to Jessi Kolberg for lessons received. I have read and understand the piano lesson policy statement and agree to its terms.

Signed: _____ (parent/guardian)

As a student, I promise to be faithful in practicing for my lessons and bringing my books to school on lesson day.

Signed: _____ (student)