

# Guide to Piano during the COVID-19 Closure

Dear Parents,

I am saddened at the indefinite school closure that begins on Monday, March 16. As your child's piano teacher, I would much rather be in the classroom each day guiding them through learning piano, exploring meaning in music, and seeing them grow each day. However, I fully support protecting the health, safety, and lives of all persons, most especially persons most at-risk of significant negative health effects from the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19).

I sent each student home with their piano folder so they can practice if they have access to a keyboard and so they can study the materials. In addition, I am attaching a flat keyboard that students can use to practice in the absence of a real keyboard. Any additional packets and performance tests a student does not already have will be posted in Google Classroom.

As much as I'd like to continue the bell ringer videos, I cannot do so in good conscience, knowing that some students do not have internet access and that videos take a lot of bandwidth. However, I am sending home an "Error Detection" sheet and will post further instructions and audio recordings on Google Classroom. I will make these audio files as small as possible so that as many students can complete the assignment as possible.

I will also post additional assignments pertaining to the history of the piano, piano mechanics, and famous pianists. **Please communicate with me via email or Remind (class codes below) if you need hard copies, and I will do what I can to deliver hard copy assignments and/or CD recordings for the error detection sheet. FYI: Mobile hotspots are free to check out from Clayton County public libraries for 14 days at a time.**

A summarized checklist of required piano assignments during the school closure:

- Piano practice with the flat keyboard (encourage 20 minutes per day)
- Error Detection
- Additional assignments when posted in Google Classroom
- Optional: Google Hangouts lessons—access Hangouts from the apps tray in any Google application on an internet browser or via the Android or iPhone app stores. Communicate with me to schedule lessons. If using the flat keyboard, position the camera so I can see the student's hand(s) on the flat keyboard.

Remind codes:

8th grade: @mdrobertsp

7<sup>th</sup> grade: @9e7kca7

6<sup>th</sup> grade: @e66bg7g

Please reach out to me via email or Remind with any questions or concerns. Above all during this school closure, make healthy choices for you and your family. I look forward to the end of this closure and regaining normalcy in all facets of school, life, and society.

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