



Village Music School * (919) 461-7125



In this Issue

General News from VMS—May 2011 issue 1

General News from VMS 1

Student Appreciation Day 1

Points of Interest 1

Summer Camps 2

Teacher Spotlight 2

Reminder about Scheduled Absences 2

Spring has sprung and with the change of season comes new life. We have several new babies here at the school! Please join us in welcoming the following spring chickens to the VMS family!

- 1) Logan Aaron Steiner born January 12, 2011 and son of Audrey Steiner, Office Manager
- 2) Jenna Marie Parker born March 11, 2011 and daughter to Clarissa Parker, piano instructor.
- 3) Augustus Wayne Eschler born April 12, 2011 and son of Nathaniel Eschler, guitar instructor.
- 4) Eloise Jane Verburgt born

April 14, 2011 and daughter of Lindsay Verburgt, Office Staff

Other signs of newness around Village Music School is the birth of a newsletter! In our newsletters you will find information on upcoming recitals, additional information about school policies, teacher spotlights, fun musical quotations, and upcoming school events!

Please see the front office if you are not receiving e-mails from the school. We may not have your e-mail address.

Happy Spring to all our budding musicians and to our talented teachers and staff!



DO YOU LOVE VILLAGE

*Listen to the sounds of summer!
Can you hear nature's music?*

MUSIC SCHOOL? *Please take a moment to share your positive experiences and stories at Google.com/Village Music School. Likewise, if you have any concerns or matters which we can address for you, please visit the front office! We strive for excellence in music education!*

Points of Interest

- There are several personal items in our Lost and Found in the front office. Please stop by and claim them if they're yours.
- May 14th the students of Kitty Scott and Taneal Johnston will perform in their recital!
- May 14th the students of Mark Starlin and Jackie Wilder will perform in their recital!
- May 21st the students of Dean Leviner, Mark Lewis and Niko Lalangas will perform in their recital!
- The school will be closed May 28-30th in observance of Memorial Day.

Student Appreciation Day!

It's time for our annual Student Appreciation day! Come join us for the festivities on Thursday evening May 19th from 5-7pm. Munch on hot dogs, bounce the blues away in the bounce house, and enjoy a stage performance compliments of the students of our 2011 Chorus as they entertain us Glee-style. Beat the heat

with a tasty snow cone. Janet and J.T. have come up with some fantastic door prizes as well.

We will still be holding regular lessons on May 19th. Feel free to join the fun after your lesson.

Don't forget to stop by the front office to advise us the

number of people attending this fun packed evening! The event is free, however we'd like to get an accurate head count to prepare the correct amount of food and drinks.

Lastly, this appreciation day is for our wonderful students! You really are amazing and we are so thankful for your patronage!

Summer Camps are Here!

The heat is approaching, but what will you do to keep cool? How about joining us for a jam session, or learn a new instrument, or perfect the instrument you're currently studying with one of our awesome Summer Camps! This year we have several different camps to choose from.

Back by popular demand is Rock Band! You'll want to register very early for this camp as it will fill quickly. Our very own Niko Lalangas will be heading up the band. Within a week, you will have named your band, jammed

out to some rockin' tunes and will be set for a main stage performance for your friends and family on the last day.

Have you ever wondered what it's like to learn the acoustic guitar? If so, we have the camp for you! Jeff Grise will be teaching this camp for those guitar beginners who have never touched a guitar before but want to give it a try. You will need to bring a guitar to this camp.

Do you love to write but lack knowledge of how to compose

a piece of music? Mark Lewis is here to help in his Composition and Improv camps sure to put your thoughts to song!

Is Pop or Rock music your sort of thing? Want to know how the real musicians come up with those awesome chords? Come find out in Gordon MacLachlan's Performance and Improv in Rock and Pop camp!

Registration forms and complete camp descriptions are available in the lobbies as well as the bulletin boards in both buildings.



Have some Pass Day Credits on your account? Why not use them towards the tuition for a summer camp or workshop?

Teacher Spotlight: Jeff Grise

Jeff Grise, or "Mr. Jeff" as his students call him, loves giving music lessons. For him it's a natural fit. He comes from a family loaded with educators and musicians.

"I began playing the piano as a small child," he recalls. "I added the guitar when I was fifteen, and took up the banjo when I was twenty-eight!"

When asked what he loves most

about being an instructor, Jeff comments, "The last twenty-one years have flown by, as I have spent thousands of hours with some wonderful people! Over the years my students have been the greatest source to help me become a better instructor." Furthermore, he states, "I love music, kids and giving instruction. I have to add, as much as I want my students to develop their skills, I really want them to

enjoy their lessons and simply enjoy music, no matter what their age or stage. Even the simplest of pieces can be beautiful and meaningful."

Jeff has his Masters Degree in Music. He has a beautiful wife, Michelle and two equally beautiful children, Jonathan and Rachel. In his free time he enjoys tennis, basketball, puppetry and home-schooling his children.

Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent. ~Victor Hugo

Reminder about Scheduled Absences

Summer is the time of year for travel, but why give up your music enrichment? Each actively enrolled student is eligible for 3 scheduled absences (SA) per calendar year, one for each 4-month time period of continued lessons, Jan - Apr, May - Aug & Sep - Dec. A refund is given for an SA. In

order to utilize your scheduled absences, please fill out the SA form and return it to the office at least 2 weeks prior to your vacation. You may request all 3 SAs at once, however reimbursements will be processed in May, September and January for the preceding 4 months, respectively. It is ok to request

an SA before the eligible time period, but the refund will be processed following the schedule stated above. This policy allows you to keep your scheduled lesson time and still take your vacation, knowing you will be reimbursed for these missed lessons. Any questions? The office staff is here to help!



Don't forget to advise the front office if you will be absent from your lesson! You may be eligible for a refund or credit to your account.