



MENGEL'S 'MINDERS: January, 2025

www.ojrhsband.com

1. **GREAT HOLIDAY CONCERT:** Nice job at our holiday concert on Dec. 19th by everyone involved. Many thanks to our OJR Band Parents for coordinating the holiday poinsettias for our stage and thanks to our terrific OJR Stage Crew for helping with sound & lighting that evening.
2. **MUSIC DEPT. SPRING TRIP TO BALTIMORE:** Our OJR Music Department Trip to Baltimore is next Thursday, Jan 9th. A reminder for those of you coming along that your report time is 6:30am that morning and you should plan to wear something appropriate for the Baltimore Symphony Concert that evening. Return time to OJR is very late - probably around Midnight. Should be a fun day for all!
3. **CONGRATULATIONS TO:** Congratulations to the following band members for qualifying for the very prestigious PMEA District 12 Band Festival this year: Sohum Bandyopadhyay, Alia Booth-Genthe, Cassandra Standeven, and Allison Fernandez. Everyone is welcome to attend the concert which will be held at Oxford High School on Saturday, Jan. 25th at 7:00pm. (Note: there will be an admission charge to attend the concert that evening.)
4. **OJR SWING DANCE IS BACK!:** Mark your calendars for Friday, March 21st as we bring back a very fun OJR Tradition from the past - *The OJR Swing Dance!* Our Jazz Band will be providing live music for the dance that night which will be held in our OJR HS Cafeteria. More details to come, but for now get ready for a super-fun night!
5. **SUMMER PRACTICE SCHEDULE:** As most of you know, I will be retiring from OJR at the end of the school year in June. Because there will be a new director next year, I will not be posting a summer practice schedule at this time, and that will be the decision of the new band director. For now, I would say just keep your month of August as open as possible for any potential band camp schedule that might be set by the next band director.
6. **PRIVATE LESSONS:** Now is a great time to think about starting private lessons on your instrument. Private lessons absolutely make the difference when it comes to enhancing your musical skill level, qualifying for solos and other opportunities, etc. There are many good teachers in our area to take advantage of. Please see Mr. M if you are interested in learning more about the teachers in our area.

SPRING, 2025 - A LOOK AHEAD

- Jan 9 Music Department Baltimore Trip
- March 21 OJR Swing Dance (Jazz Band Live Entertainment)
- April 26 OJR "Italian Jazz Night" Fundraiser / Concert
- May 1 **Spring Band Concert & Senior Awards - 7:00pm**
- June 6 Band Performance at OJR Graduation - 6:30pm - Stadium
(All Concert Band Members)

BAND PARENT MEETINGS SPRING, 2025

2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm

**Check the OJR MPO website for locations &
details – www.ojrbandmpo.com**

All Parents Invited!



**HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**