

A note from Mr. Harvey for students and parents about the piano benchmark test.

The piano benchmark is a playing test that will count as a test grade. Students are required to learn three beginner level songs: *Alouette*, *Mr. Bluebird*, and *The Dance Band*. Students will be provided ample time to practice and learn the material during class time in the weeks before the test. It is essential that students advocate for support and ask clarifying questions during benchmark practice times. To support piano students in their preparation they will be provided a weekly journal assignment to document their practice progress as well as a rubric that clarifies how the test will be graded. The four categories of the test rubric include: finger placement, rhythm accuracy, pitch accuracy, and dynamics. In addition to practicing students will need to spend additional time reviewing piano note locations, finger numbers, as well as staff line and space names. All of that material will be provided on a Quizlet via Mr. Harvey's google classroom page. Additionally, some students may elect to learn a set of *advanced level songs* beginner songs to prepare with teacher approval.