



**Concert Choir and Encore!**

**January 30, 2012**

From the Directors Chair:



Continue working on all of your music. Focus on these pieces:

*Domine Deus* - pages 1-7

*Psalm 23* - This challenging piece will take some homework. Please work on pages 3-6 this week.

*Sometimes I feel like a motherless Child* - work on your part in whole piece

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You* - should be memorized for next week

FOCUS ON "Sometimes I feel like a Motherless Child".

The song dates back to the era of slavery when it was common practice to sell children of slaves away from their parents. An early performance of the song dates back to the 1870s by the Fisk Jubilee Singers. Like many traditional songs, it has many variations and has been recorded widely.

The song is clearly an expression of pain and despair as it conveys the hopelessness of a child who has been torn from his or her parents. Under one interpretation, the repetitive singing of the word "sometimes" offers a measure of hope, as it suggests that at least "sometimes" I *do not* feel like a motherless child.

Although the plaintive words can be interpreted literally, they were much more likely metaphoric. The "motherless child" could be a slave separated from and yearning for his African homeland, a slave suffering "a long ways from home"—home being heaven—or most likely both.

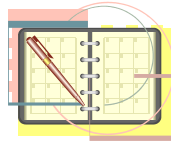
## **TURANDOT**

Performance: March 30, and April 1

We are very excited about Turandot! This is such a great experience for the singers.

Music was given out last week. Please take very good care of this music. It is not ours and will be going back to the opera. Keep a pencil in your folder. **YOU WILL NEED IT.** Here is a link to a recording of Turandot so that you can practice. Listen to it this week. I know you will not be able to keep up until we have worked on it for a few weeks, but listening to the whole opera will help. Get used to the Italian.

[https://public.me.com/andy\\_anderson1](https://public.me.com/andy_anderson1)



## PERFORMANCE REMINDERS!

### CARMINA BURANA

Performance: April 14 and 15

This is a required performance for everyone and has been on the schedule. We are really looking forward to this performance with Mobile Symphony and University of South Alabama Choirs. This is an experience that you will never forget. EXCITING MUSIC! Be sure to note that Public schools will have spring break the following week and some private schools will have it the previous week, so plan accordingly. Please check for rehearsal schedule soon.

**Spring Hill Performance**  
Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>

**Spring Concert**  
Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>



## ALABAMA TOUR (June 10-14)

The Alabama Tour is going to be amazing as we give back to our state. Some of the details are still being worked out. Please continue to watch the newsletter for updates and new information.

## OUT OF THE HOUSE

Donations are now being accepted for our 2<sup>nd</sup> semester fundraiser. Each family needs to secure a donation for this fundraiser. Let's see how creative we can be. We will have formal letters available for you to give out to prospective businesses if needed. Last year we had free donuts, hair products, restaurant gift certificates and spa certificates just to name a few. You may begin turning in your donations at your weekly rehearsal. Make sure the singer's name is on each donation along with the name and address of the business owner that made the donation. This is a great fundraiser for our tour but its success depends on donations!

Thanks for your help. If you have any questions, please email [mobilesingingchildren@gmail.com](mailto:mobilesingingchildren@gmail.com)

*Happy Birthday!*

Madison Lancaster 1/9

Jacob Rowe 1/19

**Concert Choir Schedule:** *(This does not include Carmina Burana and Turandot extra rehearsals. We will add those as they are given to us) Rehearsals will continue through all Spring Breaks. Please let Mrs. Hoitt know if you will be out of town and cannot attend that rehearsal. As usual, all performances are required. Please note the Carmina Burana performance dates.*

1/30/2012	Regular Rehearsal
2/6/2012	Regular Rehearsal
2/13/2012	Regular Rehearsal
2/20/2012	No regular rehearsal due to Mardi Gras holiday week
2/27/2012	Regular rehearsal
3/5/2012	Regular rehearsal
3/12/2012	Regular Rehearsal
3/19/2012	Regular Rehearsal
3/26/2012	Regular Rehearsal
3/30/2012	Turandot Performance
4/1/2012	Turandot Performance
4/2/2012	Regular Rehearsal
4/9/2012	Regular Rehearsal
4/14/2012	Carmina Burana Performance with Mobile Symphony
4/15/2012	Carmina Burana Sunday Performance
4/16/2012	Regular Rehearsal
4/23/2012	Regular Rehearsal
4/29/2012	Performance at Spring Hill Presbyterian 10:00 warm up
4/30/2012	Regular Rehearsal
5/7/2012	Regular Rehearsal
5/11/2012	Dress rehearsal for concert 4:00 – 6:00
5/12/2012	Spring Concert 6:00 call