Dear Future Chorus Members and Parents,

The music department at Doctors Inlet Elementary School is rapidly growing with several new and exciting programs! One of these includes our renowned Melodic Mustang Chorus, which is comprised of the most dedicated students in 4th, 5th, and 6th grade. This group provides students the opportunity to express themselves musically while performing multiple times throughout the course of the year. Our elite program teaches students practice skills and vocal techniques that will transfer with them to the junior high level, as well as giving memories that will last a lifetime!

Chorus is a before school activity that will take place in the Music Room on Tuesday mornings from **7:30-8:15am** starting **September 5th.** Although Chorus is a voluntary group, those who sign-up to participate are required to attend every rehearsal and performance. This will ensure that we are able to successfully perform the high standard of music selected for our ensemble. If for any reason you are unable to attend a rehearsal, please provide a written excuse note to be held on file. Missing multiple practices or a performance is grounds for dismissal from Chorus. When you agree to be a Melodic Mustang, you agree to be the best students and leaders, because you represent the best of our school!

This year we will be having multiple performances, which are listed on the following page along with every rehearsal date for the fall semester. One of our performances will be a field trip to the 2017-2018 Clay County Elementary Chorus Festival at the First Baptist Church of Orange Park. At this concert, we will be performing musical selections from our Spring Concert. Following the performance, the students will be returning to school where we will be having a pizza and ice cream party.  The cost for this required field trip will be included in the chorus fee of $25 per student. This fee includes the cost of transportation, lunch, music purchased throughout the year, the new 2017-2018 Chorus T-Shirt, as well as an end-of-the-year party. This fee can be paid in two payments with the first $15 due on **09/26/17** and the remaining payment of $10 due **11/07/17.** If you have any questions or concerns regarding this payment, please do not hesitate to contact me through email at montgomery.raley@myoneclay.net

With the rapid increase of students joining chorus, we will be implementing leadership roles to help our rehearsals run more smoothly. Each section (sopranos and altos) will have four section leaders who will assist by taking roll and passing out any music or materials needed for rehearsal. These eight students must be responsible, punctual, and dedicated as well as show a positive attitude in and out of rehearsal because they will be a role model to other students within their section. In addition to section leaders, we also need a stage crew. These students will be responsible for assisting in the setting up and tearing down of rehearsals. These selected students will need to arrive early to ensure that there are the correct amount of seats required for each practice. Each of these leadership positions are vital in order for our rehearsals to run smoothly and efficiently. If you are interested in either of these positions, please check the corresponding box on the chorus sign-up sheet.

As well as being in the DIS Melodic Mustang Chorus, students are able to audition for the All-County Honors Chorus. All-County Chorus is an audition-based ensemble in which all of the elementary schools in Clay County select up to ten elite students from their chorus. If a student is interested, they will need to audition using a school appropriate song of their choice. This selection can be sung with or without a background track. In addition to having a prepared piece, the students will be asked to echo a series of notes that Miss Raley will play from the piano. It is important to note that if selected, there will be a nonrefundable $25 fee per student that will go towards paying for our renowned guest clinician, music, and a student t-shirt to be worn the night of the concert. This group will practice several times with Miss Raley between October and December. Our combined rehearsals with the other Clay County schools will be held after school and begin in January.

I have been extremely proud of the progress our chorus program achieved in the three short years I have been directing the ensemble. Thank you so much for allowing your child to be in chorus this year! **Please cut off the bottom of this sheet and return to Miss Raley by Friday, September 1st2017**.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Doctors Inlet Chorus Commitment Form

Student:

*-I realize that by signing up for chorus, I am making a commitment to Ms. Raley and the rest of the chorus.  I will be faithful to rehearsals, attend ALL performances, and will keep my grades and behavior satisfactory.  I understand that I can be removed from chorus for not fulfilling these commitments.*

Parent:

*-I understand that chorus is a commitment. My child will faithfully attend rehearsals and will attend ALL performances.   In addition, I understand that it is necessary for my child’s behavior and grades to remain satisfactory.  I acknowledge that these conditions must be met for my child to remain in chorus at Doctors Inlet Elementary.*

Student name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom teacher:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent email address (please print clearly):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent phone number\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in being a section leader!    YES            NO

I am interested in being on stage crew!    YES            NO

*Please return this form to Miss Raley by September 1st, 2017.*

**2017-2018 FALL CHORUS SCHEDULE**

Tuesday, September 5th ………………….……………….. FIRST Chorus REHEARSAL!

Tuesday, September 12th………………………………….. Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, September 19th………………….…………….…..Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, September 26th….…………………………….…. Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, October 3rd….…………………………….……... Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, October 10th………………………………….….. Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, October 17th……………….….…………….….... Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, October 24th………..…………………….…….... Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, October 31st………..………………….……….... Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, November 7th ……….………………....………... Chorus Rehearsal

Thursday, November 9th…………………………………….Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, November 14th………………….……………….. Chorus Rehearsal

Thursday, November 16th….…………………..….……….. Chorus Rehearsal

Mon.-Fri, November 20th-24th…………….………….…….. THANKSGIVING BREAK

Tuesday, November 28th………………..………………….. Chorus Rehearsal

Thursday, November 30th…………...………….………….. Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, December 5th…………….…….…..…………….. Chorus Rehearsal

Thursday, December 8th……………………….………...…..After School (2:45-4:00pm)

Thursday, December 8th………….………………………….Holiday Concert @ 6:30pm