## PIANO PARTIES - RECITAL PERFORMANCES

Maxine Casper, Suzuki Specialist maxine.casper@cox.net (949) 448-0720

Piano parties are scheduled every 5 to 8 weeks during the school year. Piano parties are included and are a part of your lesson fees. Piano parties are an essential and very valuable part of the piano lessons.

When students watch others in performance, they become inspired to play better themselves. They hear songs that they can look forward to learning. This type of inspiration is the best and easiest motivator.

Parents set the example by watching intently and listening quietly to the other students as they play. By modeling the behavior you want, you effectively teach your child proper concert manners.

No one should move around from the first bow through the performer's bow at the end of the piece(s). If you need to leave or go to the bathroom, etc. please do so during the changing of performers. Live concerts are not like watching TV performances. Please insist that your child shows courtesy to the other performers by sitting quietly.

Please plan to attend each one and stay for the whole program if at all possible. The student needs to see others doing what he/she is doing and will be asked to do at a later time. Stay for refreshments, it is a good time to talk with other parents for encouragement and great ideas.

Do praise your child and other students directly. Praise them to and in front of their parents. We all need lots of encouragement and support. Piano playing is not a short-term project. As we work from one level to another, we all hit highs of enthusiasm and low times. Everyone needs positive comments on skills acquired and the good playing you observe.

If you have any comments or suggestions that will make our piano parties more enjoyable and/or educational, etc. submit them in writing. Thanks.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

You are encouraged to bring cameras of all types to the piano parties. Please feel free to take pictures or video the program or parts of the program. Avoid flash photography during the performance.

Get a scrapbook. Place pictures and programs in the scrapbook to inspire and remind the student of what they have accomplished and the progress they are making.