

Days, Times and Rooms	Tuesday 11:30-noon Room 702 Thursday 11:30-noon Room 702
Teacher Contact	James Walters Office Room 600 phone 909-793-1000 ext. 146 email jwalters@redlandsacademy.org (best option)
Websites	raabells.weebly.com Click on the 5th Grade link for our performance schedule and other information. Please check for updates throughout the year. www.redlandsacademy.org Click on the Music link. RenWeb www.renweb.com Login to see your grades in this and other classes.
Prerequisites	5 th Grade Handbell Ensemble are open to students in grade 5 who demonstrate the ability to read music and quickly master basic ringing technique. It can accommodate 16 ringers. All 5 th grade students may attend the first three rehearsals. Auditions will be held after that to gauge their reading ability and technique. Each student will receive a handout covering what they should be able to do to pass the audition.
Goals and Expectations	Our first goal is to learn basic ringing techniques, developing a solid foundation on which to build. We will then learn music which includes Level 1 techniques and skills. We may play one or two pieces from Level 2 by the end of the year. Our rehearsal time is valuable—students should be on time and ready to put 100% effort into each rehearsal. Because handbell ringing is such a team effort, we will strive to develop a spirit of camaraderie and support between ringers.
Skills	All students are expected to help set up and break down our equipment after performances. Music, exercises, theory handouts and quizzes are chosen to teach, rehearse and assess student proficiency in all handbell techniques of Levels 1 and possibly 2. <p>Level 1 - No bell changes, only quarter, half and whole notes, only 4/4, 3/4, and 2/4 meter, only bell articulations that do not require the bell to leave the hand, slow to moderate tempo.</p> <p>Level 2 - Everything from level one plus, cut time, 3/2 and simple mixed meter, eighth notes and dotted quarter followed by an eighth, pick up notes, PL, Mart-lift, malleting, a limited number of bell changes - with adequate preparation time, two different dynamic levels at the same time, slow to moderate tempo.</p>

Performances

We will perform on the major concerts listed below. Other performances, some during the school day, some outside of school, will be listed on the RAA web site, in the RAA Friday Email Newsletter and in notes given to students to take home.

Wednesday	December 13	6:30pm	K-5 Christmas Concert
Thursday	April 5	7pm	Spring Ring
Thursday	May 10	6:30pm	K-5 Spring Concert

A handbell ensemble depends on the ringing of each member. Attendance at all performances is expected and is a part of each student's grade. Please contact James Walters as soon as possible in the event of a scheduling conflict.

Concert Attire

Black and white concert clothes unless otherwise directed.

Grading

Grades are based on three criteria:

- 40% of your grade is based on participation in rehearsals. Students are expected to be on time to rehearsals and to demonstrate respect and effort.
- 20% of your grade is based on theory assignments and tests.
- 40% of your grade is based on participation in performances. This includes being properly dressed, being on time, and being prepared. All members of Handbell Ensemble are equally important for an excellent performance.

Everyone can earn an A. Be on time, be prepared to work hard, and be prepared to ring excellent performances.

I am looking forward to a good time with all of you in 5th Grade Handbell Ensemble. Best wishes for a great year!
