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Our Time Information Sheet

Welcome to **Kindermusik Our Time!** At Home Materials include 2 literature books, a home activity book, 2 home CDs and an instrument, all in a special carrier.

There are a lot of movement activities in **Our Time** classes - including lying and rolling on the floor! You and your child should be dressed appropriately as you will both be encouraged to take part.

Before Class: Since "Barefoot is Best" for children's sensory development, please plan to go barefoot or wear comfortable socks during class. Arrive a few moments early to take off shoes & coats, finish snacks, and visit the restroom if necessary. Your teacher may be busy transitioning the room for the next class. Please wait for her cue before entering the classroom.

During class: During class the most important thing you can do for your child is to be an active and patient role model! Please limit social conversations in class. It may take several weeks for children new to **Our Time** classes to feel comfortable, but it is worth it! When you are an active, focused and enthusiastic participant in all the class activities, your child will model your behavior and begin to focus more fully as well. Don't be discouraged if your child doesn't participate the way you'd expect – what a child is absorbing is often evidenced in the comfort of the home environment rather than in a certain level of participation in class. The understanding and consistency of the parent or caregiver in class and at home are key to facilitating musical learning and growth.

Learning Styles: Children learn in many different ways; some are exuberant participants and some are quiet observers. Both are equally valid responses in class and may differ at home where the child is more comfortable. Kindermusik is process, not performance, orientated and the Kindermusik philosophy accepts and respects each child's response.

Group Activity: Kindermusik is a group activity, and this may be a new experience for your child. If your child becomes restless, upset, or becomes a distraction to others, please take him or her outside briefly to calm down, and then return to class as soon as you are ready. If you have questions or concerns, please talk with the teacher or director.

Class Order: Please follow the teacher's guidelines for classroom discipline. While freedom of movement is encouraged, uncontrolled running, shouting or displaying harmful behavior towards other children cannot be allowed. When teachable moments arise, please help the teacher by reinforcing our child-friendly rules: Be safe; Be kind. If a child is continually disruptive or poses a safety hazard to himself or other children, that child may not be ready for a group activity such as Kindermusik. On rare occasions a child may need to be withdrawn from the program. Also, notice your child's attention span and don't arrive too early.

Home Materials: Children learn through repetition, so be sure to continue the Kindermusik experience between classes by using all the At Home Materials. Play your CDs as often as possible! In the car, at home, grandmas, etc. The home activity book is full of great ideas! Reinforcing the Kindermusik experience at home will help your child feel comfortable in class and maximize their learning.

“Things” : Please leave toys, sippy cups, and pacifiers out of sight during class. Our hands will be busy exploring instruments and learning new songs with finger/hand motions. Finish snacks prior to class. A changing table and Diaper Genie are available in the church nursery should you need to contain any odors! :)

Siblings: Because we want your time to be special with the child you have enrolled, we encourage you to make child-care arrangements for siblings (childcare is available on Thursdays at 11:15am). Exceptions are made for infants young enough to remain content in a carrier or sling. Siblings who attend regularly and participate should be enrolled and paid for prior to class. When older siblings are out of school for breaks that are different from the Kindermusik calendar, please let the teacher or director know as options are available.

Sick Policy: As a courtesy, please let your child rest at home when you note any of the following within 24 hours of class: unusual fatigue or irritability; persistent productive cough; thick nasal discharge; conjunctivitis; fever (child should be fever-free without medication for 24 hours before class); vomiting or diarrhea (anytime within the previous 24 hours before class); inflamed throat; or suspicious rash. In addition, a child being treated with antibiotics should be on the drug for at least 24 hours before class.

Cell Phones: If you must be available for calls during class, please set your phone to vibrate mode and wear it. Please take calls outside the classroom, keeping your child with you.