Helpful Hint:

In our school, we do a thing called "Cards for Success." However, I wanted to add my own personal touch to it. I used Vista Print to create these (700 total for just over $50) to save me all of the card stock, printing, laminating, etc. What happens is when I catch a student who is being "Noteworthy" (above and beyond our usual expectations), I recognize them at the end of the class. On the backside, I write their names and include what I saw/noticed/heard from them in class (ex. Participation, proper singing voice/head voice, proper instrument play, leadership, etc.) I keep a binder of all the students names in it by my door so that once I have handed these students their Noteworthy Cards, I put a check mark next to their name to keep track of who has and who hasn't received a card. My goal this year is to have every student earn one by the end of the school year.

I included in my newsletter to parents about these cards explaining that my hope is the kids are excited about sharing with their parents what happened in music class. This is just one of the ways I try to communicate with parents about our happenings in our music classroom. So far, I have heard great positive feedback!