



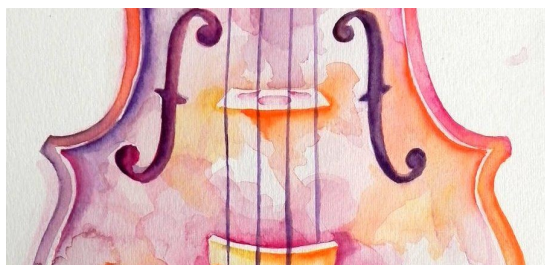
Volume I, Issue 2

January, 2020

BUCKINGHAM ORCHESTRA

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2020

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



Dear Orchestra Musicians and Families:

Congratulations on a fantastic winter concert and welcome back! I hope you had a wonderful break! I am excited to get back to class and I hope you are as well!

This half of the year, we will continue to grow as musicians and work on our technique. We will learn more scales and exercises to develop our ears and muscle-memory. We will learn new music, both traditional and modern. We will also focus on performing together as an ensemble and balancing our own sound with the sound of other musicians.

Please continue to practice diligently! We will be starting a new kind of practice record this half of the year and there's more information on that below! Remember – practice makes permanent! **Make sure each time you practice you use proper technique!**

Our lessons will still be held on **THURSDAYS!** Our new schedule can be found on Seesaw. Please be on time and prepared for your lessons! As always, if there is a major conflict with your scheduled lesson time, please let me know first thing in the morning and I can offer an alternate lesson time.

I am looking forward to the rest of the year – I am so proud of your progress these first few months and I can't wait to see where the rest of the year takes us!!

~ Miss V :)

BUILDING GOOD HABITS!

Exciting news!! Instead of practice logs this trimester, we are going to be piloting a new practice tool called **Practopus!** It is a fun way to log your practicing in order to earn rewards! This method involves completing practice assignments on the **Practopus** website and

submitting them weekly. Each assignment is worth a certain number of clams, which are like points. Collecting clams by completing assignments helps you to earn prizes ranging from free rosin to getting to choose music for us to play in class!

In class, we will learn how to use this program and make sure that everyone is signed up properly. All of the information on how to register for and use **Practopus** will also be provided on Seesaw.

Happy practicing!!



SAVE THE DATES!

Lessons resume on January 2nd!

VHI Save the Music
CBSD Charity Concert
January 24, 7:30pm
January 25, 3pm & 7:30pm
Holicong Middle School

String Social
February 2020
Date and Time TBD
Holicong Middle School
6th Grade Orchestra

Morning Rehearsals
Every Week starting
March 12th

Spring Concert
Date TBD
7pm (call time 6:30)
All Orchestra Members
Buckingham Elementary

Miss Kirby
Vuocolo

Orchestra Director

Barclay,
Buckingham,
Linden &
Titus

kivuocolo@cbsd.org

COMMON STRING INSTRUMENT ISSUES

and how to fix them!

IF:

your instrument is out of tune- Bring your instrument to Miss V! DO NOT try to re-tune the instrument yourself or you might break a string!

a string is broken-

Either bring your instrument to Miss V or take it to a music store for replacement!

the bow won't make a sound-

Try rosinning the bow again, and check that it has rosin dust on it! Make sure it's tightened!

the bridge popped off-

Do not try to replace it! Bring it to Miss V!

something snapped in half-

Bring it in to Miss V to assess the damage! She might be able to fix it! If not, send it to your rental company or bring it to a music store!

WHEN IN DOUBT, BRING THE INSTRUMENT TO SCHOOL!

INSTRUMENT CARE TIPS

- Handle your instrument with care!! Protect the bridge!! These instruments are very fragile, as they are made from thin wood.
- Always store your instrument in its case! Put the bow in tip first and then latch it at the frog!
- Protect your instrument from extremely hot or cold weather to keep it safe from breaking
- Keep your instrument clean! Be sure to clean off all rosin dust from the strings, bow stick, and body of the instrument.
- Loosen the bow when packing up! Make sure to rosin regularly!

If you need to reach me, please email me at kivuocolo@cbsd.org and I will get back to you as soon as I can! I am only at Buckingham on Tuesdays.

Thank you!!

ORCHESTRA EXPECTATIONS RUBRIC

Category	4 - Exceeding	3 - Meeting	2 - Approaching	1 or 0 - Limited Progress
Lesson Attendance	Student is always prompt to lesson and alerts teachers to any conflicts.	Student is usually prompt to lessons.	Student is often tardy or absent from lessons, missing >50% of lessons.	Student is regularly tardy or absent, missing >75% of lessons.
Lesson Participation	Student is focused and attentive throughout the lesson, always has an instrument and music, and follows directions to the best of their ability.	Student is usually focused and attentive during lessons but is sometimes distracted by others. Usually has an instrument and music.	Student is sometimes focused and attentive but easily distracted by others and sometimes distracts others. Often forgets instrument and music.	Student is rarely focused and attentive during lessons. Often disruptive to the rest of the class, and usually forgets instrument and music.
Practice	Student always brings in signed practice record, usually with >75 minutes practiced a week. Performance indicates quality practice with significant progress on difficult passages. All Seesaw activities are high-quality and submitted on time.	Student usually brings in signed practice record, sometimes with >75 minutes practiced a week. Performance indicates adequate practice with progress. Most Seesaw activities are high-quality and submitted on time.	Student often forgets to bring in signed practice record and rarely practices >30 minutes a week. Performance indicates poor practice skills with little progress. Some Seesaw activities are adequate but are late.	Student rarely brings in signed practice record and rarely practices >15 minutes a week. Performance indicates that the student has not practiced. Seesaw activities are inadequate or never submitted.
Performance Participation	Student attends all required concerts and dresses and behaves appropriately throughout the entire performance.	Student attends all required concerts and dresses and behaves appropriately throughout most of the performance.	Student attendance at required concerts is inconsistent, and the student often dresses or behaves inappropriately.	Student does not attend any required concerts or dress and conduct is completely inappropriate.

