



Volume I, Issue I

September, 2019

TITUS ORCHESTRA

FALL NEWSLETTER 2019

WELCOME BACK 5TH AND 6TH GRADE!!



Dear Fifth and Sixth Grade Musicians and Families:

Welcome back! I hope you had a wonderful summer filled with fun, sun, and lots of music! I am very happy to be the new orchestra director here at Titus!

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

Please continue to practice diligently throughout the year! You will be given Seesaw assignments and a practice record to fill out and have signed by a family member before your lesson. Remember—the goal is to practice **100 minutes a week!**

This year's fifth and sixth grade string lessons will be on **WEDNESDAYS!** Please be on time and prepared for your lesson! As always, if there is any major conflict with your scheduled lesson time, please let me know and I can offer an alternate lesson time during the day.

I am looking forward to an amazing year of orchestra at Titus!!

~ Miss V :)

WELCOME NEW ORCHESTRA MEMBERS!!

A warm welcome to the newest members of the Titus Orchestra! This year you will learn the basic skills needed to play your violin, viola, or cello. You will get to demonstrate all that you've learned by joining us in the Spring Concert in May!

Beginning orchestra weekly lessons are rotating this year! Your lessons will be on **WEDNESDAYS**. Make sure you have a schedule and know your group letter! If there is ever a conflict with your lesson time, please let me know! You always are expected to be at your lesson time – even if you forget your instrument! We only have 30 minutes a week to learn all that we need to know, so it is very important that you are at each lesson.



SAVE THE DATES!

Lessons Start on
September 25!

Morning Rehearsals
Every Week starting
November 1st

Winter Concert
Friday, December 20
11:15am (call time 10:30)
Titus Elementary
Intermediate Orchestra

String Social
February 2020
Date and Time TBD
Holicong & Lenape
6th Grade Orchestra

Morning Rehearsals
Every Week starting
March 4th

Spring Concert
Tuesday, May 26
Tamanend Middle School
All Orchestra Members

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!

happy fall

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 Titus on Wednesdays.

Thank you!!

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.

ORCHESTRA EXPECTATIONS RUBRIC

