



## Third Grade Strings Class!



### What is Third Grade Strings Class?

In Third Grade Strings Class, your child will receive a standards based music education on a string instrument. Students who sign up for strings class can choose between the **violin, viola, or cello**. Students that play a string instrument in third grade may also have the opportunity to switch to the **string bass** in fourth grade.

### Who should play a string instrument?

Choosing a music class is an exciting and important part of your child's education. When your child picks an instrument, the most important thing to consider is the sound of the instrument. Students will be spending a lot of time playing their instrument, both in class and at home. If a student likes the sound of the instrument, playing and practicing will be an enjoyable experience. Third grade string students will have the opportunity to continue playing their instrument in the fourth and fifth grade strings classes. Participating in the elementary strings program will prepare students to play in the Manhattan Beach Middle School as well. Students who choose to play a string instrument in third grade should see themselves potentially continuing with strings in future years. Although students will be allowed to switch from strings class in third grade to band in fourth grade, it is recommended that students who are interested in playing a band instrument in fourth grade take recorder class in third grade. This is because the recorder class curriculum includes an introduction to the playing techniques of the fourth grade band instruments. The elementary music teachers will briefly introduce all of the string and band instruments to students at school to familiarize them with their choices. Parents play an important role in the music class decision process. Please discuss the music class options with your son or daughter strategically, keeping future music class choices under consideration.

### **Rental Night!!!**

Rental Night is for students who have chosen to play a string instrument. The event is an opportunity to meet with local music vendors, and pick out an instrument and class supplies to use for Strings Class. This year, Rental Night will take place on **Wednesday, September 21 at Manhattan Beach Middle School in the Multi-Purpose Room**. To ensure that lines do not get too long and that the room does not get too crowded, families from each school have been assigned a time to attend. If you cannot attend your assigned time, feel free to come during the other time slot. There will be a brief 15 minute informational meeting regarding the string program and an introduction of each of the music teachers at the beginning of each time slot. See below for your assigned time slot:

*Grand View, Meadows, and Robinson- 5:00 PM*

*Pacific and Pennekamp- 6:30 PM*

### Required Materials

Students in Strings Class will be responsible for bringing the following materials to school on music days. These items may be purchased on Rental Night. See you there!

- ★ Music Instrument
- ★ Shoulder Rest (violin and viola students) or End Pin Anchor (cello students)
- ★ Essential Elements 2000 Book 1
- ★ Two Pocket Folder
- ★ Pencil

### When does music class take place?

Students will have music class once a week for the entire school year and should start bringing their instruments to school as soon as they have one. Since music class meets only one time per week, the amount of instructional time is limited. Please help your child get the most out of music class by reminding him or her to bring a music instrument and supplies on the assigned music day. Each elementary school in the district has music on a different day. See below to find out when your child will have music:

**Monday- Pennekamp**  
**Tuesday- Meadows**  
**Wednesday- Robinson**  
**Thursday- Pacific**  
**Friday- Grand View**

**If your child is interested in joining strings class, please indicate what instrument he or she would like to play on the attached music class application and return this document to his or her classroom teacher as soon as possible.**

**Please email strings teacher, Ms. Cavallaro with any questions: [kcavallaro@mbusd.org](mailto:kcavallaro@mbusd.org)**