

Monday, August 23, 2011

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2011-12 school year! I hope everyone had a fun and restful summer holiday.

I am pleased to announce that we will be beginning our enrolment for ES Beginning and Intermediate Strings. **Our strings program will be held after school on Monday and Thursday from 2.10 – 3.20pm. Beginning Strings is open to all students in Grades 4 & 5. Intermediate Strings is open to students in Grades 3, 4 & 5.**

The purpose of the ES Strings Program is to introduce elementary students to the various instruments of the string family, and to have them playing their instrument in an ensemble setting. Students may choose to study the violin or cello.

This year we will be offering two classes:

Beginning Strings: (Grades 4 & 5) Students who do not have any experience with a stringed instrument may join Beginning Strings. This year long class meets twice a week and teaches students the basic techniques of how to play a stringed instrument such as posture, tone production, and note reading, as well as playing in an ensemble setting. Musicianship and music listening are also part of the course. All Beginning String students are required to purchase their own instruments.

Intermediate Strings: (Grades 3, 4 & 5) This year long course will concentrate mainly on ensemble skills and more advanced playing techniques. Students will cover a variety of string ensemble repertoire and will have several opportunities throughout the year for performances. Students are required to have one year or more playing experience on a stringed instrument and have basic note reading skills. Students are also required to own their own instruments.

PLEASE NOTE: If a student has registered for Beginning Strings, they will need to be measured in order to determine the appropriate size before purchasing an instrument.

I will be available to meet with parents and students for instrument sizing and purchase after school during the week of September 5th 2011 from 2:05-2:30pm in the String Room (112) on the first floor of the Cultural Centre Complex.

Classes will begin on Monday, September 12th 2011. Please fill out the attached registration form and return to the ES Office.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Looking forward to meeting you and have a great year!

Sincerely,

John Secomb
Orchestra/Strings Teacher
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