



# ORCHESTRA

**Evelyn Champion, Director**

## Orchestra Notes Week 16

Good afternoon Orchestra parents! We had quite an exciting day. Eighth grade had a field trip to Cambridge to rehearse with Mark Wood, [our new musician student chairs arrived \(see the photo here\)](#), and then we had a duck and cover drill.

### MARK WOOD CONCERT

The concert with Mark Wood is TOMORROW - December 1<sup>st</sup> - and it's going to be fantastic! Don't miss it! Get your tickets here: <http://cambridgeorchestra.ludustickets.com> (there is NO www in that web address). Congratulations to the NMS participants:

Maddie	Anton
Hayden	Blanco
Lillabeth	Brodersen
Kaine	Dudley
Lauren	Durkin
Livia	Engbrecht
Emily	Jesseph
Sarah	Jesseph
Michelle	Knapp
Eshaan	Kutty
Henry	Leeman
Danielle	Najarian
Ciara	O'Riordan
Jessi	Rich
Isabella	Schindler
Saad	Sheikh
Brett	Shelley
Dennis	Smallwood
Evan	Smallwood



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We are already working on our Winter Concert and Performance Evaluation music. Eighth grade is also learning Disney Music. Students should be practicing regularly and turning in their assignments on [EssentialElementsInteractive.com](http://EssentialElementsInteractive.com). Please see this handout for more information: [EEi Handout](#)

## CONCERT DATES

The concert dates are listed in the orchestra handbook and on this page:

<http://nmsperforms.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Calendar-2016-2017.pdf>

8<sup>th</sup> grade is Monday, December 5 (with band and chorus) and 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades are Thursday, December 15.

## INSTRUMENTS- SECOND SEMESTER

Before you rent a school instrument second semester, please consider investing in your child's musicianship by renting an instrument at a local string specialty shop. The sound quality, playability, and enjoyment will be far superior to the rather shabby school-owned instruments.

## GRADES

Please visit Home Access Center to check on your child's orchestra grade. As our playing skills develop, we are moving on to harder music and more advanced techniques. All students should be spending a few minutes several nights a week practicing. Playing tests can be taken at home on EEi or before school in the orchestra room.

## PLEASE HELP WITH RECRUITING FOR ORCHESTRA IN THE COMMUNITY

Through heavy recruiting efforts at the beginning of the school year, I was able to increase the sixth grade orchestra from 30 students to 50 students. My goal next year is to have 100 sixth graders, 50 in each class. Orchestra is for everyone, so the bigger the better! Parents, you could help with this by talking to your friends and neighbors in the community. Here are a few points you could make:

- Orchestra teaches discipline, responsibility, commitment, perseverance, teamwork and more!
  - Is a class that meets every day, minimal outside of school commitment required
    - Amazing performance and field trip opportunities
    - Low cost compared to many extracurriculars
  - Develops higher order thinking skills, creativity, musicality
    - Is FUN!



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## **SEVENTH GRADE FIELD TRIP TO CRABAPPLE CROSSING**

The seventh grade orchestra class will be performing at Crabapple Crossing on December 7<sup>th</sup>. The goal of this trip is recruiting more fifth graders to join orchestra next year. A GREEN permission slip with all of the details went home this week. Please send it back as soon as possible. This trip will be paid for with MUSICON funds donated by 7<sup>th</sup> grade families. It is not too late to donate to MUSICON!

Did you miss any of the notes from past weeks?? If so, here is the link: <http://nmsperforms.org/orchestra-notes/>

Please contact me at any time with questions. Have wonderful break and safe travels!

Thank you,

Mrs. Evelyn Champion