

Instrument care

- ◆ Identify a safe place at home to store your child's instrument. This should be away from heat sources and in a place where it will not be jarred or knocked over.
- ◆ Your child's instrument should ALWAYS be stored in its case.
- ◆ The instrument should never be shared with anyone who does not know how to play it and care for it.
- ◆ Each student will be asked to demonstrate that they know how to handle and care for their instrument
- ◆ If repairs are necessary:
 - For Burroughs instruments: bring the instrument to the office at Burroughs
 - For other instruments: arrange for repairs at a reputable shop. Consult the orchestra director if you are not sure where to take the instrument.

Instrument Supplies

Students should have the following supplies in their cases:

- ◆ Rosin for bow
- ◆ Soft cloth to wipe off rosin dust from instrument after practicing
- ◆ If your student breaks a string, it is your responsibility to replace it. There are strings available for purchase from the orchestra director.

Music resources

Groth Music/ 8056 Nicollet Ave./ Bloomington/ 55420/ 952.884.4772
Schmitt Music/ 2906 W. 66th St./ Edina/ 55423/ 612.238.9930
House of Note/ 7210 Minnetonka Blvd./ St. Louis Park/ 55426/952.929.0026
Shar Music/ www.sharmusic.com



The Mount Olivet School of Music
Orchestra
In Partnership with
Burroughs Community School

Handbook for Parents & Students

Thank you for participating in the Mount Olivet/ Burroughs orchestra program. Learning to play a musical instrument can be exciting and rewarding. Students have the best chance for success with their parents' help!

Mission Statement: To encourage students to make progress towards becoming well-rounded musicians who can play and appreciate music.

Goal: To develop a solid base of musical skills and techniques including:

- Instrumental technique
- Music learning and listening
- Music appreciation
- Ensemble playing
- Independent learning

On Orchestra Days

Arrival: Students are escorted from Burroughs to Mount Olivet by Burroughs staff. Mount Olivet staff meet them at door#4 (on the James Ave. side of the building)

If your child needs to eat before 5:15 please provide a snack that is easy to eat to be eaten before orchestra.

Departure: The registration form provides three options for students– return to Burroughs (for students enrolled in Mpls. Kids), walk home or parent pick up. MO staff will follow the option indicated on the registration form unless notified otherwise. If the after-school destination changes, please let us know by calling the Music School office at 612.767.2262 or by email at mosom@mtolivet.org.

Parent pick-up: In line with Burroughs policies, parents are required to come to the door of the classroom to pick up their child. For safety reasons, students are not allowed to exit the classroom without a responsible adult.

On orchestra days students should bring:

- Instrument
- Pencil
- Music
- Orchestra folder
- Practice card

Classroom Expectations

Listen to and follow directions

Only play your instrument when invited to do so

Respect is expected of all

Stay on task/ focus on orchestra

Give your best effort!

Practicing

Playing an instrument is like everything else—the more you practice the better you get! Each week your student's assignment will be emailed to the address given on the registration form. A practice card will be on the inside of each student's orchestra book. The practice card has a place for the student to record the amount of time they practiced and a spot for parent signature.

Practice expectations per week:

Over 100 minutes = superior

80 minutes = excellent

60 minutes = good

40 minutes = fair

20 minutes = poor

Ideas to support your student at home

Help your student establish a daily practice habit. Find a quiet place where your child can focus on learning and help her/him to make it a priority.

Listen to good music and attend live musical performances.

Did you play in orchestra? Share your best memories of orchestra and talk about what lies ahead—middle school orchestra, high school orchestra, (maybe college orchestra) - lots of fun and rewarding experiences!

If the opportunity arises, invite your child to play his/her instrument for others.

Communication

Communication with parents will be primarily by email. The registration form provides a place for you to give us your email address. If this changes, please let us know at mosom@mtolivet.org

Assessments will be emailed to you by the orchestra directors approximately every 5-6 weeks. Please watch for them.

If you have questions for Michelle Persian, the orchestra director, you may reach her at michelle@epstringacademy.org