

September 6, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Fourth grade is an exciting year full of new opportunities. One of them is that 4th graders have the opportunity to perform in a Music Ensemble! If you enjoy singing, you can continue to sing in the Chorus AND be in the Band or Orchestra! If you do not wish to join the Band, Orchestra or Chorus, you will participate in another Music class called PACE (Performing Arts Curricular Experience) which will teach you about Music in a hands-on way.

Today, your child saw a demonstration of all of the Musical Instrument and Music Class choices for 4th grade. They are:

<u><b>Band</b></u>		<u><b>Orchestra</b></u>
<b>Flute</b>	<b>Trumpet</b>	<b>Violin</b>
<b>Clarinet</b>	<b>Trombone</b>	<b>Viola</b>
<b>Saxophone</b>	<b>Baritone</b>	<b>Cello</b>
<b>Percussion</b>		<b>String Bass</b>
<u><b>Chorus</b></u>		<u><b>PACE</b></u>
<b>Singing</b>		<b>Performing Arts Curricular Experience</b>
Choral Techniques		This class is much like the Music class your child had in 3rd grade but with a 4th grade PACE curriculum.

Music is a Core subject, so participation in an ensemble or class is a **one year-long commitment**. Once your child makes their choice he/she will need to stick with his/her chosen Music class for the entire school year.

Please take the following into account if your child wants to participate in the instrumental program:

- learning to play an instrument is a very personal choice – there are no “easy” instruments.
- commitment and practice **are required** and will lead to a successful and fulfilling Band or Orchestra experience. The practice expectation for Upper Elementary students is 20-30 minutes of practice, 5 days a week for good progress.
- Practicing is an important component of learning any new skill, and is especially true when learning a musical instrument. Practicing at home is critical to success and is to be taken seriously.

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS ABOUT OBTAINING AN INSTRUMENT**

It is strongly recommended that you **rent** an instrument for your child - please do not assume your child's school is able to provide one for them. Once this form is returned, your child will receive more information on how to rent an instrument. A list of local companies that rent out instruments is on the back of this letter. Some companies even deliver the instruments to the school.

**Please DO NOT buy an instrument without consulting a fourth grade instrumental teacher first. Almost EVERY inexpensive instrument is NOT effective for your child to learn on. Inexpensive instruments need constant repair and produce a poor quality sound.** The phrase “you get what you pay for” is very evident in musical instruments.

Please fill out the attached form and have your child return it to his/her Classroom Teacher by **Wednesday, September 12th. All 4th grade students must return this form!** This is to ensure your child is enrolled in their Music class of choice.

Thank you for your support of the music program. We look forward to working with your child!

**Chorus**

Ms. Jenna Margiasso

**Band**

Ms. Victoria Astuto

**Orchestra**

Ms. Mary Ellen Holden

## **Local Music Stores**

*Most instrument stores will rent instruments on a “rent-to-own” plan, unless otherwise indicated. Two stores are willing to deliver the newly rented instruments to the school, as well as make service calls to the school each week. You may find this service very convenient. Please speak to your child’s upper elementary ensemble director for more information!*

Rockland Music  
234 Rte. 59 E.  
Nanuet, NY 10954

[www.RocklandMusic.com](http://www.RocklandMusic.com)

*\*\*a NEMC representative from Rockland Music will deliver to the school  
And make weekly service calls\*\**

R & R Music School  
16 North Route 9W  
Congers, NY  
(845) 267 - 3311

[www.RnRmusicsschool.com](http://www.RnRmusicsschool.com)

Eduardo Echeverria Violins  
12 Oakwood Rd.  
Bardonia, NY 10954  
(845) 627-1844  
(no website)

*\*\*rental only; no rent-to-own plan\*\**

Sam Ash Music  
178 Mamaroneck Ave.  
White Plains, NY 10601  
(914) 949 - 8448

[www.SamAshMusic.com](http://www.SamAshMusic.com)

(also a Paramus, NJ location, Rte 4 East)

Music & Arts  
762 Route 17 North  
Paramus, NJ 07652  
(201) 444 - 9800 ext. 2

[www.MusicArts.com](http://www.MusicArts.com)

Email: [KMartone@musicatrs.com](mailto:KMartone@musicatrs.com)

*\*\*a Music & Arts representative will deliver to the school  
And make weekly service calls\*\**

Village Music  
191 S. Main St.  
New City, NY 10956  
(845) 638 - 0168  
(no website)

Main Violin Shop  
547 Main St.  
Fort Lee, NJ 07024  
(201) 947 - 2727  
[www.mainviolin.com](http://www.mainviolin.com)

***Please note: A representative from Rockland Music and Music and Arts visit the school every week should your child need a repair to his/her instrument. Also these two Music companies will deliver your child’s instrument to the school.***

*Farley Elementary School ~ Music Class Selection Form*  
**All 4th grade students must return this form!**  
Please return this page to your child's current Classroom Teacher  
by **Wednesday, September 12th.**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

4th Grade Classroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose **ONE** of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ My child is choosing **BAND** and would like to play: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Band Instrument Choices: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, or Percussion)

\_\_\_\_\_ My child is choosing **ORCHESTRA** and would like to play: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Orchestra Instrument Choices: Violin, Viola, Cello, or Bass)

\_\_\_\_\_ My child is choosing **CHORUS** and loves to sing!

\_\_\_\_\_ My child is choosing **PACE** (**P**erforming **A**rts **C**urricular **E**xperience)  
This class is much like the Music class your child had in 3rd grade  
but with a 4th grade PACE curriculum.

If your child has chosen either **BAND** or **ORCHESTRA** then information regarding renting an instrument will be sent home with your child after his/her first class meeting. Also if your child has chosen **BAND** or **ORCHESTRA** they can also be in **CHORUS** if they would like!

\_\_\_\_\_ Please check here if your child would like to participate in **BOTH**  
**BAND** And **CHORUS** **OR** **ORCHESTRA** And **CHORUS**.

*Parents who may have financial difficulties paying for an Instrument rental may contact  
Virginia Stellato, District Music Coordinator, at (845) 942-3352 or [vstellato@northrockland.org](mailto:vstellato@northrockland.org)*

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Please have your child Return this form to their Classroom Teacher by:**  
**Wednesday, September 12th!**



