

PARENT A GLANCE

Find out what your child is **learning** and how to **help**.

Subject	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade		
Ideas students are learning	Classroom expectations; note recognition; fundamental skills; how to produce a characteristic tone on their instrument.	Expectations; basic skills; rhythm reading & awareness; tone; intonation; dynamics; etiquette & practice skills	Expectations; basic skills; rhythm reading & awareness; tone; intonation; dynamics; etiquette & practice skills		
Skills	Consistency & follow-through; reading; body / instrument posture & position; embouchure formation, breath support	Rehearsal decorum; feel of a steady pulse; appropriate breath support & embouchure formation; playing w/dynamics	Rehearsal decorum; feel of a steady pulse; appropriate breath support & playing w/dynamics, good balance and blend		
Work and assignments to look for	Repetition of routine; practice fundamental; embouchure, posture, position, etc. checked by looking in the mirror	Daily practice w/good fundamentals & focus on product; scales, scale patterns / interval studies; study musical terms/signs	Daily practice with good fundamentals and focus on product; scales, scale patterns and interval studies		
Questions Parents Can Ask	Ask child to teach you the names of notes, rests, etc. & # of beats they receive. How does the way you sit affect how you sound?	How do you make your sound soft or loud? What is "intonation"? How do scales & interval studies help you perform music?	What are some different levels of dynamics used in music? How do you know if you are "in-tune"?		
Special Notes	A strong start is the key to success on any instru. Good daily practice will make a huge difference. Hear them play often!	Consistent, quality practice is of vital importance. Practice the what they can't play rather than what they can play.	Consistent, quality practice of technical studies at slow tempos & until played accurately prior to playing faster.		