

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS, 2020 - 2021

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 5 and Year 6 children

This is to let you know of arrangements for the teaching of instrumental music – violin, guitar and keyboard -- during this school year. **Year Six** children who took lessons whilst in Year Five during the school year 2019 – 2020 are invited to continue those lessons. **Year Five** children may begin lessons this term. Lessons will be taught by the school’s Music Co-ordinator, Miss West. Details of lessons, their cost and availability are in this letter below – please see also the attached note for details of how your child’s health will be safeguarded for as long as the COVID-19 pandemic makes this necessary. This note also details the probable cost of buying instruments and the details of the music books they will need from which to learn. These are readily available to buy on-line.

* LESSONS THROUGHOUT THE AUTUMN TERM 2020 WILL BE PAID FOR BY THE SCHOOL
* CHILDREN WISHING TO CONTINUE THEIR LESSONS AFTER CHRISTMAS 2020 WILL BE CHARGED £4.50 PER LESSON, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE ON A TERMLY BASIS. THE NUMBER OF LESSONS IN A TERM WILL VARY ACCORDING TO THE LENGTH OF THE TERM

Should you wish your child to take advantage of these lessons please note that

* **CHILDREN IN YEAR SIX** WHO WISH TO CONTINUE THEIR LESSONS must reply using the email address below **BY FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11th**
* **CHILDREN IN YEAR FIVE** WHO WISH TO START LESSONS must reply using the email address below **BY THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17th**
* IF BY THE TIME YOU APPLY ALL PLACES ON THE SCHEME ARE TAKEN, YOUR CHILD WILL BE PLACED ON A WAITING LIST
* MUSIC LESSONS WILL BEGIN IN THE WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21st

Please note the following:

1. Lessons will be taught on instruments provided by the school, although children will need their own instruments for practice at home
2. Should you wish your child to discontinue lessons, Miss West will need a half-term’s notice of your intention.

Please apply for lessons by replying to **admin@stjohnvianney.newcastle.sch.uk** including the phrase INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS in the subject line.

Please state

* your child’s name
* your child’s class
* the instrument preferred

Yours faithfully,

Miss H West

**YOUR CHILD’S INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS AND COVID-19 SAFETY**

1. Your child will need their own violin, guitar or keyboard and music books at home in order to practise between lessons, but they must not bring them into school in order to minimise the risk of cross contamination. For guidance on prices and advice on what to buy, see below.
2. They will use school instruments and music books for their lessons, and this equipment will be sanitised after every lesson.
3. Lessons will be taught in groups of three or four children, and each lesson will last twenty minutes.
4. Social distancing between both children and the teacher will be observed at all times.
5. Lessons will take place either at lunchtime or at the end of afternoon school.
6. Children will be taught only in groups formed from their class bubble.
7. The timing of lunch-breaks and afternoon dismissals will correspond with their class bubbles also.
8. Should you have any queries or concerns about these arrangements then please contact Miss West at the school using the email address given on the accompanying letter.

**INSTRUMENTS AND MUSIC BOOKS**

**[a] INSTRUMENTS:**

**VIOLIN** ¾ size violin, bow and case – approximately £65 - £75

**GUITAR** ¾ size, Spanish-strung with nylon strings – approximately £45 - £60

**KEYBOARD** Yamaha keyboard with full-size keys.

**Recommended models are** YPT – 270 £170

YPT – 260 £150

PSR – F51 £110

**[b]** **MUSIC – YOUR CHILD WILL NEED A COPY OF THE APPROPRIATE BOOK**

**VIOLIN** Fiddle Time Joggers [Kathy Blackwell] – on Amazon from £9.

**GUITAR** Mel Bay’s Modern Guitar Method Grade 1 – on Amazon for £10.

**KEYBOARD** Teach Yourself to Play Electronic Keyboard [Alfred Music] – on Amazon for £10