

September 10, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In honor of your child's musical development, I warmly invite your child to join our Brimmer and May band program. It is a privilege to build upon our school's fine music program by providing a quality instrumental ensemble experience. The joy of creating beautiful sounds and performing familiar melodies with other students is a special opportunity for your child. Instrument study opens new avenues of exploration and expression while fostering discipline and accountability. It is a commitment for both the young musician and their family with an outcome that provides life-long rewards for all.

Starting on October 23, the Lower School Beginning Band for Grade 3 will meet during the school day on Friday from 11:15 to 12:00. Beginning on October 16, the Intermediate Band for Grades 4 and 5 will meet during the school day on Friday from 10:00 to 11:00. All children are invited to be a part of their grade level band regardless of their playing ability.

In order to make band a meaningful and productive experience for all band members, students who elect to participate in band will be required to study privately at least once per week on their instrument of choice. Private instructors will ask their students to practice daily for up to thirty minutes. Band students often bring their music to private lessons to ensure that they receive the one-on-one assistance that they need to feel comfortable and confident. Private lessons can be taken on campus through our After School Music Program. You may contact Joanne Clamage, coordinator of the program, at 617-566-7462 ext. 421 for more details.

The instruments available to beginning band students are Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Alto Saxophone, Cornet, Trombone, Baritone, French Horn, and Snare Drum. Students who study piano or violin will be able to join our percussion section on the Glockenspiel. Beginning students will be required to purchase a band book which costs \$15.00. Books will be distributed during band and the cost will be billed to each family.

For your convenience, Music and Arts Center in Newton will be offering an instrument rental program. The music store is located on 839 Beacon Street in Newton Center, which is convenient for instruments that need routine repairs. Please stop by the store to obtain a form and apply for your rental.

Hours: Monday-Friday 10-9, Saturday 10-6  
Phone: 617-332-3578

I encourage your family to have a thoughtful conversation about the **full-year commitment** we ask all musicians and their families to make regarding band. When a new activity is embarked upon which requires daily practice at home, we want everyone to be sure that their schedule will allow for this undertaking.

To express your young musician's interest in band please fill out the attached form as soon as possible. I am very interested in speaking with you to facilitate a positive experience for your child. Please contact me with any questions at [ewooster@brimmer.org](mailto:ewooster@brimmer.org) or 617-566-7462 ext. 432.

Our Chorus and Band Concert has already been scheduled for Thursday, May 12 at 6:30 p.m. A working rehearsal will also be presented during Share Assembly on Friday, May 6 at 9:00 am. Please reserve these dates on your calendars. Thank you for your consideration of this special opportunity. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wooster  
Lower School Music Teacher





## **Beginner and Intermediate Band Registration 2015-2016**

*Please return this form to Mrs. Beech in the Lower School Office  
at your earliest convenience.*

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

This year my child would like to study the instrument marked below.

**Cornet**    **Trombone**    **Baritone**    **Flute**    **Saxophone**  
 **Oboe**    **Clarinet**    **Snare Drum**    **Glockenspiel**    **French Horn**

\_\_\_\_\_ My child will be a beginner on this instrument.

\_\_\_\_\_ My child has been studying this instrument for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

\_\_\_\_\_ We need help securing a private teacher. Please contact us about  
the After School Music Program. Registration can occur at  
<https://www.ultracamp.com>.

If your young musician takes lessons in another location please provide us with the following  
information so that we can support your musician throughout the school year.

Name of music instructor: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor's phone number \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*\*\*We have carefully read the information provided, and are signing below to indicate  
our commitment to the ensemble to be a part of the band for the full school year.\*\*\*\*\***

\_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
parent or guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
young musician signature