November 2019

**Instrumental lessons on VIOLIN, VIOLA and CELLO**

Dear Parent / Carer

Following a concert today, your son / daughter has shown an interest in learning to play a musical instrument. There are currently spaces for new beginners to start the violin, viola or cello. Weekly 30 minute lessons take place during school hours, in groups of up to five pupils. Many children enjoy learning in groups with their friends and tuition in small groups provides a fun and effective way for children to learn.

The cost for group lessons is £8.50 per lesson, payable either monthly or termly (11 lessons). There is a bursary scheme to provide free lessons for children who are in receipt of benefits-related free school meals. We run an instrument hire scheme (£25 per term), or instruments can be hired from local music shops.

As well as being an enjoyable and sociable hobby, learning a musical instrument develops co-ordination and fine motor-skills and boosts confidence. Playing an instrument also benefits your brain in many other ways – it uses every area of your brain at once! With lots of encouragement from the teacher and parents, progress should be steady and a pleasing sound should come quite quickly if your child plays regularly at home. Finger and hand co-ordination have to develop, alongside a growing awareness of pitch and rhythm. Experience of reading music notation is not required and will be taught during the lessons.

The easiest way to apply for lessons is using our online application form at **www.westsussexmusic.co.uk**. Please email us if you have any queries.

Katherine Jerome

Violin & Viola Teacher

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Ethan Merrick

Cello Teacher

Ethan.Merrick@westsussexmusic.co.uk

There are other instruments taught at school – please ask at the school office for details of piano, keyboard or guitar lessons. Alternatively, lessons on some instruments are available at our Saturday Music Centre at Oathall School.