

Home Practice Guide #4— VIOLAS  
Due the Week of March 30, 2015

Dear parents,

As we wrap up our first grading period for music classes, we want to update you on where your child's skill level should be in the strings class. By this time, students should be able to play: Mary Had A Little Lamb, and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star. Students are approaching memorization of these songs. We are moving on to the variations on Mary and Twinkle and memorizing these should be easier than the original songs. We are also asking students to work on three more difficult songs in: French Folk Song, Ode to Joy and Tuneful Tune. Many students have memorized all of these songs already. Students should work on memorizing all of these songs by the fourth week in March/first week of April for a demonstration concert. We will play the seven songs mentioned which are found on pages 24-26 in our music book.

If your child is struggling with the first three songs and has been practicing diligently at home, then you should let us know by email so we can provide special help and check for technical problems. We have been working in class to identify students who are struggling so we can help them and so we can let you know. Remember that practicing at home is the first order of getting better. **Ten to twenty minutes of nightly practice is expected to achieve these results.** Some students do it with less time and some students may need coaching on how to practice smarter.

If your child is struggling to play the first three songs, we may grade them with a 2 – “Approaching Grade Level Standards”. Please have your child play for you often and encourage them to practice for improvement. It is not too late to achieve basic standards. Also, we do look for effort in posture and hand positions and an understanding of fingerings. The more your child feels success the more they strive to achieve.

We would like to invite you to a short demonstration of our progress so far. This is not the whole concert that will be required in the evening in June. It is just a “progress report”, and something for students to work toward. It will be held in your multi-purpose room during part of the regular music class time. We hope you can come but if you cannot, don't worry; we will perform these songs again at the end of the year concert. Please check the schedule below for your child's concert.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade “Basic Seven Concert” for Parents:**

Crown Valley	Monday, March 30	10:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m. in CAA
Del Obispo	Tuesday, March 31	8:00 a.m.-8:40 a.m. in C-6
Hidden Hills	Friday, March 27	10:05 a.m.-10:45 a.m. in MPR
Malcom	Tuesday, March 31	10:20 a.m.-11:00 a.m. in MPR
Palisades	Thursday, April 2	8:00 a.m.-8:40 a.m. in MPR
G. White	Wednesday, April 1	10:25 a.m.-11:05 a.m. in MPR
Wood Canyon	Wednesday, April 1	8:00 a.m.-8:40 a.m. in PAC

Thank you,

Andrea Howard and Kory Wentzel, Orchestra Instructors  
[ajhoward@capousd.org](mailto:ajhoward@capousd.org) & [kswentzel@capousd.org](mailto:kswentzel@capousd.org)  
OR leave a message for us at your child's school

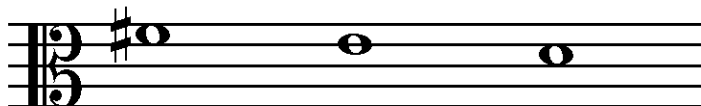
Name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

**Due the Week of March 30, 2015**

**Instructions for Home Practice Guide Completion:** Each week, your child’s practice should have a specific focus. We are providing you with practice goals and objectives for each week of the month. In most cases, your child will receive instruction on the material prior to playing the material at home. Each week, he/she needs to practice the assigned material repeatedly. Once your child feels prepared to play the assigned piece(s) for you, he/she will give you a short concert and/or explanation of the material. Once the concert is completed, please sign the appropriate week’s box.

Date	Page #s	Pages Completed/Song(s) Played	Parent Sig.
	26 26 26	#64: French Folk Song— <b>with book</b> #65: Ode to Joy— <b>with book</b> #66: Tuneful Tune— <b>with book</b>	
	24-26	Choose any 3 songs from the list below and play them <b>from memory</b> for a parent. List the songs here: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____	
	24-26	Play the following songs <b>from memory</b> for a parent: <b>Mary Had a Little Lamb</b> <b>Mary Doubles</b> <b>Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star</b> <b>Twinkle Variation</b> <b>French Folk Song</b> <b>Ode to Joy</b> <b>Tuneful Tune</b>	
	30 32	#67: First Finger March & #71: Diz-E-Dog #78: The Reapers and #80: Claire de Lune	

Write the correct note names below each note. Then write the fingerings below each letter name.



Letter

Names:            \_\_\_\_\_            \_\_\_\_\_            \_\_\_\_\_

Fingerings:        \_\_\_\_\_            \_\_\_\_\_            \_\_\_\_\_