

Special Kiddo! Music Programs

Grades 3, 4, 5



Thanks to your generous donations to Kiddo!, there are special musical opportunities for students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade. Please read on for a description of your child's musical options for the coming year, which are offered in addition to regularly scheduled Kiddo! music classes.

Look for sign-up sheets in September.

3rd Grade

Chorus

Join music teacher Nora Thomas for a combined 3rd – 4th grade chorus. Students will stretch their understanding of tone quality, pitch and intonation, and be given performance opportunities in the winter and spring. Classes meet for one half hour weekly during the school day.

4th Grade

Chorus

Continue working with Nora Thomas in the combined 3rd – 4th grade chorus, but take on more challenging parts where possible. Choral students can also sign up for orchestra during 4th grade.

Orchestra

Join orchestra teacher Phoebe Dong's elementary string program and learn to play the violin, viola, or cello with other 4th graders. Classes meet for one half hour weekly at individual schools during the school day, and for one 45 minute weekly rehearsal before school with the entire fourth grade district orchestra at Mill Valley Middle School. There will be two district-wide performances per year. At the end of fourth grade, students continuing in the orchestra program are encouraged to study with a private teacher. This is not a requirement, but does accelerate learning significantly and further develops musical talent. Parents needing information about private teachers may contact Miss Dong by email at pdong@mvschools.org.

5th Grade

Chorus

Music teacher Jessica Stewart joins Nora Thomas to teach the 5th grade chorus and they present more challenging materials and opportunities for performing. Classes meet weekly for one hour on Wednesdays after school at Mill Valley Middle School. There are two major evening performances (winter and spring) and occasional small, daytime concerts (e.g. an assembly, community performance, etc). If you take chorus, you may also take orchestra, but not band.

Orchestra

Phoebe Dong continues her elementary string program for 5th graders, expanding their musical technique and music appreciation. Classes meet weekly for one half hour at individual schools during the school day, and for one 45 minutes rehearsal on Wednesdays before school at Mill Valley Middle School. There are two district-wide performances per year. Students taking orchestra in 5th grade cannot also take band. Students who would like to take orchestra in middle school will need prior experience, either through these Kiddo!-sponsored programs or private lessons.

Band

Cayce Carnahan leads beginning band, which includes wind and percussion instruments. Classes meet at MVMS twice a week - one rehearsal before school (7:30am - 8:15am) and one after school on Wednesdays (2:15pm - 3:00pm). Percussionists rehearse on Mondays, flutes on Tuesdays, clarinets on Wednesdays, brass on Thursdays and saxophones on Fridays. All of the instruments will combine together to form one large Beginning Band on Wednesdays after school. There will be two performances during the school year. Scheduling prohibits band students from also taking either orchestra or chorus. Students who would like to take band in middle school will need prior experience, either through these Kiddo!-sponsored programs or private lessons.

Questions?

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Please visit Kiddo.org for information on music programs at MVMS.
Thank you - these programs would not exist without your generous donations to Kiddo!