

# ***String Orchestra Program***

Starting in the 2nd grade, our students have the opportunity to learn a string instrument. 2nd graders may start on the violin and switch to any of the bigger instruments (viola, cello, or bass) once they get into 4th grade. **This year, lower school students will be meeting twice weekly, just like the middle schoolers. This is twice the amount of class time as we've had in the past!** Much like a team sport, our string orchestra students learn to play in an ensemble and have many performance opportunities throughout the year, including a music competition for our middle school students at King's Dominion in the Spring.

## **Instrument Rentals**

Your student is responsible for having an instrument that he/she brings to school for rehearsal and takes home for practice. Until students are on a full-sized instrument, I highly recommend renting from Potter's Violin Shop, Lashof Violin Shop, or Shar Music (mail order).

## **Supplies**

Violinists and violists need an instrument, bow, rosin, and either a sponge or shoulder rest. Cellos and basses need an instrument, bow, cello, and rock stop.

2nd and 3rd grade violinists need a copy of Suzuki Volume 1 for violinists along with the coordinating CD.

4th graders need a copy of Essential Elements 2000 Book 1

5th-8th graders need a copy of Essential Elements 2000 Book 2

## **Class Time**

At CES, we have the advantage of holding our strings classes during the school day. I will work with your child's classroom teacher to be sure that I am pulling the students at a time that will be the least disruptive to their instructional time.

## **Cost**

There is an annual fee of \$630 to participate in the instrumental program. This is the same fee as last year, but with more class time! You can choose different payment options that work best for your family: pay lump sum at the beginning of the year, split the payment into 2 payments for the year, or split the payment into monthly payments and add it to your SMART tuition. This fee includes your student's weekly orchestra class, extra rehearsals in preparation for performances, as well as the multiple performances throughout the school year.