**C.R. Anderson Orchestra Classes 2024-2025**

Teacher: Allison Elliott, [aelliott2@helenaschools.org](mailto:aelliott2@helenaschools.org), Room B2

Orchestra classes will teach students the skills necessary to play a string instrument and read music. Instruction will also prepare individuals and ensembles to demonstrate the learned skills during class assessments and performances.

**Orchestra Grading**

**Classwork/Participation**-70 points /quarter. Orchestra is a participation-based class. Students need an instrument, music and accessories for every class to learn. A student will receive full points for participation when he/she attends class with an instrument, music and accessories. One point/ class will be deducted when items are forgotten.

Students can miss one class/quarter that does not require make-up work. For subsequent absences, students will need to make up classwork with 10 minutes of home practice. Make-up slips are available in the orchestra classroom and should be completed within a week of the absence.

**Skill Assessments/ Performances-**21 points/quarter. Students will be assessed during class on skills the class has been learning. Students will also receive points for performance preparation and attendance. Attendance at performances is required. Students will need to plan arrangements with the teacher to make up assessments or performances if they are missed.

**Home Practice**-9 points/quarter. Home practice on an instrument is essential for improvement. Practice helps students to make steady progress which is motivating and enjoyable. Students will be given a practice chart each quarter and are asked to write the number of minutes practiced each day on the sheet. Students are asked to practice 40 minutes at home each week to receive full home practice points for the quarter. A shortage of minutes one week can be made up the next week until the quarter ends. Practice charts will be collected at the end of the quarter.

**Performances**

Orchestra classes will present performances throughout the school year. Because the success of the orchestra relies upon participation from every member, attendance at performances is required. Students should dress nicely for performances. Cello and bass students need to bring instruments from home for use at performances.

Please plan to bring your child to performances 15 minutes early so they can get their instruments tuned and warm up.

**December 12 Thursday CRA upper gym**

5:30-6:00 6th grade A Day classes

6:30-7:00 6th grade B day classes

7:30-8:30 7th grade, 8th grade and Chamber Orchestra

**March 13 Thursday HMS Auditorium, 6:00** 8th and 9th grade combined Orchestra Festival

**March 18 Tuesday** **HMS Auditorium** 6th, 7th

6th grade A Day classes 6:30-7:00

6th grade B Day classes 5:30-6:00

7th grade 6:30

**April 25 Friday** Solo and Ensemble performances 7:30 am-1:00 pm **Our Redeemers Lutheran Church**

**June 3 Tuesday** **HMS Auditorium**

5:30-6:15 6th grade A and B Day classes

6:45. 7th, 8th and Chamber Orchestra

Parents are always welcome to visit and observe orchestra classes.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Allison Elliott

aelliott2@helenaschools.org