CONGRATULATIONS!!
Your decision to provide your child with a quality education in music is an investment in your child's future. In making it possible for your child to play a musical instrument, you are providing the opportunity for self-expression, creativity and achievement. Numerous research studies indicate that parental attitude, support and involvement are important factors in a child's ability to successfully learn to play and enjoy music. Like any skill, interest counts far more than talent. With strong support from you, playing music will become a natural part of your child's life.

1. BENEFITS
For the student, music participation enhances: Problem solving, Goal-Setting, Physical Coordination, Self-confidence and esteem, Poise, Teamwork, Self-expression, Memory skills, Concentration, and much more!

For the family, music participation offers opportunities for shared family experiences, including: musical event attendance, family music making, performing for, and with, family and friends, learning about the lives of composers and the cultural heritage of many civilizations, a sense of accomplishment and pride for the entire family.

2. HOW YOU FIT IN
Always keep in mind that your support is an essential element in your child’s success with music study.
Schedule Practice Times: Achievement in music requires effort over a period of time. The time in string project class rehearsal is limited. New concepts learned at school need daily personal practice time by your child at home in order for these new skills to be developed. You can help your child by:
- Providing a quiet place in which to practice
- Remaining nearby during practice times as often as possible
- Scheduling a consistent daily time for practice
• Praising your child’s efforts and achievements.

3. TO MAINTAIN YOUR CHILD’S INTEREST
• Talk with your child if his or her interest begins to decline
• Increase your enthusiasm and involvement in your child’s playing

4. WHAT TO DO
To give your child the best possible support, you should:
• Remind your child to bring instrument, accessories, and music to string project class
• Encourage your child to play for family and friends
• Offer compliments and encouragement regularly
• Expose your child to a wide variety of music, including concerts and recitals
• Encourage your child to talk with you about classes
• Make sure your child’s instrument is always well maintained
• Listen to your child practice, and acknowledge improvement
• Help your child build a personal music library
• Make certain that your child is on time for all school rehearsals and performances
• Encourage your child to make a commitment to his or her music studies
• If at all possible, obtain private lessons with a qualified instructor
• Get to know your child’s teacher

5. WHAT TO AVOID
• Using practice as a punishment
• Insisting your child play for others when he/she doesn’t want to
• Ridiculing or making fun of mistakes or less-than-perfect playing

Should you ever have questions about your child’s progress, please do not hesitate to discuss your concerns with his or her teacher.