



Guitar 2018-19

Dear Parents and Students:

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your student to Guitar class at HMS. This year we will be learning how to play the guitar (or improve those skills if your student already knows how to play) by learning basic music theory, reading music, and learning to play melodies and rhythm on the guitar. Your student will gain a better understanding of the guitar and music in general.

Our school-wide policies will be strictly enforced at all times in the classroom to ensure that everyone is respected, safe and responsible.

Grading in class will be as follows:

Weekly Playing Tests, Concert/Performance Attendance & Daily Participation are all graded equally.

Students should practice at least 20 mins at home each day.

Your student will have the opportunity to participate in HMS Music Concerts with the HMS Music Department as well as other performances for which they will receive a grade (dates and times to be announced as soon as I have those).

Your student will need:

- Acoustic Guitar * -- *HMS does not have any guitars to loan out.*
- Guitar case (luggage tag with name and class period)
- Guitar Capo ~ quick release capo is preferred
- Guitar picks (make sure they are not too hard – Medium 0.73mm is a good gauge)
- Extra set of strings (or replacement for high E, G & B strings)
- 1-inch notebook (binder) and 50 document protectors for the music I will provide.
- Guitar Strap, to learn to play standing up (optional)
- Guitar Tuner (I like the "Snark" Guitar Tuner best because it's easy to use) or the smartphone app: Guitar Tuna which is free!
- HMS T-shirt (for concerts) Available from HMS PTO

I've found Amazon quite inexpensive for all the guitar gear. We do NOT have a guitar store in town any more.

** Be aware of inexpensive guitars, they tend to be made of soft wood which warps the neck and makes them virtually impossible to play!*

Please sign and return the next page by the end of the week. This counts as an assignment grade.

I am looking forward to a rewarding and exciting school year for all of us. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Respectfully,

Jo Black

Jo Black, B.S., M. Ed

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Printed Student Name _____ Period _____

I have received Ms. Black's First Day Handout and understand that my student will need:

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- Practice daily at home for at least 20 minutes.

Parent Signature

Date