

Elonera Montessori Music Program

*All programs start in week 4

Choir:

Junior Choir:

Students can join junior choir on a Tuesday lunch. This class is open to students in Stage 2 only. This class will be delivered by Dani Vita, our performing arts teacher. Throughout the year there will be opportunities for the students to perform and develop their confidence and singing skills together.

Senior Choir:

Senior choir meets on a Thursday at lunch and this class is open to students in Stage 3 and High school. Senior choir is delivered by Dani Vita, our performing Arts teacher. Throughout the year there are many opportunities for our students to perform on stage together, a wonderful opportunity to develop confidence and teamwork. Senior choir will also be performing together with the rock band at times.

Band:

Training Band (Year 3 and up)

In 2023 we will run our first ever training band program, led by Renee Richardson. This program will be for students in year 3 and up. This class runs on Thursdays after school from 3:05-3:45. The program consists of flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet and trombone. However, we are open if a student already has a band instrument that is not one listed above and will consider that too. This program offers the unique opportunity of receiving group lessons where students learn repertoire to perform at school concerts. Ensemble playing helps students to learn how to work together as part of a wider community, learn to follow a conductor, improve music literacy, reinforce what is learned in group instruction and promote positive social and emotional wellbeing.

To join training band, you will need:

- An instrument
- Essential Elements Method book 1 (for whichever instrument you've chosen)
- Reeds for clarinet or saxophone/valve oil for trumpet

Choosing an instrument

Most students will prefer one instrument over another. Flute, clarinet, saxophone trumpet and trombone are all options that your child can choose. Talk to your child to help decide what is best for them and where their interest lies. As part of your enrolment form, you will be asked to list your instrument choice.

Hiring/purchasing an instrument:

To join the training band, you must hire (or purchase) your own instrument. Shops like Piper's Wollongong Music Centre have instrument rentals starting at \$35 per month.

Performance Clothing

For performances, children will be asked to wear black and white (or all black).

Practise

As with any musical commitment, it is expected that students revise what is learned at school. Practise logs will be distributed each term and the expectation is that students practise at home for a minimum of 20 minutes per week and keep a running log of their practise times. It is recommended to do shorter practice sessions more often throughout the week as opposed to one long session. This is often a bit more practical for families that have other commitments as well.

Senior Rock Band (stage 3 and up)

In 2023 we will run our first ever band program, led by Renee Richardson. This program will be for students playing wind instruments, guitar, drums and bass. There are no pre-requisites for joining this group, but it is a bonus if students already have a background in guitar/keyboard/drums/singing etc. It will be held on Thursdays at lunch. Senior rock band will have opportunities to perform together with the senior choir.

String Orchestra (Year 3 and up)

The EMS Orchestra Program is open to children in Year 3 and above. The string orchestra consists of violins, violas, cello and bass. Learning to play a stringed instrument is one of the most effective ways to develop a child's musical intonation, pitch recognition and general auditory skills. This aligns well with the goals of developing a sense of pitch in Montessori. This program will be taught and conducted by Danielle Vita. This program offers the unique opportunity of receiving small group instrumental lessons after school, where students learn orchestral repertoire to perform in school concerts. Ensemble playing helps students to learn how to work together as part of a wider community, learn to follow a conductor, improve music literacy, reinforce what is learned in group instruction and promote positive social and emotional wellbeing.

To join string orchestra, you will need:

- An instrument, bow and case of the correct size
- A method book: essential elements for strings, Book 1 (for your chosen instrument – viola, violin, cello or bass)
- An extra set of strings that match the size of your instrument
- Rosin

Choosing a string instrument

Most students will have a preference for one instrument or another. Violin, viola and cello are all acceptable for children of any size. Bass is only recommended from year 4 onwards. Bass also requires some consideration about transport, costs and home storage. Talk to your child to help decide what is best. As part of your enrolment form, you will be asked to list your instrument choice.

Hiring/purchasing a string instrument:

To join the orchestra, you must hire (or purchase) your own instrument. Shops like Piper's Wollongong Music Centre have instrument rentals starting at \$35 per month. Otherwise, you can purchase violins and violas on Amazon for around \$100-\$150. Cellos and basses are a bit more expensive, starting at about \$200-\$300.

Instrument sizing and year group in school:

	Violin	Viola	Cello	Bass
Year 3	1/2	12"	1/2	N/A
Year 4	1/2	13"	1/2	1/4
Year 5	3/4	13"	3/4	1/4
Year 6	3/4	14"	3/4	1/4
Year 7	4/4	15"	4/4	1/2

Rehearsals and performances

To join the after-school orchestra, it is a pre-requisite that students receive group or private lessons (either with another provider or in school with our program). The orchestra will rehearse and prepare repertoire for school recitals. Participation in the orchestra is free. To enrol, you must commit to two terms. If a student misses more than four rehearsals (a missed rehearsal is when a student doesn't show for rehearsal, but is still present at school), they will be unable to participate for the remainder of that semester. Students who are just starting out and waiting for arrival of their instruments do not have to attend until they have an instrument to play on. The minimum enrolment for this program to run is 5 students.

Group string instruction (tuition) details and fees

Group string instruction is a tuition-based program that will be offered at EMS. Students that enrol in group string instruction will receive weekly 30-minute lessons in small groups of approx. 3-5 students after school on Mondays. Enrolled students will learn instrument technique, music literacy (reading notation) and receive support in learning orchestra repertoire for performances. The cost of group tuition is \$175/10 week term (equivalent to per class \$17.50). Fees will be billed one term at a time via invoice from EMS). New enrolments can be accepted at any time during the term and their fees will be pro-rated. Signing up for group string instruction means that you are paying for and committing to the entire term. No refunds.

Performance Clothing

For performances, children will be asked to wear black and white (or all black).

Practise

As with any musical commitment, it is expected that students revise what is learned at school. Practise logs will be distributed each term and the expectation is that students practise at home for a minimum of 20 minutes per week and keep a running log of their practise times. It is recommended to do shorter practice sessions more often throughout the week as opposed to one long session. This is often a bit more practical for families that have other commitments as well.

To sign up please use this form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/rX96ycGat5>