



December 7, 2018

Dear Parents,

We are excited to announce that next week Monday, December 10 through Sunday, December 16 will be **ALF Instrumental Music Practice Week!** We want to encourage all of our students to practice a little extra the week before the concert, as well as establish a regular practice routine. Each student will receive a token of appreciation for their participation at their dress rehearsals on either Monday, December 17 or Tuesday, December 18. The concert will be on Wednesday, December 19.

We are providing the attached downloadable practice worksheet for your child to fill out. Your child simply needs to fill out the "What I Practiced" section and the amount of time practiced. You can then sign your name for each day that your child practices. Your child can hand it in to their instructor or bring it to the dress rehearsal.

Here are a few practice tips to help your child succeed!

1. Start with some long tones or a slow easy song to get warmed up.
2. Practice all the songs for the concert. When your child encounters a problem, remind your child to spend some time on the problem area and practice it slowly first. Your children have learned several practice techniques in class that they can apply too.
3. Enter the student activation code in the front of the Essential Elements book into the website www.myeelibrary.com. All of the songs in the book are recorded and your child can listen to or play along with the recorded songs.
4. Put a timer on and ask your child to focus on practice during the given time. Sometimes 10 minute increments are a good way to start. Then add more 10 minute increments. Any amount of practice time is valuable although we recommend 20 minutes or more. The quality of the practice is the most important part and removing distractions like electronics and homework will help greatly.
5. Use a music stand at all times whether sitting or standing to play.
6. Encourage your child! They've come a long way since the beginning of the year and have a lot to show for it!

As always please let us know if you have any questions.

Deena Keys
2018-19 ALF Instrumental Music Chair

Ruth Kasckow
ALF Instrumental Music Coordinator