



## VIOLIN & VIOLA HOME LEARNING

Some ideas to keep you busy just now:-

1. Practice your Vamoosh (or other) pieces you've worked on in your lessons recently (eg., Manhattan Blues, At the Ballet, Rumpus etc).
2. Tips for practicing:
  - i) First clap the rhythm using your ta and tay tay rhythm words
  - ii) Play the rhythms on just one string (no fingers)
  - iii) Then look at just the fingers. Work out what finger and which string each note needs, then play each note slowly without rhythm.
  - iv) Play with the bow slowly once you have done all the other steps and are confident
  - v) Gradually you can play faster each time, until you reach the Youtube backing track speed
3. Try recording yourself playing your piece, then listen back to yourself and give yourself 2 stars and a wish. (2 things you feel you did really well, and one thing you would like to get better at.) Next time you play the piece think about what you would like to improve.
4. Try writing your own music (draw yourself a stave with five lines to get started)
5. Listen and watch Youtube clips of amazing players and orchestras such as
  - Nicola Benedetti (violin)
  - Hilary Hahn (violin)
  - Itzhak Perlman (violin)
  - Stephane Grappelli (violin)

- Tabea Zimmermann. (viola)
- Lawrence Power (viola)
- Yuri Bashmet. (viola)
- Royal Scottish National Orchestra
- Scottish Chamber Orchestra
- London Symphony Orchestra
- BBC Symphony Orchestra
- BBC Concert orchestra
- Edinburgh String Quartet

Look for more orchestras and players and find out about them alongside any composers you might like!

If you think your instrument is very out of tune, try downloading a tuning app for violin/viola. Use the tuners at the bottom to make small adjustments and the pegs to make bigger ones. Try to avoid using the pegs, but if it's necessary, do it very slowly and carefully as you don't want a snapped string!! With the tuning pegs remember to push into the peg box as you turn and only move pegs a small amount at a time. There are many useful clips available on Youtube to help you to tune your vilolin, such as : 'Violin Tuner- Easy to Use - Plucking Violin Sound'.

Things are up in the air for us as music teachers and I would like to be able to communicate and support you all at home. In the meantime please feel free to get in touch if you need any help or feel stuck in your practice, my council email address is

[Gergely.Horvath@ea.edin.sch.uk](mailto:Gergely.Horvath@ea.edin.sch.uk)

Happy practicing,

Mr Horvath