

St Paul's High School Introductory Band Information Letter



Dear Grade 9 Introductory Band Parent(s), My name is Giovanni Verrelli and I am the band director at St. Paul's High School. I look forward to meeting your son and welcoming him into the exciting tradition of creating music at St. Paul's. This letter details a **checklist** of band items that your son should have ready for the commencement of classes in the September.

Instrument Selection Workshop:

IMPORTANT! PLEASE NOTE:

- The **Instrument Selection Workshop** for students entering Introductory Band, occurred on June 4 and 5 2025. Thank you to those who attended this workshop! **Please be aware that multiple students who enrolled in this class, were not in attendance for the workshop. Mr. Verrelli will be hosting a second Instrument Selection Workshop for students who could not attend in June.**
- Please email Mr. Verrelli at gverrelli@stpauls.mb.ca to book an appointment for this supplementary workshop which will be hosted on **Tuesday, September 2, 2025 between 3:30-6:00pm**, in the **St. Paul's Band Room**.

This is a mandatory workshop for those who have not yet attended.

Student Instrument Placement:

- **On September 3, 2025**, Mr. Verrelli will email all parents, a list of students with corresponding instruments listed. Mr. Verrelli will do his best to give students their first preference of instrument, but this may not be possible in all cases, as there needs to be a proper distribution of instruments in the ensemble. Rarely, should a student receive their third choice of instrument.
- **Please do not purchase or rent an instrument before this list comes out.**
- If your son does not wish to play the instrument assigned, please reach out to me by email.

After you are notified about your son's instrument assignment, please make sure to complete the checklist below....

☐ **Instrument Rentals:**

- It is expected that students who are playing **flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet** and **trombone** will rent these instruments from a music store.

- St. Paul's will rent to students, as many of the larger instruments (**Euphonium, Tuba**) as are available, at a price comparable to the rental of a flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet or trombone. Students who play Euphonium and Tuba, must **rent their instrument from the school**.
- All percussionists will use the range of percussion instruments provided in the band room.

Long & McQuade Rentals:

This link goes directly to online band rentals with Long& McQuade: <https://rentals.long-mcquade.com/> which will assist you to select the instrument, make the payment online, and choose whether to pick up in the store or have it delivered to the school. The rental requests submitted online are relayed to the local stores for processing.

- ❑ **Accessories:** All band instruments require certain accessories. For example, clarinets will need a supply of reeds and cork grease. If you are renting an instrument from a music store, please confirm with an employee if all appropriate accessories are provided with the instrument at the time of purchase. Students who are renting instruments from the school, will be provided with accessories.
- ❑ **Instrument Tuner Application:** Each student will require a tuner for their instrument. There are numerous tuning apps that are accessible for free on android and apple smartphones. If possible, please download **"insTuner" (for android and apple smartphones)**.

Percussionist students:

- ❑ Pair of Concert Drumsticks: General Custom Round Tip Sticks: <https://www.long-mcquade.com/22270/Drums/Sticks-Mallets-Brushes/Vic-Firth/General-Custom-Round-Tip-Sticks.htm>
- ❑ A pitch pipe tuner: Purchase at any music store or online at Amazon: [Amazon.ca : chromatic pitch pipe tuner](https://www.amazon.ca/chromatic-pitch-pipe-tuner)

Please feel free to contact me at gverrelli@stpauls.mb.ca if you have any questions or concerns about the above information.

Sincerely,

Giovanni Verrelli
Director of Bands
St. Paul's High School