

## TUNING YOUR VIOLIN

*This week, students will be using technology and personal responsibility to prepare for at-home violin lessons. Tuning their own violins will enhance ear training skills and fine motor skills. (Some parental help may be required).*

### You will need:

- a SNARK or the TUNER LITE app (a free download from The App Store). Optional: a tuning fork or a keyboard/piano.
- Your violin.

**Step One:** Watch the attached video link called Tuning Your Violin. (Younger students should try and find time to watch this with their parents this week.)

**Step Two:** Practice tuning your violin using Tuner Lite. This app can also be used on other instruments, so if you have a guitar or ukelele, you could try tuning those instruments as well. Get comfortable with this technology, and finding the right pitch for your strings. As you know, many violins hold the tuning well and don't need much adjustment. However, some go out of tune easily. Some students may need parent or older sibling assistance. If you get stuck, please ask for help from someone, and watch the video with them so they know what to do.

**Step Three:** Find a place in the house to play. This is your Practice Centre. Since more people may be in your home with you right now, you'll want to check with family to make sure it works for others as well. Your Practice Centre might be in a bedroom, or the living room, but it should be in a place with lots of light, where you have some privacy. Students should stand during practicing if possible. Of course, many students already have a wonderful at-home practicing habit. Some people might need this reminder:

- Wash your hands before you play. Be sure your fingernails are short (especially on the left hand.)
- If you have a music stand, put your music book/sheet music on the stand. If you don't, open your case and place it on a counter or bureau, propped up to chest height as a makeshift stand.
- Shoulder rest on.
- Rosin and tighten the bow.
- Tune.
- Have fun playing your favourite pieces

**What's Next?**

I'll be sending specific lessons, either a video lesson or a package for theory work, each week so you'll have something new to focus on. I'm available for short Check-Ins as well, so you can Zoom with me for a chat, some feedback, to talk about what you're enjoying and what's most challenging, and to demonstrate your progress. We'll be scheduling these Zoom chats in the weeks to come.

**SUMMARY: For this week, watch the TUNING YOUR VIOLIN video, work on being comfortable with tuning, and make sure you have a special Practice Centre. Once the violin is in tune, play whatever pieces you'd like!**

**FOR FUN: (optional)** Check out the link from Michael Burnyeat on Facebook. Such an amazing way musicians can use technology! (if the link doesn't work, you can just Search Michael Burnyeat on Facebook)

<https://www.facebook.com/100009336078372/videos/2604671699854007/UzpfSTewMDAwOTMzNjA3ODM3MjjozMDYwNjExMjk0OTk0MTQ6MTA6MDoxNTg4MzE2Mzk5Oi0yMzY2NTMwNTIxOTQxNjc3NDg5/?id=100009336078372>