With proper care you can have many years of trouble free enjoyment from your instrument. You should perform maintenance on your instrument on a daily, monthly, and yearly basis. Some maintenance can be done by you and some left only to trained professionals. If you have any questions not covered here please ask your teacher. We hope the following tips will help you keep your instrument in top condition.

**Daily Care**

1. When removing your saxophone from its case never pick it up by the keys. Remove it by picking it up by the bell.

2. When assembling your saxophone be sure to wipe the neck joint and inside of the receiver with a soft cloth this will make it easier to assemble.

3. Apply a small amount of cork grease to the mouthpiece cork to help the mouthpiece move into position.

4. When tightening the screws on the ligature, the device that holds the reed on the mouthpiece, take care not to over tighten them this can cause the screw to break.

5. After you are finished playing, pull a cleaning swab through the saxophone to remove moisture. Carefully wipe off the outside of the instrument and keys to remove oils or perspiration caused by your hands.

6. Always store your saxophone in its case when not in use, this helps prevent damage and aids in keeping the instrument clean. Do not place books or folders in the case, this can bend keys.
**Monthly Care**
Check all screws and pivots to see if they are coming loose. If they are, take your saxophone to a repair shop to have them adjusted. It is not suggested that you try and adjust them yourself because they can be over tightened or damaged.

**Yearly Care**
It is recommended that you have your instrument checked and adjusted, if needed, by a repair shop. The shop may find adjustments or worn pads that are affecting the optimal performance of your instrument.

**Reed Care**
Always keep your reed stored in its protective case.

*If you are unsure about anything, ask your teacher.*