

4th Grade Recorders

The fourth graders will be starting their recorder unit soon! We will be using a method called "Recorder Karate" throughout the year to teach the 4th graders how to play the recorder. Each child will get a packet of music to work with. Students practice a song until they are ready to test for their "belt," much like the belts earned by martial arts students. The songs get progressively more challenging. There are nine songs in the packet from the white belt song, all the way to the black belt song! There are also challenge songs we will be working on after the students earn their black belt.

The study of an instrument reinforces all of the musical concepts the students have learned in their years of general music classes. The recorder is an important part of the fourth grade music curriculum. Students are expected to take their instruments home to practice and share with you what they are learning. **The following is the "recorder code of conduct."**

- The recorders are to be played in two places ONLY: the music classroom and at home. (Not on the bus or at recess)
- Students are reminded to be sensitive to their families and practice at a convenient time and an agreed upon place in your home. Please discuss where and when this will be for your family.
- **Practice at home is necessary for skill development. 5 minutes several times per week will help your child's skills grow!**

Please help your child set up a routine so that he/she becomes responsible for coming to class prepared. I tell them that the best strategy is to place their materials back in their backpack immediately after practicing.

Attached is an order form to purchase a recorder. We were able to buy in bulk so we are able to pass a discount on to you. The recorders are \$3.00. You can pay in cash or check (made out to Lockwood School). If you do not purchase a recorder from us - you can always go to Eckroth or Hansons and purchase one there. Recorders purchased at Walmart or Target are also usually ok. **Please DO NOT buy the recorders from the dollar store.** These recorders usually are of poor quality and do not blend well with the other recorders. Students that do not purchase recorders will be able to use one at the school but will not be able to take it home to practice.

If you have any questions email is best -

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Recorder Pre-Order Form

Yes! I would like to purchase a recorder! (please attach \$3.00)
Recorders will be given to students the first day we start!

Child's Name: _____

Classroom Teacher _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Student signature _____

