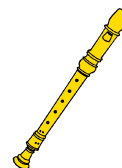


Third Grade Recorder Class!



What is Recorder Class?

In this class, students will learn how to play a small wind instrument called the recorder. The recorder was most popular from the Medieval Times through the Baroque Era, and was used by famous composers such as Bach and Vivaldi. During the 1700's, the recorder became less used as "newer" instruments such as the flute, oboe, and clarinet gained more popularity. Today, we continue teaching the recorder due to its suitability for introducing techniques and musical concepts such as rhythm, pitch notation, aural skills, and air support/ tone production.

Who should play recorder?

Lessons in Recorder Class will combine both instrumental and vocal music activities. The concepts covered in this class will transfer favorably for continuing in band or choir. In the MBUSD elementary music program, all fourth graders choose between intermediate strings, beginning band, or choir. If your child anticipates signing up for band or choir in the fourth grade, the recorder class is the recommended choice for third grade.

For those interested in band (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, or percussion), it is important to note that the recorder class curriculum will include the opportunity for students to learn about the wind and percussion instruments. Your child will get a hands on opportunity to review the basic techniques of these instruments, while making the important connections of how the skills developed on the recorder will benefit their continued studies on one of these instruments. Additionally, practicing breath control and phrasing on the recorder will be advantageous for those students considering choir in the fourth grade.

When does music class take place?

Like the Third Grade Strings, Recorder Class is offered once a week during the school day. Each school is assigned music on a different day of the week. Please help your child remember to bring music materials on the following music day:

Monday-- Pennekamp
Tuesday-- Meadows
Wednesday-- Robinson
Thursday-- Pacific
Friday-- Grand View

How do I get my child an instrument and supplies?

In order to participate in recorder class, students need an instrument and a method book. Both of these items can be purchased through the district for a one-time fee of \$13. If your child already owns a recorder, you may choose to purchase the book only for \$5. To be suitable for recorder class, students need an instrument with a removable top piece. If your child's recorder does not come apart into two or three pieces, please plan to purchase a new one. The instrument and method book fee can be paid by cash or check. Please make checks payable to MBUSD with "recorder" indicated in the memo. This fee should be attached to the Third Grade Music Class Enrollment Form and handed in to the classroom teacher. Families in need of financial assistance may indicate this on the enrollment form.