

Music and Recorders!

Recorders have been part of the 3rd and 4th grade music curriculum for many years in Cortland. They are a great instrument for our students to begin on. This year, because of Covid, we are not allowed to play them in school. Mrs. Wanish generously helped us out and purchased enough instruments so that every 3rd and 4th grader could take one home and use it there this year.

Our remote classes will be using them regularly as part of their music class times with me. Our "In Person" students will use them on our remote learning practice days. I'll also be teaching them a few things from school that they can practice at home. Finally, if we get sent back to remote learning for a longer period of time, all students will be using them regularly during their remote classes.

Please help your child find a safe place to keep it. They will need to be returned to the school at the end of the school year. I encourage students to spend a little time practicing what they learned on their own each week.

Students have been taught how to make a nice sound with their recorder. If your child is blowing in them to the point that it hurts your ears, you can remind them that they have been taught the "correct" way to blow (very softly) and to make a beautiful sound on them.

Here are 20 reasons why kids SHOULD play a recorder:

1. It helps develop strong lungs and breath control
2. It teaches us to read music.
3. It helps us to develop our listening skills.
4. It helps us develop our aural skills.
5. It helps to develop our eye-hand coordination.
6. It helps develop our fine motor skills.
7. It can help our self-confidence and self esteem.
8. It helps develop our problem solving skills.
9. It can help build teamwork skills.
10. It helps develop our musical ear.
11. The recorder is small and portable.
12. It helps develop both sides of our brain.
13. It helps develop our grit and perseverance.
14. It helps develop our memory.
15. It is an affordable instrument.
16. It helps develop self discipline.
17. It helps develop our patience.
18. It helps develop a lifelong appreciation of the Arts.
19. It is the right size for young musicians to learn.
20. It can give us experience to work by ourselves and with a group!

Thank you for supporting your child's musical education!

Musically,
Ms. Shelley
#