



October 16, 2023

Dear Fourth Grade Parent(s):

As a musician and an educator, it is exciting and rewarding to be involved in the musical growth of a child and to provide musical encounters for their development. One of those musical encounters in fourth grade is learning to play a recorder. A recorder is a wind instrument that has been around since medieval times and was made especially popular in the Renaissance. It has a similar sound to a flute. The students will be learning how to play the recorder this year, including how to read music. This is a fun and rewarding experience for the students.

We do ask that every fourth-grade student purchase their own recorder packages for use in the classroom. It is important for each student to have their very own recorder for their own personal musical growth and practice at home. And, as we have seen in the last years, it is also important for our students to have their own recorder for sanitary reasons. **The cost of the recorder package is \$6.00.** This package includes a quality recorder, a case, a cleaning rod, and lanyard.

As you know, we are only accepting *online* payments for school materials. I will not be accepting check or cash. To pay online, please go to *MyPayments Plus* on our school website. I have provided a link below. You may choose to purchase a recorder elsewhere, just please choose a good quality recorder with German style fingering. (Dollar stores do not have good quality recorders!) The recorders that we use are the highest quality, best sounding student recorders available. So, I do encourage you to purchase from the school.

Each student should bring his/her recorder to music class every day. If someone happens to forget his/her recorder, I do have some recorders available that may be used that are cleaned and sanitized daily. But I only have a limited number, so it is vital that students remember to bring their own recorder. A good rule of thumb would be to keep it in his/her bookbag so it is available at home for practice and at school for instruction.

It is my hope that every student will succeed at playing the recorder. At-home practice is crucial for this to occur. Please encourage your child to practice! I have placed many helpful resources on my website for learning recorder, including our song challenge program called Recorder Karate. A link to my recorder website resources is included below. Thank you so much for your continued support of our music programs here at Youth Elementary!



Sincerely,

Mr. Jarrod Tyler

Music Educator

Youth Elementary



<https://www2.mypaymentsplus.com/welcome>

<https://www.yesmusicclass.com/recorders>