



Aug. 22, 2024

Dear 4th Grade Parent,

This Tuesday, 8/27 it's time to begin using the **RECORDER** in 4th grade! Yippee! 😊 The students and I are so excited to have the opportunity to learn to play this instrument and grow as musicians.

ILS has recorders available for purchase that your student will use for music class and learning at home. At the beginning of class on Tuesday your child will receive their recorder, plastic case and cleaning rod. There will be a charge of \$7.00 listed as "4th grade recorder fee" on your next tuition statement to cover the cost of this 4th and 5th grade music class school supply.

***If you already have a *good quality* recorder** for your child to use in class, please **send it in your child's backpack by MONDAY (8/26)**. We will then remove the recorder charge from your statement. (A note about the quality of the recorder...remember-you'll be hearing it played at home, so you're going to want to get one that has the potential to create a pleasing tone 😊).

I'm looking forward to the music and seeing/hearing the possibilities of what these students can do. You can read about reasons why playing the recorder is part of Immanuel's music curriculum on the back of this letter. Watch for more details about your child's musical adventure.

Mrs. Kris Bartelt
ILS music teacher
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Why do we teach the recorder?

As one of the most popular instruments for elementary students, there are many reasons we teach the recorder. Below are just a few reasons the recorder is a favourite among elementary educators.

Reading and Aural Skills

Learning an instrument teaches students how to read music and how to hear music. Playing the recorder helps build a student's inner hearing.

Hand-Eye Coordination

Learning which fingers go with which notes to make the sound they want helps students develop this skill. Repetition through practice reinforces the skill.

Self-Confidence and Self Esteem

As students overcome the challenge of learning a new skill, they build up their confidence and self-esteem.

Working as a Team

When performing in an ensemble, students learn that they must work together to make music. This is an opportunity to build their teamwork skills.

Developing Discipline

By learning an instrument, students learn that practice will improve their skills. They also see that discipline will help them meet their goals.

Budget Friendly

There's no denying the affordability of the recorder. The relatively low cost of the instrument lets schools provide many students with an instrument.

