



Quigley Elementary School

RE: Recorder Unit

Dear Grade 4's,

Quigley Elementary has generously purchased a recorder kit for each Grade 4 student. In this kit is the following: recorder, recorder case, one cd and one instructional booklet.

The kit will be distributed after March Break. During Music class, we will label all items with a permanent marker. Students were asked to keep the CD at home. If a student forgets his/her recorder booklet, extras are available from the Music Room. Borrowed recorders will be made available. However the mouthpiece will be removed and borrowed recorders will be sanitized afterwards.

Following Covid safety guidelines, recorder class will be different this year. We will have theory in the music room prior to heading out of doors to practice. (The mouthpieces will be removed during class time. And students will work on the proper fingering technique prior to heading outdoors.) Students will come dressed for the outdoors for every music class.

Students are encouraged to practice the recorder at home for 15 minutes. If this practice time is a time of focus and concentration, your child will do well. We are not encouraging students to practice recorder at recess time. This will be another safety measure to stay covid safe. During class, students will be encouraged to be 2m or more apart when practicing outside.

It is expected that each student **read and study their booklet** every night for 15 minutes. Much like reading books, novels and magazines, students get better when they practice. (Remember, for **recorder practice**, fifteen minutes is plenty.) All together, music homework adds up to 30 minutes each night.

Each week, students perform a song. Songs have been divided into levels and that information is available online (via google classroom & my website: glrogers.weebly.com; password: rogers). Students can choose a song from any level. A new song must be selected for the next week. Students will be notified in class for the date of their first test.

In Google Classroom, the document called "recorder - 2021 - assessment - growth based rubric - song & final mark" outlines how students are assessed for this unit. I will be posting material on Google Classroom to help your child with the recorder unit. During March Break, if your child could take some time to blow bubbles with a wand or blow on a toy windmill, that would be great. These two, fun methods encourage students to blow into the recorder with just the right amount of breath. It is something I have done in the past and unfortunately due to COVID safety, I will be refraining from that activity at school this year.

Good luck and have fun practicing!

Mrs. Rogers