

Dear Parents,

In the first week of September, your student will be learning to play/study the history of the recorder during music class! The recorder is a woodwind instrument played by blowing a thin stream of air through the instrument mouthpiece and placing the fingers over the holes.

Our recorder unit is set to begin the week of **September 2-6**. Students must obtain a recorder prior to this date in order to participate during music class. Recorders may be purchased from a music store, I have listed local music stores on the back of this page. Recorders purchased from outside sources (Ex:Amazon) must be Baroque Soprano Recorders (no German style!). There are many brands of Recorders to choose from, the main thing to remember is the recorder needs to be a Baroque Soprano Recorder (sometimes they are listed as just Soprano). I have a list of 3 examples below:

- Yamaha YRS24B Soprano Recorder
- Angel 101 Soprano Recorder, Key of C
- Lyons Soprano Recorder

Please avoid purchasing cheap plastic, colored recorders from discount stores such as the Dollar Store, Walmart, Costco, Kohl's, etc. The instruments found in these stores are often poor quality and do not play or allow the student to play as well as they could. Oftentimes the tone holes (the holes students put their fingers on to play a note) on these cheaper instruments are misplaced or incorrect. These types of recorders will not help your student learn or be able to play the recorder correctly.

We are in the process of ordering a class set of recorders. The class set of recorders are for students who forget their instrument at home, who don't have their instrument yet, or were not able to purchase an instrument. When the class set of recorders come there will be a recorder available for your student if they happen to not have their instrument on the day they have music with Mrs. Harp. The class set of recorders will not be recorders the students can take home, they are meant to stay at the school. The class set of recorders are just a spare set that students may use if they need to.

Occasionally I hand out recorder music or offer music for students who would like to practice at home. If you think your student would like to take the music I hand out you might consider a music folder (a paper folder) for your student to store their music in.

When you purchase your recorder, they should come in a case. It's important to label your child's information on the recorder case. This is just in case the instrument is lost, if it's returned to the office the staff would know who the instrument belongs to. Here's an example for labeling the case:

Name
Parent Contact number or email
Classroom number or classroom teacher's name

Once our recorder unit has started, the students will learn a few basic notes, how to read music, practicing expectations, and about instrument cleaning/care. Please encourage your student to share with you what they have learned in class. Recorders are a great starting instrument for learning the basics for other instruments like the flute, clarinet, and trumpet; as well as how to read music which all instrument types do. I hope you enjoy hearing what your student learns on the recorder.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at sburtonharp@rcsdk8.org
If you email me please list the school your student attends and the grade/classroom teacher they have. I teach at three different schools, providing this information will greatly help me.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harp

Stores that say they carry recorders:

The Strum Shop

<https://www.thestrumshop.com/>

209 Vernon St.

Roseville, Ca 95678

(916) 787-8786

Mon-Thurs 10am-7pm

Friday 10am- 6pm

Saturday 10am- 4pm

The Music Yard

<https://www.musicyard.com/>

6668 Lonetree Blvd #200

Rocklin, Ca 95765

(916) 899-6022

Mon- Thurs 10am-6pm

Fri 10am-5pm

Sat 10am-3pm

*Closed Sunday

The Music Store

<https://musicstorerocklin.com/>

4815 Granite Dr.

Rocklin Ca, 95677

(916) 624-0951

Mon-Thurs 9am- 7pm

Fri-Sat 9am- 5pm

Sunday 11am- 3pm

Guitar Center

<https://stores.guitarcenter.com/ca/roseville/229>

5781 Five Star Blvd.

Roseville, CA 95678

(916) 746-8787

Mon-Sat 11am- 9pm

Sunday 11am-7pm