

IT'S TIME TO LEARN TO PLAY THE RECORDER!!

revised 5/25/13

INTRODUCTION: Like many Ohio schools, our third and fourth grade music students learn to play the soprano recorder. This is a valuable experience in advancing our students' knowledge of reading music. It also helps us determine a child's aptitude for playing other instruments which will become an option in grade five.

The recorder is a wind instrument. It is fingered (played) in a manner very similar to other woodwinds such as the flute, clarinet, saxophone, and oboe.

ACQUIRING A RECORDER: Xenia Christian owns enough plastic soprano recorders to loan one to each child. (If it should be damaged or lost, the replacement cost will be \$5.00.) Recorders will be sterilized as needed by the school before being distributed. Despite the low cost, they are fingered and played just like more expensive recorders. (Should you ever wish to do so, you can purchase sophisticated wooden recorders that are capable of being used by professional musicians in concert. In fact, prior to becoming a *singing* sensation in Austria, the Von Trapp Family Singers - of *Sound of Music* fame - toured Europe as a *recorder* ensemble. Professional recorders also come in a variety of sizes and "voices", such as alto, tenor, and baritone.)

If you already have a soprano recorder, or if you plan to purchase one to keep, there is a place on the attached Response Sheet to make note of that. Any music store can order one for you. Hauer Music in Dayton (222-2815) usually has a supply right there in the store. (We use the Baroque/English fingering, not the German. Nearly all recorders that the music stores stock are Baroque/English. If you purchased one through DCSS in the past, it was the correct kind. However, our school no longer sells recorders.)

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GRADES: Grades are based entirely on the student's demonstrating responsibility; we do not grade on talent. This means it is imperative to remember to bring the following to each recorder class: (1) the recorder itself, (2) the fingering chart, (3) the completed Practice Chart, including one parent's initials, and (4) all sheet music provided by Mr. Colaner.

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RESPONSE SHEET

Every student must complete and return this response sheet
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Thank you!!

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revised 5/25/13

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revised 5/25/13

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3. Practice charts
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revised 5/25/13

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revised 5/25/13

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revised 5/25/13

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