

Hello Harborlight Montessori Parents:

Here is some further information about the instrumental music program at the school.

Instruments:

Sometimes it can be difficult to choose an instrument. Preference in sound, high or low range, or a specific person of inspiration are all excellent reasons to choose one over another. The choices are one of six instruments: **flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone, percussion**. I suggest you sit down with your child and discuss all six and make a decision together. Good luck.

If you do not own or have access to a working instrument, then the best option is to rent. We are recommending **Music and Arts** (978-532-3380) in Peabody, Ma (next to Trader Joe's) Please call them for current pricing and plans.

Lessons begin:

Beginning Band (has never played a band instrument before) and Advance Band (has played a band instrument for more than one year) starts on:

Wednesday, September 20th for 30 minutes and continues each Wednesday after that.

All musicians will then have another 20-30 minute group lesson during the school day. They will be grouped according to instrument and ability.

Lesson Book:

We are using Band Expressions by Robert Smith published by Alfred Publishing; Book 1 for the Beginning Band and Book 2 for the Advance Band. Please make sure your child has the correct book on the starting Wednesday. It can be purchased at Music and Arts or can be ordered online at Amazon or other comparable stores.

Practice Expectation:

Beginners should plan on about 10-15 minutes a day; Advance players, 15-30 minutes a day.

Private Instruction:

If you think your child has a special interest and/or talent, I recommend private lessons. Our private lesson program includes violin, piano, voice and guitar in addition to the band instruments. Please note that in-school band and group lessons are part of the school curriculum at no extra cost and private lessons would be an extra charge.

Music is an integral part of the Montessori curriculum and the instrumental band program is available for every student, grades 4-8. Let me know via email if you have any questions. This is an exciting time for the school and I am so happy to be part of it.

Musically,

Jay Daly

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