

# Newbury Elementary School

## Music Department

September 2019

Dear Parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Students,

Music this year brings an exciting new challenge for your third grader: learning how to play the soprano recorder! This is part of the district music curriculum, taught in each of the three elementary schools to all third grade students. All third graders will learn a variety of songs throughout the year as well as a vast range of musical concepts and elements.

While learning how to play the recorder, the music staff has also developed an exciting incentive/rewards program for practicing and accomplishing various levels of achievement. In karate, there are different levels and corresponding belts that can be achieved when the child demonstrates full comprehension and ability to perform a set of skills. Our system is based on the concept with each level becoming progressively more difficult, and students will earn "belts" throughout the year. These "belts" are brightly colored nylon cords that we will attach onto an "O" ring at the bottom of the recorder. The program has been very successful and popular in the past and I am looking forward to an exciting year!

**The cost is \$12.00 for a plastic Yamaha soprano recorder, case and "Recorder Fun Book". Please send only checks made out to TRSD (Not NES).** You may send in the check by September 13th to your child's homeroom teacher. Please place it in an envelope with your child's name on the outside. I will collect the envelopes from the teachers and your child will receive their recorder and book once everyone has brought in the money.

My advice is to have the recorder "live" in the backpack. The recorder should come out to practice but then kept stored in the backpack. A chart will be kept in the music room with this information on file and at the end of the year, a certificate will be presented to students with perfect "recorder attendance".

Please feel free to email me if you have any questions about this information.

Sincerely,

Amanda Carew

[amanda.carew@tritonschools.org](mailto:amanda.carew@tritonschools.org)