



École Élémentaire Devon Gardens Elementary

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October 4th, 2022

Dear Music Parents and Students,

I would like to welcome everyone to the Band program, 2022-2023 and hope that this letter finds everyone well and healthy. I am Mr. Dibbley, the band teacher this year, and I am looking forward to getting to know the students this year and to teaching your children band.

We have chosen to reinstate the band program at Devon Gardens this year. Doing band over ukulele will give your child a more unique and personal music experience. Being able to choose their own instrument will help your child get more invested in music. Participating in a band also teaches personal accountability when working with a group, much like being on a sports team where every member works together to reach a singular goal.

Choosing the Right Band Instrument

We are going to have students go through an instrument selection for band.

When choosing an instrument for a student, there are several factors that you should consider:

- A student's physical compatibility with the instrument
- The student's interest
- The needs of the band.

Similarly, to a sports team where you want people in different positions, bands must have all the instruments fundamental to creating the sound of a concert band.

There are eight instruments for the students to choose from: Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium (baritone), Electric Bass Guitar, and Percussion (snare drum and bell kit)

Students will be given an in-class instrument demonstration from Tapestry Music on Wednesday, October 4th, 2022.

Online Rental

Tapestry, the music store that we are working with, provides **online rentals** so all the instrument rentals will be done online! The store has put up **step-by-step** videos on their website (<https://www.tapestrymusic.com/t-rentalprogram.aspx>) as well as on YouTube (https://youtu.be/7Ec7f_Bam0w). I will also walk through the rental process with the students in the class.

We are asking families to complete the online rental before October 17th. The instruments will be shipped to the school, so parents won't have to go into the store. If, for any reason, you would like to pick up the instrument at the store, you could still visit the store (1335 Johnston Rd, White Rock). However, please keep in mind that they will be very busy and have longer waiting time for any in store orders.

Instruments and Class Materials Requirements

All students will need an instrument (assigned to them based on their preference), Essential Elements Book, cleaning supplies (come with any rental instruments), a duotang/ binder, and pencils.

Accessories are recommended on the website by instrument (reed, cork grease, valves oil, neck straps, etc)

Optional Extras: Folding stands, instrument mask, bell covers, and Pneumo Pro (for flute players) are other possible purchases, but are not mandatory.

If you have any questions regarding renting an instrument, you could also call the store directly at (604) 538-0906 or email me at kdibbley@deltaschools.ca. No students should be rejected because of financial reasons. We have a limited number of school owned instruments available to lend out to students. Please contact me via email to learn more about it.

Sincerely,

Mr. Dibbley
Music teacher at DG, BR, and AN
kdibbley@deltaschools.ca