



Welcome new ISF Parents from the ISF Music Department! We are excited to share our department's offerings with you.

Kindergarten and Preschool

Students develop basic music competencies in rhythm, pitch, dynamics, tempo, and form in a fun and playful way. Skill development includes pre-music literacy, listening, performing steady beat, and pitch awareness.

Grades 1-4

Students develop basic music competencies in the 7 aspects of music including reading, performing and understanding music. Pitch awareness and rhythmic development are the fundamentals that other aspects are built upon. Students sing and play percussion and ukuleles while they work on developing music theory, listening, and composition skills. Students in grades 1 and 2 work on music reading while playing pitched and non-pitched percussion instruments.

Students in grades 3 and 4 are responsible for **providing their own ukulele** for music class. There are many sizes of ukuleles and a soprano ukulele is the best size for your primary students. An affordable but high-quality ukulele in various fun colors can be purchased at the link below. Please contact us with any concerns about purchasing an ukulele. https://www.thomann.de/intl/harley_benton_hbuk12_blue.htm

Grades 5-8

Students in Grades 5 to 7 have music instruction once a week and Grade 8 students who have chosen music have instruction twice a week. Grade 8 students receive ensemble instruction as well as a deeper exploration of music theory and composition. All students taking music must choose from 1 of the following ensemble options:

- **Choir:** Students develop vocal technique, music literacy and composition skills.
- **Music Production:** Students explore music theory, history, performance, and composition through cloud-based Digital Audio Workstations and notation software.
- **String Ensemble:** Violin, viola, and cello only. Students are responsible for providing their own instruments as they work on technique, ensemble literature and composition techniques.

Guitar, Ukulele and Music Production experiences are offered through SLO and available to all students grades 5-12.

Grades 9-12

Students in grade 9 have the option to apply their skills in one of the following 4 options building toward life-long musicianship.

- **Choir:** Students apply vocal techniques and musical skills to various genres of music.
- **Academic Music prep** – Students begin the specialized preparation process for the IGCSE and IB programs. Theoretical, historical, creative and performance elements are balanced to give students the skills necessary for the IGCSE and IB programs.
- **Music Production:** Students apply music theory and skills to create deeper projects with cloud-based Digital Audio Workstations and notation software.
- **String Ensemble:** Violin, viola, and cello only. Students are responsible for providing their own instruments as they apply their techniques to a variety of ensemble literature

Students in grade 10 prepare for the IGCSE music exam and focus on developing the music theory, listening, performance, and composition skills to successfully take the IGCSE exam. Students in Grades 11 and 12 have the option to study IB Music which consists of musical investigations, composing, and developing a performance portfolio.

Private lessons in strings, piano, and guitar are offered at additional charge. We can also provide help in locating lessons on other instruments. Please contact the music department directly for more information.

We look forward to making music with your child!

Musically yours,

The ISF Music Department

Ms. Atanassova, Mr. Falzarano, Mr. Giorgio and Mrs. O'Sullivan