



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 participate in general music class where they develop basic music competencies in reading, performing, and understanding music. Students sing (hopefully) 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](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 and music literacy skills. If regulations prohibit group singing at the beginning of the school year, students in choir will follow the music production curriculum until it is safe for ensembles to sing inside.
- **Music Production and Performance:** Students explore music theory, history, performance, and composition through cloud-based Digital Audio Workstations and notation software. Students in grade 5 will continue to develop ukulele ensemble skills in addition to technology skills.
- **String Ensemble:** Violin, viola, and cello only. Students are responsible for providing their own instruments as they work on technique and string ensemble literature.

The Wind Band musical experience and guitar experience are offered through SLO. Students previously in Band ensembles can continue to be supported on their instruments through the Band SLO option. Students who wish to play guitar in an ensemble setting can participate in the Guitar SLO option.

### **Grades 9-12**

Students in grades 9 and 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 either IB Music or AP Music Theory.

Private lessons in strings and piano 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, Mrs. Forness, and Mrs. O'Sullivan