



Fall 2016

Dear Parent or Guardian,

During school today your student had the opportunity to try playing a band instrument. Your student was encouraged and guided to make sound on at least one of the five beginner instruments: flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, or percussion. Hopefully he or she enjoyed the experience and may be interested in learning how to play an instrument this year.

The Elementary Band Program is a unique program to five Catholic elementary schools in this area, sponsored through Padua Franciscan High School. Students who participate in this program are able to take lessons during the school day once a week and participate in two concerts during their first year in the program. Beyond learning the basics of playing an instrument (posture, hand position, sound production, reading music, etc.) students are exposed to a collaborative learning atmosphere where they can progress in creative thinking, explore self-expression and communication, increase their self-confidence, aid their physical coordination, develop work habits and a sense of responsibility, and enjoy performing!

Another unique aspect of the program is the collaboration at the concerts. Students from the five Catholic elementary schools combine to create three bands of varying levels to perform at these concerts. Your student would start the program as part of the Beginner Band and have the opportunity to progress to the Concert Band (intermediate level) and Symphonic Band (advanced level) before graduating to high school.

An informational meeting for families and beginner students will occur on **Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00 pm** at Padua Franciscan High School. The meeting will be in the Band Room, located in the area at the back of the gymnasium. During this meeting there will be a short talk about the program's details and a second opportunity for your student to try the band instruments and confirm the instrument he/she chooses.

To enroll in the band program, families can sign up their student anytime between now and **Thursday, September 8** by completing this online form:

Enrollment Link for Elementary Band Program : <https://goo.gl/forms/MpL4C96zyDcdCMEX2>

Please consider this opportunity for your student this year. Students who play an instrument have many opportunities that include, but are not limited to, a variety of performance experiences (such as small groups and solo opportunities), future scholarships (high school and college), as well as long-term musical enjoyment.

Do not hesitate to contact me regarding questions and concerns.

Have a wonderful day,

Mrs. Andrea Mikolajczyk
Director of the Elementary Band Program
amikolajczyk@paduafranciscan.com

To meet Mrs. Mikolajczyk for more information please attend the **Family Information Meeting** for the Elementary Band Program on



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
7:00 pm

Padua Franciscan HS
Band Room





EXPLORING BEGINNER BAND INSTRUMENTS

Student Name: _____

School: SCS

Homeroom Teacher Name: _____

Homeroom: _____

Yes! I am interested in learning to play an instrument this year!

No, thank you. I am not interested in learning to play an instrument right now.

Circle your favorite instrument today:

clarinet

flute

trumpet

trombone

percussion

For Teachers: Circle the best option after a student tried the instrument.

Flute	Clarinet	Trumpet	Trombone
Produced sound	Produced sound	Produced sound	Produced sound
Produced sound with difficulty	Produced sound with difficulty	Produced sound with difficulty	Produced sound with difficulty
Did not produce sound	Did not produce sound	Did not produce sound	Did not produce sound
Comments:	Comments:	Comments:	Comments: