

Dear Gr.4 parents,

My name is Mrs. Karapita, and I get to teach Band in our 4 Catholic elementary schools! Band is a wonderful opportunity to enrich your child's education and explore a variety of cultures. It helps students develop self-confidence, responsibility, coordination, self-expression, cooperation, and academics such as Math and Reading! I hope you will consider letting your child be part of the Band!

We want your child to be successful in Band, so the first step is to choose the right instrument. Just like on any team, we need a certain number of players in each position, however, in Band, one of the most important considerations are the child's **facial features** (teeth, lips and chin).

There are 3 sections in a concert band. Here are some more considerations:

1. **Brass:** (trumpet, trombone, baritone) We are usually short on brass, so please consider this if your child has a good ear for music! They need to be able to hear the difference between high and low.
 - a. **Trumpet:** confident. Braces may make it very difficult to play. Usually trumpet players need thinner lips and straighter teeth.



- b. **Trombone:** arms should be at least average length



- c. **Baritone (euphonium):** same mouthpiece as a trombone, average-to-tall



2. **Woodwinds**: have many keys, so students should have

- average-to-good fine-motor skills
- average-to-good reading skills
- average-to-long finger length

a. Flute: requires the biggest breath



b. Clarinet:



c. (Alto) Saxophone:

d. Tenor Saxophone: a larger saxophone, consider this if your child is taller



Please go to the following website to choose your top two instruments:
<https://www.bepartofthemusic.org/group/index.php?id=6123>

- Submit the “matching tool”
- “Submit interest form”
- Any questions? Contact me:
 - Email colette.karapita@cttcs.ca
 - Text 306-621-5856
 - home 306-647-2626

3. **Percussion:**

A small number of students will be chosen by the teacher

(perhaps 3-5 from our school Division) so **apply early!**

Some band teachers have no percussionists in first-year, then they choose a few of the top students for second-year. *My percussion students must meet the following criteria* (the only exception might be students with special needs):

- well-behaved, independent, and organized
- strong Reading and Math skills
- *at least* 2 years of formal piano lessons from a Registered Music Teacher
- good sense of rhythm
- can read eighth notes
- If there are too many percussionists, auditions will be held

- Students will begin on both:

a) Snare Drum:



b) **AND** Bells: so, they must be able to read music well, including flats:

