

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019

### **Ocarinas**

Dear Parents,

As part of their class music lessons this year, Year 3 are starting to learn to play the ocarina. This is a modern instrument similar to the recorder and ideal for learning in a group. Pupils will eventually be reading treble clef notation and rhythms and will gain a sense of ensemble playing and performing. It is also an excellent way of teaching children the basics of music theory which will help them with any instrument that they play already or may wish to play in the future. For those who already play an instrument, the ocarina also gives them a valuable opportunity to improve their sight-reading and ensemble skills.

Your child will have brought home an ocarina and some music to try at home. They should look after this instrument carefully and have been asked to 'personalise' it with a name tag / stickers etc. Once personalised, the ocarina can be brought into school to be used in music lessons although there are always spare ones available to play should they forget.

Yours sincerely,

Rachael Toolan  
Head of Music