



September 24, 2021

Dear Instrumental Music Parents,

I hope your students enjoyed their first class this week. I can honestly say our instructors were excited and very complimentary about their classes, especially how eager and well-behaved the students were. It is so gratifying to be able to share the gift of music with your children.

It seems as though this is turning out to be another “year like no other,” so we are dealing with a lot of new program parameters, yet again. Fourteen of our sixteen classes are in different locations this year. It’s not ideal, but I know ALF, the schools, you parents and your students, are all committed to making the best of the situation.

I have visited all of the elementary sites this week and it has been rewarding to see the students finally able to play together after nineteen months. Our string classes had a whole new look in their masks and socially distanced in staggered rows. And since a big challenge has been finding suitable outdoor space for our band groups, it was especially heartening to see the band groups spaced out in the Science Center at LCE, outside the MPR at PCR and on the playground outside the MPR at PCY. That’s what making the best of the situation looks like!

We expected some glitches, but who would have thought that the Monday morning Concert Band class at PCY would be greeted by the city gardening crew mowing the field? Fortunately, the city was willing to change their schedule to accommodate our 7:00 classes at PCY and LCE. A huge thanks to the city!

A few reminders:

- Be sure your child arrives with their instrument, music book, pencil, and the suggested supplies listed on page 12 of the Student Handbook (on our [alflintridge.org](http://alflintridge.org) website)
- Please do your health checks at home before sending your child
- Any symptoms? Please keep your child at home
- Let your instructor know if your child will be/was absent for any reason
- It’s important that students are on time at 7:00 and the afternoon students are picked up on time at 4:00

I know you “outside” Band parents have been wondering about the plan for rainy days. Since the Department of Health protocols still require bands to be outside, here’s the plan in the event of inclement weather:

- LCE students are in a covered area in the Science Center, so they’ll be fine.
- PCR students will go to the covered lunch area.
- PCY students will go to the bottom section of the covered lunch area.

A Pop-Up Ad:

Assistance League of Flintridge has been providing this program since 1985 and it is supported in large part through the sale of donated items in our Bargain Box Thrift Shop, located at 4607 Oakwood Avenue, and by volunteers who donate their time to ALF. For more information about our programs, the Bargain Box, donating, or becoming a volunteer, please visit our website at [alflintridge.org](http://alflintridge.org).

Finally, don’t hesitate to email the instructors (list on the Music Staff & Music Contact pages of the website), or me at [instrumentalmusic@alflintridge.org](mailto:instrumentalmusic@alflintridge.org), when you have questions or concerns.

Here’s to a NOTEworthy year!

Nancy Gunther

ALF Instrumental Music Chair 2020-2022