

What is *Orff Schulwerk*?

The *Orff Schulwerk* philosophy combines the elements of speech, rhythm, movement, dance, and song.

Course Content:

The children learn a wide repertoire of rhymes, chants, poems and folk songs and folk dances of their culture and other cultures. The students are also exposed to composed music and art music of the highest caliber. Throughout the program, an emphasis is placed on developing beat competency, in-tune singing and a sense of pitch.

The *Orff* instruments are pitched and un-pitched percussion instruments specifically designed for children. They are designed as an extension of musical learning for the development of literacy, creativity and beat competency. They often provide a bridge for the child who is reluctant to experience music through singing and movement. Recorders offer another melodic channel and are often incorporated into the total *Orff* experience. Successful recorder instruction in general does not begin until mid-3rd grade or 4th grade.

As of September 2007, the 4th and 5th grade classrooms have been attending weekly music classes focusing on playing the recorder.

Eagle Peak's Instrumentarium:

Alto & Soprano Glockenspiels

Non-pitched percussion and movement props: sticks, shakers, scarves, tambourines, hand drums, and a mixed box of percussion instruments.

Ms. Allison supplements with her own Alto Xylophones and a variety of non-pitched percussion instruments.

Breaking News: October 2007

Eagle Peak received funds from the Arts and Music Block Grant from the State of California. We are in the process of ordering eight instruments similar to the Instrumentarium we borrowed for eight weeks last year from the Northern California Orff Schulwerk Association. We plan on purchasing the following Orff instruments from Peripole-Bergerault:

- three xylophones (Bass, Alto, Soprano)
- three metallophones (Bass, Alto, Soprano)
- two glockenspiels (Alto, Soprano)