



The Willows State School



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The Pitch

Music News – Issue 3

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There was an improvement to instrumentalists reading the timetable, being organised and getting to lessons on time this fortnight. However teachers were still having to make phone calls to classes, especially for our continuing children ☹. Please keep reminding children to check the timetables in the morning and collecting children in their groups so that lessons can start promptly. This will limit phone calls to classes and children will get their full 30 minute lessons. If your child is absent, please notify your instrumental teacher so it can be recorded correctly. Lessons and rehearsals are always on unless specified on timetable or you've been notified by the teachers. It is sometimes hard to notify students when instrumental teachers are absent due to illness or other reasons as, they do not get replaced like a classroom teacher, if they are absent, lessons/rehearsals will not be on. A sign will be placed on the instrumental door and teachers and children notified. We thank you in advance for this understanding – sometimes we will only be notified in the morning. There will be supervision at school if your child is there early.

If your child is involved in a school activity, away on excursion, needed in class for assessment, please contact your child's instrumental teacher so lessons can be accommodated for. If your child forgets their instrument for the day – it is still important that they turn up to the lesson so they are aware of what is happening and what to do during their week of practice ready for the next lesson.

A reminder that if you find a fault or there is something wrong with the instrument, please return it so it can be looked at and repaired if needed. Any damage caused to the instrument through misuse or 'droppage' etc is at borrower's expense. Most children have received their instrumental folders. There are still a couple of outstanding payments. Please advise when your child has paid so a folder can be given to them.

Practice is essential for progress. Your child will only succeed with a good practice regime being set in place from the beginning and your encouragement, support and praise will only enhance improvement. Persistence and setting short term goals is the pathway to success. If you feel you or your child are struggling, please come and see us so we can assist in making this 'life-long' learning experience fun. Awesome job to the children who have their names on the 100 minute chart already!! ☺

A reminder that we will be involved in Fanfare. Fanfare is a statewide competition for bands and orchestras from Queensland state schools only. It happens every 2nd year and for the first time in Fanfare history, they are having a primary school grand final. Both our orchestras and concert band will be participating. Please claim the date – **SATURDAY, MAY 21st, 2016** in your diaries!! ☺

Date Claimer

DATE	WHAT'S ON – TERM 1
Week 9 Wednesday, 23rd March	FUN RUN – Lessons for Strings and Orchestra rehearsals will still continue as per timetable
DATE	WHAT'S ON – TERM 2
Week 2 Friday, 22nd April	ANZAC Day – School service time TBA - TCBC
Week 6 Saturday, 21st May	FANFARE – Times TBA. Both Orchestras and Concert Band

Brass– Kelly Clarke-Flessner - kclar205@eq.edu.au Monday 11 - 3

I am happy to say that Week 5 and 6 has shown a consistent amount home practice undertaken by many of the students in the Brass Program. To help demonstrate this commitment to their instrument, the brass students have 2 new star charts that they can show their level of progress to everyone in the music block. The first is the “**60 minute WOW chart**” which caters for students who reached between 60 to 99 minutes of practice during the week. This will help students to see how many times they are getting their name into the “famous” WOW draw every term.

The second chart to mention is the “**Brass Star Chart**”. This is a more general chart which reflects whether a student is organised with all their equipment, being on time to their lesson and demonstrating regular practice from week to week. The poster is an easy way to see who is demonstrating the necessary qualities in order to be a successful instrumental music student at The Willows. All three areas (listed above) must be shown in order to receive a star.

Percussion– Ian Brunskill - ibrun2@eq.edu.au Friday 11 - 1.10

There were no lessons last Friday due to being on camp with PSHS. I hope the practise was kept up ready for this week's lesson. The beginners are very eager and turning up on time with all their gear. Well Done!! ☺

Strings– Caroline Lloyd-Doolan - clloy28@eq.edu.au Wednesday 7.30 - 3

Our new students are settling in well to learning their new instruments and I am sure excitement is mounting at the thought of almost using their bows as well as fingers and putting everything together! Thank you to all those students who are already back into the routine of filling out their practise booklets each week. Due to my absence this week I will endeavour to have a long list of names for the 100 club and also our raffle winner in the next newsletter! Remember the minimum amount of time for successful playing is 60 min per week broken up into different time brackets though out the whole week.

String Orchestra 1 & 2 – Caroline Lloyd-Doolan

I am starting to get excited over our upcoming FANFARE adventure early in term 2. Although the event is being held on a Saturday morning I am certain our orchestras will be well represented for this prestigious event. Both the orchestras will be competing and I am confident we will be representing The Willows SS in the highest possible manner.

Until next time happy playing and keep the music alive!

Woodwind- Sarah Hill - shill256@eq.edu.au Tuesday 7.30 - 3 and Thursday morning 9 - 11

Beginning Students: I have seen much progress in most students over the weeks and applaud them on their consistent home practice. There are a few students that need to find at least 15 minutes to play at home. Even this small amount will be beneficial for memory retention of techniques learnt during lessons. It is clearly known who the students are that do not touch their instruments at home. If you notice that your student is not playing, please encourage them to play a little. I am always available for email if you have any questions about this.

Continuing Students: Please make sure all continuing students are still filling out their practice journal and are remembering their lesson time every week. I am very happy with the progress of some groups, we are nearly reaching the end of book 1! Great Work!

Concert Band- Sarah Hill

We are well underway with our band pieces for the term. Students received the last piece of our Fanfare repertoire in the last rehearsal. It would be fantastic if all band members can take a few minutes in each practice session to look at all notes and rests for band. I would like to commend the Saxophone section for their positive behaviour seen in the last two weeks, congratulations!

WOW AWARDS - Recognition of Practice and Great Work

~ ~ Are you on the list this week? ~ ~

★ 🏆 🏆 CONGRATULATIONS 🏆 🏆 ★

WOW Awards - Hunter B., Katie P., Alexandria B.

Awesome Effort!! Well done!! 😊

100 Minutes of Practise - Alexandria B. (160), Katie P. (105), Chloe C. (175, 160), Amarli B. (110), William B. (120) Matthew S. (235), Alyssa C (150, 150, 135), Sarah S (140), Denzil D (155), Jamie E (150), Cheyenne R (170), Allana M (110), Matthew S (235), Hunter B (125), Kieren A (115), Natalie S (145).

Champion Efforts!! Look at all those names!!
Keep up the great work everyone. 😊

Junior & Senior Choirs - Fiona Coleman

All choir members are expected to have a folder to store their music in. Please ensure you take them home to learn words of your songs and bring them to every rehearsal. It is also a good idea to put in a pencil and highlighter!! 😊

Senior Choir rehearse on Friday's at 2nd Break ~ 1.10pm in the music room. Morning rehearsals will start once we start getting closer to performances. Junior Choir rehearse on Wednesday's at 1st Break ~ 11.00am in the music room.

Music Shirts, Folders/Music, School Instruments

We do ask that your child is prepared for any upcoming performances. It is a requirement that all children wear with their shirts, navy blue skirts, skorts or shorts, white ankle socks (above the shoe) and black closed in shoes for performances. Matching hair accessories is permitted and no makeup is allowed.

If you haven't purchased a music folder from school as yet – please forward \$ 11 to the office so your child can have one for band or orchestra.

Rockband – Trevor Schimke

The timetable is below for rehearsals held in the Performing Arts Centre – Mr Schimke's room. The rockband performed very well last Friday entertaining the junior parade and the lunchtime breaks due to the rain. If you'd like to see the fantastic progress so far this year, you are invited to come and watch them at the senior parade on Friday from 2.30pm.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School		Concert Band	String Orchestra	Beginner Concert Band	
1 st Break	RockBand Rehearsal	Keys	Mr S at Junior Choir	Vocals	Drums
2 nd Break	RockBand Rehearsal	Guitars	Junior Orchestra	Sax/Trumpet	Mr S at Senior Choir

Rehearsal Timetable

DAY/TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7.50am		CONCERT BAND	STRING ORCHESTRA	BEGINNER CONCERT BAND (Term 2)	
8.00am	SENIOR CHOIR (Term 2) Fiona Coleman & Trevor Schimke				
9.00am		WOODWIND LESSONS Sarah Hill shill256@eq.edu.au	STRINGS LESSONS Caroline Lloyd-Doolan clloy28@eq.edu.au	WOODWIND LESSONS Sarah Hill shill256@eq.edu.au	
11.00am	BRASS LESSONS Kelly Clarke-Flesser kclar205@eq.edu.au		JUNIOR CHOIR Fiona Coleman Trevor Schimke	STRINGS LESSONS Caroline Lloyd-Doolan clloy28@eq.edu.au	PERCUSSION LESSONS Ian Brunskill ibrun2@eq.edu.au
1.10pm			JUNIOR ORCHESTRA Caroline Lloyd-Doolan		SENIOR CHOIR Fiona Coleman Trevor Schimke
2.55pm					

Musically Yours,

Fiona Coleman & Trevor Schimke

Music is a more potent instrument than any other for education. ~ *Plato*

I would teach children music, physics and philosophy; but most importantly music, for the patterns in music and all the arts are the keys to learning. ~ *Plato*