



The Pitch

Music News – Issue 14

Wk 7 – 19 August, 2016

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2 WEEKS and counting!! The eisteddfod is starting for us on Tuesday, 6th September and we will have various groups attending every day until Friday, 9th September. Notes were sent home last week. Please return them as soon as you can and if you can help with supervision on the bus and at the theatre, it would be greatly appreciated. ☺☺ I will be in contact as soon as I can to inform you on what days you will be required.

The top of the note will list all events that your child is participating in. We have 177 children participating with most in several events. It is suggested that you highlight each section your child is performing in on the timetable to ensure organization for the correct day. (Included again at the end of this newsletter.) If in the case I've left an event off your child's list and they are positive that they are performing in that section, please come and see me so I can correct my rolls. Please ensure your child is at school dressed appropriately ready to go with appropriate gear on the correct day. The bus company is on a tight schedule with all Townsville schools being involved in the Eisteddfod and it is important that we are sticking to an agenda. Some instrumental lessons will still be on if they are not involved at the Eisteddfod. Please check with your teacher.

Children who have applied to be part of the Kirwan Arts Academy are asked to have submitted their application by Friday, 2nd September. Letters are being sent out to all applicants notifying you of specific audition details. **String auditions** are being held at the music block on **Wednesday, September 7th** from 3.30pm. **All other** auditions are on **Tuesday, 6th September**. You will be notified of your application success in the first couple of weeks of term 4.

DATE	WHAT'S ON - TERM 3
Week 7 Friday 26 th August	Fun Fair – Rock Band Performing 5pm
Week 9 Tues 6 th – Fri 9 th September	Townsville Eisteddfod- Civic Theatre
Week 10 Wed 21 st – Thur 22 nd September	No STRING Lessons. Ms Lloyd is in Bundaberg
WHAT'S ON - TERM 4	
Week 1	Application for Recruiting 2017 forms sent home
Week 2 Monday 10 th October – Friday 14 th October	AUSTA Strings Festival
Week 3 Wednesday 19 th October	Performers Concert TCBC 6pm – TBC

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

Being prepared from week to week As we are coming to the halfway point in the term it is important for students to maintain their practice routine and continue to work on their lesson and concert band pieces. Weekly practice helps with 'cementing' new concepts taught in lessons from short term into long term memories. It is only then that students feel prepared and confident to try more advanced musical techniques as well as being able to understand harder music theory concepts. It is this continuous cycle of weekly lesson attendance, practising those specific pieces, lesson attendance and personal practise on specific pieces etc that ensures the best chance of success and progression on their instrument.

Brass Students: - Townsville Eisteddfod Please ensure that you are attending your weekly rehearsal for your specific ensemble. Attendance at these rehearsals ARE NOT optional but rather a requirement from Education Queensland if you studying an instrument at The Willows SS. If you are unable to attend a lesson or rehearsal it is expected that a student either comes and explains their absence to a relevant staff member or either write a letter or email to their instrument or concert band teacher.

Just remember the Eisteddfod is only 2 and a bit weeks away!!!! ☺☺ I like to think of the Eisteddfod as the grand final. Are you: - going to regular training sessions? (*attending rehearsals every week?*)
- individually practising your skills at home in between training sessions? (*regularly practising your music & playing techniques at home i.e: tonguing, pitching the correct notes?*)

If the answer is no, then you may need to rethink about how much effort you are putting in..... because if you were playing a sport without attending the training sessions and personally practising your skills you mostly likely would be sitting on the sidelines during the grand final rather than getting in on the action.....

So come on Brassies - get some solid practise done over the next few weeks and really help your team to perform to a high standard at the Civic Theatre. ☺

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

Nothing to report.

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

Well the countdown to Eisteddfod is fast approaching and I am happy to say that the students are working very hard at perfecting their pieces ready to showcase in week 9!

There will be no lessons on the Wednesday due to my involvement. Thursday lessons will go as planned for any students that are not in any events at the theatre.

There will be **NO LESSONS OR ORCHESTRA** in week 10. I have been asked to conduct at strings Festival in Bundaberg and I am very excited to have this opportunity!

Celebration of Strings notes are coming out next week. All students will receive one colour coded according to their levels. This is an amazing opportunity for students and those parents that have witnessed the end concert before will, I am sure, agree that is a wonderful week of learning. Please read the note carefully particularly how to book. This is **NOT** a school based activity so no money is to go to the office. All bookings must be done through the trybooking site on the note. **All MEDICAL FORMS** are to come back to either myself directly or Mrs Coleman.

During that week there will be no lessons or orchestra as the string teachers are all involved so I highly encourage all students to attend. Please check with your child that they have all the equipment they need for the Eisteddfod such as spare strings, rosin and shoulder rests.

I can't wait for them all to perform I am sure they will represent The Willows proudly!

String Orchestra 1 & 2 – Caroline Lloyd-Doolan

Please be at Rehearsals on time ready to go.

Beginner orchestra

Please be at Rehearsals on time ready to go.

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

Hi everyone! Over the last two weeks many students have told me that they practice but forget to write it in their practice journals. Please make sure that this happens as I would like to have as many people in the weekly WOW draw as possible. Please don't forget to sign your initials to support their 'minutes practiced'. There have also been a few students that need reeds replacing. Please check that your student is okay with reeds.

WHEN LEAVING INSTRUMENTS IN THE MUSIC BLOCK, PLEASE STORE NEATLY IN THE MUSIC STORE ROOM- NOT IN THE PRACTICE ROOM!

Thanks ☺

Concert Bands– Sarah Hill

Beginner Band: There have been too many absences with students at band. A reminder that students are only allowed to miss 3 'unexplained' rehearsals a term. You need to provide your student with a written note if they miss rehearsals, or send me an email. The Eisteddfod is only a few weeks away, and if they have missed too many rehearsals they will not know their music well enough to take part.

We are currently preparing two pieces. Make sure that students are practicing both lesson and band material at home! Percussionists, please ensure that after every rehearsal all percussion gear is moved to the side of the room. I am very happy with the progression of this band, thanks to those students for their commitment!

Concert Band: Our chosen piece for Eisteddfod is a tricky one. Everyone please practice their part! I know we can do this- it is up to everyone to find time in their week to work on this. When it is played correctly it will sound amazing. I look forward to hearing it next week! All students must attend all rehearsals (promptly) up until Eisteddfod. Every minute counts!

WOW AWARDS - Recognition of Practice and Great Work

WOW Winners: Kimmy S, Alex S, William B, Lana M

100 minute club: Kieren A (110), Hunter B. (120)

Congratulations to you!! 😊😊

Who else is putting in the extra yards preparing for Eisteddfod?

Band/Orchestra repertoire to practice this week!!

Junior & Senior Choirs - Fiona Coleman

I have had some children in Senior choir upset that they have not been invited to Eisteddfod or not in all our sections. Unfortunately the Eisteddfod states that there are no more than 45 children on stage for competition or we are disqualified. Choir members are fully aware of expectations and they were reminded about this on several occasions and about being committed to rehearsals or they may not be attending. This was also stated in previous newsletters. A regular roll was marked at every rehearsal recording attendance for this purpose. I would love every child to perform, however we must follow rules and I had a very hard time choosing children to make it fair and unfortunately this time some were not invited or are only in one section.

Rehearsals last week were exceptional with everyone and I left the school Friday afternoon feeling very content in their abilities thus far. We had a run through with our visiting accompanist and they are sounding amazing!!! I think they are excited and ready to perform at the Eisteddfod also. We still have actions to learn for our novelty item and tidying up - but we are well on our way!! There are still a few junior who are unsure of the words - please keep learning them. They also have actions to learn!!

We have extended rehearsal practice for seniors in the lead up to Eisteddfod. Children will rehearse during 2nd break on Friday's from 1.10pm - 1.40pm. They will return to class for eating time and to mark rolls, collect notes and bags etc and be expected back to the music room to rehearse from 1.55pm - 2.55pm. This will only be for the next two weeks and all classroom teachers have been notified so that these children are not missing out on important learning or assessment.

Children who are performing in the novelty section this year will be singing a song called 'Firework'. If your child is performing in that section, it would be great if you could assist with costuming. Your child will be required to wear ALL BLACK. We do not ask that you go to great expense for a 5 min performance. Simple Black T shirt and tights or shorts are fine.

Music Shirts, Folders/Music, School Instruments

Did you return your shirt from Fanfare? We are still missing 3!! ☹ A reminder to return these ASAP.

All our music shirts will be used constantly during the Eisteddfod and many of our music students will wear them many times throughout the week. If you can help assist with washing during this busy time, please email me or come and see us.

All children performing at the Eisteddfod need their folders with their music to be organized. If you have not yet purchased one – please send \$11 clearly named to the school office and they'll notify me and I'll pass it onto your child.

Rock Band – Trevor Schimke

The Rockband have been busy rehearsing, recording, performing at parade and preparing for our next performance at the Fun Fair. Students need to arrive before the Fun Fair starts to let me know they have arrived and setup their instruments. We will play from 5pm. Remember to wear suitable performing clothing (not your uniform). We should be finished our set by about 5:45pm so students will have plenty of time on the rides and other activities prepared for the night. I would like to thank parents who have changed their schedule so that students can attend, it will make our performance a great deal better than having them not there. Looking forward to a great night of entertainment.

Musically Yours,

Fiona Coleman & Trevor Schimke

2016 Townsville Eisteddfod

	Woodwind Ensemble 154A - 827 Beginner Orchestra 160A - 833 Senior Orchestra 160A - 834 Junior Orchestra 160A - 835 String Ensemble A 154A - 829	Novelty Choir Year 4-6 7 - 823	Junior Concert Band 157A - 832 Senior Concert Band 157B - 831 Folk Group Selected Yr 6 43 - 825	Percussion Ensemble 153 - 826 Brass Ensemble 154C - 828 String Ensemble B 154C - 830	Senior Choral Championship Year 4-6 3B - 823 (This may be a later departure time - can confirm once program is printed.)	Junior Choral Championship Year 1-3 4 - 824	Choral Unison Singing Year 4-6 5B - 823 Choral Folk Singing Year 4-6 9B - 823
Date	Tue 6 th Sept AM	Tue 6 th Sept PM	Wed 7 th Sept AM	Wed 7 th Sept PM	Thur 8 th Sept AM	Fri 9 th Sept AM	Fri 9 th Sept PM
Be at Music Room	7.30am	11.00am	7.30am	11.00am	8.00am	8.00am	11.00am
Bus Departs School	8.00am	11.30am	8.00am	11.30am	8.30am	8.30am	11.30am
Session Starts	9.00am	12.30pm	9.00am	12.30pm	9.00am	9.00am	12.30pm
Bus/car Departs Venue approx.	11.45am (depending on adjudication time)	1.45pm (depending on adjudication time)	12.00pm (depending on adjudication time)	2.15pm (depending on adjudication time)	11.45am (depending on adjudication time)	11.00am (depending on adjudication time)	2.15pm (depending on adjudication time)
What You Need	Music, Instrument, Mallets, Water bottle and snack	Water bottle and snack DRESS - ALL BLACK for Novelty	Music, instrument, Water bottle and snack Folk Group Costumes	Water bottle and snack	Water bottle and snack	Water bottle and snack	Water bottle and snack