



The Willows State School



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# *The Pitch*

Music News – Issue 3

Wk 7 – 05 March, 2017

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There was an improvement to instrumentalists reading the timetable, being organised and getting to lessons on time this fortnight. Some teachers are still having to make phonecalls to classes however, 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 are getting 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 families when instrumental teachers are absent due to illness or other reasons. They do not get replaced like a classroom teacher, so 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 and may be possible to post on the P&C facebook page. There will be supervision at school if your child is there early.

If your child is involved in a school activity, away on excursion or 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. We are still waiting on the arrival of more – so if your child has missed out, they are not too far away. 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!! ☺

## (SHEP) State Honours Ensemble Program

SHEP is a firmly established aspect of music learning in Queensland, bringing together young people from all over the State, in regional centres and Brisbane to share their passion for making music. Its pursuit of excellence defines it as the highest quality performance avenue available to young ensemble-based instrumentalists outside of the Queensland Conservatorium and the Young Conservatorium. It is a unique opportunity for Voice, Strings, Wind, Brass and Percussion middle school students from North Queensland to work with their peers in an intensive environment of musical excellence. The program is guided by a team of international and national conductors from the Queensland Conservatorium and will be held at Ryan Catholic College from 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> June.

Our instrumental teachers have nominated 24 students in year 5 & 6 who would benefit educationally and improve their musical skills by participating in this intensive weekend program. Students will be contacted via e-mail if successful. The cost of the three day activity is \$280. Upon receiving your offer it is then your decision whether to accept or decline. Can you please notify myself or your child's instrumental teacher on whether your child is attending or not once you're notified on success of a position?

If you require more information please don't hesitate to contact the music staff or visit [www.griffith.edu.au](http://www.griffith.edu.au).

## Date Claimer

DATE	WHAT'S ON – TERM 1
<b>Week 9 Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	<b>FUN RUN –Orchestra rehearsals</b> will still continue as per timetable. See Mrs Lloyd about Lessons due to disruptions through the day.
DATE	WHAT'S ON – TERM 2
<b>Week 2 Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>ANZAC Day</b> – School service Time TBA

## Brass– Kelly Clarke-Flessner - [kclar205@eq.edu.au](mailto:kclar205@eq.edu.au) Monday 11 - 3

I am happy to say that Week 5 and 6 has shown a consistent amount of 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~ Jan Brunskill - [ibrun2@eq.edu.au](mailto:ibrun2@eq.edu.au) Friday 11 - 1.10

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

Strings~ Caroline Lloyd-Doolan - [clloy28@eq.edu.au](mailto:clloy28@eq.edu.au) Wednesday 7.30 - 3

Well we are now just past the half way mark and the students are settling into the routine really well, especially the beginners so well done to all those students who are being so responsible in bringing the correct equipment, having all their books by now, and remembering to come to their lessons on time.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF PRACTISE

When new pieces and scales are learnt in the lesson it is important to go over these new ideas often so we are familiar and comfortable with the new songs. This enables us to feel confident and relaxed in the lessons as well and you will enjoy it a lot more! A few little things to help you.

- ❖ Keep your fingernails short!
- ❖ Organise your music bag the night before with everything you will need.
- ❖ Fill out your practise chart as soon as you have finished practising! (only count actual playing time please)
- ❖ Set a timer to help you practise. When the buzzer goes off that's your practise done!
- ❖ 60 min per week is the minimum amount to ensure progress each week.
- ❖ Set yourself a goal and try to achieve this goal. Happy playing and I look forward to the rest of term.

String Orchestra 1 & 2 ~ Caroline Lloyd-Doolan

Well done to everyone turning up to rehearsals. Rehearsals will still go ahead as scheduled for Fun Run in week 9 for both senior and junior.

Woodwind~ Sarah Hill - [shill256@eq.edu.au](mailto: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. 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 lower brass 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 - Krystal A, Jordan N.

Awesome Effort!! Well done!! 😊

100 Minutes of Practise - **Week 5:** Krystal A. (115) Tahliyah H. (100) Ryan H. (100) Sophia G. (150) Seth S. (100) Charlotte G. (240). **Week 6:** Krystal A. (120) Tahliyah H. (105) Dakota P. (170) Blake M. (100) Charlotte G. (120)

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 2<sup>nd</sup> Break ~ 1.10pm in the music room. Morning rehearsals will start once we start getting closer to performances. (Term 2) Junior Choir rehearse on Wednesday's at 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Big W were having a 30% off sale last week..... please don't get expensive shoes. They wear them minimal times unless they are going to use them for outings at home. 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.

## 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 <a href="mailto:shill256@eq.edu.au">shill256@eq.edu.au</a>	STRINGS LESSONS Caroline Lloyd-Doolan <a href="mailto:clloy28@eq.edu.au">clloy28@eq.edu.au</a>	WOODWIND LESSONS Sarah Hill <a href="mailto:shill256@eq.edu.au">shill256@eq.edu.au</a>	
11.00am	BRASS LESSONS Kelly Clarke-Flesser <a href="mailto:kclar205@eq.edu.au">kclar205@eq.edu.au</a>		JUNIOR CHOIR Fiona Coleman Trevor Schimke	STRINGS LESSONS BEGINNERS Caroline Lloyd-Doolan <a href="mailto:clloy28@eq.edu.au">clloy28@eq.edu.au</a>	PERCUSSION LESSONS Ian Brunskill <a href="mailto:ibrun20@eq.edu.au">ibrun20@eq.edu.au</a>
1.10pm			JUNIOR ORCHESTRA Caroline Lloyd-Doolan		SENIOR CHOIR Fiona Coleman Trevor Schimke
2.55pm			STRINGS LESSONS		

## ~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

### MUSICALS and PERFORMANCES

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat – Townsville Civic Theatre 22 March – 1 April, 2017

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*