



The Willows State School



(07) 4799 1333



(07) 4723 4665

The Pitch

Music News – Issue 4

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Fiona Coleman – fcole7@eq.edu.au

Trevor Schimke – tschi15@eq.edu.au

Term 2 timetables will be uploaded to the website before the holidays. Lessons and rehearsals will continue *as normal day 1, week 1 of term 2*. Your child's classroom teacher will receive a copy of the term 2 timetable as will your child. Our goal this term is to have no interruptions to lessons and getting to lessons on time without reminders. Please ensure you have a copy of the timetable viewable at home to help with these organizational skills. There have been some minor changes with some groups.

It is essential that children are at rehearsals on time ready to start. Both orchestra's and concert band have already got pieces ready for performing. The work effort has been fantastic – however some children are arriving late. Children need to be at school by 7.40am to help set up and be seated by 7.50am to get a good 40 mins practise. School starts at 8.45am so children need to be packed up and ready to head to class by 8.40am.

(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 16th – 18th June.

Our instrumental teachers have nominated 26 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. Will 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.

Date Claimer

DATE	WHAT'S ON – TERM 2
Week 2 Monday, 24th April	ANZAC Day – School service Time TBC - TCBC
Week 4 9th – 11th May	NAPLAN changes to lessons to accommodate children involved
Week 5 Thursday, 18th May	Beginner Band first rehearsal 7.40am for 7.50am start
Week 9/10 16th – 18th June	SHEP – Nominated children
Week 10 Tuesday 20th – Friday 23rd June	Choral Workshop – Selected years 5 & 6 Choral Students
Week 10 Wednesday, 21st June	Music GALA Night – 6pm start TCBC

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

Please remember to bring in your practice chart with your practise minutes filled in so we can document the last two weeks on the star chart and add new entries into the WOW draw.

I am happy to report that more students are meeting the 60 minute practice goal and are therefore are receiving an extra entry in the WOW draw, in addition to adding their name to the Brass WOW chart (shows personal best practise times for the year). My hope is more students will aim to meet this 60 min (or more) practice target by the end of term 1.

Have a lovely, relaxing break !!!! Just remember that lessons for term 2 start in wk 2 due to Easter Monday.

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

Nice to see less calls to classrooms last week. Great job being organized. Have a great holiday break and don't forget to keep up the practise. Lessons will continue Week 1, term 2.

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

We are at the tail end of the first term already. Where has the time gone! Just a couple of things to keep in mind for the next two weeks. Firstly, as always every term the students will be assessed to determine their individual progress. This is happening in week 10 and all students know exactly what they have to play. It is also up on the board in my room. All the pieces are ones we have been doing for the term and they will have learnt them for at least 4 weeks so each child should be capable of playing them very comfortably for their class.

For the beginner students they will be assessed on their progress such as their bow holds, note reading and general set up. These tests are not graded they are a report for you and the students as a bench mark to see where their strengths are and also to see which areas they may need to improve on in order to play more successfully.

Some students are not filling out their practice books or bringing them to their lessons. Please remember this is your way of showing me what you have accomplished throughout the week.

Beginner Strings

We have made a wonderful start on our instruments and are now up to the stage where we can hold our instruments correctly, use our left hand and play the notes D E F# and G on the D string. We have learnt to hold our bow and are

now combining the two.

Please note, the first 6 months is crucial to their development. I already have some students who are hardly practising. It is only possible to learn a new concept if it is repeated many times and music is not exception. Please encourage your child to play as often as they can so they feel comfortable and accomplished every week! Most students are doing a fantastic job and are very excited when they demonstrate their new skills for me and their friends! Well done keep up the good work!

In order to be successful in anything, be it music, sport or academics, there does need to be a sense of structure and routine. Here are some guides as to how you can achieve your 60 min in a week.

10 minutes by 6 times a week.

15 minutes by 4 times a week.

20 min 3 times a week.

Have a lovely Easter and a safe one with friends and family. Keep the music alive and see you next term!

String Orchestra 1 & 2 – Caroline Lloyd-Doolan

Thank you to the enthusiasm and dedication to your music we are already sounding quite polished and I am very impressed with your awesome sound! Please remember to practise your orchestra music, the harder parts need more practise and the easy parts just leave till rehearsal!

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

I am very happy with students' progress and dedication towards home practice. Please make sure the students are writing in their minutes into the practice journal- some are forgetting! The timetable for term 2 will start fresh, with group 'A' starting at 9am, week 1, term 2. Please make sure students are aware of their lesson times in this first week. New timetables will be emailed out to teachers and spare copies will be in the music block before the end of term. Until next term, Happy Holidays!

Concert Bands- Sarah Hill

Beginner Band - All students who started learning a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument this year, will be asked to play in Beginner Band. This will start in **week 5, next term, Thursday 18th May**. Rehearsals will start at 7:40am every Thursday for the rest of the year. Playing in an ensemble is an integral part of students learning development and is a requirement of Education Queensland's Instrumental Music Curriculum. A letter will be sent home next term with more details. If you have any current queries, please do not hesitate to email shill256@eq.edu.au.

Senior Concert Band - The three pieces that have been played this term are nearly performance ready! I gave the band one hard piece, 'Zombie Wars' and the students are successfully playing this. I am impressed with the level of individual practice of their part, but we are still starting band late every morning. We really need to try to be ready to play at 7:50am sharp. Two new pieces were given this week in preparation for the ANZAC Day Ceremony. I hope all will look at it as there are some tricky parts, Happy playing!

WOW AWARDS - Recognition of Practice and Great Work

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

★ 🏆 🏆 CONGRATULATIONS 🏆 🏆 ★

WOW Awards - Charlotte G, Blake M,

Awesome Effort!! Well done!! 😊

100 Minutes of Practise - Velvet T. (135), Ryan H. (200), Sophia G. (100), Dakota P. (160, 150) Amy H. (110), Charlotte G. (180, 115), Ashlee F. (100) Natalie W. (130), Tahliyah H. (105) Hunter B. (140), Jorja B. (120m), Cheyenne R. (100), Jenna C. (61), Alyssa C. (121)

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

Junior & Senior Choirs - Fiona Coleman

The Senior Choir will perform 2nd week back on Monday, 24th at our ANZAC day parade. You are invited to attend our ceremony. Children will be singing the Australian and New Zealand national anthem and a new song called On the Hill. Monday morning rehearsals will begin in **Term 2, wk 2**. There are some outstanding commitment choir notes with the media release that need to be returned ASAP. If your child is committed to being a part of the choir - this form must be returned ASAP.

Music Shirts, Folders/Music, School Instruments

A list is up on the wall in the music room of every child involved in the music program. Please ensure your child has added their shirt size beside their name. We do ask that your child is prepared for the first performance which is our **gala event in week 10, term 2.**, with correct music uniform requirements.

Musically Yours,

Fiona Coleman & Trevor Schimke