



The Willows State School

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The Pitch

Music News - Issue 4

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Wk 8/9 - 23 March, 2020

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A short newsletter this fortnight with some reminders from the last one. Term 2 timetables will be emailed to you from your instrumental teacher. If you don't receive a copy, please let us know. 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 has 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 as they prepare for Fanfare. Both orchestra 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 7.50am to help set up and be seated by 8.00am 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.

Congratulations to all the instrumental children working hard on **GOING GREEN** and demonstrating some fantastic playing. Also earning extra stars for their star charts. We also have children being rewarded with certificates for Brass student of the week. The energy and enthusiasm is fantastic. Keep up the great practising and efforts - Even over the holiday's!!

Go for Green - To assist with practise!

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.

More info at end of newsletter!

COVID - 19

We have not had any indication as yet on cancellation of, fanfare or SHEP at this stage. We are mindful of current events and will advise once we have been given further information.

**(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 22nd – 24th June.**

Our instrumental teachers nominated 10 students in year 5 & 6 who would benefit educationally and improve their musical skills by participating in this intensive weekend program. The following students were nominated and will be contacted via e-mail if successful. **CONGRATULATIONS** to **Harrison F, Jada N, Jessica M, Isabella C, Maddison K, Amaya B, Brock C, Brynee H, Lily A, Zee-Arna K.** 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.

If you require more information please don't hesitate to contact the music staff or visit www.griffith.edu.au.

Date Claimer

WHAT'S ON - TERM 2	
Week 4 12th – 14th May	NAPLAN changes to lessons to accommodate children involved
Week 6 Monday 01 June, 2020	FANFARE –Senior Orchestra & Senior Concert Band
Week 9/10 19th – 21st June	SHEP – Nominated children
Week 10 Tuesday 23rd – Friday 26th June TBA	Choral Workshop – Selected years 5 & 6 Choral Students

Strings- Carla Mulligan -
cjmul1@eq.edu.au

Wednesday 7.30 - 3
Thursday 11 - 3pm

All Strings Solo Assessment will take place in Week 9 lessons. Students have been told what to prepare in advance. We have been working on the songs for weeks. Help your child to be extra prepared for their assessment by having a concert at home to hear their songs.

GO FOR GREEN CERTIFICATES

Term 1

CONGRATULATIONS to the students below who have received straight green dots for term 1. This indicates that they have put in 100% effort this term! They have practised at least three times each week, have consistently attended their lessons and brought their equipment.



- Amaya B
- Chloe C
- Tahlia M
- Brock C
- Celena T
- Daisy S
- Faith C
- Hannah R
- Maddison M
- Adrianne H
- Dylan S
- Zee-Arna K
- Brooklyn C
- Ira Cs
- Faria H
- Natasha H
- Alfie W
- Lachlan T
- Bryella S

String Orchestra

Carla Mulligan

Senior String Orchestra

String Orchestra will be continuing as normal each week before school Wednesday mornings 7:45-8:40AM. Term 2 rehearsals will resume in WEEK 1!

HOLIDAY's

Remember, your instrument is your friend! Don't let it get too lonely on the holidays ☺ Just pick it up and have a play every now and then so that you don't forget! It is also important so that you keep all that effort you've put into playing with accurate tuning and rhythm. ALSO, HAVE FUN!

Brass- Kelly Clarke-Flesser -

kclar205@eq.edu.au

Monday 11 - 3,

Hey Brassies!

Just a reminder that brass students assessment for term 1 is this Monday (week 9). Students have been preparing pieces over the last few weeks and are expected to practice these songs consistently while focusing on the "problem" bars rather than just playing through the whole piece all the time. Different groups have different pieces and areas to focus on.

Groups A, B, C - choose either song no. 9, 10, 11 on page 6. You will also play 1 song you have never seen before. This skill is called sight reading. You are given 5 minutes to practice your sight reading piece during your lesson before playing for Ms Clarke and your group members.

Group D - we have been exploring major and minor sounds (tonality). You have already completed your aural major/ minor test. On Monday you will song ex. 136 and a sight reading piece in a minor tonality. You will be given 5 minutes to practice your sight reading piece during your lesson before playing for Ms Clarke and your group members.

Group E - we have been focussing on playing your quavers rhythms consistently and using our counting skills to help with this. As well as this, you will demonstrate your understanding of dynamics (volume levels) in music and perform them in your pieces.



Congratulations to our 2 Brass players of the week awards recipients!

- Week 7: Lewis R (Baritone)
- Week 8: Evie M (Trombone)

These students reflected consistent effort and exceptional behaviour in lessons which reflect our Brass class lesson expectations which spell B-A-N-D.

B - Be kind and use manners

A - Arrive on time and be prepared

N - Never give up! Always try your best

D - Demonstrate whole body listening

Percussion- Ian Brunskill -

ibrun2@eq.edu.au

Friday 11 - 3pm

There are still some beginners without equipment - please ensure you organise this over the holiday's. Preparations for assessment in early term 2 are organized. Please be prepared! Have a wonderful break and see you next term.

Woodwind - Ruby Johnson

rjohn479@eq.edu.au

Monday 9 - 11

Tuesday 7.30 - 3

All Woodwind students have successfully completed their assessment for term 1! They all did a wonderful performance demonstrating new skills they have learnt this term. The beginner students are moving towards their first song, Hot Cross buns and are very excited! These students will form a beginner band with the brass and percussion students in term 2 and begin learning longer band songs together. Keep up the practice and go for green! The **Go for Green chart** is looking amazing! Let's

keep up the practice in term 2. **Lesson will commence in week one next term on Monday** (the first day of school) please be organised with your instrument, music and a pencil.

Senior Concert Band

Tuesday 7.40am

The senior band have done a great job this term learning pieces of music. Band will commence in week one next term on Tuesday at 7:50am (the second day of school). Please make sure students are on time and organised with their instruments, music and a pencil as we prepare for Fanfare.

Junior & Senior Choirs

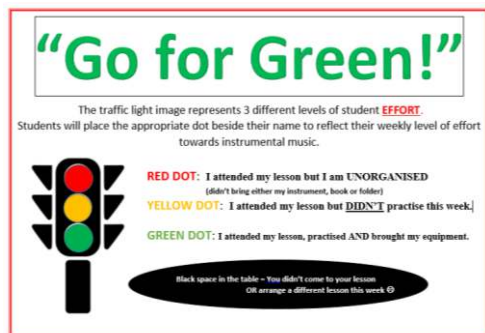
Fiona Coleman

Changes to lunch time breaks with no grass play and wet play have cancelled our regular rehearsals so there is still a delay in confirming numbers and names for our Junior choir. Fingers crossed we have it finalised soon.

Once names have been confirmed, children selected for both senior and junior choir will receive a note in the coming week with a contract of commitment and request to pay \$50 music levy. Please return these notes signed and ensure the media release section is also signed in anticipation of any local performances we may be asked to perform at. An electronic roll has been set up so children are recording their attendance. Children will be invited to eisteddfod and other performances based on their attendance and effort recorded in the roll. **Choir rehearsals will be**



Senior Choir - Monday Morning 8am and Friday 2nd break - 1.10pm
Junior Choir on Thursday at 2nd break.



GO FOR GREEN - Recognition of Practice and Great Work

Are you working towards getting rewarded for your efforts?

Students need to maintain the consistent home practice on their instrument in order to continue steadily progressing on their playing technique and note reading skills. To help acknowledge those students who regularly practice, organized for their lessons with correct equipment and turning up on time, the music staff have developed 2 rewards.

RED DOT: I attended my lesson but I am UNORGANISED (didn't bring either my instrument, book or folder)

YELLOW DOT: I attended my lesson but **DIDN'T** practise this week.

GREEN DOT: I attended my lesson, practised AND brought my equipment.

The second award works in with our school PBL where students doing an outstanding job in lessons, practicing, improving skills, "WOW-ing" their teacher will receive stars towards their '75 star chart' in their classroom towards the end of 5 week party etc.

Music Shirts, Folders/Music, School Instruments/Fees

Thank you to all our families with the prompt payments of fees and returns of contract and loan agreement forms. All children who are part of the music program are required to pay a compulsory \$50 music program fee. There are still are few outstanding. This will assist in maintaining and upgrading music uniforms, maintaining the music library, photocopying, music scores, competition entry fees, upgrading accessories, equipment and instruments and Eisteddfod bus.

Musically Yours,

Fiona Coleman & Trevor Schimke

"Music is worth teaching because it empowers children spectacularly." - Richard Gill

2020 MUSIC PROGRAM TIMETABLE

DAY/TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.00am	SENIOR CHOIR Fiona Coleman Trevor Schimke rjohn479@eq.edu.au	SENIOR CONCERT BAND Ruby Johnson rjohn479@eq.edu.au	SENIOR STRING ORCHESTRA Carla Mulligan cjm1@eq.edu.au		
9.00am	WOODWIND LESSONS Ruby Johnson rjohn479@eq.edu.au	WOODWIND LESSONS Ruby Johnson rjohn479@eq.edu.au	STRINGS LESSONS Carla Mulligan cjm1@eq.edu.au		
11.00am	BRASS LESSONS Kelly Clarke-Flessen kclarke20@eq.edu.au			STRINGS LESSONS BEGINNERS Carla Mulligan cjm1@eq.edu.au	PERCUSSION LESSONS Ian Brunskill ibrunski@eq.edu.au
11.40am					
1.10pm		BEGINNER CONCERT BAND (Term 2)	JUNIOR ORCHESTRA (Term 2) Carla Mulligan	JUNIOR CHOIR Fiona Coleman Trevor Schimke	SENIOR CHOIR Fiona Coleman Trevor Schimke
1.55pm		WOODWIND LESSONS Ruby Johnson rjohn479@eq.edu.au	STRINGS LESSONS		PERCUSSION LESSONS Ian Brunskill ibrunski@eq.edu.au
2.55pm					