



# The Pitch

Music News - Issue 9

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It's great to see the kids enthusiasm and excitement coming to rehearsals and lessons. Although current events have postponed our performances until the end of the year - the instrumental students are still working so hard and dedicated to improving their playing. Great work to you all and thanks to all the parents for your continued support and reminding them of lessons and getting them to school on time for rehearsals.

We look forward to seeing all our parent in our school soon but still at this stage in our COVID situation we have to send a reminder to use the after school gate to enter and all parents must remain outside our school. We really appreciate your continued support regarding this to ensure that we are keeping our students and staff safe. If you have any questions please email or call our office.

**Please be aware we are following the COVID guidelines set out by QLD DOE for lessons and rehearsals as follows.**

Instrumental music programs, ensembles and choirs are able to rehearse in the school environment provided the following safety protocols are in place:

- at least 1.5 metres between singers/players in all directions and no more than 1 person per 4m<sup>2</sup>
- choirs or bands that usually use a stage may need to move down to the hall floor to ensure physical distancing.

Podiums/platforms with risers should not be used.

- where possible, choir practice should be held outdoors. If it is not possible to hold practice outdoors, open windows and doors or ensure air conditioning is on.
- ensure students clean hands before and after the lesson
- ensure instruments are not shared
- students should not face each other when singing or playing wind instruments
- students with wind instruments should have their own spit rag, which is placed under the instrument while it is being played. The spit rag should not be handled by anyone else and should be kept by the student in a zip-lock bag or container.

Inter-school and external venue rehearsals or performances are not to be undertaken at this time.

The Instrumental Music Program guidelines for managing hazards associated with COVID-19 provides guidance regarding risk management strategies and hygiene requirements that must be in place.



The Willows State School

Queensland Department of Education  
**Instrumental Music**  
Covid-19 Considerations



[cjmul1@eq.edu.au](mailto:cjmul1@eq.edu.au)

**Monday 11.40am - 3pm**

**Thursday 8am - 3pm**

Well done to everyone who is practising at home experimenting and creating on their instrument. Almost everyone got a Green on the Go for Green Chart in Week 3!!

Remember to bring your practice books to lessons so we can all celebrate the great work you are doing at home!

The sight reading tests went well!!!  
Awesome effort by everyone. Our next assessment is **Week 8**. Looking forward to hearing your perform solo.

**String Orchestra Orchestra** -

**Carla Mulligan**

You are learning your new repertoire very well!!! Well done on improving your attendance and working together as a team. Well done!

**KEEP THE MUSIC MAKING GOING!!**

(07) 4799 1333

(07) 4723 4665

**Make sure you arrive at 7:50am at the latest on Wednesday at the TCBC Conference room.**

**Brass- Kelly Clarke-Flesser -**

[kclar205@eq.edu.au](mailto:kclar205@eq.edu.au)

**Monday 11 - 3,**

Hey Brassies,

We are almost at the half way point in the term and I am seeing some pleasing progress from some groups. Special mention goes to **Group A** Trombones and Euphonium beginner students who are practising the most on a regular basis! **Fabulous job Evie M, Stella M, Jackson W and Lewis R!**

However I am hearing some groups of students who are attending lessons but not practising during the week to improve their own playing and reading skills. Instrumental music is a subject that relies on consistent effort and care from the individual to improve muscle memory through hand/eye coordination, improved note and pitch identification and symbol translation. A minimum of 30 - 40 minutes each week is required to "cement" these skills into long term memory. Consistent effort and home practice each week across the whole term (and whole year) is the key to success as a lifelong music learner!



**Percussion**- Ian Brunskill -

[ibrun2@eq.edu.au](mailto:ibrun2@eq.edu.au)

**Friday 11 - 3pm**

Keep up the great effort in getting to lessons and rehearsals. It's wonderful to hear how well the percussionists are doing during band rehearsals. Fantastic work!! 😊

**Woodwind** - Ruby Johnson

[rjohn479@eq.edu.au](mailto:rjohn479@eq.edu.au)

**Tuesday 7.30 - 3**

**Friday 9 - 11**

Everyone is playing so well and making great progress each week in their lesson! Keep up the practice and remember smaller more frequent practice sessions are a lot more valuable than one long session in the week.

**SENIOR Concert Band**

**Tuesday 8.00am**

**Ruby Johnson**

Another amazing rehearsal this morning with everyone in attendance and on time! Our focus on making the nicest sound we can out of our instruments and sitting up nice and tall, listening to each other and working as an ensemble is improving greatly. We have made a good start to a new piece of music and we cannot wait to perform it for you.

**BEGINNER Concert Band**

**Tuesday 1.10pm**

**Ruby Johnson**

The beginner band are very enthused and turning up on time to get the most out of the lunchtime rehearsal. A huge improvement in playing as an ensemble can be heard already. You are already sounding amazing. Keep up the great work!!

**Junior & Senior Choirs**

**Fiona Coleman**

Great attendance to both choirs and the enthusiasm is so wonderful. We look forward to presenting to you all as soon as we can!! 😊

**Music Shirts, Folders/Music, School Instruments**

Some instruments are being left in the instrumental storage over the weekends. Please ensure your child is collecting their instrument to take home. We do not want them stored at school. Keep up the practise when you can!!

Musically Yours,

Fiona Coleman & Trevor Schimke



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

*Music education opens doors that help  
children pass from school into the  
world around them – a world of work,  
culture, intellectual activity, and human  
involvement. The future of our nation  
depends on providing our children with  
a complete education that includes  
music. ~ President Gerald Ford*

### GO FOR GREEN - Recognition of Practice and Great Work

Have you been rewarded for your efforts  
this term?

**GREEN DOT:** I attended my lesson,  
practiced AND brought all of my equipment.  
I am doing my very best to be a better  
musician.

**YELLOW DOT:** I attended my lesson but  
I DIDN'T practice enough this week. I need  
to practice to be a better musician.

**RED DOT:** I attended my lesson but I  
didn't bring my instrument and/or book  
and/or folder. I need to work on my  
organization.