



The Willows State School

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The Pitch

Music News – Issue 2

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Wk 4/5 – 15 Feb – 26 Feb, 2021

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WOW!! Well done to all our instrumentalists!!! Great reading of the timetable, being organised and getting to lessons on time this fortnight. It seems that all children who were suited to their instrument selected in 2020. All children have played their instrument and are ready to start in week 4. Instrumental teachers have sent home the loan agreement forms, commitment forms and requirements lists. These payments should appear in your QParents soon, but if not, please pay at the office. The instrument is yours when the loan agreement form is returned.

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 allow children to get 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 when instrumental teachers are absent due to illness or other, 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 of and may be possible to post on the school 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, 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. Instrumental Folders are being distributed this week. 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.

Please find timetable at the bottom for when instrumental teachers, lessons and rehearsals are occurring.



Date Claimer

WHAT'S ON - TERM 1	

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

Tuesday 12pm - 3pm
Thursday 7.50am - 3pm

The first week back of string lessons was absolutely fantastic! All of the students were so enthusiastic and excited to try their best. It is also very exciting to welcome so many new beginner students into the program, and two cellists who are continuing students that have joined us from other schools!

Parents, I'd like to thank you for your continued support and encouragement of your child's musical development. It helps so much when you listen to them perform and help them set up a regular practice routine. This is what makes these students sound amazing!

String Orchestra - Thursday - 7.50am
Carla Mulligan

String Orchestra rehearsals will be starting **Thursday, 18th February, Week 4, 7:45am.** Please have your child come to the TCBC Conference room.

Brass- Kelly Clarke-Flesser -
kclar205@eq.edu.au
Monday 11 - 3,

Over the past two lessons I been met with happy faces, smiles and a great deal of enthusiasm and excitement!

Just remember to "colour in" your minutes of practice on your Term 1 Practice chart whenever your do some home practice. At the end of each week a parent/guardian will have to sign this practice chart.

At the end of the term we will look at this chart and determine if we are putting enough consistent effort at home in order to learn our songs and progress on your instrument.

Percussion- Ian Brunskill -
ibrun2@eq.edu.au

Friday 11.00am - 3.00pm

Awesome to have such keen percussionists ready for lessons. Some students are still without equipment but the majority are eager and turning up prepared. Please email me if you require any assistance or help with requirements.

Well done on your great efforts so far! No Lessons in Week 6. We are looking for more beginner percussion students. If you are new to the school or would like to be part of the percussion group see the music teachers for further information.

Woodwind - Tina Greenfield
tgree255@eq.edu.au
Monday 7.50am - 3.00pm



We have had a great start to the term. Our continuing students are back into their lessons, bands and practice routines and making some great progress!

The beginner students have made a great start to their musical journey and are so excited to be a part of the program! We are making some interesting sounds while we get used to our new instruments and will be making some great music in no time!

Everyone is progressing so well and the go for green chart is looking very green!

Senior Concert Band - Monday 7.40am *Tina Greenfield*

Senior band started in week 3 and we had a great first start to reestablishing expectations and playing together again in an ensemble. Students will receive music in the next rehearsal. Please bring your instrument, music folder, pencil and a drink bottle. If you know your student will be absent from band or a lesson please send me an email tgree255@eq.edu.au Look forward to seeing you there.

Junior & Senior Choirs

Fiona Coleman

I'm looking forward to having the children extend their musical abilities outside the music classroom and become a member of our choirs. Auditions for our junior (Years 1,2,3, 4) and senior (years 4, 5 6) choirs will be held this week.

Children selected 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.

Rehearsal times will be:

Senior Choir - Wednesday 2nd Break

Junior Choir - Thursday 1st Break


GO FOR GREEN - Recognition of Practice and Great Work

~ ~ STARTED WEEK 3!! ~ ~

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.

"Go for Green!"

The traffic light image represents 3 different levels of student **EFFORT**. Students will place the appropriate dot beside their name to reflect their weekly level of effort towards instrumental music.



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.

Black space in the table - You didn't come to your lesson
OR arrange a different lesson this week ☹

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.

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.

MUSIC UNIFORM: 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 CREW socks (above the shoe) and black closed in shoes for performances as indicated on the note.** Music shirts are stored at school.

Folders are required for all performances. These are available from the music teachers and all payments of \$11 are to be made at admin. The folders are very

durable and will last your child a long time if well looked after. They will be handed out upon payment during their lesson. If your child has paid and we have missed giving them a folder, please ensure they ask myself or their instrumental instructor.

Musically Yours,

Fiona Coleman & Trevor Schimke

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