



The Pitch

Music News - Issue 1

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Welcome to the first issue of 'The Pitch' for 2022. A newsletter designed especially for the music department at The Willows State School. The Pitch is generated to inform you of events coming up and news about what is happening with the children involved in the music program. We will endeavor to keep you informed as much as possible. We would like to have more involvement between parents and teachers and feel that The Pitch will help create this communication. Emails are the most common form of communication. Please ensure your email details are up to date on our system. Teacher's emails are listed below. We will be generating a distribution list, so please ensure we can contact you so you don't miss important information. We will also be using the Willows State School Facebook pages. Please like and keep informed for last minute changes.

Our Performing Arts Centre is in the middle of the school. All music lessons and rehearsals will be in this block. A reminder that **more than 3 lessons** missed may result in your child not continuing in the program. Please ensure you inform the school or teacher of your child's absence. This is all recorded as part of the reporting process at the end of each semester.

Wk 2/3 - 14 Feb - 25 Feb, 2022

All children by now have met their instrumental teacher and are getting prepared for their 1st lesson starting in

week 2. Children should know what day their lessons are on and have a highlighted timetable. Please print and place on the fridge and/or in your child's diary. There will also be timetable on display in their classrooms and there is also one displayed outside the Performing Arts Centre. Each child will also receive one to place in their music folders. The first term is usually the hardest in getting organized and forming a routine. All instrumental timetables are a weekly rotation to avoid your child missing out on the same classroom lesson weekly.

Children will receive instruments borrowed from the school during their lesson, if agreement forms have been returned. Please go through the CD in the tutor book to help with putting it together and pulling it apart. It's a great way of learning together, getting to know the instrument and reinforcing the first couple of lessons. If your child has paid for a school instrumental music folder, they will receive one during their lesson or will be getting it in the next few weeks. You do not need to purchase a new folder if you already have one.

Just a reminder that the school instruments are not to be used out in the play areas, If they wish to practice during lunch they can come to the Performing Arts Centre.

Responsibility for learning and organisation only starts with a little guided help. All children love to see the enthusiasm on their parents' faces. It is important that you support your child by



encouraging daily practice of at least 10 minutes and by ensuring that he/she is prepared for his/her lesson on the appropriate days. **It is going to be hard and challenging at times - but being persistent will result in a feeling of success.**

Helping your child become organized for their lesson will help create responsibility and routine. Encourage daily practice, being persistent, problem solving and showing enthusiasm. Give your child praise and support your child's learning in these first few lessons to overcome fears and hurdles and build a feeling of success and confidence. If you feel your child is not coping or would like some help, please contact your child's teacher so this learning experience is fun.

If your child accidentally leaves their instrument at home, it is essential that they still attend their lesson at their scheduled time. Lessons cannot be made up due to other lessons being scheduled and varying ability of groups. Your child can practice the concepts and techniques taught during that lesson at home ready for the following lesson.

Please check that your child has all requirements needed for their chosen instrument. Some children are turning up with their instrument and no other equipment. The **tutor book must be purchased** so your child can progress and have success.

Please be reminded that it is a requirement that your child is part of one or more school ensembles. This is part of receiving free instrumental lessons and is clearly stated in the instrumental contract. Being part of a group is a rewarding

experience that has proven to further enhance students' musical understanding as well as teaching important skills such as team work and responsibility. Your child will have a feeling of success, improved confidence, sense of belonging and willingness to learn.

The storage room is available for your children to store their instruments in preparation for their lesson. It will be locked at 3pm and your child is asked to come over before the bell goes to take their instrument back home.

If there are any breakages or concerns with the instrument, please report to us immediately so it can be repaired. If the damage is deliberate, you will be required to cover the cost of repairs.

Please feel free to contact us with information that you would like to see in The Pitch, share your opinions or publish any news you would like to share of upcoming music events or anything of interest. Don't forget our school website has been updated for music. Go to the following link and see all the great things we offer and the benefits of what learning music does for your child.

<https://thewillowsss.eq.edu.au/curriculum/music>

Date Claimer

WHAT'S ON - TERM 1	
Week 2	LESSONS/ENSEMBLES START Monday – Band & Woodwind Tuesday – Strings (am - Beg) Brass (pm) Thursday – Strings (Continuing) Friday - Percussion



Strings, String Orchestra & Junior

Orchestra - Carla Mulligan -

cjmul1@eq.edu.au

Tuesday 9.30am - 11am

Thursday 7.50am - 3pm

Welcome to 2022! I'm looking forward to seeing all students this year to start learning more music together again!

The STRING STUDENT INFORMATION MEETING went well with most children turning up to get further information and their timetables for lessons this week.

String orchestra and lessons will start in Week 2.

- Beginner String students (Grade 3) will have their lessons on Tuesday mornings 9.30 - 11am.
- Continuing String students (Grade 4-6) will have Orchestra and lessons on Thursdays.
- Strings Orchestra is for all Year 4-6 continuing string students.

Rehearsals are before school in the PA Conference Room **7:45-8:30AM**. This ensemble is part of their instrumental music learning and is a requirement for being in the Instrumental Music Program at The Willows State School.

Brass- Kelly Clarke-Flesser -

kclar205@eq.edu.au

Tuesday 11 - 3,

Welcome to 2022! Both Ms Clarke and Ms Greenfield met all the beginner brass and woodwind students, and continuing students in grades 5 and 6 last week!

In this meeting we discussed:

- lesson days for Woodwind and Brass students
- Lessons commence in Week 2
- Discuss general goals and expectations with home practice
- Remind students about band karate and the addition of the next level up - **BAND NINJA!** (Book 2)
- the commencement of Senior Concert Band rehearsals on Monday 14th Feb.

Percussion- Ian Brunskill -

ibrun2@eq.edu.au

Friday 11 - 3pm

Lessons start Friday in week 2. It was lovely to meet the new students for this year on Friday last week. It's important everyone is prepared for lessons. If you forgot your gear - ensure you are organized for your next lesson. Practice is essential so we can keep moving forward and making quality progress. 😊 Look forward to a wonderful year with you all.

Woodwind - Tina Greenfield

tgree255@eq.edu.au

Monday 9 - 3

Senior Concert Band

Tuesday 7.40am

Senior band starts in week 2 - Monday 14th February. Students are to arrive at 7:40am for a 7.50am start. Rehearsals will finish at 8:45am this year. Students will receive music in their first 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 Please enter school



through the OSHC gate as this is the only access before 8am. Please be assured that staff will be onsite for care of your child. If your child is unsure there will always be staff in the office to assist.

Junior & Senior Choirs

Fiona Coleman

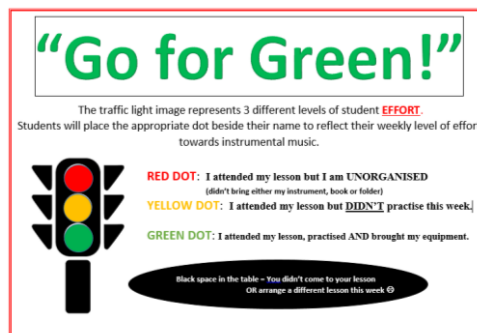
I'm looking forward to having the children extend their musical abilities outside the music classroom and become a member of our choirs. Auditions for our junior (Years 1,2,3, 4) and senior (years 4, 5 6) choirs will be held this week.

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. A 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 forwarded in next newsletter.**

GO FOR GREEN - Recognition of Practice and Great Work

~ ~ STARTS 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 and are organized for their lessons with correct equipment and turning up on time, the music staff have developed 2 rewards.



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.

Musically Yours,

Fiona Coleman

Great music is that which penetrates the ear with facility and leaves the memory with difficulty. Magical music never leaves the memory. ~ Sir Thomas

Beecham