



# *The Pitch*

## Music News - Issue 2

Fiona Coleman - [fcole7@eq.edu.au](mailto:fcole7@eq.edu.au)

WOW!! Well done to all our instrumentalists!!! Great reading of the timetable, being organised and getting to lessons on time this fortnight. Thank you also for getting your forms back. We still have some loan agreement forms outstanding. Please return these as soon as possible so that we can give you your instrument.

Please keep reminding children to check the timetables and to arrive for their lessons promptly. This will allow children to get their full 30 minute lessons. If your child is absent, notify your instrumental teacher so it can be recorded correctly. A copy of lessons and rehearsals are always on the notice board at the performing arts block. Please note that if your instrumental teacher is away ill they will make every attempt to coordinate an alternate lesson time if possible. A sign will be placed on the instrumental door and teachers and children notified.

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.

If you have any concerns regarding your instrument let us know. Any damage caused to the instrument through misuse or 'droppage' etc is at borrower's expense

as stated in the contract. Instrumental Folders are being distributed slowly through the Admin office. There are still a couple of outstanding payments.

Our beginner students have met the challenge and started beginner band much earlier than expected. We are very impressed with their enthusiasm. Tina Greenfield meets with them second break on Monday's. Please ensure all new percussion, wind and brass students have their instruments with them on Monday as well as for their lessons on their day.

### Date Claimer

WHAT'S ON - TERM 1	
Week 5	Junior Concert Band Music Room Rehearsal space – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Break – 1.10pm

Strings- Carla Mulligan -  
[cjmul1@eq.edu.au](mailto:cjmul1@eq.edu.au)

**Tuesday 9.30am - 11.00am**

**Thursday 7.50am - 3.00pm**

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

**Carla Mulligan**

Orchestra is sounding amazing, but unfortunately last week we had a few absent. Please contact me to let me know so I can prepare for rehearsals. We are preparing for Fanfare this year happening in Term 2. It is a requirement of Ed. Qld that children are a part of an ensemble which will enhance their playing. I look forward to seeing everyone at 7.50am on Thursday mornings.

### Brass - Kelly Clarke-Flessner -

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

**Tuesday 11.00am - 3.00pm**

So great to see so many happy faces, smiles and a great deal of enthusiasm and excitement for music!

Just remember to "colour in" your minutes of practice on your Term 1 Practice chart whenever you 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](mailto: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! We are still 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](mailto:tgree255@eq.edu.au)

**Monday 9.00am - 3.00pm**

Well done to all of our beginners for a fantastic start to the year. Most are now working towards learning their first three notes and Pages 5/6 in their Sound Innovations books. If you have not already purchased this book, please look at buying it as soon as possible. We work from this book every week from here on out. I would also like to thank all of the parents that have been helping students to put their instruments together and reading their music at home. It is great to see so many of you taking an interest in their music learning. With the instruments sitting in the storeroom over the holidays, some joints will be a little tight for now, however should loosen up as the weeks progress.

To all of my Grade 5's and 6's, keep up all of the hard work. Students are currently working towards an assessment in Week 9/10. Please keep practising your pieces. For parents of Clarinet students learning high notes, I know this time can be extremely frustrating and loud. It does take time to learn these notes, and your patience is much appreciated.



**Senior Concert Band**  
**Monday 7.40am**

Congratulations on a great start to 2022. This term we have three pieces that we need to learn. I would encourage you to listen and play along to the music when practising at home. It is vital that we are all working together on playing the best that we possibly can. This year is a fanfare year, and as such, regular practise is a necessity.

The songs are: Geronimo by Brian West, Through The Mist by Brian Balmages and Spirit of the Wolf by Michael Oare. If you require links to these songs, please email me ([tgree255@eq.edu.au](mailto:tgree255@eq.edu.au))

Please make sure you are showing up on time as we have a lot of learning to do. It is very important that we are spending time at home learning this music. Thank you to those who have been already practising these, and have learnt their parts.

**Junior Concert Band**  
**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Break 1.10pm**

This year, all Year 4 Woodwind and Brass students are expected to be a part of our Beginner Band. With the progress that the current Year 4's have shown, we are happy to announce that Beginning Band will start in Week 5 at second break. Students are expected to bring their lunch with them to the music block, and will eat AFTER playing. This is extremely exciting and I look forward to seeing you all then.

**Whole School Choir**

Fiona Coleman

I'm looking forward to changing things this year and have combined both junior and senior choir. **Rehearsals will happen on Tuesday and Thursday at 1<sup>st</sup> break every week.**

Children who have been turning up for rehearsals have received an official welcome note. Please complete whether your child is accepting the offer or not accepting and return to school so families can be invoiced correctly by the end of term. 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.

A special group is in the pipelines for our upper Year 5/6 children to progress and develop their singing further. Notes will be sent home once this is established and formalised.

**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.

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

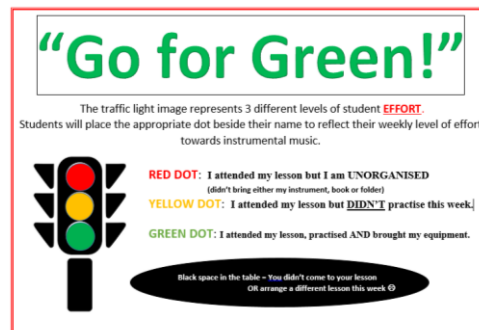
**GREEN DOT:** I attended my lesson, practised AND brought all of my equipment. I am doing my very best to be a better musician.

**YELLOW DOT:** I attended my lesson but I DIDN'T practise enough this week. I need to practise 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, practising, 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,

Children will be allocated a shirt in the coming weeks which is to be stored at the school. We do ask that your child is prepared for any upcoming performances. **It is a requirement that all children in the music program 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.**

Folders are required for all performances. These are available from the office 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

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