



The Pitch

Music News - Issue 3

Fiona Coleman - fc017@eq.edu.au

There was an improvement to instrumentalists reading the timetable, being organised and getting to lessons on time this fortnight. Please keep reminding children to check the timetables in the morning.

It is essential that children are at rehearsals on time ready to start for orchestra and band. The work effort has been fantastic - however some children are arriving late or not turning up. Children need to be at school by 7.40am to help set up and be seated by 7.50am to get a good 40 mins practice. School starts at 8.45am so children need to be packed up and ready to head to class by 8.40am. Please check the music program timetable carefully.

CREATIVE GENERATION FANFARE 2022

We will be involved in Creative Generations Fanfare this year. Fanfare is a statewide competition for Instrumental students from Queensland state schools. It is an event that occurs every second year. Both our Junior and Senior Concert Bands and String Orchestra will be participating. This event is scheduled for **Saturday, 21st May at Kirwan SHS** - **Please keep this date in your calendar**. *It is an expectation that every member of these ensembles attend rehearsals.* Notes will be sent home with more information in Term 2. If we are successful in this event we will progress to

the Fanfare Regional Finals on the 9th of June.

Date Claimer

WHAT'S ON - TERM 1	
Week 6	Junior Concert Band Music Room Rehearsal space – 2 nd Break – 1.10pm
WHAT'S ON - TERM 2	
Week 1 Friday 22nd April	ANZAC Day Service – Choir Time TBA
Week 5 16–20th May	NAPLAN – Changes to lessons to accommodate children involved
Week 5 Saturday, 21st May @ Kirwan SHS	Creative Generations – FANFARE - Heat All Senior/Junior Band and Orchestra
Week 8 Thursday 9th June @ Pimpac	Creative Generations - FANFARE Regional Finals (Only if chosen from heats)
Week 9 Wednesday 15th June	Music Gala – All Instrumental Ensembles and Choir
Week 10 Tuesday 21st –Friday 24th June	Choral Workshop – Selected Years 5 & 6 Choral Students

BAND KARATE / BAND NINJA

We have a new system to help students to achieve manageable practice and performance goals within their method book. **"Band Karate"** involves students aiming to play certain songs as a solo for the teacher and group. The overall goal is to practice regularly to help you play these songs and therefore move your name tile across the belt posters and collect the corresponding belt colours. We hope these smaller manageable performance goals will motivate students to practice at home and



get excited about learning new pieces rather than being apprehensive!

At times the belt songs will correlate with assessment pieces, but students have been explicitly told that this may not always be the case.

This year there is a new extension level called **Band Ninja**. Band Ninja represents Level 3 of the IM curriculum and students who are starting Book 2 of their method book!!!

How are you tracking?



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

Tuesday 9.30am - 11am
Thursday 7.50am - 3pm

The Term has continued to go well for all string students. Thank you for supporting your child's playing at home, and helping them bring their instruments to and from school. Almost every student is practicing regularly and coming to their lesson. This is what makes the The Willows String program so strong. They love to play music! Please note a timetable change for Thursdays.

String Orchestra
Carla Mulligan

The orchestra has two songs that they are currently working on. Thank you for making sure your children arrive on time to

rehearsals. Today was a very smooth set up. We started on time and got to fit a lot of playing in. If we continue to operate this way, they will learn a lot this year.

Parents of students in Year 4 - it is often a big jump for students joining orchestra for the first time and reading their notes can be very tricky. If you are able to spend a few moments helping your child to read and memorise what the notes are that will help them a lot. Please check a recent email I sent in reference to this and please come and speak with me further if you require help.

Brass - Kelly Clarke-Flessner -
kclar205@eq.edu.au
Tuesday 11am - 3pm

Hey Brassies,

As we approach the end of the term, be aware that students will be starting to prepare and work towards submitting their first solo performance assessment item. For all students, a single piece will be given in lessons.

Our beginners will begin to track their playing development from Week 6. The system used to track their effort and goals is called "Band Karate" (see information above).

Percussion - Ian Brunskill -
ibrun2@eq.edu.au
Friday 11am - 3pm

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.

Students are turning up late for their lessons or having to be called. Please ensure you check the timetable and your child has their equipment on Fridays and are turning up for lessons on time to receive their full 30 mins.

Woodwind - Tina Greenfield

tgree255@eq.edu.au

Monday 9am - 3pm

We are well into the term with our music making in lessons. Everyone is practicing consistently and making great progress and I know they will do a great performance for their assessment later this term!

Senior Concert Band

Monday 7.40am

The Band's enthusiasm is great at this time of the year. They sound amazing already and I cannot wait to see what else this ensemble can do throughout the year. Keep up the great practise and I look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Don't forget we are participating in Fanfare. Your individual practise is important so you can play well as an ensemble. Keep working hard and doing your best.

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)

Junior Concert Band

Monday 2nd Break 1.10pm

All beginner woodwind and brass students this year are expected to be a part of our Beginner Band.

Beginner Band started last week to understand the processes of being in a band and working with other instruments.

Please ensure your child has their instruments at school on a Monday as well as their normal lesson day so they can get the most out of this opportunity. The Junior Band have been entered into Fanfare this year and we can't wait to see them perform.

Whole School Choir

Fiona Coleman

As per last newsletter, I have combined both Choirs. **Rehearsals will happen on Tuesday and Thursday at 1st break every week.**

There has been a great start to Choir this year with lots of enthusiastic singers, however, changes to lunchtime breaks with excessive heat play have cancelled our regular rehearsals. Fingers crossed the predicting weather doesn't intervene. ☺

Well done to the four Year 6 students who sang the National Anthem at our Investiture Ceremony. What a great sound and start to our year of singing!! Thanks for leading the ceremony!



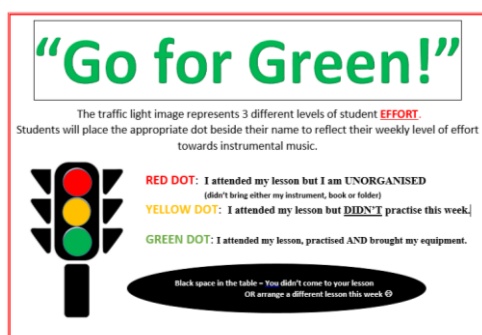
Go for Green

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRACTICE

When new pieces and scales are learned 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 practice chart as soon as you have finished practicing! (only count actual playing time please).
- ❖ Set a timer to help you practice. When the buzzer goes off that's your practice done!
- ❖ 60min 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

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, are organised for their lessons with correct equipment and are turning up on time, the music staff have developed two 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 organisation.

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 Week 5 party etc.

Music Shirts, Folders/Music, School Instruments/Fees

All children who are part of the music program are required to pay a compulsory \$55 music program fee. 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.



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 the office. 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 a more potent instrument than any other for education. ~ *Plato*

2022 MUSIC PROGRAM TIMETABLE

DAY/TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7.50am	SENIOR CONCERT BAND Tina Greenfield tgree255@eq.edu.au			SENIOR STRING ORCHESTRA Carla Mulligan cjmul1@eq.edu.au	
9.00am	WOODWIND LESSONS Tina Greenfield tgree255@eq.edu.au	STRINGS LESSONS BEGINNERS Carla Mulligan cjmul1@eq.edu.au		STRINGS LESSONS CONTINUING Carla Mulligan cjmul1@eq.edu.au	
11.00am		CHOIR Fiona Coleman		CHOIR Fiona Coleman	
11.40am	WOODWIND LESSONS Tina Greenfield	BRASS LESSONS Kelly Clarke-Flesser kclar205@eq.edu.au		STRINGS LESSONS CONTINUING Carla Mulligan cjmul1@eq.edu.au	PERCUSSION LESSONS Ian Brunskill ibrun2@eq.edu.au
1.10pm	BEGINNER CONCERT BAND (Term 2)		YEAR 5/6 CHOIR Fiona Coleman		
1.55pm	WOODWIND LESSONS Tina Greenfield				
2.55pm					