



The Pitch

Music News - Issue 4

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A short letter this fortnight with some reminders. All children will receive a laminated card this week to put on their desk to write their lesson time with a whiteboard marker. We are hoping this will reduce phone call interruptions to class and build responsibility for turning up to lessons on time. Please help ensure your child is organised for lessons on their day.

We will be involved in **Choral Fanfare** this year. Fanfare is a statewide competition for Choral students from Queensland state schools only. It happens every second year. Both our Junior and Senior Choirs will be participating. Notes will be sent home with more information in Term 2. Regional Festivals will take place on **Saturday, 17th June. Place TBA. PLEASE CLAIM THIS DATE!!!**

It is essential that children are at rehearsals on time ready to start for choirs, orchestras 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 40min practise. School starts at 8.45am so children need to be packed up and ready to head to class by 8.40am.

It is an expectation that you are part of an ensemble and an apology or absence letter is required.

Music Program timetable attached below!

Date Claimer

WHAT'S ON - TERM 1	
Week 10 Friday, 31st March	EASTER Bonnet Parade Beginner Strings - TBC
WHAT'S ON - TERM 2	
Week 1 Monday, 24th April	ANZAC Day Service Senior Choir Time - TBA
Week 5 Saturday, 17th June	Creative Generations – CHORAL FANFARE - Heat All Junior & Senior Choral Students
Week 8 TBC	Creative Generations - FANFARE Regional Finals (Only if chosen from heats)
Week 9 Thursday, 15th June	Music Gala All Instrumental, Ensembles and Choir

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

Tuesday 7.50am - 3.00pm
Friday 9.00am - 11.00pm

Beginner Strings have progressed from reading open strings and feeling the beat to play together, to now learning how to play new notes by pressing down with their fingertips. It is always tricky when learning new things, however, I know all students will get better as they continue to try their best.

PLEASE have a chat with your child about arriving at the CORRECT lesson time and ON TIME. I am only at the school to teach them on Friday mornings therefore it is important for them to be organised so that we can use as much time to play as



possible. Every week this term students have been arriving at random times. This is greatly impacting their learning in lessons and pulling them out of class too long when students are not coming at their assigned time. PLEASE HELP by having a chat with your child to check the lesson timetable each Friday morning so that they arrive on time.

String Orchestra
Carla Mulligan

In Week 7 the orchestra started working really well as a team. Both reading their notes and listening to one another. We started a new piece called Impulse! All students are to continue learning The Winds of Autumn as well.

Brass - Kelly Clarke-Flessner -
kclar205@eq.edu.au
Wednesday 11.00am - 3.00pm

Repeated from last week as it's a new system. Better attendance and practise this week. Keep it up!!

This term the students are trialling a new practise goals system called the "Golden Ticket." For students to receive a stamp on their personal ticket, they need to document their home practise (on the sheet provided), attend their lesson and bring their book and instrument to their lesson. Students with consistent stamps each week, will be awarded with a voucher to use at the tuckshop.

Students have been trialling this new system for the past three weeks and they are engaged and excited to show their

Golden Ticket in lessons. They also seem to enjoy the connection to Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory! We will be trialling the Golden ticket for the remainder of the school year and we hope to build on this initial enthusiasm to support students with home practise for lessons and performances.

Percussion - Ian Brunskill -
ibrun2@eq.edu.au
Thursday 11.00am - 3.00pm

Well done for all the Beginners being prepared and organised for lessons. You are doing a fantastic job.

Continuing students need to be arriving on time and ensuring you are attending band ensemble on Monday morning.

Woodwind - Tina Greenfield
tgree255@eq.edu.au
Monday 9.00am - 3.00pm

Well done to all of the Beginners who have completed their first assessment in Week 7. You all did so well and I was very impressed with how you are all making such a great sound. All Beginners should be practising songs 9, 10, and 11 out of their Sound Innovations book. Their second assessment (when they are ready) is to play two of these songs for their class.

For all Continuing students, your assessments are in Week 9. Please make sure you are practising your two pieces ready for your assessment. Remember, being confident is key. Some of you have been doing an amazing job keeping up the



practise, and you can really hear the difference.

I'm looking forward to hearing your songs next week. Please make sure you are all practising to the best of your ability.

Senior Concert Band Monday 7.40am

We have now officially played through our first song...WOOHOO...and have started working on our second. Thank you to the parents/carers who have been getting their child/children to school on a Monday morning by 7:45am. This is just a reminder that all students who have been learning Woodwind, Brass and Percussion for over one year should be coming along. If you are not sure if your child is meant to be there, please send me an email. I'm more than happy to help.

My final reminder for Concert Band is to make sure you are practising your parts at home. Our rehearsal time is NOT used to learn the parts. Rehearsal time is spent learning how your part fits with the others. This is really important, as we are a team, and there are some members of our Concert Band who have been practising, and it can be very frustrating going over the same thing with the students who haven't practised every week. Remember, we want to make the best pizza possible, by including only the best ingredients.

Junior/Senior School Choir

Fiona Coleman

The Choir rolls are now confirmed. Notes were sent home last Friday confirming your

child's enrolment in the school Choir. Please ensure these are returned promptly so the school can invoice you accordingly. If your child is not interested, please return the form stating this so they can be taken off the roll. If there are financial difficulties, please see admin.

Junior Rehearsals will happen on Tuesday, first Break and Wednesday, second break every week.

Senior Rehearsals will happen on Thursday and Friday second break every week.

An electronic roll has been set up so children are recording their attendance. Children will be invited to Choral Fanfare and Eisteddfod and other performances based on their attendance and effort recorded in the roll.



GO FOR GREEN - Recognition of Practice and Great Work

HOW ARE YOU TRACKING?

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 are 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 organisation.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRACTISE

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 practising! (only count actual playing time please)
- ❖ Set a timer to help you practise. When the buzzer goes off that's your practise 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.

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.*

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 \$14 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. 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



2023 MUSIC PROGRAM TIMETABLE

DAY/TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7.50am	SENIOR CONCERT BAND Tina Greenfield tgreen222@sws.edu.au	SENIOR STRING ORCHESTRA Carla Mulligan cmull@sws.edu.au			
9.00am	WOODWIND LESSONS Tina Greenfield tgreen222@sws.edu.au	STRINGS LESSONS CONTINUING Carla Mulligan cmull@sws.edu.au			STRINGS LESSONS BEGINNERS Carla Mulligan cmull@sws.edu.au
11.00am		JUNIOR CHOIR Fiona Coleman			
11.40am	WOODWIND LESSONS Tina Greenfield	STRINGS LESSONS CONTINUING Carla Mulligan cmull@sws.edu.au	BRASS LESSONS Kelly Clarke-Flesser kclarke202@sws.edu.au	PERCUSSION LESSONS Ian Brunsell ibrun2@sws.edu.au	
1.10pm	BEGINNER CONCERT BAND (Term 2)		JUNIOR CHOIR Fiona Coleman	SENIOR CHOIR Fiona Coleman	SENIOR CHOIR Fiona Coleman
1.55pm	WOODWIND LESSONS Tina Greenfield				
2.55pm					