

## OUR VISION

To provide an education universally acknowledged for its outstanding quality and exceptional opportunities.

## OUR MISSION

To foster in each student a passion for learning and scholarship, A quiet but unshakeable self-confidence, and the values and skills to make a worthwhile contribution to her community.

## OUR VALUES

Five core values affirm our commitment to the Christian heritage of Pymble Ladies' College. These values of **care**, **courage**, **integrity**, **respect** and **responsibility** reflect the central tenets of our faith and provide a strong foundation for dynamic learning.

### CARE

Care for self and concern for others sustain and enhance our social, physical and learning environment. We express care daily through considerate and compassionate attitudes and behaviours.

### COURAGE

Courage, through the attributes of fortitude, strength of character, resilience and determination, gives us the confidence to stand up for what is right, respond to the needs of others and make a positive, purposeful contribution to the world around us.

### INTEGRITY

Integrity is evidenced through sincerity, a commitment to the truth, and habits of sound judgement and ethical conduct. By adhering to high principles, we develop the moral framework fundamental to achieving great personal fulfilment and contributing positively to society.

### RESPECT

Respect enables the richness and diversity of all backgrounds, cultures and abilities to be held in high regard. Through respect, we promote greater self-esteem in ourselves and others and create a community where achievement, education and life balance and a love of learning are supported.

### RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility encourages leadership and initiative, a spirit of service and commitment and the opportunity to make a positive contribution to the school community and ultimately, society at large.

Part of the exciting celebrations for this our Centenary Year, is the staging of a Gala Concert in the Sydney Opera House on Sunday 19 June 2016, showcasing some of the breadth and depth of outstanding musical talent that we have at *Pymble*. The concert will involve performances by current students and ex-students and will also involve any parents, staff and friends of *Pymble* who currently have or have had an association with the College and wish to be involved.

*Pymble*, through the Music Support Group, has commissioned the composition of a significant choral and orchestral work by Australian composer Luke Byrne to be premiered at this concert. To this end we are forming a Friends of Pymble Choir which will perform not only this major work, but another superb Australian choral masterpiece. Persons who are interested in being part of this exciting project are asked to please register their interest at <http://www.pymblelc.nsw.edu.au/centenary/participate/choir-and-combined-orchestra/>.

In addition instrumentalists of Grade 6 standard or above who are currently in practice and playing are invited to play in the Combined Band and Orchestral ensembles by registering on the above link.

Repertoire, rehearsal material and scores will be made accessible to all participants via a Drop Box link to be advised later. There will be 6 preliminary rehearsals at the College with three of those being mandatory for eligibility for participation.

### **Mandatory Preliminary Rehearsals:**

- Tuesday 26 April - evening
- Monday 13 June (LWE) - during the day
- Friday 17 June – evening

### **Final Rehearsal and Sound check at Sydney Opera House:**

- Sunday 19 June

### **Performance:**

- Sunday 19 June 5.30pm

Details will be sent to all those expressing interest early in Term 1.



# CONTENTS

<b>Introducing Music at <i>Pymble</i></b>	5
Music Staff	5
Private Music Tuition	6
Signing up for Private Music	6
Private Music Tuition – Terms and Conditions	7
Hire of Music Instruments	8
<b>Co-curricular Music</b>	8
Code of Conduct	9
String Program	9
Band Program	10
Other Instrumental Ensembles	10
Choral Program	11
Prep School Music Rehearsal Timetable.	11
Junior School Music Rehearsal Timetable	11
Secondary School Music Rehearsal Timetable	12
Performances	13
Concert Behaviour and Etiquette	13
Performance Uniform	14
Musical Productions	14
Music Camps	14
Music Tours	15
Colours Awards	15
Artists in Residence and Visiting Conductors	15
<i>Pymble</i> Arts Competition (PAC)	16
Internal Music Scholarships	16
Music Support Group	16
<b>Music in the Curriculum</b>	17
Preparatory School Music Program	17
Junior School Music and Performing Arts Program	17
Year 3 String Program	17
Year 4 Band Program	18
Secondary School	18
<b>2016 Music Calendar</b>	21



## INTRODUCING MUSIC AT *PYMBLE*

Music is an intensely personal, emotional force and every individual responds in their unique way. Because it is such a driving force it has the capability to reach every individual and have a positive impact on their emotional, intellectual, physical and social development. The Music Program at *Pymble* aims to provide students with learning experiences that will achieve this. The five core values of the College: **Care, Courage, Integrity, Respect** and **Responsibility** underpin all that we aim to do and achieve.

Opportunities for participation in a wide variety of musical fields at varying levels suited to the individual's proficiency and capabilities are available to every student in the school, and this is supported by a very comprehensive and thorough mandatory syllabus from Kindergarten to Year 7. The Additional Course is offered to students from Years 8 to 10. Music in Years 11 and 12 is on a purely selective and elective basis, through the Preliminary and HSC Courses in Music 1, Music 2 and Music Extension.

## MUSIC STAFF

**Director of Music** - Mrs Sabina Turner: responsible for overseeing Music in the College from K to 12 and overseeing the Private Music Tuition throughout.

**Head of Music Curriculum** (Acting) – Mr Marcus Stafford: responsible for the Music Curriculum 7 to 12.

**Head of Strings** - Mrs Narelle Colbey.

**Head of Bands** - Mr Marcus Stafford.

**Secondary School:**

Ms Luczia Bain  
Ms Samantha Paver  
Mr Kurt Schweinberger

**Junior School:**

Mrs Sarah Lewis  
Mrs Elizabeth Worsley

**Preparatory School:**

Mrs Vanessa Gilmour

**Music Admin Assistant** - Mrs Sandra Thompson.

All enquiries should be directed to Mrs Sandra Thompson in the Music Office.

Phone: 9855 7666

Email: [musicadmin@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:musicadmin@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au)

## PRIVATE MUSIC TUITION

Private Tuition in the following instruments is offered as 60 minute, 45 minute or 30 minute individual lessons depending on the level of the student. Musicianship lessons can also be taken in small groups.

Teachers are available for the following instruments:

### Preparatory School:

Tuition is offered for Kindergarten students from Semester 2. Tuition for Semester 1 is by application to the Head of Preparatory School.

Violin                  Viola  
Cello                  Piano



NB: Wind instruments by application only to the Music Department. Students need to be assessed on physical size and suitability for wind and brass instruments.

### Junior School and Secondary School:

Bassoon  
Clarinet  
Drum Kit and Percussion  
Flute  
Guitar (Classical, Popular, Electric Bass Guitar)  
Oboe  
Pipe Organ  
Saxophone (Alto, Tenor and Baritone)  
Trumpet  
Viola

Cello  
Double Bass  
Euphonium  
French Horn  
Musicianship  
Piano  
Jazz Piano  
Trombone  
Tuba  
Violin



### Secondary School:

Singing

A complete list of Private Music staff, their curriculum vitae and hourly rates can be found on the College website under Music.

In the event of a student being absent from a private lesson due to a school excursion, school examination, medical appointment etc it is the responsibility of the parent to contact their daughter's teacher at the earliest available opportunity but no later than 48 hours in advance so that alternative arrangements may be made in scheduling lessons.

In the case of illness, again the Private Teacher must be contacted directly, no later than 7.30am on the morning of the lesson. However, if the teacher is unable to be contacted then a message must be sent to [musicadmin@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:musicadmin@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au) Please use this email address only when contact with the Private Teacher has failed to be made.

## SIGNING UP FOR PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS

Lesson registration and a Teacher List with fees for Private Music lessons can be found on the College Website [www.pymblelc.nsw.edu.au](http://www.pymblelc.nsw.edu.au) under MyPymble/Music. Once this registration has been received, parents will be contacted by the Private Teacher to organise lessons.

Please note that the application remains valid until written notice is received at least 2 weeks prior to the end of a term. Please refer to Terms and Conditions for more details.

## PRIVATE MUSIC TUITION – TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read the following TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. NOTICE IN WRITING OF TERMINATION OF MUSIC TUITION MUST BE GIVEN TO THE PRIVATE TEACHER BY THE BEGINNING OF THE SECOND LAST WEEK OF EACH TERM EXCEPT FOR TERM 4 WHERE NOTICE MUST BE RECEIVED BY 31 DECEMBER.

IF NO NOTICE IS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING TERM'S FEES WILL BE PAYABLE EVEN IF THE STUDENT DOES NOT ATTEND ANY LESSONS.

It will be assumed that a student is continuing lessons unless such notice is given. Student enrolments will be automatically rolled over into the following year unless appropriate notice is given.

2. PRIORITY FOR "OUT OF SCHOOL" TIMES WILL BE GIVEN TO SENIOR AND UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS. MOST STUDENTS WILL HAVE THEIR LESSONS DURING SCHOOL TIME.

The College operates on a 10 day cycle and the impact of students missing class time is minimised by a rotating lesson time. In addition, times for Key Learning areas in the Preparatory and Junior School are also taken into consideration when timetabling private lessons.

3. The account / invoice will be issued by the private teacher, usually by email, following the first lesson.
4. Payment must be received by the teacher within fourteen days of the first lesson. If preferred, cheques may be sent to the private teachers, care of the College. Please no cash.
5. The year is divided into four terms of two semesters which vary in length and the fees will be calculated accordingly either by term or semester. The number of lessons charged will be indicated on each account.
6. If payment has not been received within fourteen days of the invoice being issued, lessons may be suspended until payment has been received. Lessons lost due to suspension will be forfeited.
7. An additional fee for late payment of invoices may be applied at the discretion of the teacher.
8. Lessons missed owing to illness will be made up at the teacher's discretion, and only when notice is received by the teacher no later than 7.30am on the morning of the lesson.
9. Notification of a student's inability to attend a lesson due to a scheduled school excursion, examination or school event or a medical appointment is the responsibility of the parent or student and must be given to the private teacher at the earliest opportunity and no later than 48 hours prior to the lesson time otherwise the lesson will be forfeited.
10. Where a teacher offers alternative times for missed lessons and these do not prove convenient, the lessons will be forfeited.
11. The term's fees are not refundable.
12. Where a student wishes to present for an external examination eg AMEB, ABRSM or Trinity, the teacher reserves the right to decide, if, when and at what level the pupil should enter and having entered, reserves the right to decide whether or not the pupil should present for that examination. Students who are not adequately prepared will not be permitted to present and will forfeit the entry fee in accordance with the rules of the examining bodies.
13. Students learning an instrument at school are expected to participate in appropriate musical ensembles where applicable.
14. For any student to succeed or make progress in learning to play an instrument, regular practice is required. Parents are encouraged to assist their daughter in the establishment of a regular practice routine, with the guidance of her instrumental teacher. The rate of progress and the amount of pleasure derived from playing an instrument depends largely upon the amount and quality of practice undertaken by the student.

## HIRE OF INSTRUMENTS

A limited number of instruments are available for rental to students. Such hire is conditional on satisfactory participation in the College ensembles - Symphony Orchestra, Concert Bands, Jazz Ensembles or String Orchestras. The fee is charged to student accounts each semester. Parents are required to complete a form accepting responsibility prior to issue. It is advisable for parents to take out additional insurance to cover the instrument as once hired, it is their responsibility. Hiring forms are available upon request from the Music Office. Enquires may be made to Mrs Sandra Thompson, Music Admin Assistant.

## CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC

The participation in musical ensembles has tremendous educational value. It encourages self-motivation, self-discipline and self-development. The learning and acquiring of the co-operative and collaborative skills necessary to be part of a team and the commitment needed to achieving those team goals are of great benefit to every person. Individual performance standards and confidence in performance ability is also enhanced by membership in an appropriate ensemble. This participation also provides challenges to the individual, and is great fun!

*Pymble* offers a wide variety of music ensembles, all of which are graded, with the exception of only a few, so that the musicians work together at the appropriate level of performance. The top ensembles are elitist and entry to these is by invitation to audition and demonstration of a high performance standard and commitment.

It is expected that all Elective Music students and Music Scholarship awardees participate in the Co-curricular Music Program.

A comprehensive rehearsal program is printed on pages 10 and 11 of this booklet. Attendance at rehearsals is compulsory and all members are expected to arrive promptly and be ready to commence the rehearsal at the designated time, having allowed time for unpacking and assembly of instruments etc where necessary. Any student absent from a rehearsal must provide an acceptable written excuse signed by their parent or email [musicadmin@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:musicadmin@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au) with notification and explanation for their absence. Absence for medical/dental appointments is not acceptable except in extenuating or emergency circumstances. Parents are asked to please take into consideration this rehearsal schedule and their daughter's commitments before making these appointments.

**Where clashes occur due to sports training it is the College policy that students attend their music rehearsal and the other of their two scheduled sport training sessions.**

Links Day Auditions for Year 7 Students:

Students attending Links Day who already play a musical instrument are encouraged to use this day as an opportunity for the Music Department to get to know them and their musical ability with the purpose of placing them in an appropriate school ensemble.

**It is policy that all Year 7 students play in the Middle School Concert Band or String Orchestra regardless of ability.** It may be that the student will also be invited to participate in more advanced ensembles depending on her ability.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Participants are expected to abide by the following code of conduct.

- Work to improve their own skills and technique through regular practice, attendance at rehearsals, and individual lessons.
- Remember that their role within the ensemble is to consistently play to the best of their ability.
- Attend all rehearsal sessions and concerts.
- Be punctual.
- Assist others with the setting up, clearing away of equipment (i.e. stands, chairs, music, percussion).
- Respect and look after instruments, music and equipment and the immediate environment at all times.
- Accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance during rehearsals, concerts and tours, and ensure that they represent *Pymble* in a positive light at all times.
- Consistently display high standards of behaviour and never do anything to put themselves or others at risk.
- Always show respect to their peers, volunteers, and staff.

## STRING PROGRAM

Head of Strings is Mrs Narelle Colbey.

Secondary School:

**String Orchestra** - all string players from Years 7 to 12.

**Chamber Strings** - advanced string players only. Entry by invitation/audition. Open to Years 7 to 12.

**String Quartet** - advanced string players only.

Members need to be seriously committed as the String Quartet performs regularly for school functions and weddings both in the College Chapel and the wider community. A strong sense of *esprit de corps* essential. Entry to ensemble is by audition.

**All members of the Chamber Strings and String Quartets must also be members of the String Orchestra.**



Junior School:

**Junior School Chamber Strings** – advanced string players only. Entry by audition/invitation.

**Junior School String Orchestra** - all developing and competent string players Years 3 to 6.

**Year 3 String Orchestra** – for all beginning and advanced players in Year 3. Tutorials are also offered for Year 4 string players.

**Junior School String Quartet** – entry by invitation only.

**All members of the Chamber Strings and String Quartets must also be members of the String Orchestra.**



Preparatory School:

**String Ensemble (Pizzicatos)** - all string players in Years K to 2 (who have had at least 6 months playing experience).

**Co-Curricular Violin Class Years 1** – for beginning players – 45 minute group tuition in violin at parent's cost.



## BAND PROGRAM

Head of Bands is Mr Marcus Stafford.

Secondary School:

**Symphonic Wind Ensemble** - advanced woodwind, brass and percussion players. Entry by invitation.

**School Concert Band** – woodwind, brass and percussion players. Entry by audition.

**Middle School Concert Band** – developing woodwind, brass and percussion players.

**Stage Band** – this extension ensemble is open to advanced performers on the following instruments: saxophone, trombone, trumpet, piano, guitar, bass guitar, drum kit, and jazz vocals. Entry is by invitation. Stage Band members are required to also be committed members of Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

**Jazz Ensemble** – this extension ensemble is open to proficient performers on the following instruments: saxophone, trombone, trumpet, piano, guitar, bass guitar, drum kit and jazz vocals. Entry into the ensemble is by audition. Jazz Ensemble members are required to also be committed members of either the School Concert or Middle School Concert Bands, or School Choir/Chorale (as appropriate).

Junior School:

**Grainger Band** – Developing and advanced woodwind, brass and percussion players. Open to girls in Years 3 to 6. Entry to the ensemble is by audition.

**Year 4 Band** – this training ensemble is open to all girls in Year 4 who have no prior or limited experience playing a band instrument.

**Junior Jazz Band** - this extension ensemble is open to proficient performers on the following instruments: saxophone, trombone, trumpet, piano, guitar, bass guitar, drum kit and jazz vocals. Entry into the ensemble is by audition. Junior Jazz Band members are required to also be committed members of either the Grainger Band.

## OTHER INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

Secondary School: **Symphony Orchestra** – advanced string, woodwind, brass and percussion players. Entry by invitation/audition.

**Senior Flute Ensemble** – selected advanced flute players.

**Guitar Ensemble** - elementary to competent guitar players (Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar & Bass Guitar).

**Clarinet Ensemble** - open to any clarinettist.

**WISH (Worship in School Hours) Bands** – Middle School, Upper School and Senior School students. Open to any instrumentalists and vocalists interested in leading in Chapel Services.

Junior School: **Clarinet Ensemble** - open to any clarinettist.

Preparatory School: **Co-Curricular Keyboard Beginners Class Year 2**– for beginning players – 45 minute group tuition in keyboard at parent's cost.

## CHORAL PROGRAM



Secondary School: **The School Choir** - open to any girl from Years 7 to 12 who enjoys singing. No audition necessary.

**The Pymble Chorale** - an elite performing group of approximately 50 girls chosen from School Choir members in Years 8 to 12. Entry by audition. A high degree of musicianship, aural and sight singing skills, commitment and dedication is necessary as well as suitable voice quality.



Junior School: **Junior School Choir** - open to any girls in Years 3 to 6 who enjoy singing. No audition necessary.

**Junior School Chamber Choir** – select voice choir from Years 5 and 6. Exemplary standards of performance and participation is expected.

Preparatory School: **Preparatory School Choir** - rehearses once a week, performing regularly for special occasions.

## REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

### PREPARATORY SCHOOL

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Before School</b>	7.45am – 8.15am Prep Pizzicatos – String Ensemble (Prep Music Room)	7.30am – 8.15am Year 2 Keyboard Beginners Class (MS7)		8.00am – 8.25am Prep School Choir (Prep Music Room)	
<b>After School</b>		2.50pm – 3.35pm Year 1 Violin Beginners Class (MS6)		2.50pm – 3.35pm Year 1 Violin Beginners Class (MS4 & MS6)	

### JUNIOR SCHOOL

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Before School</b>	7.30am – 8.10am Year 3 Violin Tutorials (MS6) – <i>Advanced players</i>  7.40am – 8.10am Grainger Band Sectionals (GMCPA – Perc, JSMR1 – W/Wind, JSMR2 – Brass)	7.30am – 8.10am JS Choir (Chapel)	7.15am – 8.10am JS Chamber Strings (MG)	7.15am – 8.10am Junior Jazz Band (JSMR)	7.15am – 8.10am Chamber Choir (MG)  7.30am – 8.10am Year 4 Violin Tutorials (MS6)
<b>Lunchtime</b>	12.50pm – 1.30pm Clarinet Ensemble (MS6)				
<b>After School</b>	3.00pm – 4.15pm JS String Orchestra (GMCPA)		2.30pm – 3.15pm Year 4 Band Tutorials  3.00pm – 4.00pm Grainger Band (GMCPA)  3.00pm – 4.15pm Year 3 Strings (MG) <i>From Term 2</i>	3.00pm - 4.15pm Year 4 Band (MG)	

# REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

## SECONDARY SCHOOL

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Before School</b>	6.50am – 8.05am School Concert Band (GMCPA)  6.50am – 8.05am String Orchestra (MG)	6.50am – 8.05am Middle School Concert Band (GMCPA)	6.50am – 8.05am Symphonic Wind Ensemble (GMCPA)  7.30am – 8.05am School Choir (Chapel)	6.50am – 8.05am Chamber Strings (GMCPA)	6.50am – 8.05am Symphony Orchestra (GMCPA)
<b>Lunchtime</b>	12.50pm – 1.35pm Senior Flute Ensemble (MS4)  12.50pm – 1.30pm Clarinet Ensemble (MS6)	12.50pm – 1.35pm US WISH Band (Chapel)  12.50pm – 1.35pm String Quartet (MG)	12.50pm – 1.35pm Piano Trio (Chapel)  12.50pm – 1.35pm Piano Quartet (MG)  12.50pm – 1.30pm Centenary Percussion (BRR)	12.50pm – 1.35pm SS WISH Band (Chapel)  12.50pm – 1.35pm Guitar Ensemble (MS4)	12.50pm – 1.35pm MS WISH Band (Chapel)
<b>After School</b>	3.30pm – 4.30pm Middle School Concert Band Sectional (GMCPA – Perc, MS5 – W/Wind, MS4 – Brass)  5.00pm – 6.30pm <i>Pymble</i> Chorale (MG)	3.30pm – 5.00pm Jazz Band (GMCPA)		3.30pm – 5.00pm Stage Band (GMCPA)	



## PERFORMANCES

### Commence at 7.00pm (unless stated otherwise)

The various ensembles receive a number of performance opportunities throughout the year. Dates for most of these can be found in the School Diary and in the Music Calendar at the back of this Booklet. All performance dates appear on the Whole School Calendar on the College Portal. Information regarding specific performances will also be published in the weekly College Newsletter. Attendance at performances is compulsory for all students in participating ensembles.

- Written permission for absence from a performance must be sought in advance from the conductor of the particular ensemble and the Director of Music, and this will only be granted under extenuating circumstances.
- It is not acceptable for a request for absence from a performance to be made within 24 hours, except in severe medical situations. Rolls are marked and absences will jeopardise the student's ongoing place in the ensemble as well as the awarding of an appropriate colour and /or service points.
- All students are expected to remain for the full duration of the concert or performance event as it is extremely bad manners to leave during a concert. We always expect our students to behave courteously.
- Parents are requested not to come to the stage door or holding areas during a concert and ask to take their daughter as all girls are expected to stay for the full duration of the performance.

## CONCERT BEHAVIOUR AND ETIQUETTE

Staff and students work very hard to achieve the best performance standards they can and of course love to have an appreciative and responsive audience, who applaud, acclaim and react to their performances enthusiastically! However, the enjoyment of both performers and audience can be severely marred by thoughtlessness on the part of even just a few.

The following is a list of **unacceptable or inappropriate behaviour** by students or members of the audience **during a performance**.

- Use of mobile phones (including texting) to communicate with students/parents.
- Talking or whispering.
- Shouting, whistling, calling out either during or at the end of a piece.
- Use of flash photography and videography (this is distracting for both performers on stage and the surrounding audience; can create a performer safety issue and may be a violation of copyright).
- Eating or drinking.
- Entering or moving about the theatre during an item or performance.  
(Latecomers must wait for a suitable break)

## PERFORMANCE UNIFORM

As part of the commitment to the group, it is expected that the girls wear a special Performance Uniform whenever there are major performances inside or outside the College. The uniform comprises of a red Performance Jacket and black pants.

The red Jacket is worn over full length black pants (students own choice – not dance pants, skinny leg jeans, leggings, cargo or cropped pants) with suitable enclosed black shoes (low heeled or flat black slip on/court shoes are preferable but clean shiny school shoes are acceptable. No peep toes, sling backs or slides). Long hair needs to be tied back neatly off the face with special performance hair ribbon, into ponytails or plaits. Please no scrunchies or buns.

The hire cost of a quality second hand Jacket is \$130.00 which needs to be paid by cheque or credit card as soon as possible after acceptance into Ensembles to the Music Office.

When students no longer require the jacket, either by leaving the College or ceasing participation in Ensembles, a refund will be credited to the School Account on return of the Jacket in a good condition with receipt of dry cleaning. If not returned cleaned with documentary proof, \$20.00 will be deducted from the refund amount to cover a cleaning surcharge. All management and organisation of the Performance Jacket is done through the Music Support Group via the Music Office (not through the College Uniform Shop).

## MUSICAL PRODUCTIONS



The College has a strong tradition of musical productions and currently we stage one every two years in our magnificent Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts. Some of the recent productions include: *Oklahoma*, *Dames at Sea*, *The Boy Friend*, *42nd Street*, *The Sound of Music*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Chicago* and *Hairspray*. Our next production will be in March 2017.



## MUSIC CAMPS

The **Junior School Music Sleep Over** is to be held on Saturday 20 February and Sunday 21 February 2016 in the John Reid Hall, Music Building and GMCPA. It is open to all girls in the Junior School who are currently learning a band instrument. This is an excellent opportunity to get the ensemble established early in the year, and to welcome new girls into the Band Program.

In addition to the sleepover, the members of the **Year 4 Band Program 2016** are invited to

participate in workshop sessions on Sunday 21 February 2016. There will be a similar day for the students involved in the **Year 3 String Program 2016** on Sunday 14 February 2016. Additional information and booking forms are available from Mrs Sandra Thompson or the Junior School Office from early 2016.

## MUSIC TOURS



Overseas Music Tours are planned to occur every two to three years. The College has already undertaken nine very successful tours to places such as UK, Italy, France, Austria, Hungary, Japan, Scandinavia, USA and Germany. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Stage Band toured to

Japan in 2015. Shorter and smaller, but equally as valuable, inter and intra state tours are also undertaken from time to time as the opportunities arise.



## COLOURS AWARDS

The criteria for these Sports and Performing Arts Awards are outlined in the front section of the School Diary and parents and students are urged to read them carefully.

Awards for Music are made in the following categories: Band, Choirs, Orchestra, Musical (when appropriate) and Music. Only the girls in the top ensembles in each group are eligible for consideration for an award. They are: Tour Concert Band, Tour Stage Band and some students in School Concert Band; *Pymble* Chorale; Chamber Strings and Symphony Orchestra; pianists of advanced levels who contribute to the musical life of the College through other activities.

All girls receive points for participation in any of the Music Ensembles within the Secondary School. These contribute towards the White Service Award.

Year 12 Service Badge (Gift of the Music Support Group) – awarded to Year 12 students who have completed a minimum of three years continuous service to music ensembles.

## ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE AND VISITING CONDUCTORS

The Artist in Residence programs provide funding for the department to benefit from the skills and knowledge of a renowned conductor, composer or educator working intensively with students over a short period of time, usually a week. In the past the students have experienced composer Mr Colin Brumby, Mr David Barg, an American conductor and educator, Mr Richard Gill, internationally acclaimed Australian conductor, educator and musician, Mr Mark Walton OAM, acclaimed clarinettist and saxophonist working with our Bands and wind students and Ms Rachel Beck, Music Theatre and Television star working

with vocalists and ensembles in a Music Theatre extravaganza. In 2013 Mr Paul Dyer AM, Artistic Director of Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, worked and performed with Chamber Strings, *Pymble* Chorale and selected soloists on Baroque repertoire particularly featuring the harpsichord.

As part of our Centenary celebrations, celebrated Australian composer Luke Byrne has been invited to work with our Secondary School students to devise and compose a major work for performance in the Centenary Gala Concert at Sydney Opera House on Sunday 19 June 2016.

In addition, one off workshops have been conducted by members of the ACO, composers Dan Walker and Ruth McCall, artists John Morrison and The Idea of North (vocal a capella ensemble), pianists Christina Ortiz, Gerard Willems, Avan Yu and many other internally acclaimed musicians.

### PYMBLE ARTS COMPETITION (PAC)

This is a student generated, organised and managed event held during lunchtimes in Term 1 and Term 2 and forms the basis for many exciting lunch hour concerts. It is a talent quest involving music, dance and drama as well as visual arts. PAC is run by the Co-Captains of Music and the Arts, Hayley Noble and Anju Ramanayake. The culmination of the competition is the winners' concert which is held in Term 2. All entrants earn points for their House and Pastoral Care Group, therefore competing for the Helen Harrison Class Trophy and Miriam Gaydon House Trophy.

### INTERNAL MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarships are open to any pupil in the College from Years 6 to 11. Current holders of Music Scholarships covering school fees are not eligible for the Internal Music Scholarships.

The Scholarships, in any instrument are tenable for one year. They cover up to 40 hours tuition at the recommended minimum hourly rate set by the Music Teachers' Association per annum. The recipients of these Scholarships must be prepared to play a prominent role in the musical life of the College and in Ensembles.

There are four categories:

1. Junior Scholarship for students in Years 6, 7 and 8.
2. Senior Scholarship for students in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12.
3. The Miss Gunn Memorial Scholarship for Piano.
4. The Organ Scholarship.

The Internal Music Scholarship examinations will be held on Thursday 10 November 2016. Enquires and applications to Mrs Thompson from the beginning of Term 4.

### MUSIC SUPPORT GROUP

Formed by interested parents in 1993, the Music Support Group, as its name implies, provides support to the activities of the Music Department. This support includes: help with the management of music concerts staged at the school; logistical support for participation in music competitions; assistance with the organisation of trips away for music events; arranging fundraising activities with the proceeds applied to the purchase of instruments and equipment or funding workshops by visiting artists.

The Music Support Group is very proud to have made a significant contribution to the Centenary celebrations by commission two major musical works for performance in 2016 – a work for massed choir and orchestra by Luke Byrne and a K-6 Musical by Amanda Stelcova.

In undertaking these activities the Group seeks to assist the development of music at the school. By actively supporting events presented by music students, they encourage the girls and gain the enjoyment of helping present a range of outstanding performances. They also assist by supporting events which contribute to the vitality of music within the school.

Any parent interested in being part of this dynamic group should contact Mrs Jacki Brighton (Leader) on [brighton23@optusnet.com.au](mailto:brighton23@optusnet.com.au).

## MUSIC IN THE CURRICULUM

### PREPARATORY SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM

The Preparatory School Music Program involves a continuous process in which children are introduced to music concepts of pitch, dynamics, duration, tone, colour and structure through a variety of related learning activities involving listening, singing, playing, moving and organising sound. All children are able to enjoy, understand and take part in music activities during class music sessions.



One of the highlights for 2016 will be their participation in the K-6 Centenary Musical by Ms Amanda Stelcova. This performance is a showcase of a culmination of all the activities and skills developed throughout the Performing Arts lessons, presented in a creative musical production.

### JUNIOR SCHOOL MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM

In the Junior School, core lessons in music, movement and drama provide a solid foundation for future learning in the Performing Arts.



Musical activities are based on an Orff approach where girls learn musical concepts through playing, singing and moving, by listening to music made by others and by expressing themselves through their own compositions.

There is an additional emphasis on learning to play an instrument and on literacy skills. On entering Year 3 students are given the choice of learning a String instrument or participating in Core Music classes. A similar opportunity is afforded the students entering Year 4 to take up learning a Band instrument. In Years 5 and 6 all classes have core music lessons.

In recognition of the fact that much musical performance is combined with drama and dance, the girls are also given experiences in these areas using an integrated approach to the Performing Arts. By the end of Year 6, they will have gained skills in stagecraft, creative movement



and choreography. One of the highlights for 2016 will be the participation by every Junior School student in the K-6 Centenary Musical especially written for this occasion by Ms Amanda Stelcova.

There are many other performance opportunities for girls throughout their Junior School years including class assemblies, Chapel services and Open Day. The entire school prepares the music presentation for Speech Day.

Annual class concerts give further performance experience to all girls and showcase the wide range of talent within the school. Live shows through Musica Viva and Opera Australia add a further dimension to the girl's education in Music and the Performing Arts.

### **YEAR 3 STRING PROGRAM**

Students entering Year 3 are invited to participate in the String Program. This means they will receive two 60 minute group lessons per 10 day cycle in instruction in playing the violin, viola, cello or double bass. There is no additional cost for the tuition as this is part of the regular music program, but the girls will be required to purchase or hire their own instruments in addition to a tutor book and accompanying CD. This can be done at a very reasonable price through the school. All enquires should be directed to Mrs Colbey.



Students who wish to continue with the String Program in Years 4, 5 and 6 are required to have individual lessons with the cost of these lessons being met by the parents. The College ensures that these girls are included in the ensembles within the school.

### **YEAR 4 BAND PROGRAM**

Students in Year 4 may apply to participate in the Band Program. They receive two 60 minute group lessons per 10 day cycle in instruction on their chosen band instrument as well as weekly tutorials. A combined rehearsal is also held once a week.

Instruments may be either owned by students or, if available, hired from the College. In order to achieve a balanced band, girls choose from a variety of instruments and the number of any type is limited. Parents are asked to purchase the book and accompanying CD which will be charged to accounts. Students should take instruments home between lessons, establish a daily practice habit, have their practice record signed, and reliably bring instruments to lessons. Successful students will be eligible to join the more advanced Grainger Band or Junior Jazz Ensemble on completion of this course. After a year, girls are encouraged to purchase their own instrument, if they plan to continue into Year 5 and have private tuition. Exceptions are made for the larger, expensive brass and woodwind instruments.

## **SECONDARY SCHOOL**

### **YEAR 7 – Mandatory (Core) Music**

The Mandatory Music Course (Core Music) is completed by all students in Year 7. Students attend 5 periods per cycle and take part in integrated learning experiences combining performing, composing and listening.

Students are introduced to the concepts of music as they explore how sound is created and manipulated and learn to critically evaluate and discuss musical ideas through listening. Engagement is the focus of the course and the girls are actively involved in the discovery of sound, instrument making, singing, performing and composing using instruments and technology.

All girls have the opportunity to learn basic keyboard and guitar skills and have access to a variety of tuned and untuned percussion instruments. The David Blackwell Music School is equipped with two

permanent keyboard laboratories and one mobile keyboard class set. One of these rooms has the keyboards linked to desktop computers for composition and recording purposes. Each student has access to composition and notation software on their personal device as well as access to iPads in class time to explore the latest in interactive music educational software.

They also benefit from viewing stimulating performances by visiting artists and musicians related to their particular areas of study.

### **YEAR 8 - Elective Music**

From the beginning of Year 8 girls can choose to take Music as an Elective Subject. Year 8 Elective Music is an extension of the Mandatory Music Course and aims to build on the skills and concepts developed in Year 7.

The same focus on engagement applies and students will once again be given the opportunity to explore performance and composition on a variety of instruments and technologies.

Their knowledge of the concepts continues to develop through detailed listening and analysis of works appropriate to the unit being studied.

Students are not required to be learning an instrument privately and any girl who has a keen interest in music and wants to improve her understanding is encouraged to take on Music as an elective. It is expected that all Elective Music students from Year 8 to Year 12 actively involve themselves in appropriate school ensembles.

**YEAR 9 & 10 – Contemporary Music Studies / Elective Music:** In Year 9 and 10 the Elective course splits into two streams.

#### **Contemporary Music Studies**

The Contemporary Music Studies Course is designed for those students who have a keen interest in, and an appreciation of music. Students are not required to have private tuition on an instrument as there are extensive performance opportunities provided on keyboard, guitar, drums and percussion as well as singing.

Students explore a variety of musical genres predominantly from the late 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century. Genres studied in this course include Jazz, Rock, Pop and Music for Film and Television.

Technology and the role it plays in the composition, performance, recording and consumption of contemporary music are a key focus area of this course

- Group based performances are the focus with some opportunity for solo performance
- Composition tasks focus on song writing and composing for Film, Television and Multi Media
- Listening tasks develop skills in aural analysis of musical works using the concepts of music.

This course provides the skills required to study the HSC Music 1 Course should a student decide to do so. Students may swap to the Elective Music Course after Term 1 in Year 9 if the timetable allows.

#### **Elective Music**

The Elective Music course is designed for those students who have had, and are currently having tuition either as a singer or on their chosen instrument and have undertaken studies in musicianship at a level necessary to match their performance capabilities.

Students explore a variety of musical genres and topics ranging from the classic to the contemporary.

Technology and the role it plays in the composition, performance, recording and consumption of contemporary music is also studied.

- Performance activities involve solo works, class performances and a focus on chamber music
- Composition activities look at the melodic, harmonic and structural conventions of specific genre based styles and cultivate the creative process.
- Listening activities develop the ability to critically evaluate musical works with or without a score. Dictation and sight singing skills are also developed.

This course lays the foundation for the skills required to study the HSC Music 2 Course should a student wish to continue their studies beyond Year 10. Students may swap to the Contemporary Music Studies Course after Term 1 in Year 9 if the timetable allows.

## **YEAR 11 & 12 – Preliminary and HSC Music Courses**

In Years 11 and 12 there are three music courses offered at Preliminary and HSC level

- Music Course 1
- Music Course 2
- Music Extension – HSC Music 2 students only

The Year 11 course is known as the Preliminary Course and serves to prepare students for the requirements of the HSC Course in Year 12. The girls engage in a range of activities that incorporate a balance of performance, composition, aural and musicology skills. These activities develop necessary skills whilst also giving the girls a “taste” of all the disciplines so they may be better informed when making choices relating to the personalisation of their study in Year 12.

At the commencement of Year 12 studies, students have the opportunity to specialise in disciplines where they may have strengths or interests.

In Music Course 1, students prepare a performance program of at least 1 piece and complete a written aural skills examination. They construct the remainder of their study using combinations of performance, composition and musicology. The aural component of this course concerns itself with the development of analytical writing in response to works that are relevant to the topics studied using the concepts of music as their tools.

In Music Course 2, students prepare a performance program of at least 1 piece, complete a written aural skills and musicology examination, compose a work and undertake a sight singing examination. In addition the students can construct the remainder of their study using a combination of performance, composition and musicology. The aural component of this course also contains the aspects detailed in the Music 1 Course as well as melodic dictation and detailed harmonic analysis.

The Extension Course gives HSC Music 2 candidates the option of adding additional performance pieces, compositions or an essay to their existing body of work.

Elective students are given the opportunity to attend the Meet the Music Concert series at the Sydney Opera House, and other appropriate concerts and performances. The girls travel to and from *Pymble* by bus accompanied by members of the Music Staff.

Year 11 and 12 students are also encouraged to attend *Encore*, a showcase of talent from the previous years' HSC candidates.

## 2016 MUSIC CALENDAR

### TERM 1

#### FEB:

Tues 2	7.30pm	Music Support Group Meeting – Music Staffroom
Sun 14	9.30am – 2.00pm	Year 3 Strings Workshop Day – Music Gallery
Sat 20/Sun 21	11.00am	Junior School Music Sleep Over – JS Bands John Reid Hall, Music Building, GMCPA
Sun 21	9.00am – 3.00pm	JS Year 4 Band Workshop Day Music Building, GMCPA
Mon 22	7.00pm	Encore Concert – Sydney Opera House (11M1, 11M2, 12M1 & 12M2)
Fri 26	10.00am – 1.00pm	Meet the Music Seminar – Monkey Baa Theatre (12M2)

#### MARCH:

Wed 2	6.30pm	Meet the Music 2 Concert – Sydney Opera House (8ME, 9ME, 10ME, 11M2 & 12M2)
Sun 13	9.00am – 10.00am	Centenary Chapel Service
Thurs 17	10.00am – 1.30pm	SSO School Concert – Jazzing Around – Seymour Centre (10ME)
Thurs 31	7.00pm	Dame Joan Hammond Piano Recital – GMCPA

#### APRIL:

Wed 6	4.30pm - 6.30pm	Secondary School Music Photos
	7.00pm	Secondary School Ensemble Concert – GMCPA
Thurs 7	7.30am	Music Breakfast

### TERM 2

#### APRIL:

Thurs 28	6.30pm	Meet the Music 1 Concert – Sydney Opera House (10CMS)
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#### MAY:

Mon 2	12.50pm – 1.35pm	PAC – GMCPA
Tues 3	12.50pm – 1.35pm	PAC – GMCPA
	7.30pm	Music Support Group Meeting – Music Staffroom
Wed 4	12.50pm – 1.35pm	PAC – GMCPA
	6.30pm	Meet the Music 2 Concert – Sydney Opera House (9ME)
Thurs 5	12.50pm – 1.35pm	PAC – GMCPA
Fri 6	12.50pm – 1.35pm	PAC – Music Gallery
Thurs 12	5.00pm	Best of PAC – GMCPA

#### JUNE:

Mon 13	9.00am – 5.00pm	Centenary Gala Concert Rehearsal – GMCPA
Fri 17	8.15am – 9.00pm	Centenary Gala Concert Rehearsal – GMCPA
Sun 19	8.30am – 4.00pm	Centenary Gala Concert Rehearsal – Sydney Opera House
	5.30pm	Centenary Gala Concert – Sydney Opera House
Thurs 23	8.15am – 3.15pm	Middle School Performing Arts Festival



### TERM 3:

**JULY:**

Tues 26	7.30pm	Music Support Group Meeting – Music Staffroom
Thurs 28	4.00pm – 9.00pm	HSC Music Trials – Music 1 – Music Gallery
Fri 29	9.00am – 5.00pm	HSC Music Trials – Music 2 – Music Gallery

**AUG:**

Wed 3	1.30pm – 4.00pm	SSO Open Rehearsal – Sydney Opera House (11M2)
Mon 8	8.15am – 3.00pm	Preparatory & Junior School Centenary Musical Rehearsal GMCPA
Tues 9	8.15am – 3.00pm	Preparatory & Junior School Centenary Musical Rehearsal GMCPA
Wed 10	2.00pm	Preparatory & Junior School Centenary Musical - GMCPA
	6.00pm	Preparatory & Junior School Centenary Musical - GMCPA
Fri 12	2.00pm	Preparatory & Junior School Centenary Musical - GMCPA
	6.00pm	Preparatory & Junior School Centenary Musical - GMCPA

**SEPT:**

Fri 2	5.00pm - 7.00pm	HSC Music Students Concert – Music Gallery
Sat 17		Garden Party
Tues 20	7.00pm	Elective Music Students Open Evening Music Building
Fri 23/Sat 24	8.00am – 5.00pm	AMEB Examinations 2 <sup>nd</sup> Metropolitan – Music Building, GMCPA & Chapel

**TERM 4:****OCT:**

Tues 18	7.30pm	Music Support Group AGM – Music Gallery
Sat 29	8.30am – 5.00pm	Music Scholarship Auditions – Music Gallery

**NOV:**

Wed 2	8.30am – 10.30am	Year 3 Band Blow – John Reid Hall
Wed 9	3.30pm – 4.15pm	Year 2/3 String Graduation – Music Gallery
Thurs 10		Internal Music Scholarships - Chapel
Tues 15	8.15am – 3.00pm	Junior School Ensemble Concert Rehearsals – GMCPA
	7.00pm	Junior School Ensemble Concert – GMCPA
Wed 16	7.00pm	Secondary School Ensemble Concert – GMCPA

**DEC:**

Thurs 1	1.00pm – 3.30pm	Speech Day Musicians Rehearsal – GMCPA
Sun 4		Christmas Celebration

