Dear Parents

Students entering Year 4 in 2014 will have the opportunity to take part in the String Instrument Programme as part of their classroom curriculum Music education at Macarthur. The programme aims at introducing students to the experience associated with playing a string instrument. In tutorial groups students will receive the necessary instruction to develop the skills to perform at a beginner level on their chosen instrument.

Small group tuition by experienced and talented Music tutors and Macarthur staff will be available to all Year 4 students. Tutorials for 2014 will be available in violin, viola, ‘cello and double bass. Students who have been currently receiving peripatetic lessons on a string instrument will be placed in an Ensemble Tutorial Group as an extension to the development of their performance skills.

As part of the Music curriculum at Macarthur, students will be required to make it a priority to allocate homework time during the week achieving five, ten minute sessions to practise their instrument at home. Parents will be asked to record their child's practisc progress in the school diary and sign on a weekly basis. The implementation of skills learnt in class time through home practice is an essential component to the success of learning an instrument.

The experience of tutorial groups, culminating in an all class ensembles is an exciting component of the Programme. It provides students their first experience associated with group music rehearsals. The ultimate aim is to encourage students to participate in the many co-curricular music options available at Macarthur as they progress into Year 5 and beyond.

Your child is required to select the instrument that they would like to play for Year 4 prior to the end of the school year. On Monday 25 November Year 3 students will visit the Year 4 Sting Programme classes and will have an opportunity to see and listen to the instruments that they are selecting from. Please take some time to discuss instrument choices with your child and complete the form attached to this letter. Every attempt will be made to accommodate each student’s first preference. However, allocation of instruments will be influenced by tutorial group sizes and instrument availability.

Each Year 4 student will receive an instrument at the commencement of the school year in Week 2 of Summer Term. Students will be required to care for the instrument and the Music books that they have been allocated and return them in reasonable condition at the completion of the school year. Loss or damage incurred to your child’s instrument will need to be reported to the School in writing immediately. Each case will be considered and in some instances where it is evident that due care has not been undertaken, parents will be requested to reimburse the school for repair or replacement of the instrument.

Please return the Instrument Selection Form to the Heads of School office no later than Friday 29 November 2013. Demonstration of instruments and instrument recommendation will be conducted in class time by the String Tutors to assist with your instrument selection prior to the end of term. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Marrable.

Yours sincerely

Inés Marrable
Head of Music

Timothy Cartwright
Dean of Students
MACARTHUR ANGLICAN SCHOOL
Established 1984

YEAR 4 STRING PROGRAMME 2014 SELECTION FORM

Child's name: .............................................................

Current Class: ...........................................................

☐ 3W  ☐ 3S

My child in 2013 has had peripatetic lessons: ..........................................................

☐ Yes  ☐ No

If Yes, please list instrument/s

1. ..........................................................

2. ..........................................................

3. ..........................................................

My child would like to learn as first preference:

☐ Violin  ☐ 'Cello

☐ Viola  ☐ Double Bass

My child's second preference would be:

☐ Violin  ☐ 'Cello

☐ Viola  ☐ Double Bass

My child owns their own instrument: ...........................................................

☐ Yes  ☐ No

My child requires an instrument to be provided: ...........................................................

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Parent Name: .............................................Parent Signature: ............................................. Date: .............................................

Please return this form to the Heads of School office by Friday 29 November 2013.

OFFICE USE ONLY

String Instrument allocated for 2014: ............................................................

☐ Violin

☐ Viola

☐ 'Cello

☐ Double Bass

☐ Peripatetic Tutorial Ensemble