Dear Parents

Students entering Year 5 in 2014 will have the opportunity to select an instrument of choice as part of the Music Curriculum Programme at Macarthur. Tutorial groups will be provided as part of the classroom music experience for each instrument on offer. The Year 5 Curriculum Programme aims at engaging students in areas of music interest that will provide students with long term music options in either the String, Swing Band or Drum Corps Programmes.

For the first time in 2014 it will be possible for String students to continue with their Year 4 string instrument choice. Students not wanting to continue with their string instrument will have the option of selecting a Swing Band instrument (clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone and percussion) or Drum Corps (side and tenor drums).

The ultimate aim is to encourage students to participate in the many Music activities available to them at Macarthur as they progress through the school. If your child is currently receiving peripatetic lessons on one, or in some instances two instruments, you may select the classroom programme which develops basic skills on an alternate instrument. A demonstration lesson of all instruments being offered will take place in class time on Tuesday 26 November. Please take some time to discuss instrument choices with your child and then complete the selection form. Every attempt will be made to accommodate each student’s first preference.

Each Year 5 student will receive an instrument at the commencement of Week 2 of the Summer Term in 2014. Students will be required to care for the instrument and the Music books that they have been allocated and return them in acceptable 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.

As part of the Music curriculum at Macarthur Year 5 students are expected to make it a priority to allocate homework time during the week to achieve five, fifteen minute practise sessions on their instrument at home. Parents will be asked to record their child’s music practise 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 in a curriculum context.

The experience of combined tutorial groups and combined ensemble rehearsals throughout the year is an exciting component of the Music Programme in Year 5. It gives students their first experience of the dynamics associated with ensemble rehearsals. In addition to the classroom curriculum programmes students who are making progress with the development of skills playing their instrument, are encouraged to actively participate in Co-curricular Music activities. Options available for 2014 will be the Middle School String Orchestra, Swing Band, Drum Corps and a selection of Middle School Vocal Ensembles. Detailed Co-Curricular Programme information will be distributed to all students at the commencement of 2014.

Please return the survey to the Heads of School office no later than Friday 29 November 2013. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Marrable on 4647 5333.

Yours sincerely

Inês Marrable
Head of Music

Timothy Cartwright
Dean of Students
MACARTHUR ANGLICAN SCHOOL
Established 1984

YEAR 5 MUSIC CURRICULUM PROGRAMME INSTRUMENT SELECTION 2014

Student Name:

Current Class:
My child has received Peripatetic (private) lessons in 2013:

☐ 4N  ☐ 4R
☐ Yes  ☐ No

If ‘Yes’ please list instrument/s
1. ........................................
2. ........................................
3. ........................................

☐ Violin  ☐ ‘Cello
☐ Viola  ☐ N/A

(Please select ONE instrument from ONE programme only)

☐ STRING PROGRAMME
☐ Violin
☐ Viola
☐ ‘Cello

☐ SWING BAND PROGRAMME
☐ Clarinet
☐ Saxophone
☐ Trumpet
☐ Trombone
☐ Euphonium
☐ Percussion

☐ DRUM CORPS
☐ Side Drum
☐ Tenor Drum

As an alternate second preference I would like consideration to be given to my child learning in Year 5:

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 Programme  ☐ Swing Band Programme  ☐ Drum Corps Programme

Instrument allocation for 2014: ..............................................................