Dear Parents

Students entering Year 6 in 2014 will have the opportunity to select an instrument of choice as part of the Music Curriculum Programme at Macarthur. It is a desire that all Macarthur students have a rich and varied musical experience. Accordingly the focus of the Year 6 programme is ensemble performance and is designed to accommodate students who have developed in different musical areas of interest and talent as a continuation to the Year 4 String and Year 5 Band and Drum Corps Programmes. Students are encouraged to select their preference to consolidate and continue developing their musical skills on one of the instruments learnt in previous programmes.

The experience of tutorial groups, culminating in class ensembles is an exciting component of the Year 6 Programme in 2014. It will provide students with the invaluable experience associated with group ensemble performance. In 2014 the class tutorial options will culminate in a String Chamber Ensemble, Jazz Band and Drum Corps Band. Each ensemble group will perform at the end of year Concert to be held on 10 November 2014.

The ultimate aim is to encourage students to participate in the many music options 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 skills on an alternate instrument. 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 6 student will receive an instrument at the commencement of Week 2 of the Summer Term in the new year. 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 6 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.

In addition to the classroom curriculum programmes students are encouraged to actively participate in Co-curricular Music activities. Options available for next year 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

Inés Marrable
Head of Music

Timothy Cartwright
Dean of Students
MACARTHUR ANGLICAN SCHOOL
Established 1984

YEAR 6 MUSIC CURRICULUM PROGRAMME INSTRUMENT SELECTION 2014

Student Name: ............................................................

Current Class:

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

☐ 5G  ☐ 5T  ☐ 5 Gateway
☐ Yes  ☐ No

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

In the Year 4 String Programme 2012 my child learnt:

☐ Violin  ☐ ‘Cello
☐ Viola  ☐ N/A

In the Year 5 Band/ Drum Corps Programme 2013 my child learnt:

☐ Flute  ☐ Trumpet
☐ Clarinet  ☐ Trombone
☐ Side Drums  ☐ Percussion
☐ Tenor Drums  ☐ N/A

My child’s first instrument preference in Year 6 Music Curriculum Programme 2014 is:

(Please select ONE instrument from ONE programme only)

☐ STRING PROGRAMME
☐ Violin
☐ Viola
☐ ‘Cello

☐ SWING BAND PROGRAMME
☐ Flute
☐ 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 6:

(Select the ONE instrument from the above list)

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: ..................................................................................................................