

MusicNotes

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 2023

Twilight Tunes



Photo: Scott Arnold-Eyers

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**CHURCHLANDS
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

Coordinator's Cadenza

Tracey Gralton, Music Parents Committee Coordinator



2023 got off to a more social start than last year, with a good turnout for our Music Parents Committee welcome meeting in February, where we enjoyed some drinks and socialising before the official business. It was great to meet so many Year 7 parents and to gain support from the wider music parent group for the year ahead. Thanks to all our office bearers, co-ordinators, team members and volunteers for their commitment to supporting music at Churchlands in 2023.

The MPC committee has three goals. We help with concerts, events and tours through our front of house, stage crew, photography, bar, kiosk and tour chaperone

teams. We raise money by offering our services at external events in the concert hall; and we promote communication and connections through teamwork, Music Notes, social media and special events.

It is very rewarding to get involved and it's a great way to meet other parents. Every bit of assistance is appreciated. Bake one cake, come to one meeting - whatever you can do will help our students.

The tour committee is very busy and the recent Quiz Night they organised was a fantastic community event with parents, teachers and students enjoying a fun night in the beautifully decorated sports hall. Thanks to all involved for their mammoth efforts.

As always the MPC is appreciative of the music staff whose commitment, skill and enthusiasm are the essential ingredients for the wonderful music education our students receive.

Save the Dates!

Term Two 2023

- Thu 27 April** Students return to school
- Mon 1 May** Music Parents' Committee (MPC) Meeting 7:30pm in Choral Studio
- Tue 9 May** Meet the instrumental teacher evening 7pm
- Fri 19 May** Chamber Ensemble Concert 3:45pm
- Mon 29 May** MPC Meeting 7:30pm in Choral Studio
- Thu 1 June** Intermediate Concert 7:30pm
- Thu 8 June** Junior Concerts 6pm & 7:30pm
- 10-11 June** Tour Presentation rehearsal weekend
- Sat 17 June** Farewell Concert
- 26 June – 6 July** Japan Music Tour 2023
- Fri 30 June** Last day of Term Two

Term Three 2023

- Tue 18 July** Students return to school
- Mon 24 July** MPC Meeting 7:30pm
- 3-5 August** Senior Band & Orchestra Festival
- Tue 8 August** Recital Night 6:30pm
- Sun 13 August** Jazz Festival
- Fri 18 August** Senior Concert 7pm
- 19-20 August** Classical Guitar Ensemble Festival
- Mon 21 August** MPC Meeting 7:30pm
- Thu 24 August** Intermediate Concert 7:30pm
- Fri 1 September** Junior Concerts 6pm & 7:30pm
- Sat 2 September** Choral Festival
- Wed 6 September** Ensemble placement videos due 9am
- 7-10 September** Junior Concert Band & Orchestra Festival
- Sat 2 September** Last day of Term Three

From the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music

life at Woodlands Primary School. This, along with the Churchlands-funded Tapestry Strings ensemble and the IMSS-staffed Primary School Brasshoppers ensemble, we are working to raise the standard of primary school musicians in our region.

Thanks as always to the MPC for supporting purchasing of a new Marimba.

Term One has been the fullest term since 2019, and we certainly feel it. With two staff away sick, reduced staffing time, and preparation for an international tour picking up momentum, your music teachers are looking forward to their holidays. We held a Jazz Camp, a GATE camp, student section leader workshops, additional weekday rehearsals due to no Saturday rehearsals for the first time in 50 years, two Year 6 GATE concerts and presentations, and finally, a trouble-free (and very successful!) Twilight Jazz concert, thanks to Mr Bourgault and Mrs Chesney, and supported by the technical prowess of Mr Jenkins. The fever pitch lasted until the final week of term, with brass students working with Dr Bob Childs, the Senior Concert and finally, the Anzac Assembly. The assembly featured the 2023 Marching Bands, which will also march through the CBD in the State Commemorative Anzac Day Parade.

I want to commend Ms Malone and Mr Parry on their work in bringing the area primary school band to



Unfortunately, even though we have just celebrated our 50th Anniversary, our prospects are not what we would wish. Every nearby school now has a GATE Academic program meaning more potential music candidates than ever receive academic offers. Unless there is a significant change, this will have a terminal impact on the quality of high school musical experience available to young musicians in WA. To put our contribution into perspective, the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) is dedicated to post-tertiary training for the most exceptional young classical musicians and their competitive annual intake is 47 of the most promising young musicians from Australia and New Zealand. In 2023, 7 are from WA, of which 6 are CSHS GATE Music graduates. Ours is the largest contribution from a single school program. So please don't sit by and watch your legacy fade away.



The percussion students really enjoy having the new five octave marimba as it gives them better opportunities to play a variety of more difficult mallet pieces.



Wind One warm up



Twilight Jazz

Photos: Scott Arnold-Eyers

It was a delightful evening on the oval on 17 March, with an appreciative crowd of family and friends turning out to enjoy the annual Twilight Jazz concert.

Curated by Andre 'The Borginator' Bourgault, the lineup showcased the wealth of jazz talent in the school, as well as special guest appearances from recent and established alumni including Flavio Colonetti (2022), Jeremy Grieg (1991) and Jamie Oehlers (1990).



Senior Concert

Photos: Naki Kurunslu

Wind Orchestra One opened with rousing works from Thomas and (appropriately) Reed. The sumptuous strings of the Chamber Orchestra presented complex pieces by Handel and Bach with solos by Myra Lee, Josia Chong, Sophie Lenz and Finlay Labuschagne.

Chorale featured *Love Lost* by Paul Sjolund, with sweetly acerbic lyrics from poet Dorothy Parker. Birdland showed off the proficiency of our senior jazz musicians.

After the interval the Symphony Orchestra brought the grandeur of Verdi's Aida, followed by spellbinding arrangements by Fretwork One.

Senior Choir and The Galahs closed with 'Take Me Home' by Emerson, and even unveiled a tricky a-capella work-in-progress 'Tides of Ocean' by Matthew Orlovich.





Year 8 & 9 GATE Camp



Music Tour Quiz Night

The gala event of the music tour fundraising season, the Quiz Night on 1st April 2023 was a massive success.

School families and friends turned out in force for a night of trivia, laughs and prizes. Many luck punters bagged a share of the huge array of prizes donated by the school community and generous businesses, but everyone went home a winner!

Much credit to the Music Tour Committee and many volunteers, especially event coordinator Belinda Kuster. Many thanks to Alina Iskendarian and Alex Corke for the handmade cherry blossom table centrepieces that created such a special ambience.



The fabulous music tour polo shirt features the 'Reconciliation Artwork' created for NAIDOC Week 2021 and is now proudly displayed in the library.

The artwork was started by Indigenous students at Churchlands who painted symbols to represent their families. Other students and staff at the school were then invited to participate to add symbols to represent their own families, resulting in a truly collaborative piece that represents our school community.

The NAIDOC artwork project was supported by The Polly Farmer Foundation and students from St Catherine's College at UWA.



Year 7 Muso Musings

We asked some Year 7 students to share some of their experiences and observations in their first term at Churchlands.



Did you apply for the GATE program? Why or why not?

"Yes, I applied for the gate program because I LOVE music and I wanted to do choir and be in all the fun bands. Although I don't live near the school it is worth the commute to be part of the GATE program" - Torah, Yr7



"Forgetting to do my homework when the test was the next day" - Duncan, Yr7

Describe your "biggest fail" starting high school

"So far I have really enjoyed high school and I like having different teachers and friends in each of my classes so hopefully I don't have any embarrassing moments in my journey through high school. The white shirts aren't really that scary cause I see my brother in one every day" - Torah, Yr7

"I play Trumpet at CSHS and I love it because of the beautiful sound that comes out of it and I love that the trumpet can play in almost all of the ensembles" - Torah, Yr7

What instrument do you play at Churchlands and what do you like best about it?

"I play the B flat Clarinet. I like the clarinet because when you play it right, it sounds really cool" - Duncan, Yr7



What has surprised you most about music classes or rehearsals at Churchlands so far?

"I never imagined that I would be doing physical exercise in choir as I thought it would just be singing so that was the most surprising thing. Who knew that Wednesday Addams' dance would be such an inspiration to our choir rehearsals?" - Torah, Yr7



"The songs we learn/ play are really interesting. Better than the songs at primary school. Also playing with other instruments and singing with other people is really fun" - Duncan, Yr7

"My hobbies that I enjoy other than music are irish dancing, the farmers markets on a Sunday, seeing my friends on the weekends and of course I love shopping, who wouldn't?" - Torah, Yr7

What other hobbies do you enjoy, other than music?

"I play lots of different sports, soccer, cricket, water polo, surf life saving, swimming. I also like gaming and watching tv. But my favourite hobbies (by far) are eating and definitely sleeping!" - Duncan, Yr7

Student highlights

Big congratulations to Jaslyn Chen, who was awarded Diploma in Distinction from the Association Board of Royal Schools of Music - comparable to a 2nd year bachelor degree or certificate of higher education!



Bringing Vivaldi to the beach at dawn, CSHS year 10s Mischa Varhol and Willem Stack featured in a video shoot for artist Erica Zaino and *Labyrinth*, her award-winning artwork in Sculptures by the Sea at Cottesloe Beach.



Principal's Postlude

As the completion of term one approaches, it is again worth celebrating the wonderful work Churchlands music educators contribute to the growth of their student, both socially and musically.

By the time this newsletter is delivered the first of our concert seasons will be completed. What is memorable about this time and what I love to see is how the music department records the growth of our music students. Video of their first Junior concert performance is played back at these student's Music Graduation night some six years later. At that time the cringe worthy expressions and comments of these same students when they realise how far their musical journey has brought them from fresh faced year 7 students to highly talented Year 12 musos is always a sight to behold.

I also want to acknowledge the work of Andre Bourgault Du Coudray in presenting Twilight Jazz - on the Green. Big Bands entertained the crowd under the stars and a great night was had by all.

Often at this time we are discussing our upcoming musical however for the first time in six years we are able to hold our music international tour. Any international tour is challenging, however the new protocols to gain department and the Minister's approval required the Mr Glenn Robinson to provide meticulous documentation and planning as this is the first Education of WA international tour since COVID arrived.

Statistical analysis of GATE applications and ensuing enrolments clearly suggests the impact of Churchlands being surrounded by GATE academic schools is impacting on our program. Please be aware that work is continuing in the background to gain a political solution to address the continued quality of GATE music at Churchlands and to ensure our program remains at the forefront of music education in Australia.

Neil Hunt, Principal CSHS



Noticeboard

CSHS MUSIC PARENTS ON FACEBOOK!



To keep up to date with all the news, join the CSHS Music Parents' Facebook group.

www.facebook.com/groups/CSHSmusicparents/

CSHS SCHOOL OF MUSIC ON YOUTUBE!



The School of Music has its own YouTube channel! Go to youtube.com and search for "Churchlands SHS School of Music". It's a perfect way to share some of your child's musical achievements with friends and family.

JOIN THE MUSIC PARENTS COMMITTEE

All music parents are welcome and encouraged to join in and help the committee support the CSHS School of Music. It's a great way to connect with other music parents and get involved with your child's music school journey.

Please come along to the Term 2 MPC meetings on Monday 1 May (week 2) and 29 May (week 6) 7.30pm in the Choral Studio. Sign up for updates at mpc@churchlandspc.com.au

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK FUNDRAISER

Support Churchlands SHS School of Music while getting big discounts and great ideas for fun times with friends and family. The Multi City Membership option unlocks EVERY offer across Australia and New Zealand - so don't travel without it!

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MUSIC RESOURCE

The School of Music has an ongoing subscription to an online music education resource for students' use. Check it out at

learning.e-lr.com.au

Student login: student.cshs.wa Password: cornet

MUSIC PARENTS

Do we have your preferred email address? Help us keep you in the loop with events and other MPC happenings!

mpc@churchlandspc.com.au

YOUR MUSIC NOTES

Music Notes is a newsletter for parents, by parents! We would love to feature your contributions of short articles and photos

Please email hi-res photos to: mstack23@gmail.com

REMINDER TO PARENTS

CSHS is only able to provide supervision for 20 minutes after the conclusion of a rehearsal or concert. Ensure you have arranged for your child to be collected so they are not left unattended.

SCHOOL PICKUPS

Parents, please be mindful of local traffic when you are dropping off or picking up children. For the safety of all, please pull over safely into one of the bays on the side of the road: do not stop in the middle of the road when collecting children and instruments.

INSTRUMENTS WANTED

Unloved, spare or surplus musical brass, woodwind or string instruments for children at a disadvantaged school wanting to experience the magic of making music. Please drop playable or easily serviced instruments off to the Music Office marked:

"Attention Mr Robinson: Donation!"