

MusicNotes

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC PARENTS COMMITTEE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TERM 2 2026

Takin' it to the Streets



Photo: Naki Kursunlu

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**CHURCHLANDS
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

Coordinator's Cadenza

Joe Smargiassi, Music Parents Committee Coordinator



It's happening now! A group of Churchlands music students, staff and parents have headed off to Japan for the tri-annual "Music Tour", a longstanding and exciting part of the school's music program.

This year's Music Tour was particularly challenging to organise. The pivot to Japan happened late in the planning process due to the conflict in the Middle East. Tour students and parents observed the pivot from a European to a Japanese tour as a seamless transition. Behind the scenes, however, the School of Music pulled out all stops and called in favours to make the change seem that way. The amount of work involved was no less than arranging two tours. Our thanks to the School of Music for their dedication and effort "above and beyond" to make the tour happen. And let's not forget the students, parents and carers who have worked very hard, busking, saving and supporting each other in the lead up to their departure.

For many students the chance to travel, visit and experience another culture, meet other students and musicians and perform in a culturally diverse location with friends and peers, will be an adventure and a memory collected and stored as part of their Churchlands music experience to be looked back on fondly in years to come.

We look forward to hearing about their experiences and the Welcome Home Tour Concert planned for 24 July.

We are approaching the busiest time of year with major music events including the Junior and Senior Concerts and ABODA looming large on the calendar in August and September.

The Music Parents Committee supports these events as we strive to enhance the educational experiences of the school's music students by:

- Providing support to support School of Music events and staff
- Fostering connections among parents and carers to build a rewarding and supportive community
- Raising funds to provide resources to the School of Music.

We need your help. Please join us at the next Music Parents Meeting on 27 July at 7pm at the Choral Studio at the school. If you can't make it to the meeting and want to help, Sign-Ups can be found in each Friday Bulletin and in the CSHS Music Parents

From the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music



Here we are at the end of Term 2, wondering how quite so much was fitted into eleven short weeks.

The term began, as it so often does, with our students representing the school with dignity at a range of ANZAC commemorations. The ANZAC Day Sunset Service, various Dawn Services and the ANZAC Day Commemorative Parade are important occasions in our community, and our students once again showed why Churchlands musicians are held in such high regard.

Our Junior and Intermediate Concert seasons were a wonderful reminder of the depth of the Music Program. These concerts are where we see the next generation of Churchlands musicians beginning to understand what it means to perform with confidence, care and purpose. Thank you to the many staff, students, families, and Music Parents who supported these events so generously.

The Chamber Ensemble Concert was another highlight, showcasing the focus, independence, and musicianship that chamber music demands. Thanks to Ursula Greig for coordinating the event and supporting so many students through the preparation process.

Our students have also been active well beyond the concert hall. Chamber groups and jazz students performed at the Public School Review Morning Tea and P&C Art Exhibition, while Ursula and Andre took the Senior Wind Quintet and Year 12 Jazz Combo to Bethanie Geneff Aged Care. If the bobbing heads in the audience were anything to go by, the residents thoroughly enjoyed the performances.

We were fortunate to welcome several outstanding visiting musicians and educators. Dr Anthony Young visited on Friday 8 May, sharing his expertise as an engaging Kodály music educator and choral specialist, particularly in relation to boys' changing voices, while working with our Year 9 students. Celebrity conductor Nicholas Buc also worked with the Chorale, bringing energy, insight and a wonderful sense of occasion to the rehearsal room. His podcast, Art of the Score, is an engaging insight into the concepts behind some of the most memorable movie soundtracks.

The Chamber Orchestra worked with Shaun Lee-Chen, Concertmaster of the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra and UWA, as well as Semra Lee-Smith, Sally Boud and Zak Rowntree from the Darlington String Quartet and WAAPA. Opportunities to work with musicians of this calibre are invaluable for our students.

There has been plenty to celebrate in jazz, too. As is tradition, several senior jazz students were invited to perform with SIMmering Big Band, the outstanding ensemble made up of IMSS instrumental teachers. Our Year 12 Jazz Combo also performed at the Jazz WA Club Battle of the Bands and were announced as winners, a terrific achievement and proud moment for the program.

Our Year 12 Primary Schools Tour was another important outreach event, giving our senior students the opportunity to inspire younger musicians and represent the GATE Music Program. This student-led activity consistently draws praise from the primary schools involved.

This year's GATE auditions have also been significant, with over 130 candidates reaching the interview and audition stage.

The term concluded with our NAIDOC Assembly, featuring the on-screen premiere by the Tour Choir of our commissioned work, Koora Boodjarak. We were especially grateful to welcome Gina Williams, who worked on it with the Tour Choir and returned to work with our Year 7 and 8 GATE Music students. These experiences are a powerful reminder of the role music can play in deepening cultural understanding and connection.

Finally, the build-up to the Japan Music Tour is well and truly upon us. The students are at present in Tokyo, enjoying earthquakes and hurricanes – never a dull moment on tour! Thank you to the staff, parents, students, and volunteers who continue to make this opportunity possible.

As always, thank you to our Music families for your support, encouragement, taxi services, early starts, late pickups and faith in the program. Term 2 has been full, rich and memorable, and our students should feel very proud of all they have achieved.

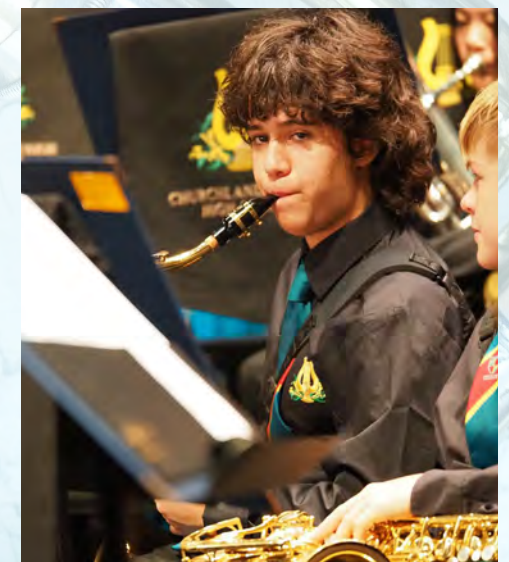
2026 Terms 3 & 4 - Save the Dates !

Tue 21 Jul	Start of Term 3	Fri 4 Sep	Junior Concert 6pm TFCH
Thu 23 Jul	Welcome Home Tour Concert 6.30 TFCH	Wed 9 Sep	Ensemble Auditions Due
Mon 27 Jul	Music Parents Committee Meeting 7pm	10 - 13 Sep	Junior ABODA Festival
Sun 2 Aug	Jazz Festival	Fri 25 Sep	End of Term 3
6 - 9 Aug	Senior ABODA Festival	Mon 12 Oct	Start of Term 4
Wed 12 Aug	Year 12 ATAR Music Recitals	Wed 14 Oct	Year 12 Music Presentation Night 7pm
15 - 16 Aug	Classical Guitar Festival	Mon 19 Oct	MPC Meeting 7pm
Mon 24 Aug	Ensemble Audition info	Fri 6 Nov	Chamber Concert 10am
Mon 24 Aug	MPC Meeting 7pm	Wed 11 Nov	Remembrance Day Kings Park
Fri 28 Aug	Senior Concert 7pm TFCH	Mon 16 Nov	MPC Meeting 7pm
Wed 2 Sep	POGS Concert 12.30pm	Fri 4 Dec	Christmas Concert
Wed 2 Sep	Intermediate Concert 7pm TFCH	Fri 22 May	End of Term 4 for students



Intermediate Concert

[MORE PHOTOS HERE](#) 
Photos: Matt Stack





Junior Concert

[MORE PHOTOS HERE](#) 
Photos: Luke Davey





ANZAC Day 2026

[MORE PHOTOS HERE](#) 
 Photos: Naki Kursunlu

Churchlands music students were honoured to be actively involved in a range of ANZAC Day commemorations across the community this year. Our senior trumpet students performed at services at Wembley Primary School, Wembley Downs Primary School, Churchlands Primary School, Lake Monger Primary School, Yuluma Primary School and Statewide Services.

In addition to taking part in the ANZAC Day march in the city—a highlight for our music community—a small group also marched and played at the Osborne Park RSL Dawn Service. These performances provided meaningful opportunities for students to contribute musically, demonstrating both their musicianship and respect for this important national occasion.





Choral Workshop

On Thursday June 18, Chorale students were privileged enough to have guest director, Nicholas Buc, do a workshop with us in our rehearsal. It was a very unique and valuable experience for the ensemble that helped us focus on making the choir sound like one voice. We also focused on vowel shapes and the placement of consonants. A highlight of the rehearsal was Nick conducting his own arrangement of Botany Bay, that we performed at the last senior concert at the end of Term 1.

Nick also gave us some very insightful tips, and some new vocal techniques that were a bit silly at first, but at the end of the rehearsal we all sounded amazing. We would like to thank the Churchlands Foundation for supporting the workshop, and allowing us to have this amazing experience.

Lauren Alker and Sara Lenz (Year 11)

Bethanie Geneff Aged Care



Our Senior Wind Quintet and Year 12 Jazz Ensemble had the wonderful opportunity to give back to the community earlier this term, visiting residents at Bethanie Geneff Aged Care. Live music can have a truly powerful impact—stimulating the mind, reducing stress, encouraging movement, and fostering meaningful social connection. It was heartwarming to see so many smiles, gently nodding heads, and tapping toes among the residents, while our students left feeling equally uplifted, with full hearts from sharing their music in such a meaningful way.



Jazz Jinks



Jazz Club WA - Battle of the Bands

Congratulations to Luca Del Borrello, Aidan Facey and Bryn Fairclough who performed at the Jazz Club WA's Battle of the Band competition on 12th May. Performing in a traditional hot jazz style, they dazzled the audience and took out 1st prize for their swinging and engaging performance.

It is the 2nd year in a row that a Churchlands jazz combo has been awarded 1st prize in the Battle of the Bands competition which we hope continues next year.

WAAPA Jazz Showcase - Young Artists Ensemble 2026

CSHS Music Captain Luca Del Borrello and Harry Parker have represented Churchlands SHS in the WAAPA Young Jazz Artists Ensemble for 2026. This ensemble offers an opportunity for budding jazz students to work with WAAPA Jazz educators and other talented and committed students from around the state.

Luca and Harry rehearsed weekly, learning some difficult repertoire and growing their jazz skills which culminated in a sold out performance in the new city WAAPA building. A fantastic experience for them both.



SIMmering Big Band

Bryn Fairclough, Harry Parker, Sasha Ekkert and Alyssa Cruz gave stellar performances with the SIMmering Big band at the Ellington Jazz Club.

This annual showcase offers selected Jazz students from government schools the opportunity to be a featured soloist with a professional big band and perform in a real Jazz club.

Our Churchlands students rose to the occasion delivering fantastic performances that were swinging and confidently presented with lyrical solos. Churchlands School of Music was very well represented at this enjoyable event



Music Tour Quiz Night

On Saturday 2nd May 2026, our much-anticipated Quiz Night fundraiser event brought together our school community for a night filled with fun, laughter, and competitive spirit. Facilitated by the tireless volunteer trio of Alina, Chris and Grace with teams of parents, students and teachers, the school sports hall was transformed into a magical venue with stunning room and table decorations, more than 100 silent auction items, cake stall, pizza and drinks for sale, door and lucky dip prizes. Music students set the scene with live music welcoming 670 guests!

The Quiz Night was a major fundraiser in support of the 2026 International Music Tour. The Music Tour has been a long-standing tradition of the CSHS 'School of Music', and the energy in the room reflected just how much this opportunity means to our students, families and staff.

Participants on the night enjoyed a lively program of activities additional to the quiz, raffles, a lolly jar guessing game, coin to bottle toss, door prizes and live music. Food and drinks kept everyone refreshed throughout the night as teams put their general knowledge to the test and auction bidding continued feverishly.

Thanks to the incredible generosity and enthusiasm of our community, quiz night contributed more than \$40,000 towards the Music Tour communal fundraising pot (before expenses), helping our young musicians step closer to showcasing their talents on the international stage.

A highlight of the night was draw of the Music Tour Raffle. The Tour Raffle, organised by mum Renee, gave students the opportunity to fundraise individually through their ticket sales. Drawn by the enthusiastic Basil Zempilas, member for Churchlands, hearty congratulations go out to Jie Ding (1st prize), Ana Loncarevic (2nd prize), and Steve Young (3rd prize). Jie's son, a talented year 10 violinist who performs with multiple school orchestras and WAYO, will be among the students heading on tour.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended, contributed, and helped make the night such a resounding success. We would especially like to thank the Music Department for their unwavering assistance and support in making sure the quiz night ran smoothly. We are incredibly grateful for all the generous donations from a record-breaking number of local businesses who supported the quiz night.



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!



Use this QR Code or search for the "Churchlands SHS School of Music" YouTube channel to rewatch and share all of the main concerts and fabulous extras.



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 to the Term 3 MPC meetings on Monday 27 July (Week 2) and Monday 24 August (Week 6) at 7pm in the Choral Studio. Look out for updates in the weekly Music Bulletins emailed on Fridays.



CONCERT PHOTOGRAPHY

We ask that you do not take photos or videos during the school concerts. Our dedicated volunteer photographers will take high quality images throughout the performances, to be published in the Music Notes newsletter. All photos are available to download at this QR Code, or look for these icons:

[MORE PHOTOS HERE](#)

YOUR MUSIC NOTES

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

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



CHURCHLANDS MUSIC PARENTS COMMITTEE

MEMBER # C11493921



Please join in with MPC fundraising by quoting our member number when you take your eligible empties to a CFC recycling depot!



SENIOR JAZZ FESTIVAL, ABODA FESTIVAL AND CLASSICAL GUITAR FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

ENSEMBLE	DIRECTOR/S	REPORT TIME	PERFORMANCE	DIVISION	HOLDING ROOM	VENUE
BIRDLAND	Andre Bourgault	Sunday 2 August, 9:10am	10:10am	Above level 3	Opus 3	Paul Latham Auditorium
BLUENOTES	Claire Chesney	Sunday 2 August, 9:45am	10:45am	Level 2-3	D3	Taryn Fiebig Concert Hall
ELLINGTONS	Andre Bourgault	Sunday 2 August, 10:10am	11:10am	Level 1-2	Opus 3	Paul Latham Auditorium
DEL BORRELLO MANOUCHE	Andre Bourgault	Sunday 2 August, 11:50am	12:50pm	Combo	Opus 3	Green Room
THE PEANUTS	Andre Bourgault	Sunday 2 August, 1:05pm	2:05pm	Combo	Opus 3	Green Room
CONCERT BAND	Caron Walker & Adam Hawksworth	Thursday 6 August, 3:00pm	4:00pm	B	A1	Taryn Fiebig Concert Hall
WIND ORCHESTRA	Andre Bourgault & Samuel Parry	Friday 7 August, 3:00pm	4:00pm	A	A1	Taryn Fiebig Concert Hall
WIND SYMPHONY	Caron Walker & Lee Stanley	Saturday 8 August 09:20am	10:20am	Premier	Green Room	Taryn Fiebig Concert Hall
RIPIENO STRING ORCHESTRA	Jessica Daniel & Anna Person	Sunday 9 August, 9:05am	10:05am	String Orchestra B	B3	Paul Latham Auditorium
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA	Miranda Sims	Sunday 9 August, 12:50pm	1:50pm	String Orchestra Premier	B1	Paul Latham Auditorium
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	Kristel Hawksworth & Caron Walker	Sunday 9 August, 11:40pm	12:40pm	Full Orchestra Premier	Green Room	Taryn Fiebig Concert Hall
SINFONIA ORCHESTRA	Jane Alderson & Robyn Griffin	Sunday 9 August, 1:55pm	2:55pm	Full Orchestra A	Green Room	Taryn Fiebig Concert Hall
FRETWORK TWO	Richard Lenz	Sunday 16 August, 8:38am	9:38am	Junior Secondary	O 1.1	Carine Senior High School Lecture Theatre
FRETWORK ONE	Richard Lenz	Sunday 16 August, 10:37am	11:37am	Senior Secondary	O 1.1	Carine Senior High School Lecture Theatre