

MusicNotes

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Term 3 2026



Photo: Mohammad Hosseini;

Hats Off

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CHURCHLANDS
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Coordinator's Cadenza

Joe Smargiassi, Music Parents Committee Coordinator



Where did Term 3 go? Term 3 is the busiest and most rewarding term of the year for our school community.

We celebrated a highly successful Music Tour and the welcome home return concert. We enjoyed wonderful performances at the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Concerts. These events offered a valuable opportunity and insight to observe the progression and musical journey our students experience over the years. We enjoyed watching the developing talents of our junior musicians and then enjoyed the impressive skill, confidence and musicianship gained in a few short years by our senior musicians.

The Senior and Junior ABODA Festivals were another highlight of the term. Their success was made possible by the commitment of all participants and the School of Music staff, who worked tirelessly to prepare, coordinate and deliver enjoyable experiences for both performers and audiences. MPC fund raising peaks with these two festivals and this year was no exception.

We were also delighted to host external events including

Metso and The Italian Divorce, an entertaining multi-generational immigrant family story that delighted and resonated with the audience with immigrant roots.

As we approach the end of the year, there is still some exciting music events to look forward to. Our senior students are preparing for the Year 12 Music Presentation Night on 14 October. The remaining external events, including two Metso concerts and a further performance of The Italian Divorce in December round out the end of the year.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the many wonderful volunteers who helped make Term 3 such a success. Your support was especially vital during the ABODA concerts, our largest fundraising events of the school year. Whether you assisted musicians, helped with organisation, or created a warm and welcoming environment for guests. Your time, energy and enthusiasm made a meaningful difference. These events simply would not be possible without your generosity and teamwork. Thank you for helping bring the music to life and for making these festivals such special occasions for our school community. We truly appreciate all that you do.

The Music Parent Committee meets again in Term 4. The next meeting is scheduled for 19 October at 7pm in the Choral Studio. See you there!

From the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music



Term 3 always asks a great deal of our music community, and 2026 is no exception. With concerts, festivals, recitals and ensemble auditions, our students, staff, and parents have certainly earned a holiday!

Our touring students began the term with a Welcome Home concert following their successful return from Japan, with plenty of musical and cultural experiences and undoubtedly stories we will hear after they have safely graduated. Thank you to the staff and families whose considerable efforts made the tour possible.

The term's focus was very much on the concert and festival season. The Year 12 Recital Night and Senior, Intermediate and Junior Concerts provided opportunities to celebrate our students' progress. For students still gaining confidence, performing as part of an ensemble was a significant achievement; for those with more experience, the challenge was to take greater responsibility and support those around them.

Hosting the ABODA festivals is a significant undertaking, and I particularly thank our Music Parents' Committee and parent volunteers for their time, energy, and feeding queues of hungry musicians. Your fundraising benefits all our students, and your welcome helps make Churchlands a place other families enjoy visiting.

Our primary school connections also continued through the Primary Outreach Concert, featuring Sinfonia, Wind 2, BlueNotes and Colla Voce. These opportunities help younger students imagine themselves in the program and give our own musicians a chance to inspire those following them. Thank you, Mrs Greig, for a super successful POGS concert!

Ensemble placement auditions have kept students practising, staff listening, and Caron and Kris busy managing the many details. As we move into our new ensembles in Term 4, I encourage students to approach their placements with an open mind. Every group offers opportunities to develop skills, make friends and contribute.

What you bring to rehearsals matters far more than where you sit.

To our Year 12 students, thank you for your contribution to the last six years and the example you have set for younger musicians. I wish you well with your final assessments and whatever comes next, and hope music remains part of your lives.

Finally, thank you to our classroom and instrumental teachers, ensemble directors, and Dinusha. The performances are the visible part of a much larger effort, and I am grateful for everything you do to support our students.

Enjoy the holidays, be kind to each other, and we will see you in Term 4.

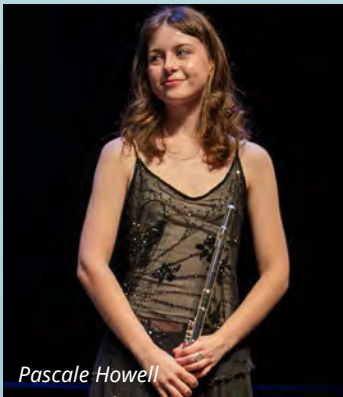
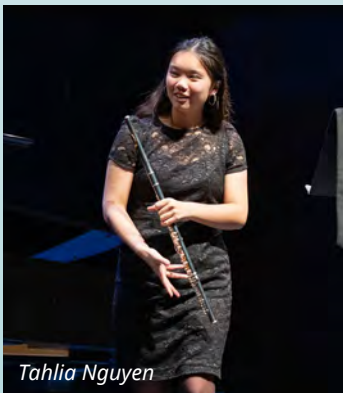
2026 Terms 4 - Save the Dates !

- Mon 12 Oct Start of Term 4
- Wed 14 Oct Year 12 Music Presentation Night 7pm
- Mon 19 Oct MPC Meeting 7pm
- Fri 6 Nov Chamber Concert 10am
- Wed 11 Nov Remembrance Day Kings Park
- Mon 16 Nov MPC Meeting 7pm
- Fri 4 Dec Christmas Concert
- Thurs 17 Dec End of Term 4 for students



Year 12 Recital Night

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





Senior Concert

[MORE PHOTOS HERE](#)

Photos: Naki Kursunlu, Mohammad Hosseini



Intermediate Concert

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



Junior Concert

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



Music Tour Wrap

Article: Vivienne Travlos - Music Tour Parent Committee Coordinator

On tour, our *Pikachu* group head-count to check that all had regrouped prior to the next adventure helped us practice a little more language. We reflect 20 memories and gratitudes:

- Arigato Gozaimasu** for making Music Tour 2026 happen:
- 1. ichi:** 54 years of CSHS Music program experience and perseverance.
 - 2. ni:** student anticipation: "I've been looking forward to Tour since Year 7!"
 - 3. san:** parent support from the 'get go', both of our children and the teaching team.
 - 4. shi:** Music Parent Committee parent volunteers taking on all the roles needed.
 - 5. go:** students starting to fundraise early -yummy doughnuts and cake sales.



- 6. roku:** multiple busking opportunities facilitated all around town, come rain, wind or shine.
- 7. nana:** flight preparations, beyond passports, down to kilograms and centimetres.
- 8. hatchi:** car washes and sausage sizzles in maximum summer heat.
- 9. ku:** mountains of second-hand uniforms filling up homes.
- 10. juu:** Christmas concert markets with beautiful crafts and baked goods.
- 11. juu-ichi:** Wine, Gin, doughnuts and chocolates enjoyed across families.
- 12. juu-ni:** Raffle tickets benefiting each individual child with one family selling for all.
- 13. juu-san:** Quiz Night – the greatest communal fundraising effort and most joyful community night.



- 14. juu-shi:** unfailing nursing support to our students on tour, including late night emergency department visits and train trips back to the previous city's hotel.
 - 15. juu-go:** timely and cheerful continuous communiques from our Comms team.
 - 16. juu-roku:** parent & teacher tour chaperones picking up students spirits, alongside plenty of other items.
 - 17. juu-nana:** CSHS management's stoic navigation of insurance and Department of Education challenges.
 - 18. juu-hatchi:** Accountant Arlene's unfailing perseverance to make sense of the finances,
 - 19. juu-ku:** Treasurer Yana for countless hours helping us understand some of the finances,
 - 20. nijuu:** behind EVERY SINGLE one of the above sit our INVINCIBLE music teachers,
- NEVER give up for the LOVE and JOY of the MUSIC!
- Arigato Gozaimasu**

We look forward to welcoming Aki with a Japanese Tour Group to WA hopefully soon!

It has been a privilege to witness the energy amongst the team!

Arigato Gozaimasu to the Music community.
Oyasuminasai!



United Sound Program

The United Sound program aims to make music education universally accessible, providing meaningful musical performance opportunities to students with intellectual or developmental disabilities in student-led sessions. To achieve this, United Sound modifies the curriculum to replace abstract music concepts with accessible methods, while Peer Mentors teach New Musicians on their instrument of choice, fostering meaningful social connections. This year, Churchlands Senior High School became the first school to introduce the highly successful program outside of the United States.

During weekly sessions, we used United Sound's specialised method books alongside our own knowledge as musicians to teach essential techniques and notes. Our new musicians then learned modified pieces to perform with the Wind Ensemble, joining rehearsals ahead of very successful performances at the Junior Concerts and ABODA Band Festival.

Choral Inspiration with Tori Longdon

We were incredibly fortunate to welcome internationally recognised British choral conductor, chorus director, vocal coach and broadcaster Tori Longdon to our school on Monday 21 September for an inspiring day of music-making with our students and staff.

Tori is a leading figure in the UK choral scene and is particularly well known for coaching and preparing the choirs who performed at King Charles III's Coronation Concert at Windsor Castle in May 2023.

Our day began with our spirited Year 8 and 9 Larrikins, who worked with Tori on Michael Jackson's Human Nature as well as their highly entertaining Coconut Song. There was plenty of energy, enthusiasm and, of course, singing! Next up were The Matildas, who focused on sustaining their sound and supporting one another as choristers. Tori reminded them of the importance of singing as a team, with the reassuring advice: "It's only scary if the person next to you stops singing!" Our youngest musicians, The Dooverlackies, explored how movement can help to project and energise their singing as they worked on the Mango Mango canon. They certainly embraced the challenge! Tori also spent time with our music staff, sharing insights into the universal principles of conducting and how these can be applied to any ensemble.



The United Sound program has been a valuable experience for everyone involved. Mentors gained an increased sense of social responsibility and learned to apply academic skills to real human needs. Most importantly, the program has provided the opportunity to build relationships and connections and give back to others who wouldn't normally be able to access music education in our school.

If you are interested in being a student mentor, please speak to any of the Music staff about getting involved!



The day culminated in a truly special moment, with all 460 music students coming together in the Concert Hall. Tori taught us a beautiful, multi-layered song before leading us through Indodana and Big Yellow Taxi. Hearing hundreds of voices come together was an unforgettable experience. We are incredibly grateful that Tori was able to spend time with us during her busy international travels. It was a huge buzz to make music together and to have one of the world's finest choral directors at the helm. What a way to spend a day.

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 4 MPC meetings on Monday 19 Oct (week 2) and Monday 16 Nov (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: luke.davey@artitecture.com.au



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!



Please support our Churchlands Music Parents Committee Entertainment Book Fundraiser

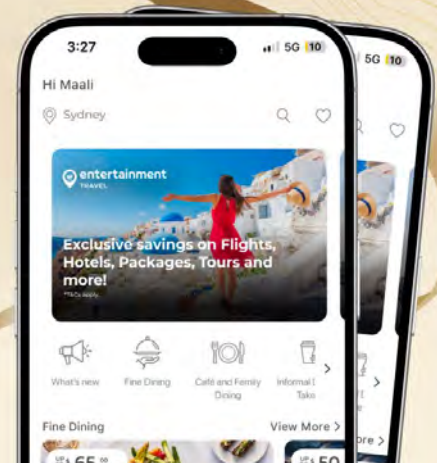
WE ARE FUNDRAISING WITH

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Both include Access All Areas across Australia, New Zealand and Bali.

Plus claim a **Free Visa Gift Card** when you support us.



Click here or scan QR code to find out more!