musicnote

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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Annie Halse Smith, MPC Convenor

It's time to say goodbye...

goodbye to another term, another year and another cohort of music students. It is a time of celebration - you have completed 5 years of intense music education, you have entertained us and you have made your parents proud. I remember seeing you on stage in your choirs in Year 8, you were much smaller and perhaps a little nervous. On behalf of the MPC and music community I thank you for the beautiful music you have given us and wish you the best of luck for every success in your future. We also thank your parents who have contributed to the success of the music community, many of these parents have been very valuable members of the MPC. We will miss you.

The MPC has had a busy term supporting the music department in a variety of ways. One of the highlights of the term is the Year 12 music presentation evening. On this night, the MPC honour the graduates by presenting them with a beautiful medallion with their name engraved. Each student who completes Year 12 music can look forward to receiving this. Many events have been held in our amazing concert hall. These external events provide an opportunity for quite substantial fundraising. The team that coordinates these activities have donated significant amounts of their time over the year and I take my hat off to them, and thank them.

No matter how large or small your own donation has been, you have contributed to the success of our music community. Thank you! Please continue to volunteer in 2017- you are needed!!

I can't say it any better than Andrea Bocelli (I definitely can't sing it any better). so –

"It's Time to say Goodbye" ...



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COMMUNITY & FUNDRASING EVENTS

Meet the Instrumental Teacher Night Catering Co-ordinator

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NEXT MPC Meetings - AGM:

When? 7:30pm Monday 20th February 2017 Supper and wine served from 7:10pm Where? CSHS - venue TBA



ALL music parents are welcome!

Hear Music Director Mr Glenn Robinson's vision for the year and Principal Mr Neil Hunt's welcome.

MPC meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month (during term). Come along, make new friends and stay connected!

CONCERT HALL EVENTS

Events Hospitality Liaison Cathy Gawen delattrecn@yahoo.fr
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GENERAL MPC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Marina Biddle, Phil Blann, Karen Bonte, Miranda-Jo Bradford, Kelly Bradley, Jennifer Fagerstrom, Kirrily Filmer, Dave Fudge, Deirdre Hall, Karin Ruegner-Wong, Susannah Soon, Louise Storey, Tracy Taylor, Darren Thompson, Heather Wayte, Trish Wells

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From the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music



A nother year gallops to a close and while we have lost our Year 11 and 12 students, the frenetic pace certainly shows no sign of slowing. Almost all of our new ensembles have been quick out of the gates with groups performing almost every week of the term, from the Ellington Jazz Club, Oktoberfest at The Rhein-Donau Club, pre-concert music at Musica Viva events, State award ceremonies, the Year 12 Presentation Afternoon/Evening marathon event, Remembrance Day, Christmas Concert, the Swing into Summer Conducting Conference, and the UWA Summer Academy. The music teachers started the term fresh back from holiday conferences and training keen to try out new beat patterns and hand signs and for the most part have maintained their rosy outlook.

In 2017 things will get even more exciting. On the afternoon of Wednesday February 15 we will be hosting either the Brodsky quartet, the Calder quartet,

or both quartets together as an Octet. Stay tuned for more details! A couple of weeks later Richard Gill, national treasure, is our artist in residence from the 7th to the 10th of March, with opportunities available for our students, staff, and parents to benefit from his expertise and insights. We are grateful for the funding provided by the CSHS Education Innovation fund to make this possible. And that's just Term 1!



We would like to welcome Tina Zimmer to the music office. A former violinist and keen admirer of coloured stationery, Tina has swept through the office like Mary Poppins, or maybe Baron von Trapp, imposing order where the music teachers create chaos.

As this year draws to a close I would like to thank the CSHS Administration and staff for patiently supporting our disruptive and noisy ways. Thanks also to the MPC Committee who enable us to achieve results well beyond our means and the music students for their enthusiastic grasping of any opportunities available and running with them. Finally, thank you to the music teachers, classroom, instrumental and ensemble, for being the most astonishingly amazing group of dedicated professionals that it has been my privilege to work alongside. On behalf of the music teaching staff I wish you all a restful vacation and look forward to spending time with my own children.



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TERM REVIEW

UWA School of Music Summer Music Academy



he 2016 UWA Summer Music Academy had almost 30 Churchlands students sign up for an intensive week (Monday 5 - Friday 9 December), where they participated in activities such as a combined choir, ensemble rehearsals (orchestra, wind band, chamber groups), musicianship and aural sessions, sectional rehearsals, small group mentoring as well as a range of social activities. There was also a specific keyboard program which included daily masterclasses, participation in duets and ensembles, improvisation, composition and the development of effective practice strategies. There were residential and non-residential options, with residential students enjoying the unique experience of college life at St George's College.

Students were mentored by UWA School of Music Staff and special guests, includ-

ing conductor Prof. Rob McWilliams and participated in a range of challenging and enjoyable activities that culminated in a public concert. What better way could you have to finish a year than a Music Camp!

The participating Churchlands students were: Jiyou Yang, Emily Overmeire (oboe), Abby Tyers, North McLevie, Alvin Lee (percussion), Lachlan Turner, Aisha Foxall (trombone), Raras Sukardi, Stella Sawyer, Cathryn Rose, Madison Axford (clarinet), Aaron Dungey, Rama Nicholson (viola), Lisa Smith, Kate Molloy, Jenevieve Lian, Momo Foord, Holly Chappel (violin), Joe Shore, Liam Reid (trumpet), Fabian Scheffler, Anastasia Postmus (cello), Oakley Paul (double bass), Mina Mitric (harp), Esther Luce (flute/piccolo), Henry Lawrie (saxaphone), Joy Han (piano), Matthew Grindod (flute), Daniel Almeida, Natalie Alexander (french horn).

Remembrance Day

By Glenn Robinson, CSHS Director of Music

November 11 is the day where we traditionally reflect on the cost of war and the sacrifice of those who answered their country's call. For the last 12 or so years now Churchlands has provided the official musical accompaniment for the WA State Remembrance Service, playing anthems, hymns, solemn musical selections, as well as music evocative of the eras.

This year was no exception and the students represented Churchlands with great style and dignity and received commendations and thanks from Her Excellency the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AC, the Hon. Colin James Barnett MLA and John McCourt. CEO of the RSL WA. Musical Director Caron Walker and the students of the Memorial Band were acknowledged for their sensitive and much applauded contribution to the tone and dignity of the event.







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Staff going to ANBOC Conference in Term 3 Holidays

By Caron Walker, IMSS teacher and band director

olidays are generally a time for a bit of rest and relaxation... not so for many of the music staff! On the last day of Term 3, 8 members of the music staff jetted out to Sydney to attend the Australian National Band and Orchestra Directors Conference (ANBOC) which was held at the Conservatorium of Music. Robyn Griffin, Mirelle Hopwood, Melissa Skinner, Christie Sullivan, Nicole Turner, Dale Pointon (IMSS), Lee Stanley (IMSS) and Caron Walker (IMSS) gave up the first weekend of their time away from school to learn more about the art of directing ensembles.

It was three and a half days filled with clinics, workshops and master-classes, all aimed at learning new and different ways of teaching music in the ensemble situation. There were keynote addresses from Richard Gill, H. Robert Reynolds (USA), Stephen Williams and John Lynch who all discussed the role of music in the education system and the importance of the director in providing our students with the best possible music education. We heard gala performances from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music Symphony Orchestra, Sydney Youth Orchestra, Sydney Conservatorium Wind Symphony, NSW Public Schools Symphonic Wind Ensemble and the Sydney Jazz Orchestra, just to name a few... it was pleasing to see the familiar face of ex-Churchlands student Marshall Read sitting amongst the 2nd violinists in the Con Symphony Orchestra performance!

Mrs Hopwood and I decided to really put ourselves on the line and were accepted to participate in conducting masterclasses with H. Robert Reynolds. It was nerve-wracking to conduct a group you have never met, in front of very experienced colleagues from all over Australia and have your conducting critiqued by an American "guru"! But... what

Caron Walker, Mel Skinner & Christie Sullivan

an experience. We both learned so much from the time on the podium and it was such a privilege to work with such professional sounding groups.

The collegiality amongst every one of the delegates in attendance was palpable - it was a fabulous weekend where we could re-connect with friends from many years ago and make new friends from all over the country - all there with the same goal of improving the music education of all our students

WAYACHAMP

By **Ros Dungey**, Music Parent



In the Term 3 holidays, CSHS music students participated in The WA Young Artists
Chamber Music Program (WAYACHAMP). This program was established to provide a unique opportunity for music students aged 13 to 17 to participate in an intensive course of chamber music study under the tutelage of Western Australia's leading string and piano teachers. The week-long program culminates in a concert held at UWA.

The repertoire was the Jig from the St Paul's Suite (Holst) and 'Symphony No.25' 1st movement by Mozart. The ACO will be running more workshops in 2017 so keep an eye on their website for details.

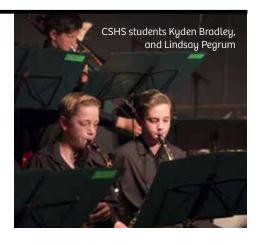
"This program is one of the best programs I have ever been in. It gives everyone a lot of experience not only in chamber playing, but also allows you to improve on your individual playing. You get the chance to meet lots of different people, as you are often placed in chamber groups not of your own choosing. I have been able to learn so much about chamber music and have grown a lot as a result. I highly recommend WAYACHAMP to anyone who is interested in learning about performing chamber music and developing their skills as a musician."

Yasmin Omran (Year 10)

Jazz at the Ellington

By **Julie Pegrum**, Music Parent

The jazz programme at Churchlands has flourished this year in the capable hands of Ms Melissa Skinner. The final performance of 2016 was held on a warm night in October at the Ellington Club in Beaufort Street, Northbridge. Enthusiastic family and friends wined and dined in the intimate space while the musicians performed on the tiny stage. The Big Band (Jazz 1) opened the evening in style, followed by a variety of medium sized combos and small groups that had been put together during jazz classes at school. The evening closed with the Senior Jazz Combo. It is hoped that the night out at the Ellington Club will become an annual event for Churchlands students. Next year there will be three jazz big bands so look out for some great performances.



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Year 12 Presentation Night

By Fiona Birt, Music Parent

Around twenty-five past 7 on Friday 21st October, the bugg of excitement emanating from a bunch of animated students, proud parents, grandparents and friends was seething, able to be calmed only by the appearance onstage of the ship's captain some minutes later. Director of Music, Glenn Robinson delivered a poignant welcome reminding everyone of the magnitude of this momentous occasion: we were all here to celebrate the end of a high school era by focusing on the musical achievements of this incredibly talented bunch of young adults.

The performances which followed wowed the crowd: here, for all to witness, was the culmination of years of relentless practice, rehearsal sweat and teenage tears, and boy, was it impressive. Solo performances by Robyn Blann, James Wayte, Miranda Murray-Yong, Andrew Crothers and Laura Tan elicited tears of pride and awe, leaving the audience secretly nurturing dreams of stardom and placing private bets on which of these artists would go on to become state and national treasures...

CSHS alumnus Sylvia Sippl grounded everyone again with an insightful mix of inspiration and humour. As the evening's special Guest Speaker, Sylvia delivered her personal vision of life-after-Churchlands, sharing her own intimate journey and encouraging the soon-to-be graduates with one very provocative message: grab every opportunity that comes your way because

you never know where it will take you.

And then for the climax - the moment for every music parent present to bask in their child's glory, as one by one each student took their turn on stage to shake the Principal's hand and receive their certificate. This was followed by the announcement of the prize winners and the awarding of medallions generously donated by the MPC, concluded by a pithy and comedic rendition of life as a CSHS music student performed by the duo, Tasha Canes and Leah Petrie.

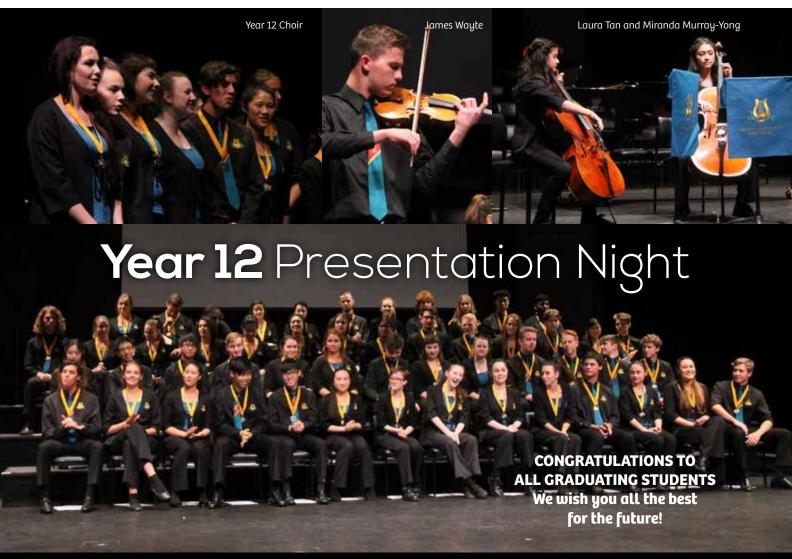
But wait — it ain't over until the plucky folks sing... not to be outshone by their progeny and keen to prove that talent runs through the gene-pool, a burlesque onslaught of our very brave — or should I say, brazen — Music Parents, was the icing on the talent cake, as they assaulted the stage and embarrassed their kids with karaoke genius, dancing prowess and flamboyant boas.

From tears of pride and wonderment to side-splitting laughter, the audience was taken full circle as they were sobered and humbled one last time by an angelic vocal finale from the Year 12 choir.

This was a truly remarkable night that will long remain in the memories of students and parents alike.



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Award Winners

Music Parents Committee Award – Dux: Laura Tan

(To the top music student in Year 12 in all areas of the ATAR course)

CSHS Music Department General Music Award – Dux: Madison Smith (To the top music student in Year 12 in all areas of the General course)

Top Instrumental Student Award: Laura Tan

(To the student receiving the highest cumulative mark inperformance exams this year)

Paul McGeorge Memorial Award: Laura Tan

(To the top string player based on highest cumulative mark n performance exams this year)

Greg Zehnder Award: Izaac Masters & Mark Warrener (For participation, enthusiasm and a diligent work ethic)

Ex-Music Students' Award: Robyn Blann (Symphony), Jeremy Mazurek (Wind Orchestra 1)

(For the display of leadership in Symphony Orchestra 1 and Wind Orchestra 1)

CSHS Music Department Coral Awards: Leah Petrie (Soprano), Ariel Postmus (Alto), Thomas Filmer (Tenor), Adrian Biemmi (Bass)

(For outstanding leadership and participation in choral work: Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass)



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TERM REVIEW

Masterclass with Graeme Gilling

By **Abbey Chong**, Year 10 Student

O n Wednesday the 14th, Year 10 music students were delighted to attend a special piano workshop with Graeme Gilling. Being a very experienced pianist, Mr Gilling is Head of Keyboard Studies at the University of Western Australia School of Music and continues to perform, teach, examine and adjudicate regularly. He is also a member of the Darlington Trio who currently perform in the Churchlands Chamber Concert Series.

Mr Gilling specialises in ensemble piano and conducted a masterclass with six of our music students- including voice, trumpet and viola. The rest of the music students gathered in the auditorium and observed the skills needed between a soloist and their accompanist. This included organisational skills and setup, leadership, tuning and good communication. Each of our performers covered different areas, with our voices focusing on organisation and balance, trumpets on tuning and leadership, and viola on communication and phrasing. This was an extremely beneficial masterclass as these skills will be vital for our future recitals and examinations.

Once again, we thank Mr Gilling for stopping by and conducting this masterclass, which we all eagerly enjoyed.



Mixing it up with the Boys in Blue

By **Ros Dungey**, Music Parent

On Friday 2 December, a specially selected string ensemble from Churchlands SHS, were privileged to perform in the WA Police Pipe Band 50th Jubilee Concert in Winthrop Hall at UWA. The band, including bagpipes, drums and a range of other instruments, were accompanied by our lucky string students. Special thanks to Miranda Sims for her thorough preparation of the ensemble and the carefully hand-crafted arrangements that she lovingly fashioned.



CSHS performers included Yasmin Omran, Momo Foord, Daniel Drieberg, Lisa Smith, Jenevieve Lian, Kate Molloy, Aaron Dungey, Abbey Chong, Zoe Hawksworth, Ani Postmus & Oakley Paul.



The Tootonic Five hit Oktoberfest

Our latest and most dynamic ensemble, the Tootonic Five, here trialling our new look concert uniforms provided Oktoberfest joy and goodwill to a very appreciative crowd at the Rhein-Donau Club family day at the end of October.

Special thanks to Kohsei who filled in after North McLevie was a late scratching. Prosit!



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Act-Belong-Commit Augusta Adventure Race

By Mirelle Hopwood

MUSIC TEACHERS ARE REAL PEOPLE TOO!

Yes that's right, your music teachers are not just the tragic music nerds you thought they were. They shop at Bunnings, listen to Triple J, go to dress up parties with their friends and even train for endurance events in their spare time. 'Greigasaurus', 'the Hopmeister' and 'Team Hawk-Dawg' recently competed in the Augusta Adventure Race, an endurance event held every year in which Mrs Hopwood mountain biked, Mrs Greig ran and Team Hawksworth swam and paddled in a team effort. Pictured is the music gang postrace with Mr Van from Phys Ed. Mr Van did the BIG race (known as the biggest adventure race in the world!), completing all four events himself for the 5th year in a row! We think that sort of ridiculousness is best left to Mr Van!



Students play at the Premier's Award

O ur Year 10 String Quartet, which comprises Abigail Chong, Yasmin Omran, Daniel Drieberg and Fabian Scheffler, performed at the Premier's Award Function. This prestigious event is hosted by the Premier and attended by Ministers, Directors General and public sector CEOs.



Teachers give up holidays for Kodaly

By **Ursula Greig**, CSHS Teacher

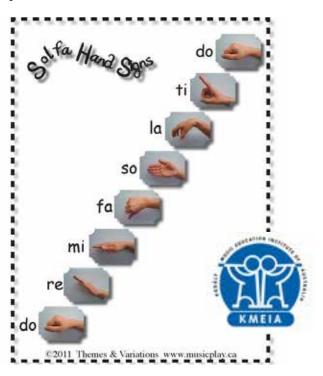
During the July and September holidays this year, Anne Hanrahan, Mirelle Hopwood, Miranda Sims, Ursula Greig, Kristel Hawksworth and Paul Sealey were not lazing around reading a good book or catching up with friends at various social engagements!!! No! They were busy continuing their Australian Kodaly Certificate studies. Whilst some staff completed their second year of torture, Ursula, Kristel and Paul completed their final of the three-year course, and now host a few extra grey hairs and wrinkles from the stress of it!

Like so many music educators across the world, the Churchlands Music Staff are united in the philosophy developed by Hungarian composer, Zoltan Kodály. 'Kodály stated that music education is the right of every child. He established that a sequential, cumulative and developmental program, based on an aural-vocal approach, is the most inclusive and effective way to develop musical literacy for people of all age groups' (KMEIA Australia). In the quest to improve our classroom music course at Churchlands, several of the music staff began the journey to attain the Australian Kodály Certificate (AKC) back in 2014. The AKC is awarded on completion of a professional development course where attendants participate and are assessed in many classes, including: musicianship, conducting, teaching pedagogy and choir. We learnt to deliver the Kodály method in a progressive and cumulative way – reminding us of things like why it is so important that students don't learn about 'fa' or 'ti' until the end of Year 8!

The aural-vocal approach has been proven the world over to be one of the most effective and engaging ways to teach music in schools, and the number of Churchlands staff now educated in this philosophy means Churchlands is continuing to offer some of the best musical tuition in the state, with its teacher's levels of expertise being constantly challenged and perfected.

We were certainly put through our paces and brought to tears as we com-

pleted difficult three part canons individually – these canons were really designed for three people to perform! Copious 'sing and plays', sight reading, written tests, ensemble singing (some performances including the use of recorders in entertaining ways!) and worst of all...... it ALL had to be by memory!!! We were reminded of what it is like for our students and managed to come out the other side a little wiser, and still with a smile on our faces! Learning never ends and never should.......



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WA Charity Orchestra Concerts

By **Ros Dungey**, Music Parent

W A Charity Orchestra (WACO) was founded by Sam Parry, a former Churchlands SHS music student, with the aim of 'changing lives through music'. In the past two seasons alone, they have raised over \$40,000 for Australians in need. Members of the orchestra and choir include students, teachers, amateurs and professionals.

This year, a number of Churchlands SHS music students successfully auditioned and will spend the summer holidays rehearsing for the 2017 concerts which will raise money for BeyondBlue. Yasmin Omran (Yr 10), Aaron Dungey (Yr 10), Laura Tan (Yr 12), Adrian Biemmi (Yr 12) and Calen Linke (Yr 12) have done outstandingly well to be appointed to the roles of Associate Concertmaster, Principal Viola, Principal Cello, Principal 2nd Violin and Principal

Horn, respectively. They will be joined by Mina Mitric (Yr 11), Kate Molloy (Yr 10), Andrew Crothers (Yr 12), Merina Chen (Yr 12), , Mark Warrener (Yr 12), Jeremy Mazurek (Yr 12), and Lauren Joliffe (Yr 12). Well done to you all!

The concerts will be held on 3 & 4 February 2017. Tickets will be available from www.waco.org.au in the very near future. Keep watching their website for details!

The WACO Choir is still looking for tenors and basses; if anyone is interested please visit the website and fill out a form as soon as possible while there are still places available.

'Capriccio' wins North of Perth Music Festival

O n September 19th, the Capriccio String Quartet with members Momo Foord, Lisa Smith, Unity Mo and Anastasia Postmus, competed in the North Perth Music Festival and received 1st place. At the winner's concert held on October 22nd, they then received an encouragement award, winning \$100.



Kate Pitcher makes her WASO Debut

O in November 25th, our bassoon teacher Lynda Luce had the opportunity to sit beside her former student and CSHS Alumnus Kate Pitcher in Kate's first WASO engagement. This reminded Lynda of when she sat beside her own teacher in the MSO and she described it as a fulfilling feeling to make the same connection herself at this special occasion for Kate. Congratulations to them both.



Our Choice, anyday!

Congratulations to our very own Melissa Skinner for her recent nomination: WA Education Awards: People's Choice award. Mel is certainly every bit the winner in our books!



DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 1st February

Monday 20th February

7th - 10th March

Monday 20th March

Thursday 6th April

First Day of Term One

MPC AGM

Richard Gill, artist in Residence

MPC Meeting

Senior Concert



NOTICE BOARD

2017 Rehearsal Schedule

The following revised rehearsal schedule will commence in Term 1, 2017. Please note that all rehearsals will commence in the first week of Term 1.

Rehearsal Schedule Term 1-3 2017								
	VENUE	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
АМ	Concert Hall	Symphony Orchestra 0745-0900 Pointon/Sims	Symphony Orchestra 0745-0900 Pointon/Sims	11 & 12 Choir 0745-0900 van de Ploeg/Greig	Matildas Choir 0745-0900 Daniel/Sullivan	Wind Orchestra 4 0745-0900 van de Ploeg/Sullivan	Wind Orchestra 1 0830-1130 Turner/Griffin	
	Wasv Auditorium	VC Foundation Strings 0745-0900 Hawksworth/Hanrahan	Larrikins Choir 0745-0900 van de Ploeg/Chesney	Dooverlackies Choir 0745-0900 Hopwood/Sullivan	Churchlands Chorale 0745-0900 Hopwood/Greig	10 Choir 0745-0900 Hanrahan/Greig	Wind Orchestra 2 0830-1100 Walker/Stanley	
	Green Room or TBA		Fretwork 1 0745-0900 Leng	Fretwork 2 0745-0900 Leng		Strummers 0745-0900 Leng		
		Ripieno Strings	Concertino Orchestra	Jazz Orchestra 1	Wind Orchestra 3			
РМ	Concert Hall	1530-1645 Hanrahan/Sims	1530-1700 Sims/Walker	1530-1630 Skinner	1530-1645 Hopwood/Turner			
	Auditorium	Wind Orchestra 5 1530-1630 Walker/van de Ploeg	Chamber Orchestra 1530-1700 Hawksworth		Tapestry Strings 1545-1700 Hawksworth			
	Green Room or TBA	Junior Jagg Band 3 1530-1630 Skinner	Big Band 2 1530-1630 Skinner		Double Bass Ensemble 1530-1630 Person			
	TBA		Perfect Pitch 1530-1630 A Robinson					

waswe Established 1987

West Australian Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Looking for a Concert or Swing band to join after finishing high school?

Then why not check out WASWE? We are a group of about 40 musicians and we rehearse at the Mortey Sport and Recreation Centre, Wellington Road Morley on Monday nights 7:30-10pm during school term weeks. We perform 3 concerts per year minimum and are involved in the Autumn River Festival (Swing Band) and the City of Bayswater Carols by Candlelight. Last year we also competed in the WABA Band Championships.

Whilst we have core players, we are always looking for new players (Year 12 and above) on all instruments. No auditions are required and you can try us out for 2 weeks before committing.

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Michelle Porteous at colports@iinet.net.au or look us up at www.waswe.com.au.

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 the instruments off to the music office marked "Attention Mr Robinson - donation!"

Playable or easily serviced instruments only, please.



Christmas Hampers surprise our wonderful Music Teachers!

D ue to the generosity of our music parents, the MPC was able to present the music staff with a collection of hampers to thank them for the amaging job they do for our music students. A big thank you to Susannah Soon for organising and presenting these hampers to the staff.





Music Parents & Students:

You are most welcome to submit photos/articles of students' musical achievements for inclusion in Music Notes (high-res photos where possible) Please email to: fiona.birt@iinet.net.au

Music Parents:

Do I have your preferred email address? Help me keep you in the loop with events and other MPC happenings! ahalsesmith@gmail.com



Principal's Postlude



Mr Neil Hunt, Principal

It creeps up on us and before we know it it's here. That's the end of each year.

Term 4 in the music department is much like the school - it is a planning time to ensure a smooth start to 2017, with the major challenge in music to add a further 160 Year 7 students into their program. This appears to be a strong year group with over 50 selected as GATE Music students and a number on waiting lists. This is almost a repetition of 2016 Year 7 numbers and requires thoughtful planning and recruiting.

But the show must go on; during Term 4 the music department continued to host several events, particularly around Remembrance Day, planning for the Christmas concert, the Year 12 final assembly and presentation afternoon together with a range of orchestral auditions for 2017.

I was also privileged to attend and present graduating certificates for Year 12 music students on the 21st of October. In this event prizes were awarded for the most successful students in identified music categories and we were treated to five magnificent performances from our top instrumental students. The evening was coordinated and presented by Mr Glenn Robinson with aplomb. Term 4 is also the busiest term for external hire of our music facilities and I realise that many music parents will and have volunteered to fundraise from these external events. Without doubt you are all looking forward to a restful and relaxing holiday break and I take this opportunity to wish you all Happy Christmas.