**Performing Arts at Craigburn Primary**

**Information for Parents 2018**

In 2018, all classes will be involved in weekly specialist Performing Arts lessons of 50 or 70 minutes. These lessons incorporate The Arts learning areas of Music, Dance and Drama and students will be continually assessed using the Australian Curriculum standards.

The Orff Schulwerk approach to music / movement education is one of the methods used and is a creative way to teach, learn and create music through singing, movement and dance, drama, speech and instrumental work. This approach is based on things children (and adults) like doing. Singing, chanting rhymes, clapping, moving, dancing and keeping beat on anything near at hand. These instinctual activities are directed into learning music by hearing and making music first, then reading and writing later. This is of course the same way we learn language.

Students will also have the opportunity to use software (Garage Band & Sibelius) to create music.

There will be occasional whole class performances and I will notify you of any assembly or special performances as they occur. Each student will have the opportunity to be involved at their level of competency, enabling them to contribute to the overall achievement and effect.

Lessons are located in the Performing Arts Room. Parents are always welcome to attend lessons and even join in!

**Instrumental Music Program**

Students have the opportunity to be involved in learning a variety of instruments through private music teachers who provide tuition during school time. Parents pay for this tuition and are responsible for providing / hiring instruments and any associated materials. The school has a selection of woodwind and brass instruments which can be hired. Tuition is currently available in the following instruments:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Cello** | **Guitar** | **Trumpet** |
| **Clarinet** | **Keyboard / Piano** | **Violin** |
| **Drums** | **Recorder** | **Viola** |
| **Fife** | **Saxophone** | **Voice** |
| **Flute** | **Trombone** |  |

The tuition is mainly available for Year 2 - 7 students, however tuition for some of these instruments is available for younger students. You are always welcome to discuss your child’s individual needs with me.

Lesson times are currently being negotiated and some lessons have already commenced. There are waiting lists in some instruments due to the large number of students wanting to learn this year. You will be notified if your child applied for tuition on a particular instrument but there are no places currently available. Please see me or contact Heather in the Front Office if you wish to place your child’s name on a waiting list for 2019.

**Junior Choir**

Junior Choir is available for Year 3 & 4 students. This choir rehearses **in the Performing Arts room on Tuesday at 1:30pm– 2:00pm**.

Term 1 week 2 was the first session for 2018.

**Senior Choir (Years 5/6/7)**

This choir commenced rehearsals in Week 2. The group rehearses on **Tuesdays 2:00pm – 3:10pm in the Performing Arts Room.** The students are learning songs in preparation to participate in the Public Primary Schools Music Festival to be held at the Festival Theatre in September. There are opportunities for students to be involved in vocal solos, district orchestras and performance/dance troupes. Students are also able to audition for compere and other instrumental/ performance roles. I will send home information about these opportunities as it becomes available.

Choir members will need the Festival of Music book & CD (**$16.50**) and a Choir t-shirt (**$8.00**). You will be invoiced for these.

**School Concert Band**

This is a group of mainly Year 4 – 7 students who have developed a reasonable level of proficiency in their instruments. Students need to be able to read music & have probably been learning their instrument for 1-2 years. I will meet with the students in week 4.

**Performing Arts School Shirts**

If your child is a member of a choir or concert band they can wear one of these shirts as part of their school uniform. These are also worn in performances. The shirts can be ordered from DZ Australia in the same way as other school uniform items.

**Performing Arts Showcase Concert**

This is an opportunity for students to perform in the middle of the year. The choirs, band, individuals and small groups will be able to showcase their talents & entertain us. Details of this will be announced later in the year.

If you need any information about these programmes or advice re extra curricular Performing Arts programmes, specialist schools, scholarships or instrument hire /purchase please feel free to contact me. I am also available to discuss your child’s progress on an ongoing basis.

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**Elizabeth McDonald**

**Specialist Performing Arts Teacher** (Terms 1 and 2)