Flemington Primary School

2016 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Flemington Primary School is fortunate to have an outstanding instrumental and choral music program which continues to grow and prosper. We are lucky to have a purpose built music centre, dedicated music teachers and the ability to manage and administer the program within the school.

Program Administration

The program is self-funded and the only source of income for the program is the fees we charge. The last fee increase was in 2013, and in order to maintain parity with the recommended fee structure of the VMTA (Victorian Music Teachers Association) we will be increasing the fees by $3.00 per lesson. We have also streamlined the lesson structure from 5 categories to 3. All group lessons with 3 or more students will now be charged $12.00 per lesson. The program is co-ordinated by Mr Vern O’Hara and the invoicing is managed by Natalie MacLaren. All enquiries regarding tuition, timetabling, invoicing and concerns regarding your child’s lessons etc need to be made to Vern at school or on his mobile 0403 777 050 or by email ohara.vern.a@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Payment of fees can be made through the office or by Bpay.

An outline of instruments we offer tuition on, age criteria, instrument hire, prerequisites and fee structure is on the next page. Term One lessons will commence on Monday 1st February 2016. Term One invoices will be mailed out during term 1.

Instrument selection and preferences

During 2015 we had a large number of students learning piano and only a small number of students learning cello, saxophone, clarinet and flute. These instruments are a vital part of our band and string ensembles. I would like to encourage new and continuing students to the program to consider learning one of these instruments. For year one students, recorder, ukulele and percussion classes are an excellent way to begin instrumental lessons. These classes operate with 3-6 students per class. The recorder class is a preparatory class for young students to develop their fine motor skills and their aural and music reading skills in preparation for moving onto more complex instruments such as the flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet & trombone, if they wish to do so. Students will need to purchase their own recorder at a cost of $10.00.

The Ukulele is an ideal instrument for young students to learn due to its size and ease to play. If your child is keen to learn the guitar, the ukulele is an ideal instrument to learn before switching to the guitar. Students will need to purchase their own ukulele which can be purchased through the school at a cost of $50.00 each. The percussion class teaches basic percussion technique and develop the student’s aural and rhythmic skills. We strongly encourage year 1 & year 2 students to consider joining one of these classes, as students at this age level are often not physically developed and mature enough to cope with the demands of learning more complex instruments.

When completing the preference form, please ensure you fill in three preferences, in case your child is not offered their first choice. Please note that students learning piano or drums need to own their own piano or drum kit prior to commencing lessons. Piano lessons are only offered as individual lessons.

Theory classes

Theory classes will run before school from 8.15 to 8.45 am or after school from 3.35 to 4.05 pm. Theory lessons are an excellent way to ensure students have a sound knowledge base to help develop their musicality and prepare for exams, performing and playing in ensembles. If students continue with their instrument, they will need to have passed 2nd grade theory before they are eligible to sit for their 6th grade practical exam. Theory classes will be offered as a group lesson only and will require a minimum of 4 enrolments before we form a class.

Enquiries

If you have any queries about the fee structure or any other concerns regarding the Instrumental Program, please feel free to speak to Vern O’Hara, the instrumental music program co-ordinator, either at school, on his mobile 0403 777 050, or by email ohara.vern.a@edumail.vic.gov.au. If you need extra Expression of Interest forms, you can collect them from the pamphlet holders in the corridor of the music centre. The completed Expression of Interest form can be left at the office.
Expressions of Interest are sought for next year’s music program. Due to the success of music at our school, places are limited. Priority will be given to providing students with the opportunity to learn one instrument from school-based staff. However, if space is available in a particular instrument, and there are no students on the waiting list, students may be able to learn a second instrument in the school program. Where possible, second instruments will be timetabled before or after school or at lunchtimes.

Parents are asked to fill in the form attached and return to school by **Friday 4th, December 2015.**

**LESSON/PRICING STRUCTURE**
- Individual $35.00 per lesson
- Shared $23.00 per lesson
- Group $12.00 per lesson
- Theory Class $12.00 per lesson
  *(Available if minimum of 4 students)*
- Ensemble fee $130.00 per year
  *($30 per term if less than a full year, full year charged in Term 1)*
- Choir membership $60.00 per year
  *(will be organised at the beginning of Term 1 2012)*

**INSTRUMENT HIRE**
- Violin $45.00 per term
- Flute/Clarinet/Cello $50.00 per term
- Saxophone/Trumpet/Trombone $60.00 per term

**ITEM PURCHASE**
- Instrumental / Choir T-Shirt $30.00 each
- Music notes bag $8.00 each
- Instrument motif bags $10.00 each
- Ukulele $50.00 each

**ACCOMPANIST FEE**
Refer to handbook on the school website under “Music Tuition Fees” and the exam entry form which lists suggested accompanying fees.

**INVOICING**
Please note that you will be invoiced for the number of lessons to be delivered each term. Under no circumstances will refunds be issued, for students who decide to withdraw from lessons/ensembles during the term and lessons missed due to family holidays or other related absences.

**PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO**
- Students already in the program
- Oldest children first
- Shared lessons
- Students learning one instrument
- Students learning an instrument outside school are ineligible to learn the same instrument at school

**INSTRUMENT PREREQUISITES**
Please note that students wishing to learn Piano, Drums or Guitar need to own their own instrument, prior to commencing lessons, as the school does not hire these instruments.

**AGE CRITERIA (Due to Physical Capability)**
- Strings – violin Grades 1-6
- Strings – viola & cello Grades 2-6
- Woodwind – flute, clarinet Grades 3-6
- Woodwind – saxophone Grades 4-6
  *(students wishing to start earlier should begin with clarinet)*
- Brass – trumpet, trombone Grades 2-6
- Drums Grades 3-6
- Piano Grades 1-6
- Ukulele Grades 1-6
- Guitar Grades 2-6
- Theory Class Grades 4-6
- Recorder & Percussion class Grades 1-6
- Voice Grades 4-6

**ENSEMBLES**
Our Instrumental Program includes a Senior & Junior Choir, Senior & Junior String Ensemble, Senior & Junior Band and Senior & Junior Rock Ensemble. Students must be prepared to participate in these lunchtime sessions (first half) as they become more proficient. Please note that students are invoiced in Term 1 for the entire year.
Child’s Name: ................................................................. 2016 Year Level: ...........

Please complete the table below according to the following instructions.

**Continuing 2015 Students:** Place a ‘C’ in the instrument(s) & theory you will continue to learn in 2016 under your 2016 Year Level. If you wish to commence learning an additional instrument or theory in 2016, the number 1 under your 2016 Year Level.

**New 2016 Students:** Number three instruments 1, 2, 3 in your order of preference under your 2016 Year Level *(you must select 3 instruments)*

**All 2016 Students:** Number cells 1, 2, 3, on the same row as your instrument(s) selection, in order of your Preferred Lesson Structure for each nominated instrument. Indicate with a tick under Instr. Hire if you wish to hire your nominated instrument.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>2016 Year Level</th>
<th>Preferred Lesson Structure</th>
<th>Instr. Hire</th>
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<td>Violin</td>
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<td>Ukulele</td>
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<td>Drumming Class</td>
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<td>Voice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theory</td>
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DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY AT THIS STAGE. Parents will be informed if places are available for their child by the end of year.

Acceptance of Conditions & Expectations: I have read and understood the conditions and expectations and agree to follow them.

**PARENT / GUARDIAN:** ................................................................. .................................................................

NAME: .......................................................................................... SIGNATURE

**TELEPHONE NO.:**

AH: ........................................ Mobile: ........................................
Email address: .................................................................................
Flemington Primary School

2016 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Expectations for Involvement in the Instrumental Program

Expectations of the School:
1. The school will provide the student with 36 lessons per year. Lessons will not be delivered during the first and last weeks of term 1 & 4 respectively.
2. Teachers will endeavour to make-up lessons missed due to school events or where prior notice has been given.
3. Teacher’s will provide their students and parents with regular feedback on their progress and guidance via music diaries, personal contact, mid and end of year reports and phone calls.
4. The school will provide the opportunity for students to participate in an ensemble when their skills allow.
5. The school will provide the students with the opportunity to enrol in external music examinations. The teacher will clearly outline expectations and requirements of both the student and parents in regard to the examination process.
6. The school will provide students with the opportunity to perform at school concerts and soirees.

Students’ need to:
1. Participate positively in the program, being polite and respectful of their teacher and conductor.
2. Practise regularly – a minimum of 5 days a week. For beginners 10-15 minutes each time (regular short sessions are more effective than less frequent longer sessions). Your child’s instructor will advise students on appropriate times for more experienced students.
3. Take good care of their instrument – keep it away from food and drink and younger siblings, and protect it from bumps and knocks.
4. Arrive on time for their lessons and band rehearsals.
5. Be prepared for their lessons and rehearsals with their instrument and music.
6. Wear music t-shirt together with blue/black skirt or pants to all performances.

Parents’ need to:
1. Ensure invoices are paid on time. Invoices are usually sent out in the first 4 weeks of each term and are due two weeks later. If payment is not made by this date, a reminder email will be sent. If payment is not made by this date, lessons will be cancelled and will not resume until the account is finalised, unless otherwise arranged. A late fee of $30.00 will also be charged for fees not paid by the due date.
2. Assist children in checking the time of their lesson before the start of the school day and inform instructor of absences.
3. Assist children in remembering to take, and collect their instrument and music on the days of their lesson and band rehearsal.
4. Actively monitor the child’s practise by – firstly making sure there is time in the week for it to happen and secondly, signing the diary to confirm that it has been done and for how long. And to ensure they are practising all components (practical, aural, sight reading, technical, general knowledge and repertoire).
5. Be actively present while your child is practising to observe, encourage and praise.
6. Reinforce the importance of being involved in an ensemble group and performances, and the required behaviour.
7. Parents must purchase Flemington Primary School instrumental / choir t-shirt for performances.
8. Raise any concerns about child’s lessons as soon as possible.
9. Give a minimum of 2 weeks notice (prior to the end of the current Term), to the Instrumental Music Co-ordinator if you intend to withdraw your child from the program. No refund of fees will be made if a child decides to withdraw from lessons during the term or for lessons missed due to family holidays or missed lessons due to other absences. Lessons missed due to teacher absence or school based events/camps/excursions will be made up, where feasible.
10. Give requests for lesson changes a minimum of 2 weeks (prior to end of Term) to the Music Co-ordinator.
As classroom programs, excursions and special activities have priority over the music program, timetables may change to allow for lessons.
Parents are liable for replacement cost of lost or damaged school hired instruments. School provides maintenance of instruments.