



St Joseph's
Primary School
KANGAROO POINT
Living and Learning

24th October 2016

Dear Parents

RE Music and Speech & Drama Program 2017

In 2016, our music department has achieved outstanding successes. There is no doubt that the Music teaching offered here at St Joseph's is second to none, while being the envy of many Primary Schools in the Brisbane Archdiocese, credit must be attributed to our highly qualified and experienced teachers and we thank them for all they have done in 2016.

Learning a musical instrument or voice and being able to make music, not only individually but also in a group situation, is one of the joys of the human experience. Music performance at St Joseph's is an exciting and engaging activity, in which students find academic, social and emotional benefits, in addition to many other positive outcomes.

Music is fundamental to the creative, intellectual and emotional development of all students. The actual practice of Arts and Music can engage the imagination, foster flexible ways of thinking, develop disciplined effort and build self-confidence.

Music encourages and develops, among other things, self-discipline, problem solving, cooperative and social skills and sensitivity to one's environment.

The workplace of the future will require people with the following skills and attributes:-

- to be able to work in teams
- to communicate
- to have self esteem
- to be creative, imaginative and inventive thinkers
- to persevere

All of these skills are learned in school music programs.

Musical activities provide students with important experiences that can help them develop physical co-ordination, timing, memory, visual, aural and language skills in the company of others. They gain important experience with self-paced learning, mental concentration and a heightened personal and social awareness.

Research studies show music achievement and academic achievement go together at all stages in schools. Schools with strong music programs notice substantial positive effects on academic performance and social behaviour. High quality programs also enhance a school's community profile and its academic reputation. Music is not seen as an end in itself but rather as something that will add significantly to the quality of life both now, at school, and later in life.

At St Joseph's, students are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of musical ensembles and musical activities so as to experience the joys of music making and to stimulate their interest in music.

26 - 36 Leopard Street, Kangaroo Point QLD 4169 | PO Box 1856 New Farm QLD 4005

Phone (07) 3391 5397 | Fax (07) 3391 5186

pkangaroopt@bne.catholic.edu.au | www.stjosephskpt.qld.edu.au

This letter is to invite current parents to commit to lessons for 2017 as well as invite parents new to the program to join the program.

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that both you and your child/ren understand all the information provided in this letter as well as the St Joseph's Music Handbook for Parents and Students.

If the answers you seek aren't in this handbook, please contact the Music Department. Whilst the school offers this opportunity to students, a commitment is also required of them.

Students are expected to:

- 1. Attend their weekly lesson**
- 2. Practice regularly**
- 3. Attend their ensemble rehearsals & performances**
- 4. Show continual improvement**

The Broad Aims of the Music Program

The aim of the Music Program is the development of students' musical, social and personal awareness through participation in instrumental music instruction, ensembles, rehearsal and performance. Undertaking the study of music also involves the learning of new skills.

Students can learn the following instruments:

Strings	Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass
Woodwind	Flute and Clarinet
Percussion	Drum Kit, Small Percussion
Guitar	Classical Guitar & Electric Bass
Keyboard	Piano & Keyboard
Voice	Students have singing lessons and learn correct voice production

Lesson Enrolment

To enrol, make changes, or cancel enrolment, parents need to submit the **Enrolment and Cancellation Form** which can be downloaded from the School Website or is available from the School Office, a copy of which is attached to this letter. As collection of money is involved, we require all enrolments to be on paper. Parents have the opportunity to request involvement in A.M.E.B. exam preparation as part of the weekly lesson. Waiting lists may exist on some instruments, so the submission of a form does not guarantee a place. Enrolments need to be renewed on paper each year and cancellations can only happen at the end of a term.

Lessons

Students joining the program **receive one lesson per week, for 9 weeks each term**, with a specialist teacher of the student's chosen instrument. These lessons can either be an **individual or small group lesson**. Our private teachers are some of Brisbane's finest professional musicians. We will **collect teaching fees from parents** (via your school fee account) and in turn pay these fees to the specialist teacher.

When students are absent from school, Parents are required to email the Head of Music, Stephanie Linsdell, slinsdell@bne.catholic.edu.au and their child's instrumental music teacher prior to 8 am on the morning of the lesson, otherwise no make-up lesson will be given. No make up lessons will be made for students who are absent during the term for family holidays.

Music lessons are for 30 minutes, during school time and before and after school. A select number of students may request an hour private lesson. However, this is generally limited to those students in upper primary, and will be at the Music Teacher's discretion.

Students Obligations

Students are required to attend all lessons with the necessary equipment, practice regularly at home and complete home practice records. **As parents, you will need to provide a suitable practice area** and sign weekly practice records. Your support and encouragement is essential for your child's success.

Students involved in the Music Program may be required to **perform in the Ensemble that is appropriate to their instrument**. Ensemble placement is decided by the Music Specialist Teacher. As much forward notice is given of a special event (such as requests to play for concerts, festivals etc) as is possible. The rehearsals that precede an event are as important as the event itself.

Student Practice

"You don't have to practice on the days you don't eat." These words express the view of Shinichi Suzuki, founder of the Suzuki violin method and illustrate the importance of practice.

To be successful on one's chosen instrument, **regular practice is essential**. Beginning students should start with about 15 minutes a day 5 times per week increasing to 30 minutes a day 5 times per week as they progress. One long practice session on the day of a lesson is virtually useless. Parents should ensure a set routine of practice is established at the beginning of the year. Practice routine should include a warm-up, scales, technical work, studies and pieces (as set by their teacher) and ensemble music **plus** some fun.

Instruments

Instruments can be hired either from a music retailer (recommendations will be provided for specific instruments when offers are made) or St Joseph's, depending on choice and availability of instrument.

Instruments can also be **purchased outright either new or second hand**. (Please seek advice from the music staff before purchasing.) **BUYER BEWARE:** The market is being flooded with cheap instruments from India and China which are of very poor quality and difficult to play. They are often half the price of quality instruments, but not economical to purchase. They usually have no warranty and most instrument repairers won't repair them, or if they do, there is no guarantee given as the instrument's build quality in the first instance, is extremely poor. These instruments are usually on E-Bay but also appear as "budget lines" in local music retailers and Aldi Supermarkets. Re-sale value is very poor on these instruments.

Evaluation

Students involved in the Music Program will be assessed at the end of each term and a report on their progress will be sent to their parents at the end of each semester.

Students are encouraged to incorporate A.M.E.B. (Australian Music Examinations Board) assessment into their long-term planning. For more information on this option, please either contact your music specialist teacher, or have a look at the A.M.E.B. website on www.ameb.qld.edu.au.

Music Fees

Students involved in the St Joseph's Music Program pay a cheaper rate for lessons than that recommended by the Music Teachers Association of Queensland.

*Private Lessons (weekly) 20 minute – **Drums only \$225 per term = \$25 per lesson***

*30 minute - **\$333 per term = \$37 per lesson***

*45 minute - **\$495 per term = \$55 per lesson***

*60 minute - **\$576 per term = \$64 per lesson***

*Group Lessons – 30 minute - 3 to 4 students per group (weekly) **\$243 per term or \$27 per lesson***

Music Tuition fees will be added to the first month's school fees each term. Please do not pay your fees directly to the Music Specialist Teacher. If fees are not paid by the due date, the child's place in this program may be offered to another student on the waiting list.

Once fees have been paid for a term and you have commenced lessons for the term, your commitment to that term is expected. Music lessons may be suspended if music and school fees are unpaid.

No refund will be given for a child's inability to attend a lesson, unless a child is unable to attend lessons for more than one week due to an ongoing medical reason. In this case, if parents supply a copy of a supporting medical certificate, lesson costs will be credited to the following term's account.

- **Termination of Lessons**

Should parents decide to withdraw their child from the Music Program, it is necessary that an Enrolment/Cancellation Form, is completed by the parents and returned to the Finance Secretary. As Music Specialists are employed on a term-basis, it is only fair for them to expect to have consistent work for the term, and therefore cancellation of lessons during the term is not permitted. **Three weeks prior to the end of term is required for the cessation of lessons. It is imperative notice is given to allow us to accommodate a student on our waiting list.**

2017 Music Department Staff

Head of Music Department, Violin, Viola & Double Bass: Mrs Stephanie Linsdell

Stephanie comes to us with various experiences as a Music Specialist and Instrumental Music Strings Teacher across a number of schools in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast.

Stephanie has the following Professional experience:

- Musician with Ensemble Fabrique, Brisbane Philharmonic Orchestra and Ady Ensemble
- Guest Conductor at Gladstone State Primary Schools Instrumental Music Workshop
- Accompanist National Institute of Youth Performing Arts Australia

Stephanie's Qualifications include:

Graduate Diploma of Education

Griffith University Award for Academic Excellence

Bachelor of Music (Honours)

Diploma of Music

Diploma of Associate in Pianoforte Performance

Cello: Mr Alex McPherson

Alex is very passionate about teaching and performing music, and is very much looking forward to sharing his skills and experience with young musicians at St Joseph's.

Alex has been learning cello since the age of five, with a variety of teachers and is thoroughly aware of the importance of musical education in a growing young person, especially in developing a well-rounded individual. Alex comes to St Joseph's having previous teaching experiences in a variety of schools across Brisbane as well as his own private studio. Alex has experience with groups ranging from eight to twenty cellists, as well as teaching individual students between grades 3 and 8.

Alex has the following Professional Music Experience:

- Principal cello Tasmanian Discovery Orchestra
- Casual with Camerata of St John's, guest principal cello with Sinfonia of St Andrew's Cathedral
- Australian International Symphony Orchestra Institute. Associate Principal
- Hobart Baroque Ensemble
- Tasmania Discovery Orchestra (Principal Cello)
- Tasmania Discovery Orchestra Sinfonietta (Principal Cello)
- MONA FOMA with Dean Stevenson and the Arco Set
- Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music Symphony Orchestra (Principal Cello)
- Jan Sedivka Camerata (Principal Cello)
- MONA FOMA with Dean Stevenson and Q4
- Quartet Relief concert for Victorian Bushfires
- Brisbane Philanthropic Orchestra Project (Principal Cello)
- Mothers' Day Concert, with The Quintessential Quartet
- Quintessential String Quartet Concerts in Kuala Lumpur for the HELP Foundation with the University of Queensland
- University of Queensland Symphony Orchestra (Principal 2005)

Alex's Qualifications include:

Diploma in Music Performance

Master of Music, University of Tasmania

Graduate Diploma of Music Studies, University of Tasmania

Bachelor of Music, (First Class Honours) University of Queensland

Piano: Keeyana Babsek

Keeyana has taught piano to all ages at several schools, and specialist music schools in Brisbane and Far North Queensland. She thoroughly enjoys helping students grow musically, whether it is working towards exams, eisteddfods or just for leisure. She has successfully entered students of all ages in Piano and Theory Examinations, from Preliminary to Eighth grade. Keeyana is also an active member of Music Teachers Association QLD.

Keeyana has the following Professional experience:

- Musician in Trio of two violins and piano-QLD Conservatorium
- Pianist in musical "Annie", SQUIDS Theatrical

Keeyana's Qualifications include:

Bachelor of Music, Queensland Conservatorium

AMUSA

Teaching Diploma, Australian College of Music

Performing Diploma, Australian College of Music

Diploma of Music, St. Cecilia School of Music Tasmania

Percussion: Richard Daniel

Richard Daniell has had extensive contact and influence in the Arts scene around Australia for the last 10 years. He has been able to tour and play inside a range of styles with artists like Gretchen Parlato (USA), Scott Tinklet (AUS), Mike Mareno (USA), Ren Walters (AUS), Scott McConnachie (AUS). His collaborations with many different bands have led him to play nationally and internationally at festival such as SXSW (TX), London Calling (NL), The Great Escape (UK), Falls, MONA FOMA, Harvest Festival, Melbourne Jazz Festival and Splendour In The Grass. He has been a member of the seminal Australian band The Grates for the last three years and been able to record and tour with them playing alongside artists like The Flaming Lips (USA). Richard graduated from the Queensland Conservatorium under drummer Ken Edie and regularly collaborates with faculty members Erik Griswold and Vanessa Tomlinson in conjunction with the Clocked Out Duo. Richard also is a co-owner of a Brisbane record label that champions the releases of local artists through vinyl and tape mediums.

Richard's Qualifications include:

The Queensland Conservatorium, Bachelor of Music, Drums

Piano/Keyboard/Voice: Janette Kircher

Mrs Janette Kircher graduated from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music in 1992 with a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Classical voice and piano. Janette undertook advanced studies in Music Theory, Vocal Pedagogy and Performance with a sprinkling of Choral Conducting under the amazing leadership of the late Dr John Nickson. She grew up in Townsville in a musical family and can't remember a time when she wasn't humming a tune, making up songs or playing the piano & guitar 'by Ear'.

Janette has been performing and teaching privately at her Home Studio and in Schools for many years and is also a highly sought after Accompanist playing for Eisteddfods and Music Exams and has been busy conducting Community Choirs and Vocal Ensembles for many years. Janette is also the Co-Founder of the Brisbane Musical Theatre Company which ran for over a decade, fostering local talent & introducing future stars like Kate Miller-Heidke.

In her spare time, Janette sings in her Acapella group "Sing 'n Tonic", her family Bush Band "K3 Plus" and is a regular Singer/Pianist at Weddings & Corporate Events. She enjoys writing Mini-Musicals,

Pantomimes and arranging music for her Ensembles. Janette also enjoys an occasional foray into Community Theatre as Musical Director as well as Roles on the Stage and has recently played 'Sister Sophia' in a local production of "The Sound of Music".

Janette has an absolute love for ALL Music which is infectious to those around her, and is passionate about encouraging children and adults alike to enjoy singing and playing music for their whole lifetime! Her aim is to help her students be the best they can be and help them find a confidence in themselves that only the joys of music, singing and performing can bring!

Janette's qualifications include:

Bachelor of Arts majoring in Classical voice and piano.

Woodwind: Cathy Anderson

Cathy joined the music staff at St Josephs in 2013, bringing with her, her extensive experience of teaching young children, teenagers and adult students over many years. She has taught flute, piano, clarinet, saxophone and theory both at a number of schools in the Brisbane region and in her home studio. In addition she enjoys directing and conducting both Flute and Woodwind Ensembles. Cathy loves the challenge of engaging with her students at their particular level and ability and enabling them to reach their full musical potential. Cathy has sat many students for A.M.E.B. examinations ranging from Grade 1 to A.Mus.A. level. She has played flute and piccolo in the Harvest Rain Theatre Company orchestra as well as performing with chamber music groups. Currently Cathy enjoys coordinating and participating in the music ministry of her local church.

Cathy's qualifications include:

Postgraduate Diploma in Music Studies (Queensland Conservatorium of Music, Griffith University)

A.Mus.A. (flute)

B. Pty. (University of Queensland)

Guitar: Mr Jack Richardson

Jack has provided individualised music tuition to students of all ages and all skill levels, from absolute beginners to students studying music at a tertiary level. In the experience that Jack has obtained through regular teaching he has gained a love and passion for providing excellent tuition at all levels of development. Jack has the ability to build a rapport with students and provide them with excellent service to see them progress rapidly. Over the years Jack has undertaken many group lessons with students of all ages and has developed strategies for effective lesson plans.

Jack comes to us with extensive performance experience and has a great ability to lead ensembles of all skill levels and over a range of music styles.

Jack has extensive performance experience with some of Australia's great Jazz Musicians including; Paul Grabowsky (Melbourne), Alastair Spence (Sydney), Eric Griswald, Marc Hannaford (Melbourne) David Ades, Allan Browne (Melbourne), Cameron Undy (Sydney), Simon Barker (Sydney), Carl Dewhurst (Sydney), Julian Wilson (Melbourne), James Sherlock, Steve Newcomb, John Hoffman, Sam Pankhurst among many others. This association has led Jack to perform in some of Australia's most prestigious venues such as SIMA (Seymour Centre, Sydney), 505 (Sydney), Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Judith Wright Centre of Performing Arts, Brisbane Powerhouse, Brisbane Jazz Club, Bennetts Lane Jazz Club (Melbourne) and at the Brisbane International Jazz Festival.

Jack's Qualifications include:

The Music Institute, Brisbane - Advanced Diploma of Jazz Improvisation

The Queensland Conservatorium of Music, Brisbane - Bachelor of Music

Violin: Miss Ho-Ching Leung

Ho-Ching has been involved in music since before commencing school. She learnt piano and violin through school and was involved in orchestras, quartets and choirs going on international tours with school. She continued her performance studies at the Queensland Conservatorium with an elective in Pedagogy

Studies. Her aim as a music teacher is to give a strong foundation to her students so they can blossom, enjoy and express themselves musically as they grow.

Ho-Ching's Qualifications include:

Queensland Conservatorium of Music, Bachelor of Music, Violin

Associate Diploma of Music, Violin

8th Grade, Piano

How do I enrol?

- Please complete the attached registration form and return it to the school office before the end of term.
- Do not send in money for tutor books until a position has been offered.
- The program will start in week 2 of Term 1 2017.

Any enquiries should be directed to the School Office on 3391 5397 or pkangaroopt@bne.catholic.edu.au

Kind regards

M. P. O'Sullivan

Micheal O'Sullivan
Principal

2017 Instrumental Afternoon
Wednesday 2nd November, 2016
2:00 pm in the church
Come and meet our Music Staff for 2017
& hear them demonstrate their skills.



St Joseph's Primary School Music Program

2017 Enrolment & Cancellation Form For Private & Group Lessons, Prep – 6

Personal & Family Information:

Please tick one of
These 4 options

- New Enrolment
 Continuing 2016 Enrolment*

- Change of Enrolment
 Cancellation of Enrolment

***All current students must re-enrol each year**

Student's Name: _____ Year: (2017) _____
 Parent's Name: _____ Home Phone: _____
 Mobile Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
 Parent Email: _____

Enrolment Information *Terms and Conditions outlined in the Music Handbook for Parents & Students

Lessons on: _____
 Please write Instrument Name or Voice

LESSON TYPE:

- Drums Private (20 min)
 Small Group (30 min)
 Private (30 min)
 Private (45 min)
 Private (60 min)

Do you need an instrument? **Yes/No**
 Instrument Hire \$100 per term

Do you wish your child to follow the structured A.M.E.B. Yes No

To take effect at the **beginning** of Term: 1 2 3 4

PLEASE NOTE:

- Students must remain in private/group lessons for each full term, and are not allowed to cancel mid-term. 3 WEEKS NOTICE prior to the end of a term is required for students withdrawing from lessons, otherwise pro-rata fees may be charged.
- If fees are not paid by the due date, the child's place in this program may be offered to another student on the waiting list.
- If Music and School Fees are in arrears, music lessons will be suspended
- Parents are required to email the Head of Music, Stephanie Linsdell, slinsdell@bne.catholic.edu.au and instrumental teacher prior to 8 am on the morning of the lesson, otherwise no make-up lesson will be given. No make-up lessons will be made for students who are absent during the term for family holidays.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Date Processed:	
Take effect as of:	

COPY TO TEACHER

INFORMATION ABOUT THE A.M.E.B.

(AUSTRALIAN MUSIC EXAMINATIONS BOARD)

At St Joseph's, students are encouraged to participate in a structured system of learning that provides benchmarks to reach and short-term goals to achieve along their musical journey with us. One method of doing this is by having periodic examinations (1 or 2 per year) that earn the student a grade level (or ranking) that is understood by everyone in the country (the system goes from grades 1-8, and then various internationally-recognised diplomas are available beyond that point). The largest, and most widely-recognised formal assessment structure in Australia is that of the A.M.E.B. Others, such as TCL (Trinity College, London) offer a similar examination process, and some teachers prefer one over the other.

The idea is quite simple. Students learn in small group or private lessons with their Music Specialist Teacher as outlined in the Music Program. If they choose to prepare for examinations, part of what they prepare for their lessons will be set pieces for the specific grading they're trying to achieve. Exams are timetabled by the Examination Board and happen throughout each year at various locations around Brisbane. A huge benefit is derived by having *measurable short-term goals*, and rewards for hard work and consistent effort. Boys especially find such a structured system far more rewarding and enticing than less structured approaches.

How it works: Your child's teacher will pick a future session to aim for doing an exam (for example, July or November), and the specifics of date and location are then mailed to the teacher three weeks prior to the actual exam. You will be given a chance to accept the date & time and organise an accompanist (or your teacher can organise one).

The exam will take anywhere from 15-45 minutes depending on the level of difficulty. If successful, the student will receive a certificate of achievement for the particular grade, and notes from the adjudicator.

Costs Involved: There is a fee to take each exam, and this varies as the exams get more difficult and hence require more of an adjudicator's time. Specific fees can be found on the A.M.E.B. website, and are quite reasonable. In addition, students are responsible for paying the accompanist for rehearsal and exam time.

Some Excerpts from the A.M.E.B. Website: www.ameb.qld.edu.au

WHAT DOES THE A.M.E.B. OFFER?

- A qualification that is widely recognised and respected.
- The only examination body with formal links to major Australian Universities and Ministers for Education.
- The most widely-used assessment system for Music, Speech and Drama in Australia.
- Syllabuses across a wide range of musical instruments, from beginner level to tertiary entrance standard.
- Contemporary Popular Music courses with backing tracks.
- Theory and musicianship assessments.
- Highly-trained examiners who are specialists in their instrument.
- Detailed written reports for practical examinations.
- Fresh and accessible syllabuses developed in consultation with teachers, parents and students.
- A wide range of repertoire available in the manual lists, in addition to A.M.E.B. publications.
- An excellent range of music specially selected for each grade.

WHY CHOOSE THE A.M.E.B. ?

- The A.M.E.B. tradition extends back to 1887.
- In this time we have developed a comprehensive system of evaluation in all major areas of Music, as well as Speech and Drama. Today we provide the broadest range of support and assessment available.
- The A.M.E.B.'s commitment to quality means that students who pass exams receive a qualification which is widely recognised and respected.
- For students who plan to go on to tertiary studies, A.M.E.B. exams are recognised as the benchmark for entry into tertiary institutions Australia-wide.
- Our awards are also recognised internationally by such prestigious institutions as Cambridge University Overseas Examination Board.

ST JOSEPH'S SPEECH & DRAMA

Dear Parents,



Exciting Speech & Drama lessons are available for students of St Joseph's from Prep to Year 6. Classes are scheduled **Monday, Thursday and Friday from 9:45am - 4pm**. Final lesson times for each grade will be advised upon consultation with the classroom teachers.

Students will be given the opportunity to enter in the Brisbane, Enoggera and Beenleigh Eisteddfods, as well as participating in enjoyable school-based activities, and performing in formal concerts for families to enjoy. *Whether students wish to participate in public performances is completely optional.*



In line with the Queensland Speech & Drama Teachers Association fee schedule, each hourly lesson is \$14.00 per student. A 5% discount for students of the same family will apply.

If you are interested in enrolling; please complete the attached form and return it to the school office, or email us directly with the relevant information. We will contact you directly with a class time for your child once a timetable is set.

Benefits of Speech & Drama

- ✓ Means of increasing a child's self-confidence, in and out of the classroom. It is our aim to promote self-assurance that will continue to grow throughout their schooling.
- ✓ Further development of creative and analytical thought, as well as the use of physical expression that evolves through Drama.
- ✓ Enhanced involvement in group dynamics and social interaction between children.
- ✓ Practical activities to enhance confidence, reading skills, and public speaking.

We look forward to meeting you.

Kind Regards,

Joshua Richards & Katrina Hohn



St Joseph's Speech & Drama

Student's Name:

Class:

Parent / Guardians Names:

Contact Phone Numbers:

E-mail (*please print clearly*):

Times not suitable due to other commitments:

Would you be interested in after-school class?

*If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact
Joshua*

Enrolments & Enquiries

Joshua Richards joshua.richards@bne.catholic.edu.au

Returning Term 2, 2017

Katrina Hohn kolley@bne.catholic.edu.au

