



Diocesan Music Initiative; aking usic atter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome back to Term 2 of the Diocesan Instrumental Music Program at St Patrick's School. There is much credible evidence of the social, emotional and intellectual benefits of children (and adults) learning, and practising regularly, a musical instrument. Your child is in the process of reading and communicating another language. They have learned to become more responsible by remembering their equipment, their lesson time and day. They have become attuned to listening to their own instrument and sound, and blending this into the ensemble. They have learnt to cooperate with the rest of the 'team' in the ensemble and the teacher leading it. Students have had all of this skill development and benefits whilst having a whole lot of fun.

We are ready to embark on our Band program at St Pat's. Due to the sheer size of the enrolments in the Instrumental Program we are running two Band sessions: **Tuesday morning at 7:45am** or **Thursday afternoon at 3pm**. Thank you for emailing your preferred session for your child/ren. Both sessions have a one hour duration.

On Tuesday morning, Tony Smith will conduct the band students. Tony has over 35 years experience in the music industry and plays trumpet and trombone while arranging for the Murray Con's Big Band, Wodonga Brass and Albury City Band.

On Thursday afternoon, Margy Brown, St Pat's Music Specialist, will conduct the band under the mentoring of Tony Smith.

Band Practice will begin in Week 5.

I am confident that all students will have a lot of fun whilst working in their respective ensembles.

Band is a compulsory component of the Diocesan Instrumental program, and is crucial in the progression of your child's development. It is also the responsibility that they have to the rest of 'the team' who will be working to perfect their sound whilst rehearsing pieces for future performances and events.

If your child is attending the Tuesday morning session, I ask that you drop them off at the Kiewa St entrance to St Pat's School and they can make their way to the hall where band will take place immediately. Students will have completed their Band Practice before classes begin at 9am.

If your child is attending the Thursday afternoon session I ask that students make their way to the hall when Early Bus children leave for the afternoon. Band will then take place immediately. Parents can then collect their child/ren from the Hall using the Kiewa St entrance to the school. All students will need to bring their instrument and music packs only.

Hopefully over the coming week you can decide on the best way for your family to work around this schedule. Perhaps you could share the drive or pick up with a friend? Please contact me if this new arrangement creates an impossible dilemma for you.

Kind Regards,

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