



Penshurst Public School

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Training Band Program 2024

Tuesday 7th November, 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Today your child expressed an interest in joining the school Training Band.

No previous musical training or ability is required. They just need a desire to learn and participate in the fun and the challenge that being part of a school band brings.

Our Band Director, Murray Bishop will help your child choose a suitable instrument. Factors influencing his/her choice of instrument include the instrumental balance of the band and the physical suitability of the instrument to the student. Please let us know if your child already has an instrument. This happens beginning Term 1, 2024.

If you and your child decide to join training band, the following commitment will be required:

- **Band Rehearsal:** Monday 8:00-9:00 am in the Desert Pea Hub on Level 1. (Start date to be advised)
- **Weekly Small Group Tutorials** (40 mins): during school hours on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday
- **Band fees: \$170 every term which equates to \$680 for the year**
- **\$50 per term** - instrument hire (if required) **which equates to a total of \$200 for the year**
The cost includes group tutorials (regardless of the number of weeks in the term)
- **Band fees are non-refundable** as the school employs specialist music teachers on behalf of band members.
You will receive an invoice once lessons commence.
- **Participation in performances**

The band requires a one-year commitment which means that if your child commits to the program, it will cost a minimum of \$680 for the year. Please discuss this with your child before applying to join. This commitment allows your child time to develop instrumental skills, learn to read music and co-ordinate these skills when playing in the band with others. There are more benefits of learning music overleaf.

Please return this signed permission note to Mrs Hanna if you are interested in band membership.

Please direct any questions to one of the following:

Mr Lie (Principal)

Mrs Hanna, Mrs Jackson and Mrs Alderton (Band Coordinators)



Commitment to Band Note

My child _____ in class _____ is interested in playing _____ * in the school training band. * clarinet, flute, saxophone, trumpet/brass, percussion (drumkit), keyboard

My child and I understand that there is a commitment to spend at least one year in the band.

I understand that band fees are \$170* every term which equates to \$680 for the year and the full amount is non-refundable. I also understand that to help maintain my child's interest in learning an instrument, it is important that I play an active role by encouraging my child to practise regularly (10 minutes per day), to be punctual and attend band rehearsals _____ and _____ tutorials.

Band Fees: \$680 per year

Instrument hire: \$200 per year YES PLEASE / NOT REQUIRED (circle correct one)

My child has an instrument: _____ (write down name of instrument)

Parent signature _____ Student signature _____ Date _____

Benefits of Learning Music

Your child would like to take up this opportunity to learn how to play a musical instrument and play in a band.

Children in primary school years are at their optimum age to begin musical understanding and learning, which is quite different to any other skill.

Benefits of joining the Penshurst PS Training Band

- Learning to play a musical instrument
- Learning to read a musical score
- Developing skills of musicianship
- Playing in a group which provides cooperative and social experiences
- Performing in a group which helps reduce performance anxiety
- Other benefits of having a musical education are listed below.

Scientists, musicians, educational and health experts over the last century have discovered a multitude of valuable and helpful benefits that come with intentional music lessons and rehearsing (which is quite different to singing along with the radio.)

Proven by science and research, the benefits of playing music include:

- Music training helps the brain significantly with other higher functions such as mathematics and permanently wires this enhanced performance
- Learning about timing and rhythm helps other coordination such as in sport
- Music is an artistic outlet that assists emotional development and expression
- Discipline, perseverance, dependability, composure, courage and pride in results
- US studies have shown that, regardless of socio-economic status or school, students who participate in high-quality music programs perform up to 20% better on English and standard maths exams
- Primary aged children who are involved in music lessons show greater brain development and memory within a year than children who receive no musical training
- Children who are involved in school music improve in all areas of their study, work better in teams, have enhanced critical thinking skills, stay in school, lower truancy and drug use in high school and pursue further education