

# **MUSIC SUPPORTERS P&C REPORT MARCH 2009**

## **Music Teacher Updates**

Renee Heron has been appointed as our Strings Teacher for Semester 1 2009 whilst Nadine Dinnis is on maternity leave. The strings are up and running and the Year Four strings have their camp the last week of Term 1.

Fons Hartog, Brass/Woodwind Instrumental program, indicated at our recent meeting that there are 13 continuing students and 14 beginning students. This actually reflects a number of students not continuing into 2009 which is disappointing. It highlighted once again the need to encourage students to commit fully to learning the instrument – for both practice and to the program. Only after some time will the rewards of learning the instrument be felt by the student, and they need to be encouraged in this way. Music Buddies are going to be introduced to assist and support the beginner students.

Sue Underhill (Classroom Music and Choral Leader) indicated a very positive start to the choirs for 2009. Due to the quality of the groups, Sue is looking at some extra activities such as an eisteddfod in April/May.

## **Performances**

This year, due to the NAPLAN testing, the Music Mayhem is not being held until June and therefore the teachers are looking into some earlier performances. This could include a nursing homes (Regis The Gap, IONA) and on assembly. Mark your diaries for 3<sup>rd</sup> June for the Music Mayhem to be held at the Ashgrove Baptist Church.

Art & Music Soiree – There will be some musical performances at the Soiree but the details of this event are yet to be finalised.

Kaleidoscope – Our inaugural Kaleidoscope Concert was held last November and was such a success we will be having another Kaleidoscope in 2009. The benefit of the Kaleidoscope is that it shows the progression of the students over the year. The concert will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> November again at the Ashgrove Baptist Church.

Other possible performances include Indooroopilly Shoppingtown for the first week in November.

## **Program Encouragement**

Music supporters have been looking at ways to enthuse and encourage our choral and instrumental students. One concept is to have guest conductors come and work with the groups. We are hopeful that the string ensembles might have the benefit of a guest conductor sometime in Term 2.

Another concept was the introduction of the Music Newsletter to be published each term or two. Three issues were published last year and a fourth issue is planned for Term 2, 2009.

A Music Information night was held towards the end of 2009 for all of the beginner instrumental students. We have also been discussing whether to hold an information night for ongoing students to talk with parents and students about ways we can work together to encourage students.

## **Music Uniforms**

The Music Uniform will be unchanged for 2009, although we have had discussions throughout 2008 of some different options. All beginner students were advised of the correct uniform in the Information Booklet and the Music Newsletter has also detailed the correct uniform.

## **Meetings**

We have been fortunate enough to meet on a Wednesday afternoon, which enables all three music teachers to be present and often Vicki Richards. The music supporters group will be meeting again in April in order to continue with our planning for 2009. Our first meeting was well supported and I thank those parents for their support.

*Faye Holmes*