



**LEURA PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
Cnr Mount Hay Rd and Willow Park Ave  
Leura, 2780  
ph : 4784 1251 fax : 4784 3156  
email : [leura-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:leura-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

*respect*

*responsibility*

*resilience*

4 February 2019

### **MUSIC MATTERS**

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to a new school year! I am sure many of you and your children have questions about the extra-curricular music opportunities here at our school for 2019, so I would like to take this opportunity to provide some information.

#### **SCHOOL BAND UPDATE**

Our 2018 Band Director (Jade) has been offered and accepted work that prevents her from continuing in her role here at LPS. Mr Connor and I have been collaborating with the Mitchell Conservatorium to organise a replacement Band Director, but without any success yet. We are hopeful to have a replacement for Term 2. In the meantime, Mr Connor has agreed to combine the students who participated in the junior and senior bands last year, continuing to provide them with regular opportunities to learn and grow, until a more suitable candidate can be found. This term we will only be accepting new students into the brass section of the band as there are a number of vacancies. Other instrument options will be communicated towards the end of Term 1, to start in Term 2. Those students who are participating in band this term will be offered the opportunity at a reduced cost (as we will not be paying for a Band Director). Band sessions will be held on Wednesday afternoons 2-3pm, as part of the Year 3-6 Creative Arts group period, starting in Week 4. Mr Connor will communicate with students directly about instruments, practise and sheet music organisation. There have been some minor rearrangements of band tuition times and days, which Mr Connor and the tutors have co-ordinated. We are welcoming a new flute tutor to our team – Justine Bristow, who will be replacing Jade in this role. All tuition lessons will begin for 2019 next week. Students will be provided with 9 tuition sessions this term (Week 3 – Week 11). Invoices for Term 1 fees will be sent home to the band students shortly.

#### **CHOIR**

This year the Upper Blue Mountains Music Festival will showcase junior choirs from across our local schools. This focus changes from senior choir in one year to junior choir the next year. Our Junior Choir will perform at this festival in 2019. Our Junior Choir will accept students from Years 1-3, however only students from Years 2-3 are able to perform at the music festival concert. Junior Choir will rehearse 11.15-11.45am each Wednesday, starting in Week 3.

We were unsuccessful in our audition for the Festival of Choral Music. As such, our Senior Choir will instead focus on working towards local level performances, which will support our community connections. Senior Choir will rehearse from 8.15am each Wednesday, starting in Week 3.



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## RECORDER ENSEMBLES

This year, Mr Connor will work with two recorder groups – Junior (Years 1-2 students) and Senior (Years 3-6 students). The aim is to develop skills for an increased number of students in playing the recorder and performing at school-based events. We hope to successfully audition for the Festival of Instrumental Music in coming years. The Junior Recorder Group will rehearse on Mondays at recess (1.30pm). The Senior Recorder Group will rehearse on Wednesdays at recess (1.30pm).

I hope the information above answers any questions you may have about our extra-curricular music programs. Please contact me or Mr Connor through the school office or the school email if you would like any further clarification.

Yours sincerely,

Elise Berwick

Principal