

## **Publish in the Spiral on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

Music at Michael Park is stepping up this year, with the arrival of our new head of music, Rob Collinge, in term two. Rob comes with significant experience in New Zealand and overseas, and with a range of new skills to bring to the existing music team (Megan Baguley, Kate Bell, Adam Dubignon, Rosana Fea). Special thanks to Joyoti Wylie for her hard work relieving in high school music during term one.

In keeping with our fundamental aim of supporting the developmental needs of students, our plan for the current year includes:

### **Classes 1 – 4**

- ⇒ **Two music practice lessons per week.**
- ⇒ This includes the use of pentatonic flutes in Classes 1 and 2, and the introduction of a range of fundamental music skills through clapping, rhythmic work and singing games, all of which involve learning through imitation.
- ⇒ The singing programme includes songs for festivals, main lessons, and singing for fun!
- ⇒ In Class 3 there is a change from pentatonic flutes to diatonic descant recorders. Students begin note reading, and this is augmented with the study of music theory beginning in Class 4. In addition, from Class 3 onwards, students are encouraged to take up an instrument, usually beginning with the violin.

### **Classes 5 – 8**

- ⇒ **Twice weekly music lessons continue.**
- ⇒ In Class 5 this includes a continuation of recorder lessons (students are encouraged to explore other recorders).
- ⇒ Weekly singing lessons focus on the development of listening skills and a healthy vocal technique. In Classes 6, 7 and 8 this includes splitting the singing lessons into separate male and female voice ensembles, to further develop listening skills. Singing also forms an important component of the German and Te Reo programmes. Music block lessons include guitar and marimba band, and these include a theory component.

### **Classes 9 - 12**

- ⇒ The high school music programme includes the study of music theory, ensemble playing, and the fundamentals of harmony and composition. Guitar skills are also taught and there are main lessons which introduce students to music history (classical and contemporary).

### **Itinerant Music Programme**

- ⇒ We have a talented team of music teachers offering lessons to our students in violin, cello, guitar, piano, brass instruments and jazz piano. In addition, we have itinerant lessons available in percussion and electric guitar, for students from Class 7 onwards. Please contact Megan Baguley (megan.baguley@gmail.com) if you are interested in enrolling your child in an itinerant programme.

**Senior Orchestra** is scheduled on Tuesdays from 8.15am to 9.15am.

**High School Choir** runs on Thursdays from 8.15am to 9.15am, with supplementary lessons as they prepare to enter the Big Sing competition.

**Junior Orchestra** is scheduled on Tuesdays during school time.

***If you are interested in your child participating in one of these ensembles, please email Megan (megan.baguley@gmail.com) or leave a message at the school office.***

### **Events This Year**

⇒ We have two music weeks scheduled this year, during which our singing students and instrumental ensembles will be performing. Details to follow.

**Best wishes from the music team.**

**Megan Baguley, Kate Bell, Adam Dubignon, Rosana Fea**