



Eaglehawk Music 2022



2022 Music Information & Try-Out Night
Thursday 17/02/22 Performing Arts Centre
5.00 – 6.30pm

Judy Chalmers

judith.chalmers@education.vic.gov.au

5446 8099

Eaglehawk Music Staff

- Judy Chalmers,
Performing Arts Coordinator
- Paul Burke (Monday)
Guitar Teacher
Individual/group lessons
- Hilary Blackshaw (Wednesday)
Strings: Violin and Viola
String ensemble director
- Jenny Gogolin (Wednesday)
Woodwind: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone
Allegro & Ostinati Band director
- Jane Geddes (Wednesdsay)
Brass: Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba
- Lazare Agneskis (Monday)
Percussion/Drum teacher

Eaglehawk Music

There are two types of Performing Arts classes:

- **Performing Arts** - All Year 7 students take Performing Arts as one of their timetabled subjects.
- **Instrumental Music** - This is a student selected extra subject. Students choose Instrumental Music in addition to their normal number of timetabled subjects.

Eaglehawk Instrumental Music has 3 compulsory elements to its program

1. **Playing in band**
2. **Playing in your lesson**
3. **Playing at Home**

Playing in Band

Playing in a band or ensemble is an integral part of learning an instrument. Everyone taking instrumental music at Eaglehawk College will be part of a band or ensemble throughout the year. The students' ensemble rehearsal is the focal point of our program and develops important elements of musicianship in our students.

Allegro Band

Woodwind, Brass and Percussion students start off in the Allegro Band. They rehearse during school time in the Performing Arts Building.

String Ensemble

String students will be members of the String Ensemble which rehearses during school time in the Performing Arts Building.

Playing in a lesson

Students attend a 35 minute lesson once a week during the normal school day where the teacher will guide and encourage them in their musical journey. The instrumental teacher will rotate this lesson throughout the course of the term to minimise the time students are out of other subjects. Lesson times are shown on a student's Compass schedule and a timetable is also displayed on the Music department windows. Students should attend their normal class first, let the classroom teacher know they have music and then head quickly to their lesson.

Playing at Home

The only way to master an instrument is to commit time to playing it. Talent and ability grow when students play regularly at home and school. Our Instrumental Teachers will encourage beginner students to play for about 15 – 20 minutes, five times per week. Students who do this find they are continually improving on their instrument, which in turn leads to a greater enjoyment and sense of satisfaction around their music.

Support from Parents

Parental Support has a positive impact on a student's success and attitude towards playing music.

Some parental tips

- Arrange a private, comfortable place for playing
- Help plan a regular time to play within the family routine
- Check your child's Compass schedule and remind them to take the instrument to school
- Take time to listen to them play and acknowledge their effort and progress
- Encourage them to persist when playing seems hard or difficult
- Encourage kids to have a long term view and to see the big picture, we are learning to become a musician
- Arrange practice sessions with friends
- Buy recordings of good musicians
- Support school musical event

Music Pathways

Instrumental Music Study is a life-long journey and can lead students to various professional or amateur pursuits. There are 3 subjects offered to Instrumental students at VCE. Students go on to become professional musicians, conductors, recording artists, sound engineers, artist managers, instrument repairers, as well as community players and singers in concert/brass bands, orchestras, musicals, operas and rock/folk/jazz bands.

Choosing an Instrument to Learn

Students watched and listened to lots of new instruments last week, some they liked and others not.



A few tips to help students choose

1. The sound of the instrument.
2. The physical requirements of the instrument.
3. Choose what **YOU** are interested in and keep an open mind.
4. **Why 3 choices?** All ensembles need to be created with a balance of instruments so that we get the best sound. Most students will get to learn their 1st preference but occasionally it is not possible.
5. Seek the music teacher's advice about instrument purchase.

Purchasing or Hiring an Instrument

There are three main options when acquiring an instrument for your child to play.

- Buying a new instrument
- Buying a second-hand instrument
- Hiring an instrument from the school.

Buying a New Instrument

The best option, if the family budget can afford it. This provides a quality instrument and encourages the student to take pride in their equipment. Instruments hold their value pretty well and buying an instrument avoids spending money on hiring.

Buying a 2ndHand Instrument

This has many of the advantages of a new instrument but at a lower cost. Allow maybe \$50.00 - \$100.00 for a service in the first 12 months. Ask the Music teachers about recommended brands. A decent instrument will play better, last longer and students will enjoy playing it more. Talk to your teacher regarding specific instrument retailers.

Please be wary of purchasing online. Unless you really know what you're shopping for and confident in the retailer, take care as all music teachers have eBay horror stories. Don't buy instruments from toyshops or supermarkets.

Hiring a Brass Woodwind or String instrument

The region's Instrument Hire Scheme can hire you an instrument for \$100.00 a year. This is the cheapest way to get a student started, although in some cases, hiring can actually cost you

more. E.g. if you buy a clarinet, then sell it a few years later, you might lose around \$200.00. If you had hired it for those few years, it would have cost you \$300.

Bass/Guitar

We can't hire bass/guitars through the Instrument Hire Scheme. Students who choose to learn bass or guitar will need to provide their own instrument. Reasonably priced, good quality instruments are available through local music stores, see your teacher for advice.

Fees

Yearly Fees

Subject levy - \$150.00

Hire Fee - \$100 (For students who don't own an instrument)

Fees are due in the last week of Term One Friday 27th March.

We would hate to see any student missing out on learning Music. If you expect to have any trouble paying fees by the correct date, please contact the Performing Arts coordinator through the school to discuss alternative payment arrangements. These arrangements will be treated confidentially.

Other Expenses

- Clarinet and Saxophone players will require reeds which are available from the school office. (\$2.50 Clarinet, \$3.50 Saxophone).
- Brass players will need valve oil (\$10). Trombone players will need slide cream.
- Strings break occasionally, and need replacing.
- A student needs a music stand when practising at home. About \$20.00 should get one to do the job.
- We'll go on excursions from time to time.
- Music Week is a 4-day rehearsal camp, with guest conductors, music activities and guest performers, but the students don't stay overnight. This is for Strings, Percussion, Brass and Woodwind students. Not to be missed. \$120.00
- Fretworks is like Music Week but for guitarists and is always a fantastic week. \$120.00

Signing Up

Complete the application form, selecting 3 instruments and hand it to one of the music teachers before you leave tonight. Alternatively, the form can be taken home to have a think about and returned to the General Office by the end of school on Friday the 21st of Feb.

Staff will process the application forms and offer students a place in the program based on availability and suitability. We will send you a welcome letter next week outlining

- Which instrument you'll be learning.
- Who your Instrumental Music teacher will be.
- When your first lesson will be.
- Arrangements for paying music fees and instrument hire fees.
- When your first band rehearsal will be.

Some Important Music Program Dates in 2022

Family Night – 18th May 5:00pm

Winter Concert – 8th June 5.00pm

End of Year Concert: 16th November 5.00pm