



WPS BAND Report - P&C Meeting Term 4: November 7, 2018

The Band Committee is pleased to present this term's report to the P&C:

Current numbers: Training Band 71; Intermediate Band 64; Performing Band 61. Total: 196

HIGHLIGHTS TERM 3

Training Band Workshop (23 July) – Held on the teacher's development day this year given limited availability at school this term. It was a successful workshop for TB, with the post workshop concert well received by parents.

Band Camp (5-7 Aug) – Feedback from all involved was very positive. No post camp concert this year due to a squeezed school calendar. Special thanks to Theo Dorizac for a very well run event. Theo has agreed to organise camp again in 2019.

NSW Band Festival (12 August) – This event was a key highlight for band this year, with *all three bands receiving gold for the first time*. Congratulations all!

NSSWE Spring Festival at Chatswood Concourse (22 September) – performances by Intermediate Band and Training Band. Our bands more than held their own among a range of local bands. This is a good event, but we will feed back to organisers that some bands played for too long and chose pieces that were too hard for them. A long concert requires the children to wait / sit still for quite some time, which can be challenging for some.

Willoughby Spring Fair (1 September) – Another good performance by our Performing Band on a smaller stage than usual. The stage was so small for our numbers that the children were required to stand to play, which they managed very well.

Townhall Primary Proms (19 September): The third year running that a WPS Performing Band has participated in this event. The band performed well and represented their school superbly.

EVENTS – TERM 4

Term 4 is another busy term for the WPS Band program. Events are listed below.

Intro to different musical instruments for Year 2 (PB)	Monday, 22 October
Kindy Information Night (PB)	Monday, 29 October
General Meeting & AGM - Term 4	Monday, 29 October
Instrument Trial for Year 2	Friday, 2 November
Welcome to Band Info Night (PB)	Thursday, 8 November
Band Spectacular (all bands)	Thursday, 15 November
Rhythm test (Year 2, by appointment only)	Tuesday, 13 November
End of Year Christmas Concert and final rehearsal (PB)	Friday, 3 December
End of Year Christmas Concert and final rehearsal (IB)	Tuesday, 4 December
End of Year Christmas Concert and final rehearsal (TB)	Thursday, 6 December
St Stephens Christmas Concert (IB)	Sunday, 2 December
Tutorials Finish for the year	Friday, 7 December
Presentation Day (PB & IB)	Tuesday, 11 December
Instrument Collection	Friday, 14 December

Band Spectacular: Thursday, 15 November: This year, our show case event for the band program moved to the Concourse in Chatswood as the Shore School auditorium was not available. Our annual extravaganza – themed Band Spooktacular – was a major success. Our particular thanks to the WPS teachers who volunteered to help on the night as well as Meredith Robson and her team of volunteers for organizing a stellar event.

FINANCE

The band remains in a solid position financially. The current account balances (note: this is not a complete picture as expenses are still to come) are:

- Cheque account: \$73,115
- Instrument (savings) account: \$41,548

FUNDRAISING

This year, we have raised approximately \$8,900 (excluding funds raised from the band spectacular, which are yet to be itemised) for the band, through approximately one event per term. Our fundraising efforts help to build the instrument account for instrument purchases.

INSTRUMENTS

Eight new instruments were purchased in January 2018 (5 Yamaha student alto saxes @ \$1399 each and 3 Yamaha trombones @ \$950 each). We are expecting another large TB for 2019, and will assess what instruments are needed once we know retention of existing band members and exact demand for TB 2019. We are planning to apply for another community grant in 2019, after not being successful in 2018. The committee is mindful of the need to purchase instruments judiciously given that the instrument account has been built up over many years, and have been exploring whether to adjust our hiring arrangements given the increasing size of band. Hire fees have been raised for 2019 to better align ourselves with other schools running band programs in the area.

TUTORIALS

Our band students continue to have tutorials with Music Partnership tutors in WPS classrooms, 5 days per week. We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the WPS teachers for allowing the band program use of their classrooms.

BAND 2019 AND BEYOND

After discussions with the conductors and the committee, the executive has decided to stick with a three-band format for 2019. That format is more viable in terms of a band balance, band finances and logistics, with the caveats being performance venues cannot always accommodate a very large band.

We will continue to cap numbers for Training Band, but for 2019 we will increase the number from 80 to an absolute maximum of 84. In 2018, we have had strong retention in our bands, so we cannot expect that large numbers will drop off. We will not have a waitlist so those children unsuccessful in obtaining a place in band will need to reapply in 2019.

Rehearsal days for 2019 will be:

Training Band (YR3): Full rehearsal, 1 day per week (Thursday)

Intermediate Band (YR4): Full rehearsal, 2 days per week (Tuesday & Friday)

Performing Band (YR5&6): 2 Full rehearsal, 2 days per week (Monday & Wednesday)

NEW COMMITTEE 2019

We have received good take-up from TB families looking to join band in 2019, with most positions now filled. The Co-Convenors for 2018 - Heather Chopra, Melissa Gock and Nikki Templeton - have agreed to do one final year in 2019. New convenors will be needed for 2020.

Nikki Templeton, Melissa Gock & Heather Chopra

WPS Band Co-Convenors 2018

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