

GRAFTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

Grafton Public School is committed to providing the very best educational opportunities for its students



"Nil Sine Labore"

All Grades Choir Information Booklet





RATIONALE

Grafton Public School has made a commitment to a choir program. Group singing, for those who have done it is the most transformative and exhilarating of all. It takes something that begins inside us, shares it with others and then comes back as something even more thrilling ... harmony.

The benefits of being a part of our choir program include:

- Learning how to listen carefully
- Developing self-discipline
- Working on how to train your 'musical ear'
- Improving and developing social skills
- Reducing anxiety by performing in a variety of settings
- Having the opportunity to travel for performances
- Being a part of a group with like-minded people who share a common interest and talent

WHO CAN JOIN THE ALL GRADES CHOIR?

Students from Years 4-6 are invited to audition for a place in the choir. As this is a selective choir students are chosen based upon their ability to sing in tune.

WHAT CONDITIONS ARE THERE?

Students must agree to:

- Attend all practices possible. These are usually held in the last period of the day but, to limit classroom interruptions, may occur in lunch or recess breaks.
- Store all music lyrics in a plastic-leafed folder which has the student's name, class and Alto or Soprano clearly labelled on the front. This should be brought along to practice sessions.
- Provide a USB, when required, so songs can be copied. This USB is to be taken home and used to practise required songs in readiness for school rehearsals. This should also be labelled with the student's name, class and Alto or Soprano.
- Wear PLAIN, BLACK shoes to all performances along with the regulation Grafton Public School uniform.
- Attend practice sessions ready to have fun, but also work hard in order to achieve the required standard. Reminders to listen, stay on-task and participate fully should not be necessary.

WHAT IF MY CHILD CANNOT COPE?

Discussion should be held with Mrs Robertson. A note from home indicating your child's non-participation would be appreciated.

WHAT PERFORMANCES ARE AVAILABLE?

In 2015, the GPS All Grades Choir was a part of many local, inter-regional and state level performances, including:

- GPS assembly
- GPS Gala Evening
- CoS Gala Night
- Grafton Eisteddfod
- GPS Creative Arts Sydney Tour
- Arts Alive 2015 (Sydney Opera House) selected Year 5 and 6 students only

Again in 2015, it is our intention for the All Grades Choir to perform at these events as well as local pre-schools and charity events.

Year 3 to 6 students will be invited to participate in the Creative Arts Tour to Sydney this year where students will perform at a number of venues in Sydney as well as Port Macquarie. This tour will be held from Sunday, August 30th to Thursday, September 4th. During this tour in 2014, 20 of our students performed at the Sydney Opera House as part of the ArtsNorth Primary Proms. This year, we have been selected to participate again in the Arts Alive 2015 event to be held at the Sydney Opera House on Monday August 31st. Students were required to audition to be a part of this ensemble group and in 2015 places will be open to students in Year 5 and 6 with numbers capped at 25.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE PARENTS?

Parents must make an equally strong commitment to the Creative Arts Program at GPS and their activities. The program includes choir, band and dance. Involvement in and support of fund-raising activities is naturally expected. These fund raising ventures will help to reduce the cost of excursions and allow the school to purchase music and charts for the students to learn.

WHO CO-ORDINATES THE *ALL GRADES CHOIR*?

Mrs Leigh Robertson is the co-ordinator of the program, responsible for audition selections, day to day organisation, performance schedules, public relations and ensemble practices.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

General Enquiries: Mrs Leigh Robertson, by leaving a message at the Primary Office on 66421000