

18 February 2020

Dear Parents,

By now most of you will be aware that, from Term 1 2020, the West Ryde Public School ensemble program will transition to a new provider, *Teaching Services Australia* (TSA).

TSA is an established, family-owned company providing music tuition and ensemble programs to schools throughout Sydney and the Central Coast. TSA operates school band programs at other local primary schools and is looking forward to joining the West Ryde PS community.

For further information on TSA please visit our website www.teachingservices.com.au.

This week students met their new conductors at rehearsal. See below for a summary of the important details for string and band in 2020. Please complete the attached TSA enrolment form and return to TSA office directly (via fax, mail or email) or to your child's conductor at rehearsal next week.

Senior String Ensemble (for all students who have previously learned a string instrument)

***Rehearsals 3pm-4pm, Tuesdays**

- *Students meet at the NEW DECK straight after school and they will be collected by their conductor
- *Parents should pick up their children from the kindy classrooms KNA & KNW at 4pm
- *Please bring your instrument, a pencil and a plastic sleeve A4 display folder
- ***Senior String Ensemble Fees (rehearsal only) - \$71.50 per term** (incl GST)

All string tuition (lessons) will be arranged with your private tutor directly

Senior Concert Band (for all students who were in either band last year)

***Rehearsal 8am-9am, Thursdays**

- *Students meet at the HALL STAGE at 7:50am to help set up
- *Students will be dismissed to morning classes when school begins for the day
- *Please bring your instrument, a pencil and a plastic sleeve A4 display folder
- ***Senior Concert Band Fees (rehearsal only) - \$71.50 per term** (incl GST)

All senior band tuition (lessons) will be arranged with your private tutor directly

Junior Concert Band (for all new beginners joining band for the first time)

***Rehearsals AND Tuition 3pm-5pm, Tuesdays**

- *If your child is in the string program we will structure these sessions so they can participate in both
- *Students meet at the NEW DECK straight after school and they will be collected by their conductor
- *Parents should pick up their children from the kindy classrooms KNA & KNW at 5pm
- *Please bring your instrument, a pencil, your *Accent On Achievement* book, a plastic sleeve A4 display folder and some light afternoon tea
- ***Junior Concert Band Fees (rehearsal AND group tutorial) - \$225 per term** (incl GST)

***This fee includes both rehearsal AND group tuition.** Parents are welcome to arrange private tuition in addition if they wish but it is not necessary to participate in Junior Concert Band.

Fee Payment

- *All individual private tuition (lesson) fees will continue to be paid directly to your private tutor
- *All rehearsal and group tuition fees will be paid to TSA directly
- *No need to pay TSA fees up front, TSA will wait until enrolments have been finalised and then will email parents a term 1 invoice with payment details (EFT, direct debit, phone payment available)

P.T.O.

Some benefits of joining TSA include access to a full-time administration team (Monday to Friday, 9am-4:30pm), links with other local TSA schools, instrument servicing options and access to workshops and weekend band camps.

TSA will continue to work closely with school and parents to provide opportunities for our ensembles to learn and perform. Selected string students will again perform at Festival Of Instrumental Music and our Senior Band will participate in the Ryde Eisteddfod. Further information about these and many more events will be sent home later this term once dates and details are finalised.

Enrolment – all students in WRPS String and Band programs will need to be enrolled with TSA to participate in rehearsals and concerts. Please read through the attached enrolment pack carefully for details on TSA's policies, fees and other information. Please complete and return the enrolment pack to TSA directly or to your child's ensemble conductor.

Finding A Private Tutor – if your 2019 private tutor is no longer available and you are having trouble finding a replacement please contact steve@teachingservices.com.au and we can help you find one.

We appreciate your patience and support during this transition period and look forward to working with you all as we get to know your wonderful young musicians!

Steven Lavis
General Manager – Teaching Services Australia