

GWPS Band Program – Term 2 Update

09 April, 2020

Dear Parents and families,

TSA would like to thank you all for your support during the past month.

We have now temporarily transitioned to a 100% online and distance learning structure. We are still uploading new content to the **Online Resource Library** (ORL) every day and will continue to do so until this pandemic is over. If you have trouble accessing it please contact - tsaoffice@teachingservices.com.au

Whilst the content in this library is certainly worth looking through yourself, its effectiveness is magnified with some guidance from Miss Harvey and your child's tutor.

The GWPS Band Program will be delivered via weekly Zoom Band Rehearsals (in addition to weekly video conference private tutorials with your child's regular tutor) and online via Google Classroom. We are confident that these two platforms will provide a suitable way for your child to continue learning during this time. If your child has not yet signed into their Band's Classroom please address steps 1, 2 & 3 set out below or send an email to Miss Harvey for further instruction – isabellaharvey@teachingservices.com.au

1. [PLEASE CLICK HERE TO 'AGREE' TO THIS 'AUTHORITY TO PUBLISH STUDENT WORK' FORM](#)
2. Your child must use their school email address (username@education.nsw.gov.au - their 'username' is just their login name for computers at school) to login to classroom.google.com. Please note that only your child's school email address will be allowed to join these Department of Education protected Classrooms.
3. Click 'join class' and type in your child's band code: Training Band – **jqf7gz**; CB2 – **httuu4**; CB1 – **egwih6**; Jazz Band – **egewar**.

Please remember that we are here to help. TSA staff will be hosting large group webinars for students and parents on a variety of topics, we are developing an initiative we call 'Music Central' where students can meet daily for advice and help, and we will continue creating units of work and programs.

Fees

Despite the additional staffing and resources we have put into developing our ORL and remote learning we are aware that this transition has been disruptive for most students. To acknowledge this disruption TSA are discounting fees for all our students.

- **Concert Bands** - \$90 per term (from \$115)
- **Jazz Band** - \$55 per term (from \$75)

We are waiving the term 2 **Resource Levy**. TSA is also able to assist with bursaries for students of parents who have lost their job/income due to COVID-19. Please contact our office to arrange a confidential discussion.

Performance And Collaboration Opportunities

A large part of the reason we run our school band programs is to give students the opportunity to perform and collaborate. This becomes even more important during these potentially isolating times.

TSA will be hosting a variety of events, challenges, projects and other initiatives with the aim of helping students reach out from their isolation and continue making music together. Keep your eyes peeled for future collaborations. We will vary them throughout the term so that there is something for everyone.

Instrumental Tutors

It is still an expectation that GWPS band students receive their minimum of 8 lessons from their instrumental tutor and this will recommence in term 2.

What if it all gets too much?

We realise that many of you will be juggling schoolwork and working from home so if you feel the weekly learning goals are too much please do not feel you have to complete every task assigned every week. If there is anything you need help with, please contact Miss Harvey.

What if I'm still not sure?

Many of you will still be uncertain whether or not this online learning style will work for your child. We are confident that we can provide a meaningful learning experience and so TSA is offering a **Satisfaction Guarantee**. Join us for the first two weeks of term 2 and if you are not satisfied with the learning process we will waive our minimum notice period (1 Term) and you can withdraw and only pay for the two weeks.

Contact TSA

Please note that TSA office will be running with a reduced staff and our admin team have been working remotely since Monday March 30. Whilst our office phones are unanswered we will still be able to answer your questions via email. The best contact for all inquiries is tsaoffice@teachingservices.com.au.

Your band director and tutors will still be available via their regular email contact details and will be in touch across the holidays with further information about the term ahead.

Thank you all again for your patience and overwhelming support so far. Stay well, stay positive and most importantly stay *together*.

Regards,



Steven Lavis
General Manager – Teaching Services Australia