

THE MOUTHPIECE

The official newsletter of Geographe Bay Music



IN THIS ISSUE

NATIONALS - ADELAIDE

ANZAC CEREMONIES

**GBM/DBK COMBINED
CAMP/PRIMARY TOUR**

BUNBURY EISTEDDFOD

**GBM MID-YEAR
CONCERT**

Term 3 Events

Thursday 18th July

UWA/GBM Classical Guitar W/S

Classical Guitar Ensemble

Thursday 1st to Saturday 3rd August

GBM Senior Band Camp

Senior Band

Tuesday 3rd September

GBM Guitar Workshop

All Guitar Ensembles and students

Wednesday 11th September

GBM Primary Workshop

Senior Band, Yr 5/6 & beginner Yr 7s

Well, what a whirlwind, crazy term that was! I don't know about anyone else, but I am ready for a couple of weeks off.

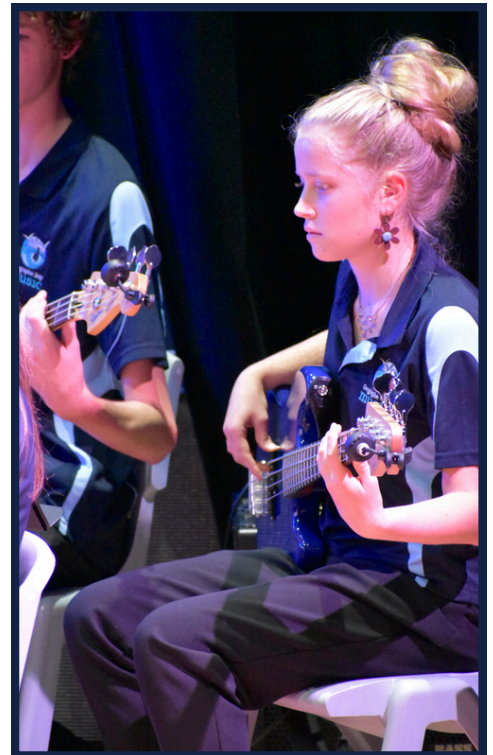


Looking back over the past term, there have only been four of the eleven weeks where we haven't had some sort of performance. We have done two ANZAC assemblies, some students were involved in actual ANZAC Services, the ATAR recital afternoon, a Jazz Band 2/Donnybrook DHS primary tour, our first community performance since COVID at Origin Markets, the Year 11 and 12 ATAR practical exams, Jazz Band 1 primary tour, Bunbury Eisteddfod for Intermediate Concert Band and Classical Guitar Ensemble, three Mid-year Concerts, and Jazz Band 2 performing at Cowaramup Primary School on the last day of term. Thirteen events in eleven weeks - busy, busy, busy! If your young ones are like the staff, they are probably clawing their way to the end of term.

Semester 1 Highlights

by Brad Oversby

The recent mid-year concert (in three acts) was the first time that we have had all of our ensembles playing at the same event. The Junior Band was particularly impressive in their stage etiquette - especially considering that this was their first ever performance as a group. Miss Lemon is doing a wonderful job with them. The same can be said for all of our ensemble directors and instrumental teachers because without them, concerts like these don't happen. It is also fantastic to see how all of the ensembles are growing in numbers



This is particularly the case with the Contemporary Ensemble and the Classical Guitar Ensemble. These groups are still really in their infancy having only been formed in the past few years. It is fantastic to see them playing more challenging music, and I look forward to hearing the great things that will come from them over the next few years. A big thankyou should also go out to Mrs Kellie Markwell and the Arts team who contributed to the concerts with sound and lighting, and to Mel Ryan who attended and did the final security sweep. This was a massive time commitment from them, and we truly appreciate their support.

As a side note, it was wonderful to see some new faces helping with the Music Support Group at the Mid-Year Concerts. Many thanks to those people who put their hands up to help on the night, and also to the Support Group for their work in raising funds to make camps and excursions more affordable for the rest of us.

Looking towards next term, we will again hit the ground running. Week 1 will see the Classical Guitar Ensemble head off to Margaret River to do a workshop with the guitar folk from the University of WA. This will be a fantastic opportunity for them to see other Classical Guitarists in action and to work with some great people. Senior Band will be heading back up to the ABODA Senior Band Festival. We are tackling music that is far more challenging than what we have in the past, but the students are rising to the challenge. We are hoping to maintain our level of achievement, so keep practising, folks!

Looking to Term 3



We will also have our Primary School and Beginners workshop, and hopefully some more community performances (maybe not quite so many as this term!).

Thanks to the parents for support all of our past and future events. We couldn't do what we do without parent taxis and the support you provide to the GBM students and staff. For now, enjoy the break (but keep practising!) and we will see you all back next term.

Oh! Before I go, a massive shout out to Danielle and David Parkinson, who performed again this year as a part of the National Band Festival in Sydney during the April holidays. Their band won, and they were very highly placed in their chamber ensemble. We are so lucky to have such experienced staff in our GBM group.

Brad Oversby
HOLA - GBM



'THE PIRATES' LEFT TO RIGHT: DANIELLE PARKINSON, DAVID PARKINSON, STEVEN PARKINSON, DANIEL KURT, CATHY MORAN

Mr & Mrs Parkinson - PLAY IN NATIONALS

by Mrs Danielle Parkinson

We have participated in the B division concert band competition as part of the clarinet section since 2016, and played with some of the rest of the clarinet section in the quintet division of the nationals. Our clarinet group, "the Pirates" (often seen via live stream in appropriate Pirate attire – complete with stuffed parrot!) has won the open quintet division in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 and came second in 2023 and 2024. This year the Sutherland PCYC Band came first overall in the B division concert band section. There were some great entrants in the band divisions, with the Hobart Wind Symphony and the WA band WACO being some highlights over the last few years. We have also been lucky enough to hear some amazing brass and woodwind quartets and quintets as well. We had a lot of fun playing Music and taking in the sights on the Easter weekend.

In the last few years, David Parkinson and I have been fortunate enough to be invited to play in the Yamaha National Band competition with Sutherland PCYC band (based in Sydney). We travelled to Adelaide in 2016, Launceston in 2017, Melbourne in 2018, Brisbane in 2019, Newcastle in 2023 and to Adelaide this year in 2024 to participate. The invite came through Steven Parkinson (ex-IMSS student turned podiatrist) and Cathy Moran, the band president.





Busselton Senior High School - ANZAC DAY ASSEMBLIES - Cape Naturaliste College



Geographe Bay Music and Donnybrook DHS Music Students

At the start of May, students from GBM and Donnybrook attended a camp and tour in the South West region. Students from a large variety of year groups and backgrounds rehearsed together and performed at 2 Primary schools and the Origin markets to a combined audience of nearly two thousand people. All students behaved exceptionally and represented their respective schools with confidence and pride.

Wednesday 1st May

Donnybrook DHS Concert Band arrived at Busselton SDA Youth Camp after lunchtime. The group rehearsed together for several hours with Mr and Mrs King and Mr Parkinson before dinner and a movie (Wonka).



GEOGRAPHE PRIMARY SCHOOL

GBM Students go on Tour with Donnybrook DHS

by Mr David Parkinson

Thursday 2nd May

Donnybrook DHS students were joined by Mrs Lemon and the GBM Classical Guitar Ensemble / Jazz 2 the next morning. Despite some inclement weather all students were very committed to their rehearsals. In the afternoon the weather cleared allowing students time for some outdoor pursuits including volleyball and a walk along the beach. After more combined rehearsals in the afternoon students had dinner and competed in a Quiz Night. Thanks heaps to Lee Cooper for joining us for this part of the night.

The Quiz Night was run by Lilli (Head Girl) and Jaxon (Head Boy) and Mrs King of Donnybrook DHS. Miss Lemon introduced increasingly difficult challenges to students in between rounds. She enjoyed this greatly –please see the picture below of the final challenge. The quiz was a highlight for many students and was won by a group from Busselton and Cape Naturaliste College the “F Sharps”. To conclude the night students from all schools performed karaoke songs for each other, this was another highlight for many.



Friday 3rd May

The next day we woke early to eat and clean before our departure for Dunsborough Primary School. At this school students played to a packed audience in the undercover area. This performance featured our ex-Dunsborough students and was very well received. Our vocalist Scarlett was so popular that a random student came up to her after her performance to ask for her autograph. Scarlett ended up signing her lunch box lid.

We then travelled on to Vasse Primary with our awesome driver Ian. At Vasse our energetic audience was blown away by our performance. I think that our ensembles performed best at this school and the way everyone pitched in to load in and out was exceptional. It was fantastic to see all the ex-Vasse students catching up with old music teachers including Paul McDaniel, Karen Bigwood and Brigitta Pollard.

Finally, students travelled to Origin Markets where our GBM students made a tearful farewell to the Donnybrook DHS concert band which left to return to Donnybrook. Many of our students have made new friends between each of the schools.

At Origin Markets the Classical Guitar Ensemble and Jazz 2 were joined by Jazz 1 for the performance. It was great to see so many members of the general public at this gig. All groups sounded great in the venue, and management have invited us back for future performances at Origin. Jazz 2 also performed the following week at CNC thank Heather and the canteen staff for their work catering our camp.



Thanks

I would like to offer a thank you to everyone involved with the tour. Especially Taylor Webb, Alex Cameron, and Amy Sefton (Principals), Arron (SDA Camp School), Candice (Origin Markets), Ian & Cathryn (Bunbury Bus Service), Mel Smoker, Karen Bigwood and Brigitta Pollard (Primary Music Teachers).

Another massive thankyou to Mackenzie King (DDHS Concert Band Director) & Jordan King (Trailer Driver), Fiona Lemon (Guitar Ensemble Director and "Camp Queen"), Brad Oversby (Head of Music, Jazz 1 Director) and Kerry LaMotte (Music Administrator, Photographer and Trailer Driver) for their amazing work in preparation for and during our camp. Last but not least, thanks to amazing Heather Carroll and the awesome CNC canteen staff for catering our camp. The food provided was affordable and exceptional. Thanks again to everyone and anyone I may have missed we could not have run the camp without you.

Looking forward to our next performance at Mid-Year.
Dave Parkinson (Jazz 2 Director)









On Wednesday, 12th June we held our annual GBM Mid-Year concert. The audience had the opportunity to hear music our students have been working on this Semester, all students performed well and should be very proud.

Thank you to all the families that came to watch and support the evening, it was great to see everyone there. A massive thank you to our Support Group who took the time to make and sell soup, as well as put together the Hampers and sell raffle tickets on the evening. Without all of your support, we wouldn't be able to fundraise, making events cheaper or free in some cases for families.

Monies raised go towards things like buses for local events which help make these tours/events free in most cases, or up to \$2000 going towards camps which bring costs down for families making camps more affordable.

Thank you to the few parents who have put their hand up recently to join the Support Group, without you we would have had to fold the Group which is not something we want to see happen. We need BSBS parents as there has to be a balance between campuses, so if you have been thinking of joining, now is the time.

GBM Mid - Year Concerts

Congratulations to our 3 Hamper winners, Stephen, Wenona and Helen. Thank you to all of the families for your kind and generous donations.

Well done to Mr Oversby, Mr Parkinson, Mrs Parkinson, Miss Lemon and Mr Kiely for putting together a great evening and working with our students week in week out.







HOUSEKEEPING

Uniforms

GBM Polo Shirts are an essential part of our GBM Uniform and is available to purchase through Uniform Concepts for \$30 at the address below:

Uniform Concepts

Address: 33 Bussell Hwy, Busselton (Opposite Anaconda)
Opening Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 9am–5pm and Saturday 9am–12pm
Email: busselton@uc.nellgray.com

GBM Support Group

The Geographe Bay Music Support Group is seeking some new faces to join the committee. We like to meet once or twice a term to discuss ways to support the GBM program with events and fundraising.

The following positions are now open to join GBMSG

Due to Coralie, our current Chairperson stepping down this year, this position is now open for expressions of interest:

Chairperson - Duties; chairing meetings, liaise with GBM Admin Assistant. assist in monitoring GBMSG Facebook account.

Uniform - Duties - this role consists of light duties and only on rare occasions. It involves maintaining the GBM blazer student allocation list & Blazer fittings when required by GBM staff for special performances

The roles that are still current and the members you will be working with are:

Chairperson - Coralie Wind
Treasurer - Tanya Guthrie
Secretary - Trish Robinson

If you are interested in the above position, or would like more information, please contact the Support Group at: geographebaymusicsg@gmail.com

Facebook

We encourage everyone to become a member of the Facebook Group.

This is a closed group, all posts will only be seen by people who are members of the group. We understand not everyone is on Facebook or has it available, all important information will be sent to parents via email, Facebook is more of a Forum and is an effective communication tool for the group particularly as we cover seven schools. It is a great point of contact when it comes to last minute changes, reminders and also sharing the successes that GBM achieve throughout the year

Please search 'Geographe Bay Music Support Group' on Facebook.

Photos—throughout the year we will post photos of students who are performing at various events on this page. Please be reminded that only people who are members will be able to see these photos, and we will not use names of students. If you do not wish your child's photo to be on the page, please let me know at kerry.lamotte@education.wa.edu.au, thank you.