

NEWSLETTER

Term 2, 2013

NEWS

We had a great start to the year, with our senior flute choir performing at the NSW Flute Society's Annual Gala Concert. Our ensemble played a fabulous Flamenco-inspired piece called "Bamburia" by Wil Offermans. We'll be recording it early next term and will put a link to it on Youtube for you to have a look at. If you're approximately AMEB Grade 5 or above, you're welcome to join this ensemble! We rehearse here on Saturdays at 2pm. Let me know if you'd like more info.

VALE LINDA VOGT (1922-2013)

Linda Vogt was an absolute icon in the Australian flute scene. Not only was she the founder the Flute Society of NSW, patron of the Australian Flute Society, director the first flute convention world-wide and one of the first women in Australia to be awarded an orchestral job, she was also a truly inspiring, generous, encouraging and passionate mentor to hundreds of Australian flute players and teachers. I still use analogies, ideas and words of Linda's in my own teaching, several decades after participating in masterclasses with her. She has been very aptly nick-named "Australia's Great Lady of the Flute" and her great legacy will continue through the generations of flute players she inspired.

To read more about this extraordinary woman, please click the following link. [AFS LINDA VOGT](#)



MUSIC CRAFT CLASSES (Music Theory & Aural Training)

We encourage all students to participate in these 45 minute classes are held on Fridays at 5pm. If you'd like to join a class but the time is inconvenient, please let us know as we can start another class if there is enough interest. For more info, please click this link

<http://www.kelliengrennan.com/music-theory-classes.html>

TERM 2 INVOICES

You will receive invoices for Term 2 by email in the next couple of days. Just a reminder that lesson fees for the term are payable in advance (in week 1 of each term) unless other arrangements have been made.

IMPORTANT DATES

May 4

Flute Boot Camp Day featuring a masterclass with Jane Rutter and Studio Concert
(at St Patrick's School Hall)

10:15 Junior registration

10:30 Junior Flute Ensemble

11:15 Morning Tea / Senior Registration

11:30 Senior Technique Class

11:30 Junior Music Games including Rhythm Bingo, Scale of the Century and more!

12:30 Lunch Chat – Expression and Communication... Performance Tips with Jane Rutter

1:00 Masterclass with Jane Rutter

3:00 Ensembles

3:45 Afternoon Tea & Concert Setup

4:00 CONCERT



PRACTICE TIPS

At Windworks, we recommend that about 10 minutes multiplied by your grade is an appropriate amount of practice to do each day. (So, beginners & grade 1 students should do about 10 minutes daily, grade 2 students should do 20 minutes daily and so on.)

Remember that the quality and frequency of practice is more important than the duration. A practice session should always include a warm-up, with tone exercises, some technical work (scales, studies, finger drills etc) and then working on the specific issues in your repertoire. Simply playing through your pieces isn't really productive practice. If you're unsure about effective practice methods, please talk to your teacher or contact me to give you some ideas!

Many of our older students use an online "practice log" which is available through the studio management software we use. If you don't already access this and would like a password and details on how to use it, please let me know. The advantage of this method is that our staff can see new entries that students make every day and give feedback and encouragement between lessons. It also calculates weekly practice averages and graphs etc which some students find very motivating.

How parents can help with practice...

You don't need to have a musical background or any musical knowledge at all to help your child with their practice. Just encouraging and supporting their efforts at home is a huge help! Here are a few ideas you may like to experiment with at home...

- (1) Have a designated practice time for each day of the week, and try to stick with it! Find out what times seem to be most productive for your child in terms of concentration and stamina.
- (2) Set up a creative "practice spot" with music stand (all students need one...perching a music book on a bed or bookshelf doesn't encourage good posture!), metronome, music book, pencil, a mirror, and any creative additions that you think your child might respond to (a musical poster, practice rewards chart, framed exam certificates etc.)
- (3) Encourage your child to keep a record of their practice (either in a notebook, on a chart, or using our online practice log)
- (4) Ask your child for a weekly "concert" so they can show you what they've been working on. Invite a grandparent, relative, neighbor or friend to listen too. Regularly record or video them so they can look back over the years and see how much they've improved!
- (5) Encourage your child to listen to a wide variety of music. If you're learning a language you need to hear it spoken! There are some great Youtube clips of famous flute players and we have a very large library of flute CD's which you are welcome to borrow. Why not take them to a concert too!
- (6) Understand that for all students, motivation and commitment to practice can fluctuate. Being able to work through this is a very important life skill, regardless of whether they continue with their music studies. Please talk to us if you have any concerns.
- (7) Sit in on a lesson. At Windworks we welcome parents to sit in on a lesson occasionally, and see what we are working on with your child, so you can remind them during practice at home. This is a great time to discuss progress and any concerns with your child's teacher. Alternatively, feel free to call or email me anytime.

May 26

HSC workshop run by the Music Teachers' Association of NSW. It will be held at The Kings School, and you will have an opportunity to perform and receive feedback from an experienced Board of Studies examiner.

July 26

AMEB Entries close for the October practical exam session. http://www.ameb.nsw.edu.au/pdf_doc/ameb-enrolment-handbook-2013.pdf

TECHNOLOGY at WINDWORKS

We encourage you to look at the following practice tools and apps which we use at Windworks. They are inexpensive ways to enhance your practice sessions and will help with maintaining motivation between lessons. If you have any questions or if you'd like us to give you a demo please ask.

www.smartmusic.com

www.scaleblitzer.com

[Read Rhythm App](#)

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Why not keep up to date with our latest news and activities, plus find some great links to events, performances and opportunities.

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