

## *Theory Group Program*

Tuesday July 25, 2017

Dear Parents and Students,

Your child is enrolled in the Theory Program at MECS and as classroom and instrumental staff, we firmly believe in students equipping themselves with knowledge, skills and experience in not just the practical elements of Music, but also the theoretical and analytical elements. As part of this, we are aware of the level of music theory knowledge required in the higher levels of study at school through our VCE Music subjects or in external examinations through organisations such as the AMEB (Australian Music Examination Board) in order to complete practical examinations and performance courses. We are very grateful to our school community for subsidising the cost of this extra Theory tuition for students and reducing the cost to parents to only \$10 per term.

In the last four years, these extra theory classes have made a significant difference to the confidence, knowledge and skill of students and has provided the extra support to build the necessary foundation for their studies at a senior level.

Theory and aural work are already part of our existing classroom and instrumental curriculum at school. However, due to the limitations on time within an instrumental lesson or music class, it is difficult to cover all the necessary content within the set times. We want to make sure that our students are learning Music through a variety of experiences, primarily focussed on playing and performance within classroom music, with theory as part of their classes. Within our instrumental lessons, theory plays a role, but varies in content and focus depending on the needs of each student and their instrument.

In our Theory Program, students receive extra teaching on the content relevant to their level of ability and also have the opportunity for help and feedback on the work they are doing in their classes with their chosen Theory. Students can also prepare for AMEB Theory exams and receive a Grade and Certificate if they choose. Please check with your child that they are regularly attending and taking advantage of this program.

Please don't hesitate to contact me [cbrydon@mecs.vic.edu.au](mailto:cbrydon@mecs.vic.edu.au) if you have any further questions about your child's involvement in this program. It is necessary to collect and complete a cancellation notice from the main office if they decide to discontinue, otherwise, the accounts will continue being added to your fees.

Kind Regards,

Carolyn Brydon  
***Instrumental Music Coordinator***