Dear Parents,
Welcome back and we hope you had a relaxing and fun break. 2015 promises to be a very exciting year as we prepare for the Art Show, an exciting Italian Day and several sporting events and competitions!

**VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS  TERM 1  2015**

Welcome back everyone! I hope you all had an exciting and eventful holiday! 2015 is going to be another fantastic year for the Arts programme. We will be presenting a whole school Art Show this year involving all students. This event takes place in the School Hall in Term 3. Students will be working all year towards creating artworks for the show!

**CHOIR AUDITIONS**

This year we will also continue with our talented Watsonia Primary School Choir which is available for students in grades 1-6 to audition. Auditions will take place in weeks 2 and 3 of Term 1. All students wishing to be part of the Choir this year will need to audition. They will be expected to prepare a short song that demonstrates their ability to sing tunefully, remember lyrics and perform to a small audience. They will also be required to copy (sing) a few simple scales. Due to the large number of students auditioning for the Choir, auditions will be held between Monday 2\textsuperscript{nd} and Friday 13\textsuperscript{th} February. Auditioning for and partaking in the school choir is a whole year commitment. Results will be available the following week.

**REMEMBER THAT ALL STUDENTS NEED AN ART SMOCK!**

In Art, all students will be using paint, ink and glue, which can be quite messy and stains clothes easily. It is very important that every student brings their washed art smock to school as soon as possible and places it in the art smock basket in their classroom, where it remains for the year.

Your art smock must;

- **STILL FIT YOUR CHILD**
- **HAVE LONG SLEEVES**
- **BE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH A FULL NAME**
- **MUST BE WATERPROOF** or made with **THICK FABRIC** (many of the checked ones are made of very thin fabric and paint just soaks right through.)
- **BE LONG ENOUGH TO COVER TOP OF LEGS WHEN SITTING ON A CHAIR**
PREP

In Visual Art, students will enjoy experimenting with a wide variety of drawing materials including, pencil, soft pastel, oil pastel, coloured pencil, crayon and texta. They will also discover painting and collage techniques whilst making artwork about themselves and the world around them.

In Music, Prep students will be introduced to the elements of music. They will learn about keeping the beat, responding to the beat in music through movement, body percussion and playing untuned percussion instruments. They will begin to identify names of common percussion instruments and learn songs and dances about high and low sounds.

GRADE 1/2

In Visual Art, students in Grade 1/2 will be creating artwork based around the theme ‘opposites’. They will develop and explore colour mixing and theory whilst working primarily with painting and drawing materials.

In Music, Grade 1/2 students will extend their knowledge of basic music elements. They will further develop listening and performance skills whilst learning about notes on the CMajor scale using the colourful and fun boom-tubes.

GRADE 3/4

In Visual Art, Grade 3/4 students will work in a sculptural way, constructing artworks with wire and papier-mâché. Through a series of steps, students will begin to refine their ability to select art elements and make decisions based on ideas and materials.

In Music, students will be going on a journey through the history of 20th Century Western Music. They will listen to, compare, discuss and identify instruments and musical elements in Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Modern styles. They will create short works and refine these by making changes to song form, melody, tone colour, dynamics and tempo to affect the mood and feeling of their compositions.

GRADE 5-6

In Term 1 of Visual Art, Grade 5-6 students will learn about Abstraction and Modern art. They will observe and describe artwork by Matisse and Rothko to create Abstract Expressionist sculptural collages with analogous colours to communicate ideas and feelings. They will also be observing repetition as a common element of Abstract art and create a Printmaking piece inspired by Andy Warhol.

In Music, students will be playing tuned and untuned percussion instruments to perform songs from Japan as a percussion ensemble. They will work in small groups to arrange a piece of music considering tone colour, dynamics, tempo and mood. They will also partake in Taiko drumming lessons working towards whole class and group performances.

Miss Collette Dane

Visual and Performing Arts Teacher