

## **INSTRUMENTAL OPPORTUNITIES 2017**

In term 3, the year 2, 3, 4 and 5 students at Mt Hawthorn will be completing a Music Aptitude test as part of the assessment process to select **School of Instrumental Music** (SIM) students for 2017.

Those selected will have lessons during school time in the instrument offered and will eventually be expected to join either band or orchestra to further expand their skill and have opportunities to perform.

Selected students will be offered places in violin (year 3), cello (year 4), flute, clarinet, brass and percussion (year 5) and double bass (year 6).



The major part of the assessment is the standardised test from SIM which is a musical aptitude test. The three components are pitch, rhythm and tunes. It is primarily a listening test but the students are required to write their answers on a standard answer sheet. We will be doing activities in all music classes to help students understand the way the test is run and how to complete the answer sheet in order for them to have the best chance possible of gaining a place in the music program. While this forms the major component of selection, other aspects will be considered such as effort in class music activities, enthusiasm and interest in music and time to commit to learning and practising an instrument while being able to keep up with other subjects.

In making the decision to select students, there is much consideration but unfortunately, not all children are offered instruments as we have a limited number of places. Having said this, our school is fortunate to have such a wide variety of instruments on offer.



If you are not offered a place but are keen to learn an instrument private lessons are an option with the possibility of joining one of our school ensembles (orchestra or band) if approved by the ensemble director.

If your child is away on the day of testing, a catch up day will be organised so that all students have the opportunity to participate.

If you would like more information about the SIM program or any aspect of the school music program, please come and see me at school or email me [Katrina.Hardman@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Katrina.Hardman@education.wa.edu.au)

Yours in song,

Katie Hardman