Dear Parents,

The Moonee Vale Instrumental Music Program (MVIMP) is a fantastic opportunity for your child to learn a musical instrument from a professional music tutor during school time. The program is open to all children in Years 3-6. Children learn in small groups (maximum of 5 students, though often less) and participate in performances. There is also an opportunity for children to join the school band when they are deemed ready. MVIMP runs in 4 local schools, which assists us in keeping prices down as we share our music tutors and resources, and allows us to encourage children to combine at times for camps, performances and special events. The music tutors who work in MVIMP are highly professional musicians and teachers, who ensure that learning music is a positive experience for the children involved.

It is now time to organise next year’s Instrumental Music Program. If you would like your child to take this opportunity, please complete the attached "Application for Instrument Study – 2014" and have your child return it ASAP to the school office, to allow time for organising staffing, instrument allocation and timetables. Remember, some places are limited and will be allocated on the order notes are returned – so first in, best dressed! Please return your note before Friday Dec 13th.

We welcome new students into the program. Please consider the following information about the music program before making your decisions...

**Instruments Offered:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violin</th>
<th>Flute</th>
<th>Trumpet</th>
<th>Euphonium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cello</td>
<td>Clarinet</td>
<td>Trombone</td>
<td>Bass Guitar*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viola</td>
<td>Saxophone**</td>
<td>French Horn</td>
<td>Percussion**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Three places will be available for the bass guitar in each school and conditions apply because of the demands of the instrument. Students must be in Year 4 or above.

** A limited number of places will be available for percussion and saxophone in order to achieve a balance of instruments throughout the program and the opportunity to participate fully in all events.

** Tutors:** Qualified D.E.E.T. music teachers or professional musicians are employed to instruct the children.

** Children:** Receive ½ hour lessons on a weekly basis (same day each week)

** The Group:** Size is kept to a minimum wherever possible. The maximum is 5.
New Students: Please number in preferential order, a selection of three instruments you would like to learn. As the demand for some instruments is high, we cannot guarantee a first choice (but we do our best!).

**Program Costs:**
The total cost for MVIMP for 2013 was $680.00, including the hire and use of the school’s instrument. The MVIMP Management Committee does make an effort to run this program in a cost effective way. **Fees for 2014 will be confirmed by the end of term 4, 2013, though we don't foresee any change.**

**Payment:**
Fees can be paid in 4 equal instalments each Term or the full amount by the end of February, Term 1.
THE FEES ARE NOT CALCULATED PER LESSON.

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO REFUND FOR MISSED LESSONS AND FEES ARE FOR THE FULL TERM/INSTALMENT PERIOD.

**THE FEES INCLUDE:**
- The wages of the Instrumental Music Tutors
- CRT costs to replace Music Liaison Teachers to attend rehearsals etc
- Work cover, Long Service Leave, Superannuation
- Rehearsals and Bus fares
- Photocopying
- Administration Costs
- Purchase of new instruments
- Maintenance of instruments
- Use of instruments and equipment e.g. percussion, music stands, bass amps...

................. **And special features of the program such as:**
- Band and String Orchestra
- Combined Concert

Children may be asked to purchase ancillaries (reeds, grease, resin and a music folder).

**Instruments included in the fees:**
Instruments are made available to the student on the condition that they take good care of them and that if any damage or loss occurs, it is immediately reported to the relevant Music Liaison Teacher. The school arranges repairs and **under NO circumstances** should a parent or student attempt to repair an instrument. All losses of instruments are reported to police and it is important that this is done promptly as we are more likely to locate it sooner than later. Parents may be asked to reimburse the program if the instrument is not recovered. Of course wilful damage or damage incurred as a result of a lack of proper care would be charged to parents/carers.

If your child has their own instrument a 10% discount on the total amount will be available to you. This will be adjusted by the school.
**Special Consideration for Payments**
The total cost for families eligible for Special Consideration in 2013 was $425 for the year or $106.25 per term. Special consideration can be negotiated by the principal. There will be no further discount for own instruments. Please see our principal if you receive EMA and are experiencing financial difficulties and wish your child to join MVIMP – we don’t want children to miss out for financial reasons.

**Contracts**
Each Child and Parent /Carer must sign a contract, which details specific conditions and highlights the commitment necessary for successful participation in the program.

**School Band**
Students are invited to join their school band as soon as they and their tutors feel comfortable with their ability. Band rehearsals are held on a weekly basis for 1 hour at no extra charge.

**Combined Band**
The combined band comprising children from the 4 schools in the program may perform at special events. Numbers in the combined band are limited to 80. Selection is finalised by the Band Director and Instrumental Music Teachers.

**Expectations**
In order for each student to aspire to a high personal standard in music, long-term commitment and effort are necessary. It is expected that they will study their instrument for the ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR. Any student and Parents/Carers wishing to withdraw their child from the program during the year must discuss this with the Music Liaison Teacher at their particular school. As payment is calculated by the term, and tutors/ timetables are confirmed at the beginning of each term, we need a term’s notice for a child leaving the program.
We have also found that students benefit from learning an instrument from one tutor at a time only. It is recommended that e.g. a child learns violin through M.V.I.M.P. or through a private tutor, not both.

**Changing Instruments**
Some children may wish to change their instrument but, as a general rule, we do not favour this. Experience has shown the problems that cause a student to change instruments are rarely solved by this action. Typically it has more to do with either a lack of consistent practice routine, or a lack of application, and although a new instrument can renew enthusiasm for a short time it rarely deals with the root of the problem. Parents/Carers will need to discuss any request for change with their Music Liaison Teacher.

**Music Camp**
A music camp is held in August for 60 children (15 from each of the 4 schools). The children receive intensive music tuition from the tutors throughout the week. The camp culminates in a concert on the Thursday night, to which parents are invited. The cost of the camp will be determined early in 2014.
End of Year Concert
This combined concert will be held in the Celebrity Room at Moonee Valley Racecourse in November. Every child in the program participates in ensemble items.

Absences from Lessons or Performances
If your child will be missing from a lesson or performance because of illness, it is expected that you contact the Music Liaison Teacher.

Encouragement and Support
One of the most important aspects of the program, apart from the playing, is the encouragement and support that comes from the Parents/Carers. Please make time to listen to your child play and offer positive feedback. Positive reinforcement is the best way of encouraging your child to achieve their personal best.
All students in the program should practice on a regular basis. We recommend 10 minutes daily for beginners and 20 minutes daily for other students.

Please consider all the above information before making your decision. New places will be allocated on the basis of:
1. The order in which the forms are received
2. The number of available instruments and places

We look forward to a good year and wish you a very Happy Musical Time!!!

MVIMP Committee
APPLICATION FOR INSTRUMENT STUDY – 2014

NAME: ____________________________________________________________

YEAR LEVEL 2013: _______________ Room number 2013: _______________

I WOULD LIKE TO PLAY (Indicate at least three choices) 1, 2 & 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Instrument</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SAXOPHONE*</td>
<td></td>
<td>CELLO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FLUTE</td>
<td></td>
<td>VIOLIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CLARINET</td>
<td></td>
<td>TRUMPET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PERCUSSION*</td>
<td></td>
<td>BASS GUITAR*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TROMBONE</td>
<td></td>
<td>FRENCH HORN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EUPHONIUM</td>
<td></td>
<td>VIOLA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* A limited number of places will be available for these instruments.

ANY INSTRUMENT PLAYED IN 2013? _________________________________________

I, __________________________________________ the parent of the above student, understand that if my child is accepted into the Moonee Vale Music Program I will have to pay ALL the costs (including the fees/ hire for the year) associated with the program for my child/ren for 2014.

Parent’s Signature: ________________________________________________

PLEASE RETURN TO THE MPW OFFICE OR FIONA BY FRIDAY DECEMBER 13th, 2013