



Murwillumbah Public School
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MURWILLUMBAH PRIMARY SCHOOL SYDNEY CHOIR 2025

NOTE # 1 – Audition details

10 FEBRUARY 2025

Dear Parents,

News flash!!!! Our choir to sing at the Sydney Opera House on Monday 4 August 2025!!!!

Each year the NSW Department of Education & Training holds a series of four Primary Choral Concerts at the Sydney Opera House. These four concerts feature the best choirs in NSW Public Schools chosen through a NSW State Wide Audition process. The concerts also feature five or six individual school items for a feature performance. The concerts provide students with the opportunity to perform in the Sydney Opera House, work with world class conductors and learn a repertoire of songs in 2 parts from a variety of choral styles. Particular attention is paid to vocal techniques.

Following on from the success and rewarding opportunities our MPS students have experienced by taking part in the concert at the Sydney Opera House in previous years, I am delighted to announce the fabulous news that our audition to perform at the NSW Public Schools Festival of Choral Music at the Sydney Opera House **has been successful**. We will perform at 7.00pm on **Monday 4 August** with a rehearsal at the Opera House held that day. We will also have excursion activities in Sydney. Tickets are available for parents and friends to attend our concert at the Sydney Opera House at approx. \$45 each.

I now invite our students who are currently in Years 4/5/6 to audition for the choir. Auditions will be held at school on Monday 24 February at lunchtime. The students should come prepared to sing Verse 1 of Advance Australia Fair. The audition will be whole group singing as I will need to ascertain that all voices blend into the choir. The audition experience is very friendly and encouraging.

Rehearsals

Our compulsory rehearsals will commence on Tuesday 4 March at 6.00pm and be held most Tuesday evenings during term time (6.00-7.30pm) and either Monday lunchtime (Sopranos) or Tuesday lunchtime (Altos). At the first rehearsal, each student will receive a repertoire book containing all the songs to learn. We will have eleven songs in parts to learn. Books should be brought to each rehearsal. In Term 2 or Term 3, we will also travel to Ballina on a school day to attend a rehearsal with our conductor of the Opera House concert.

A Choir Google Classroom will be established and all singing and backing tracks will be available to download from this Google classroom. Each student will need to have easy access to Google Classroom at home and be prepared to undertake at least 2-3 singing rehearsals at home each week with the choir tracks. They will need to come to choir each week to confidently sing the music that was taught the week before. A great idea is download to Spotify and sing along in the car.

The Excursion to Sydney

We will also take in educational points of interest while in Sydney.

Proposed Details:

Date:	3 rd , 4 th and 5 th August 2025.
Excursion:	All students to travel and undertake Concert and excursion activities with the group
Travel:	Plane
Duration:	3 days and 2 nights all costs inclusive
Accommodation:	Bunk style accommodation at Sydney Harbour YHA at The Rocks
Entry Fee:	\$30 entry fee per child. This fee is sent to Sydney for song book, copyright, shirt etc.
Cost:	Approx \$700-\$900 per student, all inclusive. I am unable to give an exact price at this stage until all details are finalised and plane flights have been purchased
Deposit:	\$250 (non-refundable) due Friday 7 March 2025
Concert Dress:	Full school uniform for local performances. Black dress trousers and plain black shoes for the Opera House
Excursion Dress	Casual clothes, joggers, Royal Blue broad brimmed school hat

Performances:

- I would anticipate that the choir will be invited to attend some local performances yet to be determined.
- I will enter the choir to perform at the Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts in June 2025.
- After we return from Sydney, we will present a concert for parents, family and friends on a Tuesday evening at Murwillumbah Primary School.

Please do audition for the choir if you:

- love to sing
- know you sing well and can sing in tune
- would love to learn more about singing.
- will be attending Murwillumbah Primary School for the whole of 2025
- are genuinely and absolutely prepared to join the choir if your audition is successful
- can maintain concentration and always display the highest standard of behaviour
- would **absolutely love** to sing in a choir that sounds sensational
- would like to participate in a fantastic excursion experience in Sydney
- would love to sing in the Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House
- would like the opportunity to perform at local venues

I have suggested to the students they may be able to financially contribute by having some birthday/Easter gifts deposited as cash into an account instead of receiving actual presents. Many grandparents / relatives / friends etc have been very happy to do this in previous years.

Chocolates: Students are also able to sell chocolates to offset their excursion costs. The profit from the chocolates that you sell comes directly off your excursion cost. In previous years, many students have paid for most of their excursion by selling chocolates.

I commend this "Sydney Choir" experience to you for your child. The students have always learned to sing extremely well, thoroughly enjoyed the excursion, learned a lot about Sydney and had loads of fun!

I am very happy to talk to you if you have any questions or concerns. Please ring the MPS school office on 02 66721467 and leave your details. I will return your call as soon as I can. This will probably be at night, as I teach classes all day.

Please complete the attached application to audition form and forward to our school office by Friday 21 February. Auditions will be held at lunchtime on Monday 24 February.

VIKKI ARMOUR
MUSIC TEACHER

LES DALEY
PRINCIPAL

