Welcome to Week 9 and the final newsletter for the term. I would like to thank all members of our school community for a fantastic 2014. It has definitely been a very busy year filled with many exciting opportunities for our students. Finally, I hope everyone has a safe and relaxing holiday and that we all return healthy and re-energised for 2015.

Mr Giles

**P&C Meeting**

The final P&C meeting for 2014 will be held tonight at the earlier time of 7pm. After the meeting, for those who are able, we will move off to the Lapstone Hotel for refreshments.

**Canteen**

The school canteen will be open on Wednesday 10th December but **not for lunch orders**. We will be selling chips, ice blocks, and any left-over products at lunch time. Canteen will then be closed for the rest of Term 4. Thank you to all the volunteers and your support of Mt Riverview Public School Canteen.

In 2015 the canteen committee are going to need two parents who are willing to help out on the canteen committee. If you are interested in helping out on the committee, please contact Michelle Finneran for additional information.

**Library News**

Mrs Turner is currently doing the library stocktake so has asked that all library books be returned to school as soon as possible this week. This will make the whole stocktaking process a smooth one.

**Uniform Pool**

The uniform pool is now closed for 2014 and will reopen on Tuesday 3rd February. If there are any emergency needs please talk to the ladies in the office.

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**What’s Happening At Our School ......**

**TERM 4 – WEEK 10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9th Dec.</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting – 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12th Dec.</td>
<td>Presentation Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TERM 4 – WEEK 11**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15th Dec.</td>
<td>Year 6 Farewell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16th Dec.</td>
<td>Carols in the COLA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17th</td>
<td>Class Parties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>Infants’ Santa visit</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Final day – students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2015 - TERM 1 – WEEK 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 27th Jan.</td>
<td>Staff Return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 28th Jan.</td>
<td>Students (Yrs1-6) Return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Best Start - Kindergarten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 29th Jan.</td>
<td>Best Start – Kindergarten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 30th Jan.</td>
<td>Kindergarten Students Start</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Presentation Assembly & ‘Thank You’ Morning Tea**

Presentation assembly will be held this Friday 12th December, commencing at 9:15am.

The assembly will finish approximately at recess and will be followed by the traditional thank you morning tea for parents and volunteers who have helped at school throughout the year. Staff cater this morning tea which is our way of expressing our appreciation for the tremendous support we receive.

Students at this time will be having their own recess out in the playground as per normal. All parents and community members who have helped in some fashion throughout the year are invited to join us.
Congratulations to:

- All students who participated in the two talent shows. Everyone did an amazing job with their individual items.

- Our school chess team (Corin, Caelin and Xavier) who represented the school at the NSW Junior Chess League State Championship. They represented themselves and the school proudly – well done boys.

- The following students who have all received their Gold Certificates:

- The following students who have all received their School Banners:

Thank you to:

- Yr 6, Mrs Blythe, Miss Hall and the guest judges’ for their role in making the talent show a successful event for our students.

- All primary students for their behaviour whilst visiting Blaxland High for the “Hairspray” performance.

- Mrs Sowter and Mrs Dwyer for their organisational efforts for our end of year events.

- Everyone who is part of our school community for your role in making our school such a wonderful place to belong.

Carols In The COLA

Tuesday 16th December is the night set aside for our “Carols In The COLA” night (7:30pm).

Classes are putting the final touches to their carols and Mrs Sowter has organised glow stick products for the night. The school choir and school band are both eager to perform.

Please remember that this is a school function and that children should be sitting with their classes during the night. School uniform should be worn unless classes have organised something different for the night.

Non-school aged children should of course be supervised and due to the nature of the evening I would like to remind everyone that alcohol and smoking are not permitted.

Mr Giles
Operation Art
An artwork by Zara and Tayla from 2K was chosen to be in the top 50 artworks touring exhibition. The girls went to see their artwork at the Art gallery of NSW in November. The exhibition will also tour rural NSW in 2015. Congratulations girls.

Vegetable Garden
This term the Futures Committee harvested a plentiful crop of carrots. The children put out carrots for all the school to eat and many students enjoyed a carrot “fresh from the patch”. We had so many that Mrs Blythe baked the rest and we had roast carrot with our lunch. Delicious 😊

Lower Mountains Services Christmas Hamper Appeal 2014
The community services in the lower mountains are combining again this year to provide Christmas food and gift hampers to families in the Lapstone to Faulconbridge area who are experiencing financial hardships. In 2013 they were able to provide in excess of over 461 hampers to local families needing support. To provide these hampers each year they rely solely on donated food and gifts.
Thank you to those families who have already donated food. This year the Lower Mountains Services have already run out of food hampers for families in need and have already collected what our school has donated.

With this in mind, we have decided to extend the collection date for those families still wishing to donate until Wednesday 17th December. After this date we will have the donations collected.

Suggested food items include 1L juice, tinned food (ham, beetroot, carrots, corn, fruit salad, peaches, peas, pineapple, tuna, etc), biscuits (crackers, shortbread, sweet), cake mixes, chips, coffee (50g jars), cordial, UHT cream and milk, gravy, jelly packets, lollies, plum pudding, seasoned stuffing, tea bags, pasta and rice.

IMPORTANT ROAD SAFETY REMINDER FOR PARENTS AND CARERS THESE HOLIDAYS
As the school holidays approach, it is important to remember when walking near roads, on footpaths, near driveways and in car parks always:

- **hold your child’s hand.** Until they are at least 8 years old children need to hold an adult's hand. Until they are 10, children should be closely supervised by an adult and hold hands when crossing the road.

- **talk to your child about road safety.** Talk about how to be safe when near roads. Be a good role model.

- **point out road safety dangers and differences** in new environments. This is especially important when on holidays in different surroundings. Roads, footpaths and pedestrian may look different in holiday areas.

The best way to keep your child safe on or near the road is to hold their hand.

Talk with your child daily about road safety.

Remind other adults and carers about this too.

You can find out more at Transport for NSW.

Have a safe holiday break!

Parent Ideas Newsletter
Currently, the school subscribes to an online newsletter “Parenting Ideas: Raising Exceptional Kids” run by Michael Grose. Throughout the year we include their information booklets / fact sheets on various topics in our newsletter.

They now have an online “Parenting Ideas” magazine with the first issue now available. For those families interested, the link is

The StEPS program, offers free vision screening assessments to all 4 and 5 year olds. If your child has not had their vision screened this year, we would like to invite you to attend a free StEPS Clinic.

Clinics are available at:

**Hawkesbury Community Health**
Monday 15th December 2014 and Thursday 15th January 2015

**Springwood Community Health**
Wednesday 17th December 2014

Please phone 47305100 to make an appointment for one of the above clinics.

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**Lost A Copy Of A Past Educom Issue??**

*The Educom Is On the Internet*

Our bi-weekly Educom can be accessed from the internet on our web site –


If you are not receiving your fortnightly issue of the Educom please contact the office and update your email contact.

**School Security, You Can Help**

If parents or community members observe any destructive or suspicious behaviour in the school grounds please ring the School Security phone number listed below. All reports are treated discreetly; names do not have to be left with the operator.

**School Security - 1300 880 021**

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**Summer Program**

4th - 22nd January

Circus Classes for Kinda (3-6), Primary (6-12), Youth (12-25) and Adult (18+)

For the full program and information about our 2015 term classes visit our website or contact us at...

(m) 0423219642
(e) info@zanyyare.com.au

Students learn a variety of skills which include, aerial acrobatics, juggling, stilts walking, acrobatics, unicycle, hula hoop, a range of other prop manipulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Casual Cost</th>
<th>Package Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth/Adult General Circus</td>
<td>5, 12, 19/Jan</td>
<td>7-9pm</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeeny Zany’s – Kinda Circus</td>
<td>12 &amp; 19/Jan</td>
<td>4-5pm</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary General Circus</td>
<td>20, 21, 22/Jan</td>
<td>2-5pm</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Blaxland Redbacks Netball Club welcomes current and new players to register with our club for the 2015 season.

Nettas: 7 – 9 yrs $150
Juniors: 11-17yrs $170
Senior 18 yrs and over $200

All fees include NSW Netball, BMNA and Blue Mountains Council levy. (New members require proof of age)

For further details contact:
Registrar: Suzanne  0413 307 900
Coaching
Convenor: Cathy  0403 278 445

www.blaxlandredbacks.netball.asn.au
blaxlandredbacksnetworkball@gmail.com
THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP

Tick every box this school holidays with a Sport and Recreation Camp. Our popular Kids’ and Family Camps offer a range of exciting activities to keep even the biggest kid entertained. Try your hand at over 40 different activities, including fishing, mountain biking, surfing, abseiling, crafts, kayaking, cooking and more, and relax knowing you’re in good hands. Kids’ Day Camps start from $47; Family Camp weekends start from $168 for kids and $238 for adults. Kids under five years attend free of charge. Cost includes accommodation, meals and activities.

Bonus! Residential Kids’ Camps include supervised transport from:

- Central Station, Sydney
- Penrith
- Lithgow
- Bathurst
- Orange
- Wellington
- Brooklyn
- Mooney Mooney.

dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps
dsr.nsw.gov.au/familycamps
13 13 02
facebook.com/nswsportandrecreation
We believe that everyone can sing. We’ll help you find your voice and train it.

australian youth choir

Enrolments take place twice yearly (February & August).

• The Australian Youth Choir celebrates over 30 years of vocal training and performance for boys and girls aged 7 years and up.
• Educationally sound, sequentially developed programmes and professionally trained staff.
• Exciting performances and opportunities to build confidence and independence.
• Make new friends while you develop your skills.

Weekly Rehearsal Groups at convenient locations.
Call Now to discuss any aspect of our programmes including tuition fees and rehearsal times.

Melbourne (03) 9836 2877 Sydney (02) 9808 5563 Brisbane (07) 3366 1644
Adelaide (08) 8271 5699 Perth (08) 9485 1466

For more information check our website: www.niypaa.com.au
high energy, great moves, popular music

australian youth dance theatre

- Sequentially developed jazz dance programme catering for beginners to more advanced.
- Fabulous performances that build confidence and expertise.
  - Enrolments open to boys and girls aged 7 years and up.
  - Passionate, professionally trained staff.
- Workshops to develop skills and friendships.

Weekly Rehearsals at convenient locations.

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Melbourne (03) 9836 2877  Sydney (02) 9808 5563
Brisbane (07) 3366 1664  Adelaide (08) 8271 5699  Perth (08) 9485 1466

For more information check our website: www.niypaa.com.au

national institute of youth performing arts australia ABN 28 007 124 629
PENRITH STRINGS 2015
Information Pack

A fantastic opportunity for talented young string players in and around Penrith!

Build your ensemble skills in a supportive and exciting environment, led by tutors from Penrith Symphony Orchestra and the world-renowned Australian Chamber Orchestra.

TOWARDS A PENRITH YOUTH ORCHESTRA

In early 2015, an exciting new youth strings program will be launched by a partnership between Penrith Symphony Orchestra (PSO), the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre (The Joan) and the Australian Chamber Orchestra (ACO).

The program is the first step towards the creation of a youth orchestra affiliated with Penrith Symphony Orchestra.

The long-term vision is to build orchestral skills in young musicians in Western Sydney, and a pathway towards other opportunities such as membership of Penrith Symphony Orchestra or, for some, a career in music.

WHAT DOES THE PROGRAM INCLUDE?

Students will receive coaching and mentoring by expert string players from PSO and the ACO. The focus will be on ensemble-playing and rehearsal skills, building towards joint performances playing alongside professional musicians from the ACO.

The program is designed to complement and extend students’ individual lessons and practice, whether they learn privately, at school or at the Penrith Conservatorium of Music.

TIME COMMITMENT

In 2015, a series of rehearsal periods will be held at The Joan on consecutive weekends in each school term, starting in March. An intensive “residency” weekend will also be held 31 July to 2 August. Students will be sent music approximately one month prior to each rehearsal period and will be expected to ‘know the notes’ before the first rehearsal.

Supported by the Crown Resorts Foundation Western Sydney Arts Initiative
WHO CAN JOIN? WHEN AND HOW?

Penrith Strings is an extension activity for secondary and advanced primary string students. The program is open to students in all education systems, public and private. We encourage all applications, even if students are well above or slightly below the recommended minimum standard guidelines. Places are allocated according to performance standard and ensemble experience.

The minimum recommended standards for this program are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Minimum Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Violin</td>
<td>4th grade AMEB / Suzuki Book 3 or equivalent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viola</td>
<td>3rd grade AMEB / Suzuki Book 2 or equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cello</td>
<td>4th grade AMEB / Suzuki Book 3 or equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Bass</td>
<td>3rd grade AMEB / Suzuki Book 2 or equivalent</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

APPLICATIONS for the first round of acceptances into the program: due by Friday 19 December 2014.

FEES for the program are $300 per year ($75 per term). This amount can be paid in full at the beginning of the year, or in $75 instalments each term. Financial Assistance for successful applicants may be available if necessary. Please contact the administrator to discuss (contact details below).

Please complete a separate application form for each student and return to the Penrith Strings administrator. We will be in touch in early February 2015 to advise of results for the 2015 intake of students.
2015 SCHEDULE

All rehearsals and concerts are at The Joan, unless otherwise specified. Standard rehearsal days will be between 12pm and 4.30pm (times to be confirmed).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO musicians</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Workshop with ACO musicians</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Informal performance for family and friends</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Workshop with ACO musicians</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Sunday 8 March</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO musicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday 15 March</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO musicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday 22 March</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO musicians</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Workshop with ACO musicians</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Informal performance for family and friends</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Sunday 24 May</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO musicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday 31 May</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO musicians</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday 7 June</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO musicians</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Workshop with ACO musicians</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Informal performance for family and friends</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Friday 31 July</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO and ACO musicians</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saturday 1 August</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO and ACO musicians</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday 2 August</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO and ACO musicians</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Afternoon public concert with PSO and ACO musicians at The Joan</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Saturday 10 October</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO musicians</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday 11 October</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO musicians</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saturday 17 October</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO musicians</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday 18 October</td>
<td>Rehearsals and tutorials with PSO musicians</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Workshop with ACO musicians</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Afternoon public concert with PSO and ACO musicians at The Joan</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONTACT

If you have any further enquiries, please contact Liz Strasser, Penrith Strings Administrator, at pyo@pso.org.au or on 0418 202 849.

Supported by the Crown Resorts Foundation Western Sydney Arts Initiative
APPLICATION FORM:
PENRITH STRINGS 2015 PROGRAM

Please complete a separate application form for each student and return to:
Penrith Symphony Orchestra, PO Box 659, Kingswood NSW 2747 or pyo@pso.org.au

Parents and teachers will be notified of the outcome of your application in early February, 2015. Information, payment details and music will be sent at the time of acceptance. Places are allocated according to performance standard and ensemble experience. APPLICATIONS DUE FRIDAY 19 DECEMBER 2014.

Parents and teachers will be notified of the outcome of your application in early February, 2015. Information, payment details and music will be sent at the time of acceptance. Places are allocated according to performance standard and ensemble experience. APPLICATIONS DUE FRIDAY 19 DECEMBER 2014.

Please note that the information below will be entered into both PSO and The Joan databases. Personal information will be handled in accordance with privacy legislation and will not be shared with other organisations without the individual’s consent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST NAME</th>
<th>SURNAME</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ MALE</td>
<td>□ FEMALE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL</td>
<td>YEAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOBILE</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>STATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INSTRUMENT (PLEASE TICK)</td>
<td>□ VIOLIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INSTRUMENT GRADE (AMEB OR EQUIVALENT)</td>
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</table>

PARENT / GUARDIAN DETAILS
MUSIC FOR SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL (OR POST IF NECESSARY) TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BELOW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MR/MRS/MS FIRST NAME</th>
<th>SURNAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOBILE</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSTAL ADDRESS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>STATE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I WISH TO PAY THE $300 PARTICIPATION FEE (PLEASE TICK) □ IN ONE PAYMENT □ IN FOUR INSTALMENTS

PARENTAL AND MEDIA PERMISSION

In granting permission for _______________________________ to participate in Penrith Strings 2015, I, the parent/guardian of the above-named student, give permission for him/her to be photographed, filmed or interviewed during all Penrith Strings activities by ACO, PSO, The Joan and news media. I consent to the use or reproduction of photographs and footage of the aforementioned student for a variety of fundraising or promotional purposes, including but not limited to: promotion of ACO, PSO, The Joan or their Education Programs in selected media; articles; fundraising proposals and presentations; ACO, PSO, The Joan marketing material; donations campaigns and information brochures.

SIGNED
NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

□ DO NOT SUBSCRIBE ME TO PENRITH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ENEWS
□ DO NOT SUBSCRIBE ME TO PENRITH CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC / THE JOAN ENEWS

Supported by the Crown Resorts Foundation Western Sydney Arts Initiative
**MUSIC TEACHER (SCHOOL OR PRIVATE) DETAILS:**
MUSIC AND OUTCOME OF THIS APPLICATION WILL ALSO BE SENT TO THE MUSIC TEACHER AS PER THE DETAILS BELOW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MR/MRS/MS FIRST</th>
<th>SURNAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL</td>
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<td>EMAIL</td>
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<tr>
<td>POSTAL ADDRESS</td>
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<tr>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>STATE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF YOUR STUDENT’S PERFORMANCE/ENSEMBLE EXPERIENCE:

__________________________
__________________________
__________________________

SIGNED | DATE

☐ DO NOT SUBSCRIBE ME TO PENRITH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ENEWS
☐ DO NOT SUBSCRIBE ME TO PENRITH CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC / THE JOAN ENEWS

Supported by the Crown Resorts Foundation Western Sydney Arts Initiative