

Friends of the Band Committee
Clovelly Public School
Parents & Citizens Association
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P&C 2024 AGM Report

2023 was a terrific year for the CPS Band Program.

Acknowledgments: We would like to acknowledge the fantastic support and effort of everyone involved in the CPS Band Program – students, parents/carers, the Friends of the Band Committee (including Rhianna Grentell, our school liaison), our tutors and particularly our band director, Murray Jackson.

This year we've had some changes to the committee members. We welcome Sophie Elliot as the new Chair, Belinda Pratten as the Secretary and Jen Patterson as Treasurer.

We would like to give an enormous thank you to the outgoing chair Kip Fitzsimon and outgoing Treasurer Jon Smith. Both have contributed significantly to the success of the Band over a number of years. We cannot thank them enough for their tireless efforts.

Key Highlights of 2023:

- **Successful Start:** The Clovelly Band community had a great start to the year! In February 2023, the band program was up and running successfully, with the training band boasting 45 members and the stage band expanding to include additional members.
- **Band Camp:** We had an incredible camp at Stanwell Tops in Term 2 for our Intermediate and Senior Bands. It was truly wonderful to witness the smiles and excitement on the faces of the children who participated and see how they progressed over the weekend. We are so lucky to have our fabulous band director Murray and wonderful parent volunteers to ensure a successful and enjoyable camp.
- **Competitions:** We were able to participate at the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival mid-August at the Clancy Auditorium at UNSW and at Knox Grammar. Each of our bands performed well with the training, intermediate, senior and stage bands winning Gold and Silver awards. These accolades highlight the high level of talent and hard work over the year.
- **Clofest:** In October, it was fabulous to see the Bands play at the biggest event CPS has hosted in over 10 years - Clofest. The feedback from the Clovelly community was overwhelmingly positive. It was great for students in K-2 to see the band in action.

Finances: 2023 saw improved financials for the Band. We are starting to move past the impacts of reduced numbers through COVID. Fortunately, we are seeing some better numbers in the training band as we did in the year prior and look forward to this trend continuing.

A key fundraiser for the band is the Jazz Picnic which was replaced with Clofest in 2023. It will be great to hold this once again in 2024 to boost the financial position. We thank the P&C for the support through this, as we have staff costs to maintain and new band members requiring instruments.

Looking ahead to 2024: Dates for band camp (for Intermediate and Senior Band), mid-year concerts and the

Jazz Picnic have already been set.

Thank you: We appreciate all our parent volunteers who worked tirelessly in the lead up to the camp and other events to support the FOTB Committee to ensure the year was a huge success. The Band would not survive with the generous support of these parents and our fundraising initiatives, thank you.

FOTB Committee

Information about the CPS band program

The program began in 1985 with a small concert band and since then Clovelly Public School has fostered an amazing four band programme, which has a great reputation in the Eastern Suburbs. Each year our bands compete in local band competitions and proudly win medals, often gold & silver, representing the school. This success is largely due to the dedication and enthusiasm of our band director, Murray Jackson, our band tutors, our band students and their parents/carers. The program provides a great opportunity for students to experience quality music education. Learning a musical instrument has been shown to improve literacy and numeracy outcomes and being a member of the band provides great friendship and, in later years, mentoring opportunities.