Dear String Parents and Students,

Welcome back to Term 2. This term will be yet another exciting term for strings at the College with plenty of performances.

**Ensembles:**

All Ensembles will recommence on the first day back at school, Wednesday 27 April, **so yes Junior and Senior Preparator String Ensembles will begin tomorrow.**

Here are some of the performance opportunities that are occurring in Term 2:

**Junior Prep and Senior Prep Strings**

These ensembles will be working towards Prep Open Day on Friday 20 May as well as some assembly performances.

**Co Curricular Strings:**

This term we will be running a Chamber Music module. Students have been placed in groups of similar abilities to prepare pieces. These chamber groups will perform at the next Chamber Music Showcase (date TBC).

**String Orchestra:**

This term the String Orchestra will playing at Chapel in Week 5 (23/5 - 26/5) and the Choral Showcase in Week 8 on 14 June.

**Chamber Strings:**
Chamber Strings are competing in the Sydney Eisteddfod on Monday 30 May. They will also be performing in the Choral Showcase on Tuesday 14 June and St Catherine’s String Showcase with members of the Australian Chamber Orchestra on Wednesday 15 June.

**Studio Concerts:**

Studio Concerts are being held in Week 7 from Monday 6 to Wednesday 8 June. All students (T – 12) having private lessons at the College are invited to perform at this wonderful event. This is a peripatetic tutor run event so your music tutors will soon provide you with all the details of the night.

**Staff Changes:**

We farewell Mr Michael Brewer who has taken a promotion directing the string program at Arden Anglican School. Any students who are currently learning from Mr Brewer have been allocated to other tutors who will contact you shortly to organise lessons. I wish Mr Brewer all the best in his new role at Arden and wish him great fortune with all his musical endeavours.

We welcome Ms Alex D’Elia to the music team. Ms D’Elia is a superb violinist and teacher and regularly plays with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. She joined our team part way through last term and now is a good time to officially welcome her to the College.

**Scots Masterclass Series:**

The Music Department regularly invites outstanding Australian artists and pedagogues as well as esteemed international artists who are visiting Australia to give masterclasses at the College. On Wednesday 6 April the College was treated to a visit from Professor Emile Cantor. Professor Cantor is an exceptional violist and a founder of the world class Orpheus Quartet. He has also played as soloist for the Netherlands Chamber Orchestra, The Copenhagen Philharmonic Orchestra, L’Orchestre national du Capitole de Toulouse and Aarhus Symphony. Professor Cantor is a very well respected pedagogue; having held positions as professor at the Folkwang Musikhochschule in Essen and the Conservatory in Aarhus, associate professor at the Conservatori del Liceo in Barcelona and Music Academy of Ljubljana in Denmark. He is also often invited to member juries at international music competitions and has given masterclasses in Spain, Slovenia, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium and Japan.
It was thus a great privilege that he came and gave a masterclass to some of our students at the college Hugh Beith (Year 12), Alex Marinelli (Year 11) and Ken Noonan (Year 8) who each performed significant repertoire.

Please note that the Music Department Masterclass Series invites many world class musicians to give Masterclasses at the College so please take advantage of these great opportunities that these Masterclasses provide. Attendance at these events for Scots students, parents and peripatetic staff is free so please come along. It was unfortunate that there were only a few string students who attended the Masterclass with Mr Cantor. This was a shame as these opportunities are usually reserved for tertiary students attending Music Conservatories and we are providing these special opportunities for all students at the College. I know that the audience members and participants who did attend learnt a great deal about string playing from Professor Cantor and look forward to the other World-Class musicians that are being invited to visit the College.

I am very much looking forward to another great term at the College. If you have questions about anything strings related, please contact me at any time. If your sons are in the senior school, they are more than welcome to seek me out at any time. My office is in the Centenary Centre, C409.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Tester

Nicholas Tester
Head of Strings
The Scots College Sydney
n.tester@tsc.nsw.edu.au

Victoria Road, Bellevue Hill NSW 2023 / Locked Bag 5001 Bellevue Hill 2023
CRICOS 02287G: The Presbyterian Church (New South Wales) Property Trust