Dear Band Families,

Welcome to 2016 and if this is your first experience with the Band an extra big welcome and I hope you and your child have an enjoyable time with the Band. For those of you who don’t know me, my name is Khaalyd Brown and I am the current Band Convener for the school band committee. We have a wonderful team of teachers and conductors at Eldeeana to help the kids get the most out of the program starting and a great team of dedicated parents that form the band committee to encourage the kids and assist in running the band, although we desperately need more parents to come to the meetings and contribute to the running of the band.

On this note there will be a **band meeting** next **Monday, 8th February** in the School staffroom starting at 6pm. Please come along and support your kids. Band meetings are the primary way to learn about what is happening in the band and upcoming events and everyone is encouraged to attend if possible. If need be children can be brought to the meeting with something to do (ipads, homework, etc) and they can sit at the back or play outside while the meeting is on. The meeting is anticipated to only run from 6-7pm.

**Training Band** will commence next week – on **Wednesday 10th February** at 2pm in the School Hall and then again on **Friday 12th** at 7:30am. The first few weeks can be a bit daunting, but I’m sure you will be in the swing of things soon. It is anticipated that all training band students now have a tutor to help them learn to play their instrument and as parents it is very important to encourage them to practice - a good policy is 3 times a week - at least 15 minutes each. Each week we also require a few parents to volunteer to help set the band up in the mornings (including setting up chairs, music stands, instruments, etc) and mark the roll(although in the beginning Ms Philippa will do this to get to know the kids). This maximises the time the music conductor can teach the children – when they arrive at 7:45am. As a volunteer roster for the morning has not been done yet, it would be appreciated if a few parents could help out until it is done.

**Intermediate Band** has commenced this week and will continue to rehearse on a **Monday** in the Hall and on a **Thursday** in the Library, both mornings if the students could arrive at 7:30am to set up and be ready when the conductor Ms Cook arrives at 7:45am. Again if a few parents could help out in the mornings until the roster is done it would be appreciated.

**Senior Band** has also commenced and continues to rehearse on a **Tuesday** and **Thursday** morning, starting at 7:30am.

See you at the Band Meeting😊

Khaalyd