



## Australian Music Schools Newsletter Term 1, 2012

**Welcome to 2012 at Australian Music Schools.** We hope you had a brilliant break and are ready for a busy term to kick start our year. **Our lessons begin on Monday January 30** and our last classes before the Easter Break and the April Holidays are Thursday April 5. (Adult classes at some locations have later start dates – please check for a separate email).

**This term is the AMS VOCAL EISTEDDFOD** – open to all class students from Junior 2 onwards. Each class will be learning their set song over several weeks and we look forward to lots of beautiful solo performances on the day. A feature of the Vocal Eisteddfod is the open age **VIVA VOICE** section – where our ‘Viva’ classes perform their own choice of song. Dates and times available soon. We will email all details and the link to book for your section – so please make sure we have your current email address. Looking forward to it!

**The AMS year – an overall structure.** We thought it might be useful to let you know what goes where in our year. Dates and venues will be advised as we go along but as a general guide:

Term 1 –  
AMS Vocal Eisteddfod  
‘Sing Move & Groove’ in the April holidays - for all kids from K-6

Term 2 –  
CONCERTS – all classes from 2 year olds through to adults  
AMS Piano Exams (all levels starting from Junior book 4 / Super Starter book 2)  
AMEB Written exams (May Session)

Term 3 –  
AMS Piano Eisteddfod – all solo sections, duets and Grand Final  
AMEB written Exams (August session)  
AMS CAMP - in the Holidays (Extension, Spectrum, Advanced)

Term 4 –  
AMS Piano Exams (all levels)  
AMS Composers Day – open age  
Class Graduations

**A few reminders** to get our term off to a good start:

- No mobile phones in class – this applies to both parents and students!
- No food or drink in classrooms please
- Our main form of contact is email – please make sure we have your current details so we can keep you up to date
- Fees are due by the first lesson of the term
- Please do not adjust your invoice – contact the office for assistance
- We apologise that only the child enrolled is permitted to come to class – no siblings please
- Our last lesson of the term will be an ‘OPEN CLASS’ for family to enjoy

**Private lessons** with our fabulous AMS Private teachers are available to our Junior Plus, Extension, Spectrum & Advanced students. These are hugely beneficial and essential for exam students. If you need more details, please contact the office.

**Our fabulous Adult Classes** are starting up again – if you have always wanted to play the piano or would love to polish up those rusty fingers, we have a course for you! Call the office for days & times.

Don’t forget to ‘like’ us on Facebook and have a read of our Directors Blog – links to both are on our website: [www.australianmusicschools.com.au](http://www.australianmusicschools.com.au)

**Keep reading the following page for our recent staff & student news.**

Wishing you a wonderful term.

AMS staff.

## Staff News:

Big big big news.... **Miss Rebecca** is ENGAGED to be married! We are very excited for her – more details during the term.

Congratulations to **Miss Elisha** who has begun a Masters of Speech Pathology at Sydney University, where she plans to focus on vocal health in singers.

**Miss Michelle and Miss Samantha** recently co-authored the highly anticipated 3rd Sight Reading Book in the 'How to Blitz Sight Reading' series. Books 1 & 2 have been very successful and teachers all over the country have been awaiting the new book.... and here it is!

**Miss Samantha** has recently returned from giving workshops in Sydney and Melbourne on several topics including the business side of running a piano studio, motivating students to practice, and a sneak preview of a brand new product in the BlitzBooks range which is not a book... it's an iphone/ipad application that will revolutionise practice!

**Miss Michelle** has again spent a jam-packed week at Warringah Mall as the Co-ordinator of the 'Star Search' Talent Quest for performers aged 17 & under. Last years' winner was Jack Vidgen, who then went on to win 'Australia's got Talent'. Stand by to find out who the competition 'finds' this year.

**Miss Keryn** is recovering from running 'Kids Camp' at the Salvation Army Collaroy Centre in January. Keryn heads up a group of volunteers on a camp for 100 underprivileged children from all over NSW. 'Hats off' to Miss Keryn who says that she gets as much from the experience as the kids who attend.

Several of our teachers attended the workshop by renowned English composer **Christopher Norton** during the break. He has written a vast array of piano music in various contemporary styles and his pieces are always popular with our students. Look out for his compositions as you choose your private lesson pieces this term.

## Student news:

Congratulations to our many students who received excellent results in term 4 Piano Exams. A special mention to **Eve Fernando** (Miss Lindi & Miss Rebecca) for an A+ in her Grade 1 exam.

Congratulations to long term AMS students **Eloise Hamilton** who is the only student outside of France ever to have achieved 100% in the French Baccalaureate and **Georgina Hayes** who attained 99.1% in the HSC. Both received brilliant music marks!

**Daniel Mucsnik** (long term student of Miss Samantha and Miss Anna) completed the SRS Treasure Box level at the end of last term. Daniel is now a life member of the AMS Sight Reading Society! We hope that inspires you to get your next SRS handbook and keep collecting your keys. It will improve your sight reading – out of sight!

**Courtney Coates** and **Shoshi Blackman** (Miss Elisha's Wednesday Viva Voice class) were both successful in gaining entry to the Gondwana National Choral School. They had a wonderful 2 weeks in residence at Macquarie Uni, singing their hearts out and finished with a sold-out concert at the Conservatorium of Music. Well done girls!

Do you have some musical news or a result that we missed? Send an email to [info@australianmusicschools.com.au](mailto:info@australianmusicschools.com.au) to be included in our next newsletter.