We are the Performing Arts team. Our names are Helen Francis and Peta Murray. We teach and coordinate the Performing Arts Program at Great Ryrie. Helen teaches Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Peta teaches Foundation, Years 1, 2, 5 and 6. Performing Arts is a combination of Music, Drama and Dance. Students learn concepts from these 3 areas in their weekly lessons. All students in years 1 – 6 learn the recorder. Learning the recorder will assist children enormously in developing the ability to read music, which is very beneficial if they learn another instrument in or out of school as well as later in life. There have been many studies conducted that support learning an instrument is also beneficial to children’s academic progress. Following is a list of equipment needed to run this program. **Students will be required to bring this equipment to their music lessons each week.** These items are available through the school at a cheaper price than you would pay through retail outlets.

- Recorder - The one available through the school is the Yamaha descant recorder.
- Recorder Cleaner
- Recorder Book - The book that we will be using is called ‘Black Belt Recorder’ – Book 1.
- Music bag to keep recorder, sheet music and recorder book together.
- An A4 display folder - This will be used to keep additional photocopied music.

*(This is the only item not available at school)*

Students at Great Ryrie Primary School also have the opportunity to learn another musical instrument privately in school time. Further information on these lessons is available from the office and is detailed below. There are a variety of extension Performing Arts Groups available for students to join. These include Junior Orchestra, Senior Orchestra, Junior Choir, Intermediate Choir, Senior Vocal Group and Senior Dance Group.

This year, we are very excited to be holding our whole school Production. All students will be performing in this event at the George Woods Performing Arts Centre at Yarra Valley Grammar School. We will be announcing the title of this production early in term 1. **The dates of these evening performances are Tuesday August 18th and Wednesday August 19th.** Year 5 & 6 students will be performing on both of these nights. Foundation grades and Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be appointed to one of these nights. The allocation of these grades will be published in the newsletter by the end of March. **Please keep these dates free!**

### ENROLMENT FOR INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM

Enrolment forms for learning an instrument at school during 2015 are still available from the office. Please get these forms back asap as lessons for term 1 will be starting next week. (Foundation students cannot start lessons until term 3 in 2015)

Please note that students are only able to learn one instrument during school hours at Great Ryrie Primary School. Great Ryrie Primary School has qualified teachers who are able to teach a variety of instruments including:

- Bass Guitar *
- Drums/Percussion
- Trumpet *
- Trombone *
- Euphonium *
- Saxophone *
- Clarinet *
- Flute *
- Violin
- Piano
- Contemporary Keyboard
- Guitar (All styles)

*(A limited number of these instruments are available for hire from the school at $60.00 per term and a re-fundable $60.00 bond. Asterixed (*) instruments only. If you would like to enrol your child and possibly hire an instrument from the school please return these forms as soon as possible to the office.)*

Acceptance into lessons and hiring instruments will be taken in the order that they are handed in. **EXISTING 2014 STUDENTS MUST ALSO RE-ENROL AND FILL OUT A 2015 ENROLMENT FORM.**

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any queries regarding your child and the Performing Arts Program. Helen Francis and Peta Murray