



## Marvellous Music Monday

On one marvellous Monday in September, early learners from BBC and Somerville House, joined together on stage to deliver the inaugural Prep to Year 3 Music Every Day Concert.

The event signified the culmination of Marvellous Music Monday, a classroom exchange program which first started in 2013.

Designed to strengthen our boys' learning through shared experience, the program sees Year 2 students from Somerville House join with their BBC counterparts to participate in a range of music workshops and choral activities each year.

In 2015 the program was expanded to showcase BBC's entire Music Every Day program with all students from Prep to Year 3 involved in the concert component.

According to Jason Goopy, who first introduced BBC's Music Every Day program in 2012, the experience is designed to reinforce that music is a natural and shared human experience.

"The program strengthens music knowledge, skills and understanding through shared learning experiences and performances," said Jason.

"The benefits of an intensive music education are well researched and documented and the exchange program enables boys and girls to interact and develop socially through a series of workshops, over lunch and in a combined performance," he said.

"Experiencing success through performance in front of several hundred people at this age helps boys and girls to develop their personal confidence and provides a positive platform for future performances, even outside of music."

For some parents it was very much a family affair with their sons and daughters coming together to learn and perform. The day clearly illustrated the meaning music holds in each student's life whilst highlighting their outstanding musical ability. The massed item in particular gave insight into the power of the singing voice in transforming lives, bringing people together and in building communities. ■

### + MUSIC MUST BE TAKEN EVERY DAY

All students at Brisbane Boys' College in Prep, Years 1, 2 and 3 engage in daily specialist music classes. Boys participate in four academic class lessons and one choral lesson per week. Based on the Kodály philosophy, the Music Every Day program aims to foster a lifelong love of music and encourages music to be a part of everyday life. Music knowledge, skills and thinking are taught sequentially and developmentally through singing, movement and play enabling students to successfully perform, analyse and create music. Emphasis is placed on developing the child as the musician using their voice, and instruments are used to extend and colour their artistry. The program also contributes to holistic education as Habits of Mind and common ways of thinking are strengthened through music learning experiences. Numerous musical and extra-musical benefits of the program have been observed. BBC offers the largest daily music program for boys in Australia.

*"You cannot nourish a child if you give him something to eat only once a week... music must be taken every day"*  
Zoltán Kodály

