



Newsletter

TERM 1 NO 1

Wednesday 4 February 2015



2015 brings new families new students, new teachers, new facilities and new programmes...and Stage 1 of the development of a new communication system across WWS, starting with Frensham students, parents and teachers.

Easier in many ways, have been the achievement of exciting physical developments of facilities and refurbishment – bricks and mortar now in place for The Centenary Pool, the new Sturt Studios for Design and Fabrication, with the latest technology and general refurbishment of Houses, Games Field facilities and classrooms.

Much more challenging, always are the welcome and welcome back, to ensure that the information needed by all - to access what is now offered - is coming through clearly. So please let us know if clarity could be improved and 'thank you' for your direct feedback to date.

In preparation for the online News Bulletins to replace our emailed Newsletter, we have redesigned the 2015 WWS Newsletter and my bulletins following, reflect the change.

After a six-week break there is so much to celebrate or to advise and I am very pleased to share for your enjoyment both a December/January update and brief notes about what is ahead for Term 1.

International Achievement for Year 9, 2014

World-class results have been achieved in the Cambridge IGSCCE *Global Perspectives* course completed by Frensham's Year 9, 2014 as part of the Jamieson Programme. Ten students achieved the highest grade (A*) and another 19 achieved an A grade, meaning 46% of Frensham's cohort vs 32% of those completing the course globally (in 164 countries) gained the highest grades. All students successfully completed the course, with all our marks in the A* to E range (vs the full range of possible results A* to G) - a great credit to students and to their teachers: Mr Paul Nash, Dr Tristan Burg and Mrs Merrilee Harris, led in creation of this important opportunity by Deputy Head, Geoff Marsh.

Medal of the Order of Australia for Old Girl (2004), Annabelle Chauncy for 'Service to the International Community'...

With co-founder in her **School for Life Foundation**, Dave Everett, Annabelle has built Katuuso Primary and Vocational School in Uganda to provide Preschool and Primary schooling for 300 children, vocational training in agriculture, tailoring and literacy for 100 adults and healthcare for the entire community. Annabelle completed Year 12 at Frensham with distinction in all respects, and went on to complete a double degree B Arts/Law at Sydney University whilst undertaking her ambitious project in Uganda. She is a regular visitor to Gib Gate and Frensham and has presented annually at the Year 9 Global Forum. Annabelle has now been named a finalist in the NSW Woman of the Year Awards.

See: schoolforlife.org.au



Annabelle Chauncy

U16 High Jump: National All Schools Championship for Paige Wilson, Year 9, 2014...

Paige was gold medallist in the National All Schools High Jump U16 event held in Adelaide in December last year and her jump of **1.77m** qualifies her for the **World Youth Championships** to be held in Cali, Colombia, 15-19 July 2015.

The Centenary Pool – Official Opening by Howard Tanner AM LFRAIA, Sunday 1 March...

We are thrilled with the quality of what has been achieved in terms of the Learn-to-Swim and 25m Lap Pool facilities and all details of the new programmes have now been emailed or posted on Schoolbox for parent reference. Already hundreds from within and beyond the School have been swimming and we urge parents to stay closely in touch as we build the full programme over the next term. For further information please visit the Aquabliss website at www.aquabliss.com.au or contact Ben Slade, Aquabliss Manager on +61 2 4872 3672 or frensham@aquabliss.com.au

Howard Tanner AM LFRAIA is a Sydney architect with a long association with Frensham and the development of the WWS campuses. In addition to his professional role through Tanner Kibble Denton Architects, Howard has had a rich and diverse career. He has been National President of the Australian Institute of Architects, Chair of the Australian Architecture Awards, Chairman of the Heritage Council of NSW, and a Professorial Fellow at the University of Canberra. Whilst Howard did not design The Centenary Pool, we take this opportunity to acknowledge his legacy to the School over more than a decade of professional guidance.

New Sturt Studios for Design and Fabrication – opening this week...

We will be pleased to show parents through the new Sturt Studios on Open Day. Projects are already in place to utilise the space and the latest technology is now installed to support learning and teaching in the areas of design and fabrication. Ahead:

- A special STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) project for Year 8 is being prepared as part of their Jamieson Programme this year: Formula One Racing Car Project
- Sturt Winter School enrolments are open for a specialised Laser Cutting course. This course will be run by Trihn Vu. Currently bookings can be made by contacting Sturt Gallery on +61 2 4860 2083. The online booking facility and the Winter School brochure will be available from late March.

Year 12, 2014 – Tertiary Scholarships offered to date: (not necessarily accepted) & Awards

- **Phoebe Cook:** Liberal Arts Scholarship, Bennington, USA; HTA [History Teachers' Association] HSC History Extension Prize, 1st place in the 'American Studies' category, 2014.
- **Lilli Jephcott:** Rio Tinto Scholarship for Petroleum Engineering
- **Olivia Jones:** Choral Scholarship (St Andrew's), USYD
- **Alice Hood:** Long Tan Leadership Award and UNSW Rural Engineering Scholarship

Year 12, 2014 – Tertiary Pathways to universities around the world...

Mrs Williams, our Careers Adviser/Counsellor is currently in touch with our most recent leavers regarding their tertiary pathways and the list below includes what we know currently about the breadth of courses offered in the NSW/ACT Main Round, as at 21 January 2015, in addition to advice offered by individual students. For many students the options are still under consideration, particularly for those pursuing interstate or overseas places, given the different timing for offers and acceptance.

We congratulate this cohort on their achievement – with every member of the year group securing a tertiary place or pathway by the end of the **Main Round** (Main Rd) of offers: and ***at least 40 different tertiary pathways for the class of 50 students** (as at 21 January, with interstate and overseas outcomes to follow).

*(*Where more than one student has been offered a particular course, it is listed below only once.)*

Flexible Double ArtsSoScBusSc Aust National Uni Main Rd	B Human Nutrition Uni of Canberra Main Rd
Flexible Double Law Aust National Uni Main Rd	B International & Global Studies Uni of Sydney Main Rd
B Agriculture Uni of New England Main Rd	B Liberal Arts and Science Uni of Sydney Main Rd
B App Sc(Outdoor Recreation Ecotourism) Charles Sturt Uni Main Rd	B Nursing (3 yrs F/T) Uni of New England December Rd
B Arts & Soc Sc) UNSW Australia Main Rd	B Nursing Advanced Uni of Wollongong December Rd
B Arts (Hons) London College of Fashion (Fashion Illustration)	B Political Economic & Soc Sc Uni of Sydney Main Rd
B Arts (Wollongong) Uni of Wollongong December Rd	B Primary Education Uni of Wollongong December Rd
B Arts Uni of Sydney Main Rd	B Property Economics Uni of Tech Sydney Main Rd
B Arts UNSW Australia Main Rd	B Rural Science Uni of New England Main Rd

B Arts Comm(Media Arts & Prod) Uni of Tech Sydney Main Rd	B Science (Psychology) Uni of Wollongong December Rd
B Arts(Media & Communications) Uni of Sydney Main Rd	B Science Uni of Sydney Main Rd
B Arts/B Business Uni of New England January Round 1	B Science in Agriculture Uni of Sydney Main Rd
B Business (Wollongong) Uni of Wollongong December Rd	B Science/B Arts Uni of Sydney Main Rd
B Eng (H)(Flexible First Year) UNSW Australia Main Rd	B Science/B Arts UNSW Australia Main Rd
B/Criminology at UNE (Armidale) – Early Entry Offer	B Social Science Uni of Wollongong Main Rd
B Eng (Materials Science/M Biomedical Eng UNSW Australia Main Rd	B Screenwriting Victorian College of the Arts/Uni of Melbourne Main Rd
B Engineering(H)/B Commerce UNSW Australia Main Rd	B Visual Arts Uni of Sydney January Rd 1
B Fine Arts/B Arts UNSW Australia Main Rd	BA Comm(Cult)BA Int Stds Uni of Tech Sydney Main Rd
B Fine Arts National Art School Main Rd	BA Comm(MediaArts&Prod) B Laws UTS Main Rd
B Forensic Sc in App Chem Uni of Tech Sydney Main Rd	B Fine Arts National Art School Main Rd

How do you get there? Goal Setting for 2015...

In sharing a message about setting goals and persevering in pursuit, students were this week alerted to need to commit to change one day at a time and to 'keep going', in the spirit of Michael Leunig's well known cartoon/poem:

Go to the end of the path until you get to the gate.

Go through the gate and head straight out towards the horizon.

Keep going towards the horizon.

Sit down and have a rest every now and again,

But keep on going, just keep on with it.

Keep on going as far as you can.

That's how you get there

Acknowledgement to:

- End of Term 4, Year 11 **Girdle** recipients: Olivia Battcock and Alice Gillespie (Academic Excellence); Grace Lavender, (Drama) and Georgina Quinn (Music);
- **Duke of Edinburgh's Award** recipients: Bronze: Ellie Arnott, Sophie Booth, Ellie Fox, Georgina Fuller, Laura Gardner, Skyla Harris, Thea Horsley, Ellen Ireson, Natasha Long, Matilda Martin, Chloe McCrabb, Sophie Montgomery, Rosie O'Neil, Lucy O'Toole, Dominique Romijn, Georgia Saeck, Nina Whitfeld, Amelia Woodhouse (Year 10); Silver: Lucy Barrett, Lily Dulhunty, Anna Horton, Olivia Lalak, Matilda Macqueen, Kate Marsh, Florance McGufficke, Victoria McMaster, Eliza-Jane Middleton, Amelia Vidler (Year 11)

Prefects - Year Groups:

Year 7: Lucinda Crichton, Madeleine Prell, Catriona Fraser

Year 8: Camilla Arnott, Sophie Currenti, Grace Lavender

Year 9: Caroline Hart, Camilla Munro, Georgia Phillips

Year 10: Madison Allen, Georgina Quinn

Year 11: Eliza Brennan, Sarah Loveridge

Year 12 & Vice Head Girl: Olivia Battcock

Year 12 & Head Girl: Annabelle Carter

Heads of House 2015 Term 1 (in addition to Year 12 Heads of House advised last year)

Year 10 Hartfield: Sadie Archibald, Laura Gardner, Annabella Lewis;

Year 10 Kennedy: Susan Chen, Olivia Hart, Chloe McCrabb;

Year 10 Linden: Emily Ives, Lucy O'Toole, Nina Whitfeld;

Year 11 Bryant: Matilda Macqueen, Ellah Thompson Amelia Vidler;

Year 11 Turner: Lucinda Macken, Cassandra Phillips, Celia Stewart.

Julie A Gillick

Head of Frensham

Head of Winifred West Schools

Advisory Committees

2015 Frensham Advisory Committee Contacts

Mrs Pip Crichton	pipcrichton@bigpond.com
Mrs Helen Gooden	jwhgooden@bigpond.com
Mrs Katrina Graves	graves@jkg.net.au
Mr John Hayes	hayes.it@bigpond.com
Mrs Sam Hickson (Secretary)	jshickson@bigpond.com
Mr Gavin Martin	gavin.martin@ap.jll.com
Mrs Judy Newton	judynewton5@bigpond.com
Mr Sam Paradise	sam.paradice@rbsmorgans.com
Mr John Penton	jbpenton@tpg.com.au (Chair)
Mrs Tina Scales	t.scales@bigpond.com
Mrs Melody Talbot	melody@talbotnet.com

2015 Gib Gate Advisory Committee Contacts

Mrs Rachel Arnott	rachelkarnott@gmail.com (Chair)
Mrs Caroline Atra	caroline.atra@me.com
Dr Guy Bashford	guy.bashford@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au
Mrs Holly de Manincor	hollydemanincor@hotmail.com
Mr Gil Downes	gil.downes@neerim.net.au
Mr Stephen Grant	(on Leave)
Mrs Sarah Lewis	sarah.lew@me.com (Secretary)
Mrs Corina Nesci	corina@ipxplode.com
Mrs Helen Pernice	dandhpernice@bigpond.com
Mrs Zoe Suttie (Chair of FOGG)	zoeandrobert@bigpond.com

2015 Term Dates Gib Gate and Frensham

Term 1

Gib Gate & Frensham:
Thursday 29 January – Wednesday 1 April, 3pm

Term 2

Gib Gate & Frensham:
Monday 20 April-Thursday 18 June, 3pm
(Year 10 Work Experience ends Friday 19 June)
(Boarders return on the evening of Sunday 19 April)

Term 3

Gib Gate & Frensham:
Tuesday 14 July-Thursday 17 September 3pm
(Boarders return on the evening of Monday 13 July)

Term 4

Gib Gate: Tuesday 6 October-Friday 4 December 3pm

Frensham: Tuesday 6 October -Sunday 6 December
12.30pm (after 11am Carol Service)
(Boarders return on the evening of Monday 5 October)

2015 Frensham Parent Weekends Ahead

Year 7	Saturday 28 February-Sunday 1 March Frensham Open Day ~ Saturday 28 February
Year 10	Saturday 21-Sunday 22 March
Year 8	Saturday 9-Sunday 10 May
Year 12	Saturday 30 -Sunday 31 May WWS 102 nd Birthday Friday 29 May
Year 11	Saturday 1-Sunday 2 August Saturday 1 August – Year 10 Senior Studies (with parents)
Year 9	Saturday 22-Sunday 23 August

Ranier Uniform Shop

All fittings for uniforms are by appointment.

Mondays and Thursdays 12noon-5.00pm

Shop Manager Mrs Cherie Heard

To order goods, please call the Shop: (02) 4860 2136
[BH] or email: frensham@ranier.com.au

THE CENTENARY POOL

Save the date

Sunday 1 March ~ Opening of The Centenary Pool

in conjunction with the Year 7 Parent Weekend

To be opened by **Howard Tanner AM LFRAIA**





Gib Gate students and staff are thoroughly enjoying the start of the 2015 School year and we appreciate the wonderful support parents are providing through ensuring students arrive at school punctually, with hats, diaries, swimming gear, books covered and so forth. Your support has ensured a very successful start for all.

All staff are looking forward to catching up with parents, both new and existing, at the Families of Gib Gate (FOGG) Welcome Drinks at Gib Gate this Friday evening and I hope everyone will be able to attend. The evening is an excellent social event for parents and is designed to allow existing families, from Preschool to Year 6, to meet new families and for the whole parent community to come together and reunite at the start of the year.

Over the next two weeks, as students settle into their new classes with their 2015 teachers, it is important that the communication between parents, teachers and Gib Gate Executive staff be open and that you feel confident to contact any of us, should you have any questions or concerns. In doing so, we can all actively support students as they establish friendships and engage in new learning.

Appointments to discuss by phone or meet with staff can be made through the Gib Gate office via Mrs Karen Russell at krussell@gibgate.nsw.edu.au or 02 4860 2000.

Ms Sally Robson, Head of Gib Gate

Curriculum Highlights 2015

Reminder: Homework and Learning Goals

Gib Gate's Homework policy is designed to support children's learning in Reading, Mathematics and Musical instrument practice – in way that complement School and can be easily supported by parents:

- For Homework in Years K-2, students are provided with Home Reading books and Mathematics games
- Students in Years 3-6 are set personalised Learning Goals in Reading, Multiplication (times tables) and Music (for those students learning a musical instrument at school).

Formal reading homework is based on four nights per week from Monday to Thursday and forms part of your child's daily homework component:

- In Kindergarten to Year 2, children should read for 15 minutes per day;
- For students in Years 3 to 6 this is extended to a minimum of 20 minutes per day.

Class teachers supervise the formal component of reading homework and provide the resources required.

Children also visit the Library on a weekly basis to select books from the vast collection of quality literature which encompasses picture books for all ages, novels and information books, with guidance from their class teacher and Gib Gate's children's literature expert, Mrs LeeAnn Marsh.



As we say at Gib Gate (and thank you to Dr Seuss):

'The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.'

As parents, you are encouraged to model a love of reading; to read aloud to and with your child and to listen to your child read regularly. Finding the time for this enjoyable activity every day is highly recommended! You are also welcome to visit the Library on Wednesdays after school to supplement your home library and Mrs Marsh will be available to show you the 'latest' publications and the 'classics' and 'must reads' suitable for your child. There are no borrowing restrictions for parents!

Formal Mathematics Homework for students in Years 3-6 is also required to be completed from Monday to Thursday:

- Students and teachers set learning goals to acquire instant recall of mathematical facts.
- We strongly believe that the fluent recall of the 'times tables' is a skill that must be learned by the end of primary school to enable the brain more 'space' to grapple with complex mathematical concepts and to be successful in everyday life. (As adults we rely on multiplication and division in our daily life – comparing the cost of similar items, costing multiple items, determining discounts and so on.)
- Using a calculator is not going to teach your child mathematical number facts and sometimes there is no time to pull out a calculator and work out a problem. Once automaticity of multiplication facts has been achieved, additional Mathematics homework will be set.

For students in Kindergarten to Year 2:

- The class teacher will provide mathematical games to be sent home, when appropriate this term, so parents can enjoy learning Mathematics with their children.

For children who learn a musical instrument, they are actively encouraged to set aside time each day to practise so that progress continues steadily. Appropriate duration of practice should be discussed with your child's Music Tutor or with Mrs Graham.

Children in Years 3–6 may have additional homework set when class projects and research assignments require follow-up work at home. Gib Gate students often love completing independent tasks at home and they should be encouraged to do so; however, parents are encouraged to monitor and supervise actively the time spent, particularly when using ICT, and seek advice from your class teacher through a note in the school diary if required.

Ms Kate Chauncy, Director of Teaching and Learning P-12 and Coordinator of Gifted and Talented Programmes

Music

Music lessons have commenced for continuing students this week and new students will start lessons next week. Gib Gate is excited to have a number of students starting trumpet, drums and saxophone this year. Places are available in all instruments if your child is interested in starting this year. Junior Singing sessions and Senior Choir have been held this week, with Gib Gate students enjoying singing as usual. Orchestra rehearsals will commence on Friday at 3pm.

Extra-Curricular Activities

These commence next week. There are places available in a limited number of classes. Please contact Mrs Graham if you would like your child enrolled.

Years 3 and 4 Outdoor Education Adventure Day

On Monday 23 February these classes will participate in their OEG Adventure Day. We are required to forward updates of medical forms to OEG [for risk management purposes for the day]. If you have not already done so, please assist by returning medical forms for your children.

Mrs Anne Graham, Gib Gate Coordinator (Administration)

Sport

Summer Sports

The second half of the summer season is under way with Basketball, Water Polo and T20 Blast Cricket all starting back this week. Swim squad training has also recommenced with more than 30 students from Years 1 to 6 involved in early morning sessions at The Centenary Pool.

In preparation for next season's sport, children will shortly be asked to make their selection for winter sports, which will need to be finalised by early March.

Representative Trials

Term 1 is a busy time for selection trials for various representative sports. Over the coming weeks, several children from Years 5 and 6 will be invited to trial for IPSHA selection in Basketball, Netball and Soccer.

CIS Awards

We congratulate Dominic O'Shannessy (Year 6, 2014) for receiving a CIS Award for his achievements in Cricket and Athletics.

Mr Michael Standen, Co-ordinator of PDHPE and Sport

Preschool

Reception

Reception children have settled into Preschool very well. They have enjoyed investigating the playground and all the wonderful learning experiences provided for them in the classroom. The children were enthusiastic when they met the Gruffalo and they enjoyed listening to the story *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson. They also enjoyed their first music class with Mrs Graham on Tuesday.

We would be grateful if Preschool Reception Parents could take the time to complete the Preschool Questionnaire provided to them last Tuesday. The questionnaire provides us with information about your child's interests and any particular interest or talent you may like to share with the class.

Transition

Transition children enjoyed seeing their friends again and catching up on events during the vacation.

They have thoroughly enjoyed recommencing Library lessons with Mrs Marsh and Music with Mrs Graham. They have also enjoyed starting Visual Arts lessons in the Art Room each Wednesday, while the PE programme with Mr Standen will be on Fridays. Small groups of Transition students will be joining the rest of the School in Gib Gate Hall on Fridays for Performance Assembly.

If you have not yet handed in your 2015 questionnaire, we would encourage you to do so.

Ms Kelly Lees, Preschool Teacher



STURT News

FRIENDS OF STURT

Joan Dinning (President), Robin Golledge (Secretary), Ruth Wright (Roster Secretary), Kay Faulkner, Michael Harris, Alan Matthews, Julie Musgrave, Denise Sumner, Chris Topp

Special News

Sturt Coffee by Gilbert's (of Main St Mittagong) is a stylish new pop-up coffee bar operating inside and outside Sturt Shop and Gallery offering barista-made coffees, teas, quality soft drinks, savoury and sweet treats.

Opening Hours from 4 February: 10am to 4pm Wednesday to Sunday

Design & Fabrication Studios

Sturt's new studio facilities will be up and running this term and we plan to offer a wider range of special courses in these new multi-purpose workshop spaces as well as new technology opportunities through 3D printing, laser cutting and digital routing facilities.

Propose an exhibition for 2016

We are now inviting exhibition proposals for Sturt Gallery for 2016 and beyond. Full details on the procedure and the Exhibition Policy can be found on our website at: <http://www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/get-involved/exhibition-proposal>

Sturt School for Wood 2016

Sturt School for Wood is full for 2015 and we are now inviting expressions of interest for enrolment in 2016. With a significant waiting list already, we are encouraging early enrolment. For enquiries regarding the 2016 course, please contact Mark Viner on +61 2 4860 2083.

Winter School 2015

The programme for Winter School 2015 available at Sturt Gallery or on the website at: www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/education/winter-school Online booking and the printed brochure will be available in late March.

Sturt Artists-in-Residence 2015

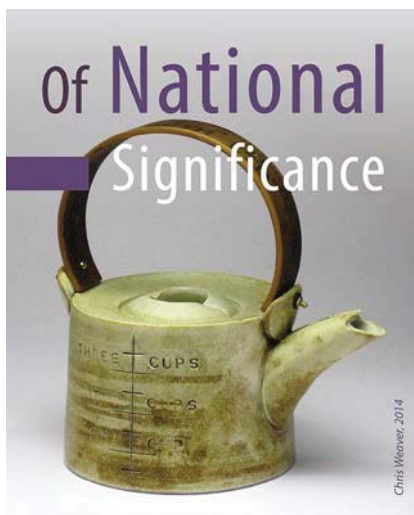
This year we welcome NSW jewellery maker, Felix Gill, UK ceramics artist, Kerry Jameson and Scottish furniture maker/designer, Isabelle Moore for three-month professional residencies as well as graduate residents, Anni Xiu (ceramics COFA) and Andrew Carvolth (woodwork ANU) for six-week graduate residencies.

Short Courses

The 2015 short course programme will be available at the Tools & Techniques weekend to be held 14 and 15 February. New course options will be available, including interacting with technology in the new Design and Fabrication workshops.

Term Classes

All regular term classes start again this week – Woodwork, Jewellery, Ceramics and Tapestry Weaving. A new daytime jewellery/metalwork class will be available on Thursdays and a new daytime ceramics class will be starting on Tuesdays.



Sturt Gallery

National Contemporary Jewellery Award 2014 – Continues till 15 February 2015.

This national acquisitive prize exhibition, produced by Griffith Regional Art Gallery, attracts jewellery artists Australia-wide. Sturt is a major supporter of this biennial programme, awarding a residency as one of the major prizes.

Of national significance - Ceramics Then And Now by Artists in the Sturt Permanent Collection - 22 February – 12 April.

The Sturt Collection tells the story of Australian craft since the war. This exhibition will feature new work by a selection of prominent Australian and international artists alongside the historic work currently in the Sturt Collection and include: Les Blakebrough, Patty Wouters, Campbell Hegan, Yasuo Terada, Yasuhisa Kohyama, Svend Bayer, Kevin White, Paul Davis, Prue Venables and Victor Greenaway. The exhibition opens Sunday 22 February at 11am with special guest, Greg Daly, Head of Ceramic Workshop, ANU School of Art.

Events

Tools and Techniques Weekend ~ Saturday 14 to Sunday 15 February 2015, 10am - 4pm.

Sturt's largest annual event will feature displays and sales from Australia's finest tool makers and specialist timber suppliers; HNT Gordon, Colen Clenton, Japanese Tools, Allwood Timbers, Gifkins Dovetail Jig, Jim Davey, Vesper Tools, Dunstone Design and more. In addition, there will be a programme of woodwork demonstrations on both days by Australia's leading furniture makers.

A bric-a-brac stall will be on site with food and beverages also available. Admission is free. A detailed programme is available at www.sturt.nsw.edu.au

Friends of Sturt Annual General Meeting - Sturt Cottage, Sunday 22 February 2015 at 2pm.

Members and prospective members are invited to attend the AGM and to consider nominating for places on the committee for 2015.

Full details of all Sturt courses, exhibitions, residency programmes and events can be found on the website www.sturt.nsw.edu.au or to make a booking or enrolment:

call Sturt Shop on +61 2 4860 2083 or email shop@sturt.nsw.edu.au

Mr Mark Viner, Head of Sturt

Deputy Head

As expected, students have returned to school with a positive attitude and they are well prepared for the year ahead.

The first round of IGSSA Sport will begin this weekend. Some Extra Subject and Co-curricular activities started at the beginning of Week 2. Timetables for tennis lessons and music lessons are in the process of being finalised, as are final lists for Nursing Home visits.

For Outdoor Education Week for girls in Years 7 to 10, OEG will use the information contained in the Frensham medical form. These forms should now have been completed. Asthma Management and Allergy Management Forms are available directly from the Health Centre if they are required. Equipment lists for Outdoor Education Week are located on page 49 of the 2015 Frensham Information Book (located on Schoolbox) and detailed information about the programme for each year group will be included in the next newsletter, e-mailed to parents and posted on Schoolbox.

Absences from School

As noted on page 29 of the 2015 Frensham Information Book; if a student is absent from school due to illness or injury, an explanatory note must be provided to the school office upon a student's return to school.

In accordance with Legislative requirements governing all schools, if a student has an unexplained period of absence, a letter will be posted to her parents or guardians requesting written confirmation. This Legislation requires that the school keeps written documentation of all absences.

All requests for Leave should be made in writing to the Head of Frensham well in advance of the event, to allow for consideration and a written response.

Mr Geoff Marsh, Deputy Head

Boarding News

Life returns to Frensham as the girls unpack their belongings in the Boarding Houses! We have had a wonderful start to 2015 in Boarding, with Year 10 Boarders offering support in the Junior Houses. As part of the School's leadership programme, Year 10 Heads of House have been meeting with Boarding Staff to discuss ways they can develop their leadership in the Houses. Their focus has been 'taking responsibility' and they have been guided to work with Year 9 Heads of Dorm in managing the daily routines in the Junior Houses.

The first Closed Weekend was filled with activities, commencing with whole School games on Friday evening,

swimming in The Centenary Pool, meditation, craft activities, feet off the floor and a selected group of Year 11 and 12 students completing a Safe Driving course. Time on mobile devices (including phones) was restricted during the weekend to enable girls to interact personally with each other.

Reminders:

- Planning for girls' travel by Friday lunch time is essential. Please help us by finalising exeats and phone calls early;
- All girls in Years 7-9 must be collected by an adult from the Sydney bus on Saturday afternoon at Central Station;
- Years 7, 8 and 9 Jamberoo Water Park Excursion on Sunday 8 February.

Mrs Amanda Wansey, Acting Head of Boarding

Director of Teaching and Learning

Professional Learning Report

Winifred West Schools Executive, Teaching, House and Health Centre staff completed a full programme of Professional Learning from Monday 19 January to Wednesday 28 January in preparation for the commencement of teaching at Gib Gate and Frensham on Thursday 29 January last week.

Executive and Senior staff met to discuss new, and review ongoing, strategic plans and to set teaching and learning goals. In addition, they prepared to welcome new staff to Winifred West Schools for a two-day programme throughout 21 and 22 January. All Teaching, House and Health Centre staff returned on 27 January to continue detailed planning collaboratively in primary and faculty teams. A highlight was the Plenary Session delivered by Ms Julie Gillick on 28 January which included a walking tour of Sturt Studios for Design and Fabrication and The Centenary Pool.

A number of staff also attended a variety of professional learning opportunities throughout the vacation period. In preparation for the commencement of teaching in the newly refurbished Sturt Studios, Mr Phil Aldis, Dr Tristan Burg, Ms Sophie Piper, Ms Dale Dryen and Ms Indra Deigan worked with expert consultants in the Schavemaker Centre during December and January to develop their skills in using Laser Cutter and 3D Printing and Router hardware and software for use by students in the learning space in Term 1 this year.

Sisters Cathie Weaver and Darrya Foster attended the annual School Nurses Conference on 19 and 20 January. Attended by over 120 school nurses Australia-wide, the programme covered a range of topics including: Critical Care Management of Injuries on the Sports Field; Ongoing Treatment for Sport Injuries presented by Ro McNulty

(Physiotherapist for the Wallaroos); Care of the Diabetic Student and Naturopathic Medicine. The keynote speaker, the Hon Kristina Keneally, presented an informative session on 'Professionalism and Leadership in the Workplace' which was a highlight as her journey to and her experiences and challenges as the first female Premier of NSW, were inspirational.

Mrs Alice Planting (teacher of Visual Arts Gib Gate and Frensham) attended the 2015 Sturt Summer School Course – *Drawing Fantastic Flowers* with Suzanne Archer. The course provided opportunities to experiment with contemporary drawing techniques which included layering drawings of object, realistic representational drawing of natural forms and techniques used to abstract imagery. During the course, Mrs Planting attended numerous talks by artists and designers, including Basil Hall and Bev Hogg.

Ms Kate Chauncy, Director of Teaching and Learning P-12 and Coordinator of Gifted and Talented Programmes

Director of Studies

Students in Years 7-10 have settled quickly into the routines of school life. Study and revision practices being established or reinforced in Prep, will enhance classwork and promote effective strategies for long-term learning. Prep at Frensham can take several different forms:

- review and confirmation of the day's class work
- short term reading and exercises to help students prepare for their next class
- long-term assignments and the research that goes with them
- regular, ongoing revision and practice which help place knowledge and skills in students' long-term memory
- specific revision of knowledge and skills for a special task

Prep is an important part of each student's overall learning programme. Each part of her Prep is set to help her to move forward on the pathways of her learning outcomes. Prep is always integrated with classroom learning and the targeted outcomes of topics and courses.

Year 11 students have commenced their Preliminary HSC programmes of study. This course of study runs for three terms, at which point the girls confirm their subject choices in preparation for Year 12. As part of their introduction to senior studies, Year 11 students will attend a meeting in the coming weeks to discuss approaches to study, including expected study targets and Prep responsibilities, organisational skills and assessment procedures. Much of this information is available in the Senior Studies Information Booklet which was provided to students and parents in Term 3, 2014

As part of the NSW BOSTES requirements, all Year 11 students must complete an online programme called 'HSC: All My Own Work' before they can be enrolled as

Preliminary course students. This programme is designed to assist HSC students to follow the principles and practices of good scholarship and includes understanding and valuing ethical practices when locating and using information as part of their HSC studies. Students will complete this programme early in Term 1.

Year 12 students have returned to school with a sense of purpose, quickly settling into the routines and the application needed to be successful learners. Vacation work will be collected providing girls valuable feedback on areas for future review.

Term assessment schedules will be finalised shortly with many students having commenced their major works in Visual Arts, Music, Drama, Design and Technology, History Extension and English Extension 2. As part of their tertiary orientation, all Year 12 students will participate in an excursion to Wollongong University on Thursday 5 February.

Ms Janene van Gogh, Director of Studies – in Residence

English and Drama

English

*You are so young, and have not even started, and I want to beg you, as strongly as I can dear sir, to be patient with all that is unresolved in your heart and try to love **the questions themselves** like locked rooms and like books that are written in a foreign tongue.* Rainer Maria Rilke, Letters to a Young Poet.

In English across all year levels, we encourage students to be dynamic and active learners. We want them to experience texts as vibrant and critical thinkers who enjoy questions both in and beyond the classroom context. Here are some questions students in English will hopefully learn to appreciate and maybe in turn ask more questions which promote deeper thinking and understanding.

Year 7: Why are some voices silenced in literature?

Year 8: Why Shakespeare?

Year 9: How can love be tragic?

Year 10: How does Shakespearean tragedy teach us about the experience of being human?

Year 11: How is Change a transformational experience?

Year 12: How much of our identity is shaped by our gender?

In Year 12 Extension: How did Romanticism develop as an artistic and philosophical movement?

We would like to welcome Miss Sandie Fowler to the English Faculty, teaching Year 8 English, and Ms Fiona Shannon to Drama where she will be teaching Years 7, 10 and 11.

Public Speaking

'Presenting speeches' is embedded in the English Curriculum at Frensham. BOSTES mandates that students must be assessed on their speaking skills. This could be a formal presentation, a debate, a small group seminar, a dramatic monologue or a vigorous class discussion. However, there are other opportunities for students to be involved outside the classroom. This term, students will be invited to audition for the Open Day Public Speaking session. Other events include The Sydney Morning Herald Plain English Competition which is open to all Year 11 and 12 students across the state. The state is divided into regions and each school may send two competitors. The winner of the region proceeds to the next round.

Drama

We are excited about the year ahead, particularly as interest in Drama continues to grow either as an elective subject or in one of our three major productions throughout the year. Planning for the Birthday Play has already commenced and students in Years 11-12 will be asked to audition mid-Term 1.

Year 12 students have returned refreshed and ready to tackle the challenges ahead and are well on their way to a successful year. In the first week of term, students in the HSC Drama course have presented work for their Individual Projects which include Performance monologues, Scriptwriting and Director's Folio. Throughout the process, students will be assisted by both Mrs Hannah and Ms Shannon during outside class mentoring sessions. In addition to their Individual Projects, Year 12 students have started their second unit of theory in Studies in Drama and Theatre, analysing the role of Black Comedy through Neil La Bute's *Shape of Things* and Martin McDonagh's *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*.

Ms Lee McGuinness, Head of English/Drama

French

The languages department welcomes two new teachers of French, Madame Bridgette Micklem who will be teaching students in Years 7 and 8 and Mademoiselle Victoria Akins (Frensham, 2005) who will be teaching students in Years 8 to Year 11. Ms Akins will also be teaching Latin.

Also noteworthy is the success of three HSC 2014 French accelerant students: Sophie Hill (Year 11), Olivia Kelleher (Year 12) and Clementine Tregoning (Year 12), all achieved the highest Band in their examinations last year.

Mme Mary Kidner, Mme Bridgette Micklem, Mlle Victoria Akins, Teachers of French

Open High School

Interest in the study of a range of Languages with the Open High School has resulted in students from Years 8-11 selecting the following languages: Japanese, Mandarin,

Spanish, Indonesian, German, Italian, Modern Greek and Japanese. The Language Department has established a homeroom with phone access, for these students along with assistants to support with the oral aspects of language where possible. As Director of Languages, I will be supervising the students and will be liaising with parents regarding their progress throughout the year. Please contact me directly should you have any queries.

Mrs Trish Symons, Director of Languages

Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

We welcome Ms Sally Fennell [Frensham 1987] to the HSIE Faculty for 2015. Ms Fennell is an experienced HSIE teacher who has taught in all areas of this Key Learning Area.

Students of History in Years 8 and 10 will be undertaking the new syllabus this year which encourages students to develop an understanding of significant historical concepts such as cause and effect, change and continuity, significance, empathy and contestability. It requires students to locate and understand themselves and others in the continuum of human experience up to the present.

History provides opportunities for students to explore human actions and achievements in a range of historical contexts and provides broader insights into the historical experiences of different cultural groups within our society. History students returning to classes this week were animated about the news that Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamun's beard had been snapped off and stuck back on with the wrong glue in a 'botched' restoration. The beard was not fixed to the mask when it was excavated in 1924 and it was reattached in 1941. The glue had deteriorated over the past 70 years and the beard broke off when museum workers were changing the lights in the display case and accidentally touched the mask.

Years 11 and 12 Business Studies students are also interested in this story from an Employee Relations and Public Relations point of view, given the head of restoration at the state-run Egyptian museum in Cairo has been transferred to another museum as a result of the incident. Many are questioning why reports were initially played down when it first occurred in August 2014. There is an impending legal case against the conservation workers – an excellent example for Business Studies students to study.

This week also marked the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp, the hundreds of now-elderly former inmates returned to pay tribute to the dead, and bear witness to the horrors they experienced. Year 10 Elective History students will be studying *Hitler and the Holocaust* as their first unit of work for 2015 and will reflect on this period of History.

Geography students across Years 7-10 have commenced a

variety of units including, Geographical Issues in Australia, What Makes Australia Unique, What is Geography and Global Inequalities.

All Year 11 and 12 HSIE students have made a positive and engaged start to the new school year.

Ms Janene van Gogh, Head of HSIE

Jamieson Programme

The Jamieson Programme is built on the belief that ...

The very experience of being confronted by physical, intellectual and emotional challenges in a stimulating environment is inherently exciting and immensely rewarding.

The Jamieson Programme began with Jamieson Weekends in 1986 when some of the bequest of Hilda Jamieson was used to buy camping equipment for Frensham. It has expanded since then to become an integral programme in the School.

Today, the concept noted above (in italics), is applied to the planning for Closed Weekends, to Jamieson Week (the final week of the school year) and to a core curriculum area across Years 7–10. The essential topics in the programme fall under the focus areas of: Global Citizenship, Responsibility, Service and Leadership, Health, Fitness and Physical Challenge, and Critical, Ethical and Flexible Thinking. During this term, students will be involved in the following aspects of the Jamieson Programme.

Year 7: In Frensham Studies, students will learn about the history and philosophy of the School.

Year 8: Riding for the Disabled begins this week. The girls will have the opportunity to assist once during the year for a morning session at the local RDA Club. A roster has been prepared and students involved will be notified each week.

Year 9: The fortnightly Thursday programme commenced last week with girls participating in a presentation on the Jamieson Programme, with special emphasis on the Cambridge IGCSE course, 'Global Perspectives.' They were then asked to complete for Prep a set of Fitness Goals, both short-term and long-term, which they hope to achieve this year. In the next session (Week 3) they will be undertaking research prior to the visit in Week 5 to the Auburn Gallipoli Mosque and the Sydney Jewish Museum, as well as participating in a fitness-testing session during the afternoon. The evening session will consist of a presentation on 'Body Image' by Dr Kathleen Bokey.. Finally, staff from the 2014 Cambridge 'Global Perspectives' course were very pleased with the outstanding results obtained by the 2014 cohort.

Year 10: Year 10 students complete a series of workshops on Financial Literacy and Religious Studies, programmed at the end of Semester 1.

Mr Paul Nash, Jamieson Programme Coordinator

Mathematics

Last week we welcomed two new members to the Mathematics Faculty, Miss Maryanne O'Donoghue and Mr Peter Relf, both highly experienced teachers of Mathematics. Mr Relf will be teaching students in Years 7 to 11, and Miss O'Donoghue is teaching girls in Years 7, 10, 11 and 12.

This year, all Mathematics students in Years 7-10 will be keeping a Mathematical Journal. Entries for the journal will be submitted via Schoolbox twice per term. The aims of the journal are to:

- encourage students to take responsibility for their learning
- require students to ask questions about their learning
- involve students and the teacher in the creation of learning goals to encourage growth and development
- provide ways for students to use formal and informal feedback and self-assessment to help them understand the next steps in learning
- encourage self-assessment and reflection.

Girls in Year 11 are now beginning the Stage 6 programme. Mathematics and Mathematics Extension have commenced the year by consolidating algebraic and arithmetic skills whilst students in the Mathematics General Course have begun the year studying Data and in particular, statistics and society, data collection and sampling as well as displaying and interpreting single data sets.

'Do not wait until the conditions are perfect to begin. Beginning makes the conditions perfect'. Alen Cohen

Ms Sue Wymer, Head of Mathematics

Music

All Choir and Instrumental Ensemble rehearsals have resumed this week: the Glenn Strings, Kennedy Strings, String Quartets, Concert Band and Stage Band. There are three choirs at Frensham: the Junior Choir, Senior Choir and Madrigals. The Junior Choir is an inclusive ensemble and all students from Years 7 and 8 are invited to join. Entry to the other choirs is by means of audition and new students with an interest in singing auditioned last week.

Ahead in Term 1:

- *HSC Encore Concert* on Monday 9 March 4.30–11.30pm (Years 11 and 12 Music students).
- *Meet the Music Concert* on Monday 16 March 4.00–10.30pm, where Year 9 students will listen to the SSO (Sydney Symphony Orchestra) perform an engaging programme of dance music by Ravel and Strauss as well as two brackets of song featuring the 'sultry' Argentinean-born Daniela Mack.

Mr Michael Spencer, Head of Music

Science

In 2014, the NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum was implemented for Years 7 and 9. In 2015, Years 8 and 10 will be undertaking new Science programmes written for the new syllabus with an emphasis on fostering the skills of inquiry and experimentation and the use of technology.

Year 7 students are studying the topic 'iScientist' where they are introduced to the methods and practice of Science. They undertake scientific investigations and learn to make accurate measurements. Students develop their skills of working safely, working in groups and designing fair tests.

The first topic for students in Year 8 is 'At the Chemist', which introduces students to the fundamentals of Chemistry by examining chemicals such as medicines, vitamins and cosmetics commonly found 'at the chemist'. In this unit of work, students build upon the practical laboratory skills developed in Year 7 and study the contribution of Chemistry to the modern world.

Year 9 girls start the year with a unit on 'Communication' which investigates the technologies developed to communicate information using waves of the electromagnetic spectrum. Students investigate the applications of communication technologies, including the mobile phone, optic fibres and the internet.

Year 10 students start with a new Chemistry topic 'Chemical Reactions'. In this topic students learn about the fundamental driving forces for reactions between atoms and study the applications and consequences of a range of chemical reactions including corrosion, precipitation, neutralisation and combustion.

Year 12 students are continuing the studies they commenced in Term 4 last year. Year 12 Biology students are completing the 'Maintaining a Balance' topic. They are currently researching the differences in regulating salt and water between fresh and salt water fish, and how terrestrial mammals including, the kangaroo rat, conserve water on land. HSC Chemistry students are completing a research task on Atmospheric Chemistry which investigates the causes, consequences and solutions to the problems of acid rain and CFC's. Year 12 Physics have begun their second HSC unit 'Motors and Generators'. Over the next few weeks students will be studying the 'motor effect' with a particular emphasis on AC and DC motors.

The Science department is looking forward to working with staff and students across the Mathematics and Arts faculties in 2015 as Frensham embarks upon the exciting 'From STEM to STEAM' initiative.

Mrs Alison Andrew, Head of Science

Agriculture & Show Cattle Team

The 2015 Show season began on the weekend with the Berry Show on Saturday 31 January. Having only two days to be prepared for the event, some cattle did not attend as they were not quite ready. Eleven senior members of the team travelled to the Show with the quieter cattle. The Berry Show is always an excellent introduction to the Show season providing plenty of experience and fun.

Berry Show Results:

Westons Steer Competition – the steer, the Parader and the Parader's knowledge about the beef industry are judged in this competition:

- 1st - Mia Withers leading 'Juba';
- 2nd - Anna Horton leading 'Ralph';
- 3rd - Annabel Milling leading 'Rango';
- 4th - Emily Ives leading 'Condo';
- 5th - Serena Mackay leading 'Max';
- 6th - Florance McGufficke leading 'Sailor'

Heavyweight Steers - 351–450kg

2nd 'Rango' (Limousin) led by Annabel Milling

Open weight Steers - > 451kg

3rd 'Ralph' (Charolais) led by Camilla Milne

4th 'Condo' (Angus) led by Emily Ives

Intermediate Paraders

1st - Ellie Ireson leading 'Rango'

2nd - Emily Ives leading 'Condo'

Senior Paraders

1st - Serena Mackay leading 'Max'

2nd - Kate Gooden leading 'Condo'

3rd - Claudia Cruikshank leading 'Juba'

Champion Parader: Ellie Ireson

School Encouragement Award: Kate Gooden



Champion Parader with 'Rango', Ellie Ireson (Year 10)

The Team will be competing at the Nowra Show on Saturday 7 February.

**Mrs Leonie Harris,
Coordinator Agriculture & Show Cattle Team**

PDHPE

There are no 'new' faces in the PDHPE Faculty this year; however, I have included the following information to assist you: Ms Janene van Gogh, Director of Studies - in Residence, is teaching Year 11; Miss Rachael Peet is teaching Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and is also a member of the House staff in Linden Turner. I am teaching students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12. All PDHPE staff are involved in IGSSA sport at Frensham.

For those parents who are unsure of the NSW curriculum, PDHPE is a compulsory 7-10 Key Learning Area which encompasses both theory and practical units of study. Students can also choose to continue this subject in Years 11 and 12. This term Years 7-10 students will be undertaking topics which include summer safety, fundamental movement skills, healthy relationships, athletics, behaviours and consequences relating to current health issues that affect young people, net/court games, decision-making skills and designing modified games with the goal of promoting safe participation and enjoyment.

For practical lessons, all students are reminded that they must have their full PDHPE uniform, including a school sports hat.

Miss Erin Gray, Head of PDHPE

Sport

Wet Weather arrangements for Saturday Sport

Cancellations of Saturday Sport are rarely made before Saturday morning, unless a venue notifies IGSSA that the facilities will not be playable prior to this.

Means of gaining information concerning play:

IGSSA WEBSITE: <http://ahigs.nsw.edu.au/IGSSA.aspx>

For example:

If checking re Softball at Frensham, **TEXT** 'softball'

SMS Weather Information: Using your mobile phone, SMS your keyword to **1992 5465**. Messages cost 55c per message sent. Your keyword is the name of the sport and the first initial of the venue. A return SMS will be sent that gives you the status of the venue - open or closed.

Swimming

Training has commenced in The Centenary Pool for all members of the IGSSA Swimming Squad. Girls are training hard each morning, Monday to Friday from 6:15am-7:15am. This season, Frensham will be hosting the Southern Highlands Twilight Carnival (Wednesday 25 February at 5pm) as well as competing in the Annual

IGSSA Swimming Carnival (Friday 15 March, SOPAC). Girls must train with this squad to be eligible to trial for these two carnivals.

Recreational lap swimming has also commenced in The Centenary Pool every afternoon from 3:45pm-5:30pm. It is exciting to see so many girls take this opportunity to improve their fitness in the water.

Softball

This season, Frensham has entered a total of 18 Softball teams in the Saturday morning IGSSA Competition. Training has commenced and the first matches will take place this weekend. For new parents, if your daughter is playing Softball she will need the following uniform/equipment: green sports polo shirt, brown knickerbockers, long green socks, shin pads, a mouthguard, green sports hat and a softball glove. The draw is posted on White Cottage every Thursday for your daughter to check but is also available on the IGSSA website.

Tennis

This season, Frensham has entered a total of 16 Tennis teams in the Saturday morning IGSSA Competition. Training has commenced and the first matches will take place this weekend. For new parents, if your daughter is playing Tennis she will need the following uniform/equipment: white sports socks, tennis shoes, a tennis racquet, purple tennis skirt, green sports polo shirt and the green sports hat. The draw is posted on White Cottage every Thursday for your daughter to check but is also available on the IGSSA website.

Miss Erin Gray, Acting Head of Sport

Equestrian News

This year, there are a number of new students at Frensham who are experienced riders and who are interested in competing in Equestrian events. Girls should ensure that they have spoken to the Heads of Equestrian, Madeleine Prell, Isabella Lalak and Julia McGrath (Year 12), who will hold regular meetings to convey information they may have received about forthcoming events. The State Inter Schools Championship held in June at SIEC is the only event which we enter as a school with staff support at the event.

Saddlecloths and helmet covers needed for competition are available via Mrs Symons through the Clothing Pool. These are charged as sundries on accounts.

Please note also, that Leave required for events is submitted to Mr Marsh and entry forms requiring signatures are coordinated by Mrs Symons. This year, Ms Victoria Akins, a keen rider herself, will also be assisting with Equestrian activities in support of the girls.

Frensham has received an invitation to attend the Equestrian Award night on 15 March to accept the State School Championship ribbon from 2014. A small group of senior riders will represent the school at this event. Madeleine Prell will also be attending as the State Senior Show Jumping

Champion.

Parents and girls are reminded to submit results from riding competitions so these can be published for the wider school community.

Mrs Trish Symons, Equestrian Coordinator

Visual Arts/Design & Technology

Students studying Visual Arts (Years 8-12) in Term 1 have been briefed about units of work to begin the term and are planning specific artworks for these units (Year 7 students will begin Visual Arts in Term 2). Students will be led by Mrs Trudi Spencer, Mrs Alice Planting, Ms Sara Farmer and I. The faculty welcomes the return of Ms Farmer for 2015, who will teach Years 8 and 10 Visual Arts classes, as well as Year 8 Technology.

Students studying Visual Arts for the 2015 Higher School Certificate began formulating ideas for Bodies of Work during Week 1 of Term 4 last year. Students have been reminded of the timeline for their Bodies of Work (due to BOSTES in Week 7 of Term 3) and the importance of using practical periods and time outside the classroom in an efficient and industrious manner. Students were presented with an update of a calendar which tracks time until submission of their Bodies of Work. Attention was drawn to the fact that by the end of Term 1, students will have completed 17 of 28 effective weeks to resolve their work. Similar to other years, there is strong diversity of both subject matter and media explored by the cohort. Mrs Spencer and I will discuss with each student how they will progress with their Bodies of Work in the first half of Term 1.

In Year 11, students are exploring the phrase 'The World is an Amazing Place' as the basis for artmaking. The topic areas for Year 11 Visual Arts are deliberately quite open to interpretation to allow students increasing control over subject matter as they move through Stage 6. For this unit, their choice of media is quite wide. Initially, students are considering producing work in painting, drawing, photomedia, sculptural installation and video. Printmaking will be the focus of the unit in Term 2. Year 11 is a time when students can seek to consolidate skills in a preferred medium, or alternatively try something new and perhaps out of their comfort zone in preparation for the HSC.

During Semester 1, Year 10 students are using their environment as the thematic basis for the making of artworks. Using the Frensham natural environment, built environment and people as broad subjects to explore, students will begin by producing a 3-colour reduction lino-print and then work with water-based oil paints to produce a small painting on canvas. We plan for the reduction lino-prints to be finished in time for exhibiting during the Year 10 Parent Weekend in March.

Students of Year 9 Visual Arts will be focusing on drawing for Semester 1. Commencing with a still-life study in charcoal, in the tradition of Vanitas painting, we aim to increase all students' abilities to achieve a sense of realism in an artwork.

Students will progress to a self-portrait toward the end of Term 1 and then into Term 2.

The Year 8 Visual Arts course is for Term 1 only and focuses on the depiction of the landscape. Students will produce drawings, paintings and prints in response to the beautiful natural bushland of the Upper and Lower Holt. During Week 4 of this term, students will spend a half day in those parts of the School, producing preliminary studies which will be developed into refined, resolved artworks.

The Visual Arts staff look forward to welcoming Year 7 to the study of this subject at the beginning of Term 2.

Mr Phil Alldis, Head of Visual Arts and Design