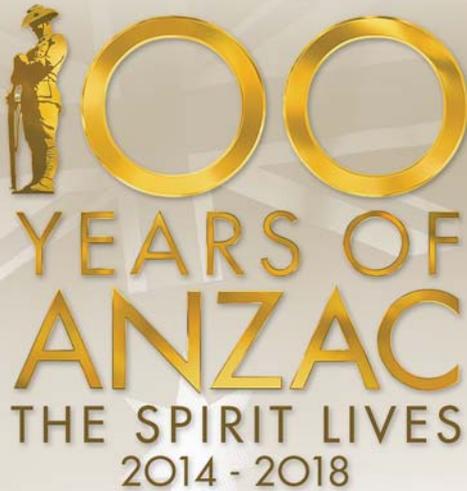


Newsletter

TERM 2 NO 1

Wednesday 22 April 2015



MITTAGONG ANZAC DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

Saturday 25 April 2014, 10.45am, Mittagong Cenotaph
March begins: 10.30am at Mittagong Information Centre

ANZAC Day arrangements

FRENHAM: Students will meet at 10.00am at the Houses in full School uniform (and hats) before walking to the March which begins at the Mittagong Information Centre. Rosemary will be provided.

GIB GATE: Students (and Staff) will meet at 10.00am at the Mittagong Information Centre in full School uniform, including blazer for Years 3-6. Rosemary will be provided.

March begins at 10.30am, Service at 10.45am, finishes before noon.

Welcome to Term 2

The high energy evident across all three Schools at the start of a new term is captured in this first edition of the Newsletter for Term 2. We welcome new families and new students commencing this term and urge all to be updated by keeping in touch with School news through the reports by Heads of School and Coordinators of Events and Programmes.

I make special note of the team of staff from Frensham and Sturt building their professional skills to lead student and adult learners in new programmes based in the **Sturt Studios for Design and Fabrication**. Through their efforts, new opportunities are being created for students, generating extraordinary excitement and high quality outcomes.



Left: Year 11 Design and Technology, Term 1 project:

Students were asked to design an architectural structure inspired by an innate object or a naturally occurring form in nature. They were to design prototypes, then elevations—using the design programme, Illustrator—then use the new Laser Cutting Machine to build their model

Professional Learning – *thinking about thinking*

Challenged to 'think deeply about thinking' was an inspirational way to start the term, in meetings facilitated by Mark Church, consultant to Harvard's Project Zero *Making Thinking Visible* and *Cultures of Thinking* initiatives worldwide. In schools, the language and processes around development of Social and Work habits are highly developed, but in the case of Thinking

habits, less so, claims Church. For two days, with groups of Gib Gate and Frensham teachers, we commenced consideration of important questions, like: How do the best teachers make thinking 'visible' to students so that they become more effective learners? What kind of thinking matters in your subject? If, for example, *making connections* is a high level thinking habit, how can it be developed so that every student improves his or her ability to make connections? If *thinking through options* in order to make the best decision is an important life habit – i.e. well beyond school – how is that nurtured? In HSC terms, if a high result in a subject requires a particular kind of thinking (as opposed to 'just more work or more effort'), how can teachers grow the particular habits intentionally? (See Ms Chauncy's Report on P9 of this Newsletter, for further notes about our first workshops this term.)

Professional Learning – Heads of Boarding Schools Conference, Boarding Schools Association (BSA), UK

In Week 3 this term, I will be representing the School at the 2015 BSA Annual Conference for Heads of Boarding Schools, entitled: *Challenge, Care and Confidence*, in London. (Frensham is an overseas member of the Association.) In addition to scheduled meetings with Heads of the Girls Schools Association (GSA) schools (an organisation comparable to the AHGS Association in New South Wales). Workshops and Presentations include: a panel discussion chaired by Dr Anthony Seldon, Wellington College, on *Modern Boarding*, a presentation of data around Boarding in the UK, by Miss Wendy Griffiths, Chair of the BSA and Head of Tudor Hall, and Robin Fletcher, National Director of the BSA; a paper on 50 years of progress in Boarding Schools and what lies ahead, by Mr Tony Little, Eton College, and sessions on *e-safety, Child Protection, Marketing, Overseas Boarders and Academic Achievement*. (See: <http://uk.elevateeducation.com/parents/articles/view/109> for an article entitled, 'How Smart do you have to be to do well' by Conference presenters Elevate Education, UK. (NB: Elevate Education, Australia have worked annually with Years 11 and 12 at Frensham, for several years.)

Acknowledgement to:

- **Sturt Gallery**, for the current exhibition **ClothFabric** - the work of **Julie Paterson**, artist, designer and writer - opened last weekend;
 - **Heads of House** for Term 3, Year 11: BRYANT - Stephanie Markerink, Zali Steiner, Molly Young; TURNER - Airlie Blackman, Victoria McMaster, Amelia Vidler and Year 10: HARTFIELD - Elysia Horan, Rosie O'Neil, Amelia Woodhouse; KENNEDY - Kate Coupland, Madison Moore, Annabel Preston; LINDEN: Annabel Munro, Lucinda Ridge, Dominique Romijn
 - The Cast for **Michael Gow's play Away** (this year's Birthday Play), now six weeks from their public and School Performances: Mathilda Penton, Rebecca Power, Bianca Campbell, Grace Lavender, Willa Robinson, Stephanie Markerink, Eliza-Jane Middleton, Lucy Begg, Isabella McLean, Kate Swan, Annabella Lewis, Nina Whitfield, Isobel Robertson, Arabella McKenzie, Estelle Halabi, Sadie Archibald, Arabella Jones, Sarah Hassett, Emily Cooke, Chloe McCrabb, Georgina Sutton, Georgiana Kelleher, Róisín Spencer, Penelope McKillop, Sophie MacDiarmid, Charlotte Bernays, Susannah Watson;
 - All who contributed to the **Community Service** team's Mufti Day in support of the Aboriginal Literacy Foundation, raising just under \$1,000;
 - The **Madrigals**, performing at Ms Sabine Madden's wedding on the last Sunday of term;
 - Frensham's **Show Cattle** Team for their success at Sydney Royal Easter Show (See: Agriculture Report) including 1st place in the Herdsman's Best Maintained Team and to Ms Leonie Harris for her outstanding leadership and expertise in this specialised area for the School.
- Former students: Georgina Whatmore (2013), Olivia Jones (2014) and Phoebe Taylor (2014) who will be receiving awards from St Andrew's College, University of Sydney, at the 21 May **Academic Awards and Scholarships** Dinner at the College.

Staffing Update:

- *Foundation*: **Ms Barbara Shannon**, BA (Hons) (Spanish) (Dalhousie University, Canada). Ms Shannon joined the WWS Foundation office this week (Wednesdays-Fridays), to work with Ms Michele Scamps, Foundation Appeal Director. Ms Shannon is highly experienced in the girls' independent school sector in event management and community relations.
- *Mathematics*: **Miss Yao May Wong**, M Teach (Secondary) (UNSW) B Sci (UNSW). Currently teacher of senior Mathematics at Scone Grammar School, we look forward to welcoming Miss Wong from Monday 25 May. We are also appreciative that Mr Peter Relf will continue with all classes till Miss Wong joins us in a few weeks.
- *Hartfield House*: *Welcome back* to **Mrs Judy Rose**, former teacher and former member of our House Staff team, most recently with Year 12 in McCarthy House (till the end of 2012), who will be working weekday afternoons and evenings.

ANZAC DAY: I look forward to the Mittagong ANZAC Service on Saturday morning and note that parents are welcome to join the School for the parade. We have students with staff leading aspects of the Service and parents supporting Mittagong Sub-Branch of the RSL to distribute Service Sheets and take up the Offertory on their behalf.

Julie A Gillick
Head of Frensham
Head of Winifred West Schools

Parent / Community News

Frensham Advisory Committee 2015

Mrs Caroline Begg	r-cbegg@bigpond.net.au
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 (Sec)	jshickson@bigpond.com
Mr Gavin Martin	gavin.martin@ap.jll.com
Mrs Judy Newton	judy.newton5@bigpond.com
Mr Sam Paradise	sam.paradice@rbsmorgans.com
Mr John Penton (Chair)	jbpenton@tpg.com.au
Mrs Tina Scales	t.scales@bigpond.com
Mrs Melody Talbot	melody@talbotnet.com

Gib Gate Advisory Committee 2015

Mrs Rachel Arnott (Chair)	Rkarnott1@gmail.com
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	<i>on Leave</i>
Mrs Sarah Lewis (Sec)	sarah.lew@me.com
Mrs Corina Nesci	corina@ipxplode.com
Mrs Helen Pernice	dandhpernice@bigpond.com
Mrs Zoe Suttie (Chair of FOGG)	zoeandrobot@bigpond.com

TERM DATES 2015 ~ Gib Gate & Frensham

Term 2

Term 2 ends Thursday 18 June, **3pm**
Year 10 Work Experience ends Friday 19 June

Term 3

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: Boarders return on the evening of Monday 5 October for Tuesday 6 October-Sunday 6 December
12.30pm (departure is after the Carol Service)

2015 PARENT WEEKENDS ~ Ahead

REMINDER:

all Years 7-12 attend all *Parent Weekend Services

Year 8 Saturday 9-*Sunday 10 May

Year 12 Saturday 30 -*Sunday 31 May
 WWS Birthday ~ Friday 29 May
 Frensham's 102nd Birthday ~ Sunday 21 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

Shop Manager: Mrs Michelle Wynn
 To order goods, please call the Shop: (02) 4860 2136 [BH]
 Shop Hours: Mondays and Thursdays: 12.00pm-5pm
 or email: frensham@ranier.com.au

WWS FOUNDATION News

PROGRESSIVE DINNER



Friday 15 May 2015 at 6.30pm

A WWS Foundation Event

6.30pm Cocktails in Cooper Hall

8.00pm An elegant dinner in the Main House Dining Room

9.30pm Supper Club ~ dessert & dancing to the John Field Band in Clubbe Hall

Tickets: \$190 pp | **Dress:** Black tie | **RSVP:** Wednesday 6 May | **Carriages:** 11pm

Online booking: www.frensham.nsw.edu.au/wwwsf-progressive-dinner

Enquiries: Michele Scamps ~ mescamps@frensham.nsw.edu.au



GIB GATE

WINIFRED WEST SCHOOLS

Leading the way in Preschool and Primary Coeducation

PRESCHOOL OPENDAY 2015

RECEPTION and TRANSITION Saturday 2 May from 11am to 1pm



GIB GATE News

We are pleased to advise that with the implementation of our Communication Management System (Schoolbox) all information notices and most forms will be available online. Early this term, Gib Gate parents will receive by email, login details and instructions for access. If you have recently changed your email address, please contact Ms Angela Hartnup, ahartnup@frensham.nsw.edu.au to update your email details.

In support of the transition to Schoolbox, for the duration of Term 2, a link to the Gib Gate weekly Bulletin and the fortnightly Winifred West Newsletter will continue to be emailed to parents.

The School Calendar will be available on Schoolbox and will be regularly updated with School events and activities. On Schoolbox, please follow the **Calendar** tab.

The following forms and information will be available on Schoolbox. (Please see the forms for due dates.)

For completion *online*:

- Extra Subjects Enrolment Form – Tennis Coaching at Gib Gate for Years 5 & 6
- Music Tuition Enrolment Form
- Mother's Day Breakfast Attendance Form

Documentation and information notices:

- 2015 Parent Information Handbook
- **(Years 5 & 6)** Outdoor Education Week 2015 – Introductory information for parents
- 2015 Preschool Open Day information – *for families to pass on to prospective families with young children*



Parent Survey – Week 3 of this term

We are asking all parents to assist in our ongoing review process by completing a short survey in Week 3 of this term. The 2015 Survey will be a replication of the version completed by parents in 2012.

We greatly appreciate the feedback which provides important guidance re parent perception of our progress as a School and is one of the crucial measures used to guide planning for the future.

All families will receive an email link to the Survey, with specific questions and opportunity to add comments in response to all questions.

Ms Sally Robson, Head of Gib Gate

Sport

Athletics

Training will begin next week in preparation for the Athletics season over Terms 2 and 3. Once again, Gib Gate is fortunate to have Ron Thompson, one of the most experienced and well respected Athletics coaches in NSW, working with students. Ron holds training sessions on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8.00am at Gib Gate. Any Gib Gate student from Year 2 to Year 6 is welcome to attend these sessions.

Swimming

As part of their Sports programme this term, Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2 will be involved in Swimming Development sessions being conducted by Aquabliss at The Centenary Pool each Thursday. This follows a very successful Squad and Development programme which was run over the summer both at The Centenary Pool and Bowral Pool.

Mr Michael Standen, Co-ordinator of PDHPE and Sport

Preschool

Reception

The Colours of Autumn - When we came back from the Easter vacation, the Reception children noticed the changes that were happening outside. The children were wearing warmer jackets and the trees in the Preschool playground had started to turn red, orange and yellow and many of the leaves had even fallen off the trees. As a 'tuning-in' activity, the children were given play dough in a variety of autumn colours combined with autumn treasures, such as autumn leaves, pumpkin seeds, nuts and small twigs.



During group time, the Reception children looked at the photo of the day of an autumn tree and were then asked: What do you see? What do you think is going on? What does it make you wonder? The purpose of the 'See, Think, Wonder' strategy is to encourage the children to make careful and thoughtful observations. It also helps stimulate curiosity and sets the stage for inquiry.

Charlotte Holmes: *I can see lots of leaves on the tree and on the ground.*

Hugh Thompson: *I think it is autumn in the picture because of all the leaves.*

Aliyah Mhanna: *I can see a bridge. I wonder if the bridge goes to town.*

Madeline Conway: *I wonder if the bridge goes to a playground.*

We look forward to making more autumn discoveries over the coming weeks.

Hamish Aston at work

Ms Kelly Lees, Preschool Teacher

FRIENDS OF STURT

Chris Topp (President), Penny Hoskins (Secretary), Ruth Wright (Roster Secretary), Denise Sumner (Mail-out Coordinator), Joan Dinning, Bill Dinning, Anne Thomson, Alan Matthews, Julie Musgrave, Michael Harris



Special News

ClothFabric exhibition opening

There were over 200 guests in attendance for the opening of 'ClothFabric – 20 years in the making' on Sunday 19 April. This is a spectacular exhibition, described as a potential blockbuster and sure to attract many visitors to Sturt over the next few weeks.

New weekly ceramics class

Owing to an increase in demand, starting in Term 2 (from 24 April), Sturt will be offering an additional weekly Ceramics class on Friday mornings, 9.00am-12.00pm, for adults. This new class will be additional to the existing weekly classes on Wednesday and Thursday mornings and Thursday evening. Classes are filling fast.

Sturt School for Wood 2016

Enrolments for 2016 are now open. All details, including application form, fee schedule and term dates for 2016 are available on the Sturt website. For enquiries regarding the 2016 course or for the Sturt School for Wood, please contact Mark Viner on +61 2 4860 2083 or email mviner@sturt.nsw.edu.au

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: www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/get-involved/exhibition-proposal

Sturt Coffee by Gilbert's (of Main St Mittagong) is a stylish 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: 10am to 4pm Wednesday to Sunday

Winter School 2015

This year's winter programme features many new courses including Painting with Cherry Hood, Small Sculpture with Bronwyn Berman, Glass Blowing with Mark Elliot, Ceramics with Sturt's UK visiting artist, Kerry Jameson, and Digital Fabrication with Trinh Vu and much more. Online booking and the printed brochure are now available at:

www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/education/winter-school

Short Courses

The 2015 Short Course Programme is now available online. New course options include knitting, weaving, woodwork, sculpture, ceramics and jewellery as well as introductory courses in 3D routing and 3D printing and laser technology in the new Design and Fabrication workshops. www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/education/short-courses

Sturt Gallery

- **ClothFabric** – 20 years in the making, continues to 31 May.
- **Ocean Forest** – contemporary weaving by Monique van Nieuwland, will be on exhibition from 7 June to 19 July.
- This exhibition will reflect the beauty of the ocean flora and the threats to this fragile environment created by the modern world. It will consist of a mid-space damask woven installation and a series of jacquard woven wall pieces.

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

FRENSHAM News

Deputy Head

The start of Term 2 is highlighted by a number of major events which include:

- Anzac Day March, Saturday 25 April
- IGSSA Round 1 for Basketball and Football, starting Saturday 2 May
- IGSSA Cross Country at Frensham, Friday 15 May
- Year 8 Parent Weekend at the end of Week 3 (Saturday and Sunday 9-10 May)

Please check the **Schoolbox** calendar for all other events. The IGSSA draw for each week will be posted on Schoolbox on the Wednesday of the week preceding the round.

As noted, Frensham will be hosting the IGSSA Cross Country event. This is one of the major events on the IGSSA Sporting calendar with more than 800 competitors, representing most IGSSA schools. Frensham welcomes supporters and spectators on the day.

This year, with the Athletics season crossing over both Terms 2 and 3, Athletics training will start in Week 4 of this term. Girls must attend at least three sessions if Athletics is their only sport, and two sessions if it is an extra sport.

Please contact Coordinator, Miss Gray, should you wish to discuss your daughter's involvement.

The Year 8 Parent Weekend Plenary Session for parents – Saturday morning of 9 May is an important opportunity for the School to discuss various aspects of the Jamieson Programme initiatives applicable to Year 8 students. Ms Joanne Parsons from Inforeal present to parents on "Safe Partying?" and will speak about the workshops she conducts with Year 8 students. We will also provide full information about the **Latin** course options for Year 8 – for commencement later in the term.

Mr Geoff Marsh, Deputy Head

Boarding News

Girls returned on Sunday April 19 and the corridors of the boarding houses were once again ringing with their happy voices. Anzac Day coincides with the first weekend of this term, a closed weekend, and we will march as a School in the Mittagong parade, to commemorate this important date.

We are looking forward to enjoying a wide variety of activities scheduled for the weekends this term including trips to Sydney, spectating at some sporting events, enjoying activities at school such as the Adrenaline Rush jumping castle that will be installed on the Games Field this coming weekend, weather permitting.

The Boarding Staff look forward to working with you over the coming term to ensure your daughter's safety, wellbeing and happiness. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any queries or concerns you may have.

Travel - June Long Weekend Travel

Even though girls have just returned from the vacation, arrangements for travel for the next break, the Queen's Birthday weekend, need to be submitted by the end of Week 2. We would appreciate parents informing their daughters of travel plans for this weekend by the end of Week 2, so bookings can be finalised. Please note that late bookings may not be accommodated by State Rail Authority. Preference is given to places for **boarding students travelling home**.

Mme Deborah Panaretto, Director of Boarding

Director of Teaching and Learning

Winifred West Schools Welcomes International Educational Consultant Mark Church to Frensham and Gib Gate

On Thursday 2 April, during our Professional Learning day, Gib Gate and Frensham teachers were introduced to Harvard Project Zero's *Making Thinking Visible* initiative in a one-hour introductory information workshop delivered by Ms Kate Chauncy, Director of Teaching & Learning P-12. This was followed by Teacher Learning Community group meetings in which teachers engaged in professional learning conversations about the teaching and learning 'routines' described in our 'text book' *Making Thinking Visible: How to Promote Engagement, Understanding, and Independence for All Learners* (Jossey-Bass, 2011) co-authored by Mark Church, Ron Ritchart and Karin Morrison.

Mark Church worked with Executive and senior staff, representatives from faculties at Frensham and with Gib Gate teachers during his visit to our schools on Monday 20 and Tuesday 21 April earlier this week. This was the first two days of our continued consultancy with Mark throughout 2015. He returns to Winifred West Schools to lead workshops on Friday 19 June and Friday 18 September.

Mark works with educators throughout the world striving to create cultures of thinking in their classrooms and schools. He challenges teachers to foster thinking dispositions in students in service of deep understanding, invites teachers to develop and use a language of thinking that communicates value for student sense-making, and encourages teachers to make their classroom environment rich with the documents of thinking processes. Currently a consultant with Harvard Project Zero's *Making Thinking Visible* and *Cultures of Thinking* initiatives worldwide, he draws upon his own classroom teaching experience and from the perspectives he has gained working with educators throughout North America, Australia, Asia, and Europe, to help teachers demonstrate interest in and respect for students' thinking, and send clear expectations about the importance and value of thinking in learning.

Visiting Author

On Tuesday 21, April Frensham English Faculty and students welcomed Anna Maria Dell'oso who conducted after-school writing workshops for Year 11 and Year 12 Extension English students and members of Pen & Ink.

Anna is a well-known Australian writer, journalist and critic. Her acclaimed book *Songs of the Suitcase* (HarperCollins) won the Steele Rudd Award. Her first book was *Cats, Cradles & Chamomile Tea*, a collection from her popular column in the SMH's *Good Weekend*.

Anna currently divides her time between teaching and writing fiction and has recently been awarded a Breaking New Ground Grant by the Literature Board of the Australia Council. She has lectured in Creative Writing at the University of Newcastle and is currently presenting creative writing classes for Sydney University's Centre for Continuing Education and also for the Refugee Language Program at Sydney University's Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies.

The students enjoyed Anna's style of teaching as she worked with many different visual resources which inspired their writing and allowed them the opportunity to think...and write...in new and creative ways. Of particular interest to the members of Pen & Ink, in their evening workshop, was Anna's talk about her work as founder of 'Triple-I' (Ideas In Ink), a writing group and social network for young women in the inner-west of Sydney. Triple-I is based on a shared love of bagels, writing and reading – which of course is very like Frensham's very own Pen & Ink!

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

Director of Studies

Students in Years 7 and 9 will sit for tests in the National Assessment Programme Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) in Week 3, from 12 to 14 May. The assessments are an opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learned in class. There are five tests, including two tests in numeracy: a calculator-allowed test and a non-calculator test.

The NAPLAN test results and the student reports are released in September. The results provide information about student achievement that will be used to inform teaching and learning programmes. NAPLAN tests provide point-in-time information regarding student progress in literacy and numeracy and are intended to complement the wide range of formal and informal assessments that are already conducted at school.

The NAPLAN report will show students' results in the key areas of reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. The report will also show the national average, the range of results for the middle 60% of students nationally and the School's average for each test. The additional student report will list all the questions in each test, along with a brief description of each question. The report will also show which questions were answered correctly.

Years 11 and 12 students will have completed important vacation work to consolidate previously learnt material, develop major works where applicable and prepare for the term ahead. Class teachers will follow up with students during the first week of term to ensure students have completed this work and discuss any areas of concern.

Ms Janene van Gogh, Director of Studies – in Residence

English and Drama

Drama

TOM: It'll be terrific. I've looked forward to it. Ever since you suggested it I've wanted to go. That day in the hospital and you brought in the tent and put it up in the ward. I couldn't wait for summer to come... Michael Gow – Away

The cast members of *Away* continue rehearsals this week and they are looking forward to sharing their unique and fresh interpretation of this Australian classic. The Birthday weekend celebrations will be enhanced by this play which is both humorous and moving. The summer holiday setting is an intrinsic component of our identity and no doubt there will be some nostalgic summer holiday memories revisited by the audience during the performance.

Mrs Sally Hannah, Senior Teacher in English and Drama

English

Shakespeare came alive for Years 8 and 10 during the final week of term as they experienced *Midsummer Madness* and *Macbeth Undone by Actors at Work*. This is a group of young actors from Bell Shakespeare who bring live theatre experience of Shakespeare's plays to schools across New South Wales. Student understanding was made richer by the fact that students had completed a study of the texts during Term 1. Through the dramatic representation presented, they could question, challenge and reflect on their interpretations of the plays. After each performance, there was a Q and A slot. What was inspiring was the modelling of discipline, passion and creativity displayed by the young actors about their craft. They also conveyed with conviction and authenticity the importance of Shakespeare as part of our literary heritage. The actors also responded to the how is it relevant to me? Question by sharing the insights into humanity his plays offer the modern world.

Where books are burned in the end people will be burned – Heinrich Heine 1821 German Poet.

In a modern society, the availability of books can often be taken as a given. It is easy to forget how precious they truly can be. Year 10 are about to study *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak. The book begins with a narration by a kind and compassionate Death.

Where are my manners?

I could introduce myself properly, but it's not really necessary. You will know me well enough and soon enough, depending on a diverse range of variables. It suffices to say that at some point in time, I will be standing over you, as genially as possible. Your soul will be in my arms. A colour will be perched on my shoulder. I will carry you gently away... The question is, what colour will everything be at that moment when I come for you? What will the sky be saying... People observe the colours of a day only at its beginnings and ends, but to me it's quite clear that a day merges through a multitude of shades and intonations, with each passing moment.

A single hour can consist of thousands of different colours.

Waxy yellows, cloud-spat blues. Murky darknesses.

In my line of work, I make it a point to notice them...

Which brings me to my next point.

It's the leftover humans.

The survivors.

The story is based on Death's perception of some of the "survivors" the young orphan, Liesl, her foster parents and the Jewish fugitive they are hiding. When Liesl learns to read, she begins stealing books, it also ignites a lifetime of passion for words and a great desire to preserve the stories of those who she loved in her life.

Ms Lee McGuinness, Head of English/Drama

French

Soon, the Year 12 HSC French class will start planning to meet students from Oxley for a 'mock' HSC Oral examination. This 'trial run' has become an annual institution for Frensham and Oxley final-year French classes as it is beneficial for the students concerned.

The Speaking Section – worth 20% of the total HSC examination – consists of a ten-minute individual recorded ‘conversation’ with a visiting Board of Studies Examiner about the student, her world, her interests and her future. While these topics are thoroughly prepared and practised in class, it is beneficial to have the practice with unknown speakers in the lead-up to the official HSC Oral Examinations, which take place during Term 3.

During such sessions, held alternately at Frensham and Oxley, each student is ‘examined’ by two or three French teachers (often experienced HSC Examiners), in very realistic circumstances designed to emulate the conditions they will experience in early August. The examining teachers give guidance on what to revise and how to improve.

This activity extends the in school speaking experience they have regularly with native speakers.

Mesdames M Kidner and B Micklem, and Mademoiselle V Akins, Teachers of French

Latin

Year 8 Latin

At Frensham, as part of the core curriculum, students in Year 8 have the opportunity to study Latin. All students begin with same course and then differentiation is facilitated by offering two courses, one which provides the background and preparation to the elective course in Years 9 and 10, and an introductory course. Both courses include language and cultural study.

As girls prepare to begin Latin in Term 2, I would like to share the rationale which underpins this choice as I know that for many students it will be noted as a “highlight” later in their studies and for some it becomes a passion.

The K-12 Curriculum framework states among a wide range of objectives that curriculum choices should: enable students to maximise their individual talents; enable students to develop positive self-concepts and enable all students to enjoy learning.

The course planned for Year 8 Latin is framed by these three objectives.

The K-12 Latin Syllabus (students can access Latin from Stage 1), takes into account the diverse needs of all students and it also demonstrates how students can meet outcomes **independently** and **with support**. We ensure that the programme for Year 8 is differentiated to allow for both independence and support.

So why provide this opportunity? [From the rationale in the syllabus document about learning languages generally, as well as Latin, specifically]

- Achieving proficiency in other languages is one of the great learning experience in the human condition.....the compelling reasons for learning languages reside in the intellectual enrichment of the individual learner...leading to a better understanding of the world, Australia’s place in it and the many communities within Australia (Australian Language and literary Council, 1976. Language Teachers: The pivot of Policy, pg 3).
- The study of languages provides opportunities for students to become more accepting of diversity, more respectful of others and more aware of their place in the international community.
- Contemporary research and practice have established a clear link between the learning of a language and improved literacy skills. This alone is a significant reason for any Stage 4 student to study Latin.
- The process of teaching and learning language focuses on linguistic systems and patterns, leading to developing enhanced mental dexterity, which leads to the development of skills in critical and analytical thinking. So the study of Latin, even for a short period of time should contribute to a student’s intellectual enrichment.
- The study of Latin will contribute to a student’s knowledge of the development of language and literature (essential for senior English) and the appreciation of ancient and modern cultures and civilisations (background for History).
- Latin is the key to the Romance Languages and has a profound impact on the vocabulary and grammar of European languages, especially English.

For most students at Frensham, the study of Latin in Year 8 is a new experience. There is no preconceived history by either students or teachers of what an individual student can do. The expectation should not be that students will reach a single standard of achievement or a defined body of knowledge. The view of learning in this course is that the objective is to help students learn better, not just acquire set knowledge. Students will use the language, make linguistic connections between Latin and English and move between the two cultures.

If you have any questions about this course please contact Mrs Symons, Director of Languages.

Mrs Trish Symons, Director of Languages
Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

Students in HSIE have opportunities to engage in real world issues that encourage citizenship, respect for difference and taking responsibility for the planet. Further, through stories about people, places and events, students can integrate values and beliefs to develop an appreciation of the past and how it impacts on the future. These links are evident in daily news and empower students in HSIE to investigate, problem-solve and critically evaluate strategies that will make a difference to their future.

Year 10 Geography students are exploring Australia's regional and global links with other nations, including aid, communication, culture, defence, migration, tourism, trade and sport. This will involve a study of Australia's treaties and agreements with their global neighbours and how this relationship can be compromised by disagreements over human rights and social justice.

Year 7 World Studies classes have commenced a new unit called "Investigating the World", where they will study the interactions between the physical and human elements of environments. Also, students will develop new mapping skills with a focus on using latitude and longitude to identify locations, time zones and climate differences.

Year 11 Business Studies students are investigating a small to medium enterprise of their choosing for their *Business Management* topic. Over the vacation period, they compiled a series of questions to ask business owners about their management practices. They will research various aspects of their chosen business and write a report to demonstrate their understanding.

Year 11 Geography are conducting both primary and secondary research over the vacation and Year 12 Geography are working on an assessment task on Mega Cities.

Year 12 Modern History students, having completed a study on Russia and the Soviet Union, are studying the personality of Leon Trotsky in detail this term. Today's modern historian is faced with a variety of historical perspectives on Trotsky. His strong character seemed to draw equally strong reactions. Key debates surrounding this personality are – *Is Trotsky a naïve idealist or a pragmatic revolutionary? Was he a revolutionary hero or a political opportunist? Was he a legitimate critic of Stalinism or a bitter political loser?* In order to arrive at a balanced historical view of Leon Trotsky, it is therefore necessary to examine the major themes of his life and the various debates that have developed among historians.

Year 12 Business Studies students have commenced their third unit of work on Finance. They have studied the role, influences and processes of finance and are about to learn the different financial ratios that help businesses to remain on track. They will interpret and compare ratio results to industry standards and historical comparisons.

Year 11 Economics are studying Markets and using supply and demand diagrams to predict the effect of change on market equilibrium. Year 12 Economics students are investigating the main drivers of economic growth in our economy, with a focus on current trends including the rebalancing of the Australian economy following the dramatic decline in iron ore prices over the past 12 months.

Ms Janene van Gogh, Head of HSIE

Mock Trial

Next week, the Frensham Mock Trial Team will contest Round Two of the competition against The Illawarra Grammar School. Frensham is the prosecution and we are alleging that our plaintiff was injured because the local council failed to exercise a duty of care, by not indicating the danger of a large hole in the road, into which the plaintiff fell. The team is being prepared by Mr Chris Jowett of Selman Jowett Solicitors and has been preparing its case over the Easter vacation.

Ms Judy Bradley, Coordinator of Mock Trial

Jamieson Programme

Exposure to challenges, in a secure environment, can awaken in young people a belief in themselves which will stay with them throughout their lives.

Year 9 will begin this Thursday with fitness activities, including the *beep test* and be able to reflect on the achievement of their fitness goals, which were written at the start of the year. They will also focus on the unit "Financial Literacy", which will give them many useful cash and credit buying skills. Finally, students in the Cambridge IGSE interdisciplinary course Global Perspectives will begin to finalise a focus question for their second Individual Research Project, which is due for submission in late June. Also, the girls will be starting their Group Research Project later in the term. Finally, the Global Perspectives teachers are looking forward to giving students feedback on their first Individual Research Project, which was marked by Dr Burg over the Easter vacation.

Year 10: A group of mainly Year 10 students accompanied by Madame Kidner undertook a Silver/Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's

expedition in the Royal National Park on the last weekend of Term 1. Mme Kidner was very impressed with the enthusiasm and grit of the students in dealing with conditions outside their comfort zones.

Mr Paul Nash, Jamieson Programme Coordinator

Mathematics

There are three independent stages in the Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians (MCYA) - the Challenge Stage, the Enrichment Stage and the Australian Intermediate Mathematics Olympiad (AIMO).

The Mathematics Challenge targets the top 20% of primary students in Years 3 to 6 and secondary students in Years 7 to 10 and is aimed at development of problem-solving skills. Stated aims include:

- Encouraging and fostering a greater interest in and awareness of the power of Mathematics; a desire to succeed in solving interesting mathematical problems; and the discovery of the joy of solving problems in Mathematics.
- Identifying talented young Australians, recognising their achievements nationally and providing support that will enable them to reach their own levels of excellence.
- Providing teachers with interesting and accessible problems and solutions as well as detailed and motivating teaching discussion and extension materials; and comprehensive Australia-wide statistics of student achievement in the Challenge.

Challenge Stage

The Challenge Stage held during a consecutive three-week period at the beginning of Term 2, comprises four problems for those in the primary schools and six problems for the secondary school versions. Problems can be discussed in groups of two or three registered students before individual submission of solutions. There are separate problem sets for Middle Primary (Year 3-4), Upper Primary (Year 5-6), Junior (Year 7-8) and Intermediate (Year 9-10) students.

The problems for the Challenge stage are designed by the Challenge Problems Committee, a voluntary committee of Australian teachers and academics. This year, 46 Frensham students are participating in the challenge, with three students from Year 6 at Gib Gate.

Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly. Robert F Kennedy

Ms Sue Wymer, Head of Mathematics

Music

Anzac Day and ceremonies to mark the Centenary of the Gallipoli Landings have been very present for Frensham students and musicians. Senior music students travelled to the Opera House for a *Meet the Music* concert where they heard the SSO performing, among other superb works, the world premiere of *War Music* by James Ledger. The work is for choir as well as orchestra and the composer had set text by Paul Kelly, as "a poignant and powerful reminder of the travesty of young lives needlessly cut short".

Frensham singers and musicians have also been rehearsing in preparation for the Mittagong Anzac Day where they will lead the singing and also accompany with descant lines on violins.

Mr Michael Spencer, Head of Music

Science

Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known. Carl Sagan

- **Year 7** continue their study of "Does it Matter?" revising the Particle Theory of Matter and applying it to changes of state, expansion, contraction and density. From there they will propose an answer to the question "what is energy?" and look at concepts related to heat energy such as conduction, convection and radiation.
- **Year 8** are beginning the study of ecosystems by looking at the processes of photosynthesis and respiration which then leads to a study of food chains, food webs and food pyramids. They will study Australian ecosystems, using the Lower Holt as an example.
- **Year 9** have recently started studying "Keeping it Together" and will be looking at Metabolism, the action of enzymes in the body and how the processes of diffusion and osmosis allow cells to obtain the nutrients they need and expel wastes. Students will then look at why multicellular organisms need to respond to their environment and look at *gravitropism* in plants and the actions of the nervous systems and endocrine systems in humans.
- **Year 10** students continue their study of "Car Crashes" by looking at acceleration and interpreting distance-time graphs and speed-time graphs. They have started their assessment task related to this unit involving research into alternative fuels for cars and the use of Newton's Laws to design car safety features. Both of these activities require students to apply

critical thinking skills and use their scientific understanding to solve real-world problems.

Mrs Alison Andrew, Head of Science

Agriculture & Show Cattle Team

After the Frensham Show Cattle Team departed the Easter Show at the end of last term, only part of the steer results had been determined – the live judging. On Easter Saturday, at the Steer Carcass Presentation, Frensham received more great results. 'Ferg', an Angus, bred by Prue and Corey Ireland from Irelands Angus in Wagga Wagga and prepared by Claudia Cruikshank (Year 11), was placed first in the Virtual Taste Test Competition in his Open Middleweight Steer class with a score of 37.3. The Virtual Taste test competition is based on the highest score calculated from the carcass' Meat Standards Australia (MSA) grading assessments. The score (/45) is calculated to reflect the predicted eating quality of a range of cuts from the carcass.

'Ralph', a Charolais, bred by Frensham parents, Susan and Grant Fisher, Glen Echo Charolais', Greenethorpe, and prepared by Camilla Milne (Year 12), scored a total of 85 points out of 100 for the Open Heavyweight Steer Competition and won a Silver Medal. 'Sailor', an Angus, bred by Jemma and Tim Reid from JTR Cattle Company, Roslyn and prepared by Florance McGufficke (Year 11), not only won a Silver Medal with an overall carcass score of 89.5 / 100 but was placed 1st in the Open Heavyweight Steer Virtual Taste Test and also won Champion Virtual Taste Test out of nearly 300 steers with a score of 39.3 / 45.

During the Show Cattle Team's stay at the Easter Show, we also competed in the **Herdman's Best Maintained Team** competition where the students, cattle and stall area are judged on the groomed appearance of the cattle, the tidiness, condition & cleanliness of the cattle bedding, the overall presentation, promotion, knowledge and public relations and handling of the cattle. The Frensham stall area also had a display highlighting the importance of the beef industry in Australia. Frensham was awarded 1st place in this competition and congratulations must go to the students who put in many long hours of work ensuring the cattle and stall areas were looking their best.

Mia Withers also competed in the Angus Youth Handlers Competition while at the Show being judged every time she entered the ring exhibiting an Angus animal. She was awarded the Encouragement Award.

I would like to thank all of the parents and family members and breeders who provided support during the Show and the season.

Ms Leonie Harris, Coordinator Agriculture & Show Cattle Team

PDHPE

Year 11 Focus

This year, there are 22 Frensham students studying the Stage 6 PDHPE Preliminary course. After completing the Preliminary Core 1 "Better Health for Individuals", students are now learning about the second Preliminary core, "The Body in Motion".

The focus of this unit of work is on the various relationships between anatomy, physiology, physical fitness, biomechanics and efficient human movement. Students will investigate the following critical questions: How do the musculoskeletal and cardiorespiratory systems of the body influence and respond to movement? What is the relationship between physical fitness, training and movement efficiency? How do biomechanical principles influence movement? This module forms a basis for a more detailed study of physiology and improving athletic performance in the HSC course.

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 Football at Frensham, **TEXT** 'football' or re Basketball at Frensham, **TEXT** 'basketball'

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.

Football

Teams for Football are currently being finalised. This season there will be a total of 15 teams (7 Senior, 4 Junior and 3 Year 7) entering the Term 2 IGSSA Competition. All players are reminded that they must have a football shirt, shin pads and football boots. Match times are between 8 and 11am and the weekly draw will be posted on Schoolbox by the Thursday prior to each match.

Basketball

Teams for Basketball are currently being finalised. This season there will be a total of 14 teams (8 Senior, 4 Junior and 2 Year 7) entering the Term 2 IGSSA Competition. All players will be issued with a basketball singlet which they will need to wear for games only. Game times are between 8 and 11am and the weekly draw will be posted on Schoolbox by the Thursday prior to each match.

Cross Country

Cross Country training has recommenced this week. A reminder that girls must commit to all training sessions held from 6:00am-7:00am on Wednesday and Friday mornings. The IGSSA Carnival will be hosted by Frensham on Friday 15 May and trials for this team will be held on Wednesday 6 May.

Miss Erin Gray, Acting Head of Sport

Equestrian News

The first term break was full of events in which girls competed and notice of involvement and results are filtering in. Two major competitions were the Albury One day Event and the Camden One day Event where girls placed in different classes at both events. Full details will be included in the next newsletter.

Hat covers have been ordered and we have sourced replacement saddlecloths and girls will be informed when these are available. Most riders have the required equipment for the Interschools Carnival.

Winifred West Schools School Training Day – Sunday 14 June

Please remember the date for the School Training day which will be held at Camden on 14 June prior to the State Interschools Championships. Lessons will be conducted in Dressage, Jumping and X Country and presentation assistance; arrangements and coaches are being finalised and when completed, details of the day will be emailed to parents. Please note that this day is a Winifred West Schools initiative and Gib Gate riders interested in competition, are encouraged to be a part of this event.

Mrs Trish Symons, Equestrian Coordinator

Visual Arts/Design & Technology

This week, the faculty welcomes Year 7 students to the study of Mandatory Visual Arts. During Stage 4, students are required to complete 100 hours of Visual Arts, and at Frensham, the course is timetabled for Terms 2, 3 and 4 of Year 7 and Term 1 of Year 8.

Under the guidance of Mrs Spencer and Mrs Planting, students will explore some of the fundamental aspects of artmaking, examining the roles that aspects such as colour, tone, shape, line and texture play in the production of artworks. Students will apply their understanding of these elements through a range of practical exercises. This also gives students the opportunity to use and sample a wide range of art materials, such as paint, pencils, charcoal, pastels and inks, and begin to experiment with a variety of technical applications of these materials. Students will also have the opportunity to use technology as part of artmaking, by using programmes such as Photoshop to assist in designing, layering, scaling and manipulating imagery for compositions. By the end of Term 2, students will begin a painting which requires them to apply their understanding of both harmonious and contrasting colour and tone, one-point perspective and simulated texture.

At Frensham, we emphasise and stress the importance of Art Criticism and History (commonly referred to as Art Theory) as a core component of Visual Arts. Year 7 students will study Art Criticism and History for one lesson per week and learn how to apply an understanding of the core syllabus areas of Practice, the Conceptual Framework and the Frames to a range of artists and artworks. These core syllabus areas remain constant right through to Stage 6 Visual Arts, where Year 12 students will answer questions aligned to them in the HSC Examination. In Stage 6, Art Criticism and History tasks have a mandatory allocation of 50% to students' course marks. Thus, the importance of a strong applied understanding of these core areas through the Mandatory and Stage 5 Elective courses is crucial.

On Thursday of this week, Art Enrichment workshops begin for interested students of Year 8. In 2015, two workshops are offered as follows:

- Workshop 1 - Term 2 / Weeks 1-5: Thursday afternoon (3.45 – 5.15pm)
- Workshop 2 - Term 3 / Weeks 1-5: Thursday afternoon (3.45 – 5.15pm)

Frensham's Mandatory Stage 4 Visual Arts course is delivered in Terms 2-4 of Year 7 and Term 1 of Year 8. The Art Enrichment workshops offer Year 8 students interested in Visual Arts further opportunities to extend their skills whilst not studying the subject as part of the formal curriculum. These workshops have proved popular with students over the past few years. The workshops are devoted to artmaking, with no theoretical component included, and the emphasis is centred on developing technical skills.

Mr Phil Alldis, Head of Visual Arts and Design