

# Newsletter

TERM 2 NO 2

Wednesday 11 May 2016



## Boarding Schools Association – Golden Jubilee Conference: Building Bridges, Changes Lives

Returning on Monday from the BSA, UK conference of Heads of Boarding Schools, there is much on which to reflect, highlights to share and inspiration for action. The Conference opened by BSA Honorary President, Tony Little, former Head of Eton, had a future focus, inspired by the latest research into student wellbeing and academic skill development globally. Character education afforded by best-practice boarding highlighted what can be achieved when those responsible for the education and care of young people work together. Notable is the work being done by [independent and state boarding schools in collaboration](#), to support places for UK students in need, for whom Barnardo's CEO noted: '...the boarding experience is proving to be truly life-changing...' Speakers included:

- **Nick Gibb** MP, Minister of State for Schools
  - **Mary Curnock Cook** OBE, Chief Executive of UCAS, the organisation that manages student applications to higher education courses in the UK (Australian equivalent of UAC – Universities Admission Centre)
  - **Pete Upham**, Chief Executive of The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS), USA
  - **Barnaby Lenon**, Independent Schools Chairman, former Headmaster of Harrow
  - **Frank Gardner** OBE, inspirational journalist and author seriously injured in a 2004 terrorist ambush in Riyadh. [See: [Blood & Sand by Frank Gardner](#)]
- **Alison Alexander**, MD Windsor and Maidenhead Council, who grew up in state care and is a champion for young people struggling to find their place in the world: *Keep learning. Never believe that you're the finished thing. Change jobs when you have exhausted your learning in one job. Keep people around you who see things in you that sometimes you don't even see yourself.* And, to those supporting young people: *...if you're doing this work, never underestimate the effect you can have. You may not even remember it, but someone out there will be living a successful life because of something you did or said.*

I also visited Queen Anne's School, Caversham, the school attended by Winifred West on scholarship 1894-1900. Winifred Mary West (1881-1971) the second of six children went on to read mediaeval and modern languages at Newnham College, Cambridge (1900-03), where she qualified for an arts degree.

**Acknowledgement to:**

- Minnie Arnott (Year 11) on her selection to the **Open IGSSA Hockey team**;
  - Years 7, 8 and 9 **Da Vinci Decathlon** teams, for their outstanding success in a highly competitive academic event;
  - Luca de Manincor (Year 4) awarded second place in her age group after the summer season of **Little Athletics** in Wollongong;
  - **SHIPS Cross Country Carnival** competitors on their achievements [full report in this Newsletter];
  - Successful **Camden One Day Event** and **Snowy Mountains Grammar School Interschools** equestrian competitors;
  - Pia Wylie (Year 12) achieving 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Student Section of the national **Head On Photo Festival**;
  - Senior students, Sophie Hill (Year 12) and Georgina Sutton (Year 11) regional finalists at the **Sydney Morning Herald Plain English Speaking** competition;
  - Sophia Parker, Katchmirr Russell and Celia Battcock (Year 10) for their participation in the **Rotary Southern Highlands Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)**;
- **Kate Swan (Year 11) one of six Australian ambassadors selected to attend the Canada-Wide Science Forum later this month;**
- **Duke of Edinburgh's Award** recipients – **Bronze:** Ruby Kennett McLaughlin and **Silver:** Isabella McLean;
  - Year 7 and 8 mathematicians receiving awards in the **Year 8-level CAT (Computational and Algorithmic Thinking) Competition** run by the Australian Mathematics Trust: **Distinction:** Bronte Garcia (Year 8); **Credit:** Alexandra Cunningham, Gemma Macaulay-Black, Sophie Lyne, Annabella Damiani, Heidi Montgomery, Eliza Duck (Year 8) and Liliith Parker, Eleanor Swan (Year 7).



**Pia Wylie (Year 12) was placed 2<sup>nd</sup> for her entry (above) in the Head On Photo Festival Student Prize, exhibited on-screen at the Museum of Sydney in which Frensham had 7 of the 40 finalists in the state-wide competition. [See Visual Arts Report – final page of this Newsletter.]**

**Julie A Gillick**  
**Head of Frensham**  
**Head of Winifred West Schools**

## Parent / Community News

Frensham Advisory Committee 2016		Gib Gate Advisory Committee 2016	
Mrs Caroline Begg	<a href="mailto:r-cbegg@bigpond.net.au">r-cbegg@bigpond.net.au</a>	Mrs Rachel Arnott (Chair)	<a href="mailto:rkarnott1@gmail.com">rkarnott1@gmail.com</a>
Ms Ruby Curtis	<a href="mailto:44ruby@gmail.com">44ruby@gmail.com</a>	Dr Caroline Ahern	<a href="mailto:carolineahern_71@hotmail.com">carolineahern_71@hotmail.com</a>
Mr John Hayes	<a href="mailto:hayes.it@bigpond.com">hayes.it@bigpond.com</a>	Mrs Caroline Atra - (Chair of FOGG)	<a href="mailto:caroline.atra@me.com">caroline.atra@me.com</a>
Mrs Sam Hickson (Sec)	<a href="mailto:jshickson@bigpond.com">jshickson@bigpond.com</a>	Dr Guy Bashford	<a href="mailto:guy.bashford@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au">guy.bashford@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au</a>
Mrs Kiki Hill	<a href="mailto:kikihill64@gmail.com">kikihill64@gmail.com</a>	Mrs Rowena Bendror	<a href="mailto:sales@littlestepsonline.com.au">sales@littlestepsonline.com.au</a>
Mrs Erica Holcombe	<a href="mailto:erica@dc-it.com.au">erica@dc-it.com.au</a>	Mrs Holly de Manincor	<a href="mailto:hollydemanincor@hotmail.com">hollydemanincor@hotmail.com</a>
Mrs miChelle McGufficke	<a href="mailto:milliefarming@activ8.net.au">milliefarming@activ8.net.au</a>	Mr Gil Downes	<a href="mailto:gil.downes@neerim.net.au">gil.downes@neerim.net.au</a>
Mrs Angela Macken	<a href="mailto:themackenfamily@gmail.com">themackenfamily@gmail.com</a>	Mrs Sarah Lewis (Sec)	<a href="mailto:sarahlew@me.com">sarahlew@me.com</a>
Mr Gavin Martin	<a href="mailto:gavin.martin@ap.jill.com">gavin.martin@ap.jill.com</a>	Mrs Sara Moylan	<a href="mailto:saralmoylan@gmail.com">saralmoylan@gmail.com</a>
Mr Sam Paradise	<a href="mailto:sam.paradice@morgans.com.au">sam.paradice@morgans.com.au</a>	Mrs Corina Nesci	<a href="mailto:corina888@bigpond.com">corina888@bigpond.com</a>
Mr John Penton (Chair)	<a href="mailto:jbpenton@tpg.com.au">jbpenton@tpg.com.au</a>		
Mrs Tina Scales	<a href="mailto:t.scales@bigpond.com">t.scales@bigpond.com</a>		

TERM DATES 2016 - Gib Gate and Frensham	2016 PARENT WEEKENDS – Confirmed dates for attendance of all students Years 7-12
<p><b>Term 2</b> Gib Gate &amp; Frensham: <b>Wednesday 27 April -Thursday 23 June, 3.00pm</b> (Year 10 Work Experience ends Friday 24 June) <i>Queen's Birthday Long Weekend: Monday 13 June;</i> <i>Frensham departs 3.00pm Friday 10 June</i></p> <p><b>Term 3</b> Gib Gate &amp; Frensham: <b>Tuesday 19 July-Thursday 22 September 3.00pm</b> (All Boarders return on the evening of <b>Monday 18 July</b>) Frensham (Year 12 Dinner with Parents and Staff is evening of Thursday 22 September)</p> <p><b>Term 4</b> Gib Gate: <b>Monday 10 October-Friday 9 December 3.00pm</b> Frensham: <b>Monday 10 October -Sunday 11 December</b> from <b>12noon</b> (after 11am Carol Service) (All Boarders return on the evening of <b>Sunday 9 October</b>)</p>	<p><b>Year 8</b> Saturday 14-Sunday 15 May</p> <p><b>Year 12</b> Saturday 4-Sunday 5 June WWS Birthday - Friday 3 June Frensham's 103<sup>rd</sup> Birthday - Sunday 5 June</p> <p><b>Year 11</b> Saturday 6-Sunday 7 August Saturday 6 August - Year 10 Senior Studies (with parents)</p> <p><b>Year 9</b> Saturday 27-Sunday 28 August</p> <p><b>ALL: WWS Foundation Art Show</b> <b>Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 November</b> <b>Opening Night: WWS Community - Friday 4 November</b></p> <p><b>Ranier Uniform Shop</b></p> <p><b>All fittings for uniforms are by appointment.</b> <b>Mondays and Thursdays 12noon-5.00pm</b></p> <p>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: <a href="mailto:frensham@ranier.com.au">frensham@ranier.com.au</a></p>

## FRENSHAM Fellowship

### Judy Cassab AO CBE (1920-2015)

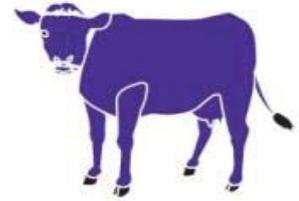
Artist, Judy Cassab [self-portrait pictured], passed away last November, aged 95 years. Judy was commissioned to paint a portrait of former Frensham Headmistress, Cynthia M Parker OAM. The work hangs in the foyer of the **Parker Gymnasium**. Born in Vienna, Austria in 1920, Judy migrated to Australia in 1951. She was the second woman to win the Archibald Prize (1960). The winning portrait was of her friend and fellow émigré artist, Stanislaus Rapotec, husband of Frensham old girl, the late Andree Rapotec (du Boise, 1943). A collection of over 60 of Judy's works are in the Art Gallery of NSW. A self-portrait hangs in the **National Portrait Gallery, Canberra**. Image: [www.com.au](http://www.com.au) and courtesy of the National Portrait Gallery.



For a full list of events and Reunions, please visit: [www.frensham.nsw.edu.au/community/fellowship](http://www.frensham.nsw.edu.au/community/fellowship)

WINIFRED WEST SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

# Cattle Herd Project



**Cattle Farmers! Do you have room to host five more cattle?**

As proceeds from the sale of the **2015 Cattle Herd** continue to be realised, funds are steadily increasing. For 2016, we currently have 50 head in the paddock or pledged, with some way to go to meet the ambitious target of 250 head of cattle.

Continuing with the past two years' success at having Frensham cattle hosted by the school community, we continue to seek new hosts! Please contact Michele Scamps if you are able to part of this exciting project.

**WWS Foundation Annual Dinner ~ Friday 13 May**



Although few places remain, it is not too late to make a reservation. The MC for the night will be **Channel Nine's Today Show Sports Presenter, Tim Gilbert**.

The **Madrigals and HSC music students** will be performing and the evening will end with some dancing.

At this fundraising dinner there will be opportunities to make purchases in the **Silent or Live Auctions** or, with the Annual Appeal in mind, you may wish to simply make a donation.

For more information on WWS Foundation, please contact: Michele Scamps, +61 2 4860 2000 – [foundation@wws.nsw.edu.au](mailto:foundation@wws.nsw.edu.au)

In Term 2, students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are participating in a new **K-6 Peer Support Programme** which has been designed to promote friendship skills and assist students to develop supportive social networks. This programme includes 30 minutes per week of structured activities in mixed-age groups, facilitated by Year 6 students and supervised by teachers. Detailed information for parents regarding the Peer Support Programme and how parents can support this at home is included below.

### Ms Sally Robson, Head of Gib Gate

#### Curriculum Highlights 2016

##### What is the Peer Support Programme?

The Peer Support Programme provides a fun and engaging environment for young people to address issues such as bullying, relationships, and self-image. Modules are designed to equip young people with skills to deal proactively with life experiences, develop a sense of self-worth and belonging, and to encourage taking responsibility for decisions and actions.

##### How does the Peer Support Programme work?

Trained Peer Leaders facilitate activities with small groups of younger students. A teacher supervises each group which includes: two Peer Leaders and multi-age groups of 8-10 younger students.

##### How can I support the Peer Support Programme at home?

Discuss with your child the activities, concepts and understandings they are developing each week. This helps to foster a positive connection between school and home.

##### Term 2 Peer Support: About Keeping Friends

This module supports children in developing knowledge, skills and attitudes enabling them to make friends more readily and maintain those friendships. Keeping Friends provides children with opportunities to discuss different types of friendship, the importance of friendships and how to play well together. Keeping Friends is underpinned by the premise that resilient children have a broad range of supportive networks as opposed to a single 'best friend'. They are able to move from group to group as the situation arises without relying on the presence of only one other student to influence the quality of their day.

Parents can assist their children by encouraging them to play with many different children, hence strengthening their social capacity and ability to cope. The following is a list of key behaviours parents can encourage in their children to help promote friendship skills: talking with others during play, taking a genuine interest in others, smiling often, providing help to others, offering encouragement, being willing to share with others, learning how to move graciously into or out of a group. For more information visit **Michael Grose's website: Parenting Ideas**. (<http://www.parentingideas.com.au/>)

##### Why Teach Relationships?

A child's view of their school experience is inextricably tied to the relationships they are able to establish. These include relationships with their teachers and other adults as well as relationships involving older or younger students. However, the most profound relationships existing within the school are the friendship groups. Friends are a critical component in a successful school experience. Strong friendships provide support and permission to have fun. They are a significant contributor to a child's resilience. As children mature and develop, they become even more reliant on friends as a source of advice and acknowledgment of who they are. Children are generally willing to make friends readily with others; however, not all children have the necessary skills to maintain those friendships in times of tension and conflict. They can be taught to speak and act in ways that draw others towards them, rather than turning them away. Many children display a competitive nature during play. How they treat others during the game, or after they have won or lost, can influence the way others see them, either for the better or worse. Students who are easy to get along with, supportive and encouraging of others and fair in their interactions with their peers are more likely to maintain positive friendships. Students with good relationship skills can move from one group to another and confidently ask to join in with others, and they are able to cope with occasional rejection.

##### Vacation Programmes for July for Gifted & Talented Students in Years 1-6

Both the **University of Wollongong (UOW)** and the **University of NSW (UNSW)** offer vacation programmes for gifted and talented students across a wide range of interest areas in vacation periods. Students at the school have enjoyed these opportunities previously and they are highly recommended for your consideration. Programmes are now open for the July vacation period and places are keenly sought from children all over NSW.



**Gib Gate Peer Support group led by Lulu Duck and Zac Hallis: Clockwise from Left: Jessica Savage (Year 5), Xavier Leary (Year 1), Lulu Duck (Year 6), Zac Hallis (Year 6), John Shadbolt (K), Isla McVinish (Year 1), Madeleine Bendror (Year 3), Alexandra Inglis (Year 4), Amber McGlynn (Year 2), Harper Johnston (K) William Purnell (Year 4)**

The **UNSW Junior Scientia** is for students in Years 3–6 and features a range of workshops taught over three days. The courses are developed and presented by teachers qualified in gifted education and aim to encourage the interests and curiosity of gifted children. The level of difficulty in the courses is generally two years above the enrolled school level of the children, providing a rigorous and challenging programme. The next *Junior Scientia Program* will be held 5-7 July 2016. Applications close 1 June. Please visit the following site for detailed information: <https://education.arts.unsw.edu.au/about-us/gerric/for-gifted-students/junior-scientia-3-4/>

The University of Wollongong offers the **Little Learning Labs** for students in Years 1 and 2 on 14 and 15 July and **Early Learning Labs** for Years 3-6 on 11 and 12 July. These enrichment programmes are diverse and rigorous two day workshops, across a range of diverse disciplines and are presented by teachers with specialist training in gifted education. Applications close for these programmes on 24 May. Please visit the following site for detailed information: <http://www.uow.edu.au/in2uni-myway/learninglabsyr1-yr6/index.html>

Da Vinci Decathlon Competition News 2016: Last Wednesday 4 May, seven Years 5 and 6 students represented Gib Gate at the regional level of this international competition, held at The Illawarra Christian School, Wollongong. Twenty four teams



**The 2016 da Vinci Decathlon Team**  
Back L-R: Angus Mackie, Holly Horsfall, Maya Basson, Spencer Lewis; Front L-R: Ankitha Avvari, Sophie Hassall, Matilda Arnott

from schools in the Southern Highlands, Illawarra and South Coast areas competed in each of the 10 disciplines throughout the day which included: English, Art and Poetry, Philosophy, Mathematics, Science, Code Breaking, Engineering, Cartography, Creative Producers and General Knowledge. The atmosphere of 102 students working in teams in one multipurpose hall to use their knowledge and creative thinking skills to solve extremely challenging problems together was incredible!

Congratulations to: Matilda Arnott, Ankitha Avvari, Maya Basson and Holly Horsfall (Year 6) and Sophie Hassall, Spencer Lewis and Angus Mackie (Year 5) who worked hard during Term 1 and again this term to develop their problem-solving skills, their knowledge about the life, works and legacy of Leonardo da Vinci and their skills in collaboration and team work. They will be presented with their **Certificates of Achievement** at this week's Performance Assembly on Friday.

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

### **Enrichment/Activities**

#### RoboCup Team

Members of the **2016 Robocup team**, with the guidance of Mrs Berman, RoboCup team coordinator, work together each Monday after school. They will participate in the **Regional Competition at the Australian National University** next term. The team members and Mrs Berman will participate in a workshop led by presenters from RoboCup Junior Australia.

#### Kindergarten-Year 2 Excursion - 52<sup>nd</sup> Story Treehouse

Students thoroughly enjoyed their excursion to the **Merrigong Theatre** in Wollongong last Friday to see a performance of the *52<sup>nd</sup> Storey Treehouse*, a play by Richard Tulloch that is adapted from the best-selling book by Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton.

#### Year 2 Excursion

Ms Lees has organised for Year 2 students to attend a workshop in an artist's studio to focus on their portrait drawing skills. Students will learn the steps required when drawing a face with a particular focus on facial proportions and students will use these skills to draw a person who plays a significant part in their lives.

**Mrs Anne Graham, Gib Gate Coordinator (Administration)**

### **Sport**

#### Athletics

Congratulations to Luca de Manincor (Year 4) second place in her age group for **Little Athletics** this season in Wollongong.

#### Cross Country



Gib Gate hosted the **SHIPS Cross Country Carnival** last week with most of the independent schools in the Southern Highlands sending strong teams. Among the outstanding results for Gib Gate: 8/9 Girls: 1<sup>st</sup> Isabella Barber (Year 3); 2<sup>nd</sup> Luca de Manincor (Year 4) ; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sophie Baldwin; 5<sup>th</sup> Tempe Arnott and 6<sup>th</sup> Eliza-Grace Bashford (Year 3); U10 Boys: 3<sup>rd</sup> Oscar Hallis (Year 4); 8<sup>th</sup> Salvatore Perrotta and 9<sup>th</sup> Harry Hiscocks (Year 4); U10 Girls: 5<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth Nesci (Year 5); U12 Girls: 3<sup>rd</sup> Hannah Hiscocks, 5<sup>th</sup> Mia Greig, 6<sup>th</sup> Matilda Walker and 7<sup>th</sup> Emma Hassett (Year 6). **Pictured: York Doyle (Year 2), Sophie Baldwin, Isabella Barber (Year 3), Luca de Manincor, Cassia Berry (Year 4), Tempe Arnott, Eliza-Grace Bashford (Year 3), Piper Berkelouw (Year 2)**

#### Equestrian

Term 2 is important for riders competing in the **NSW Equestrian Interschools** event being run at Horsley Park at the end of the term. Many riders are competing in events leading up to the Interschools event. Alexandra Inglis (Year 4) recently placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Junior Class at the **Camden One Day** event. Maya Basson, Chloe Garcia and Lily Veleba (Year 6) all competed at the **Snowy Mountains Interschools** event last week. Maya won the Show Jumping, 60cm event, Lily and Chloe were equal first in the Six-Bar Jumping event. In addition, the girls achieved top five finishes in several other categories.

**Mr Michael Standen, Co-ordinator of PDHPE and Sport**

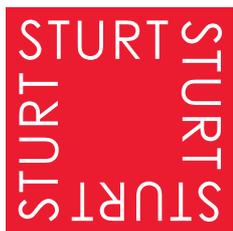
## Preschool (Pre-Kindergarten)

### Sport in Preschool

Preschool students participate in weekly Physical Education lessons with Mr Standen on Fridays and in Term 4 they will be invited to participate in the **In2 Cricket** after school programme as an extra-curricular activity, along with some Kindergarten and Year 1 students. These activities, in conjunction with gross motor skills taught daily within the Preschool programme, are designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop essential physical skills, which enhance learning across all areas of the curriculum.

A number of Preschool students have chosen to participate in the extra-curricular **Soccajoey's** programme on Fridays. The class is currently full, but will be offered again in Term 3. Soccajoey's is Australia's leading preschool and junior soccer programme and it includes fun games, instructional scrimmages and skill development activities appropriate for their age. They are also supported in developing their gross motor skills prior to their participation in team sports.

**Ms Kelly Lees, Preschool Coordinator**



## STURT News

### **FRIENDS OF STURT**

*Denise Sumner (President), Penny Hoskins (Secretary), Ruth Wright (Roster Secretary), Joan Dinning, Bill Dinning, Anne Thomson, Julie Musgrave, Michael Harris, Libby Hobbs*

### Winter School is filling fast

Sturt Winter School (4-8 July) is offering 16 courses for adults plus a two-day digital crafting course for teenagers and five daily courses in mixed arts/craft for children. Adult courses are filling fast with a few places remaining in some courses - **Drawing for Beginners** with Louise Owen, **Small Sculpture** with Bronwyn Berman, **Wild Knitting** with Loani Prior, **Macrame** with Natalie Miller and **Painting from Life** with Rachel Milne. The week also offers accommodation and meals options, social functions, daily talks/presentations and more. Bookings can be made online.

### Sturt School for Wood 2017

We welcome tutor, Peter Young, from Brisbane, who will be leading the Wood School till the end of Term 2. We have had an unprecedented number of applications for enrolment to the **2017 School for Wood** with limited places remaining. Applications are encouraged, regardless of background or woodworking experience – a keenness to undertake the course and a determination to work hard are essential. Full details are available on the website at: <http://www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/education/1year-fine-furniture>

### Short Courses

An exciting programme of short courses is now on the website with online bookings open. These include two one-day workshops on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 May with Queensland printmaker, Glen Skien, during the run of his exhibition. Charlotte Thodey will be teaching **Still Life Painting** and Dimity Kidston will be leading **Tapestry Weaving for Beginners**. Only a few places are remaining if you wish to experience one of these terrific courses.

Full details of all Sturt courses, exhibitions, residency programmes and events can be found on the website [www.sturt.nsw.edu.au](http://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](mailto:shop@sturt.nsw.edu.au)

### Exhibitions

#### Sturt Gallery - Mytho-poetic - Print and Assemblage Works by Glen Skien: 10 April to 29 May

A touring exhibition of artists' books, assemblages, collages and installations brings to life social histories and questions of identity. The exhibition offers viewers an immersive experience rich in imagery that navigates residues of the past and creates new propositions for Australian identity and historical awareness. Mytho-poetic is organised by the Gympie Regional Gallery and toured by Museum and Gallery Services, Queensland.

#### **Printed Wooden Modules - an installation by Julie Krone: 10 April to 29 May**

In **Sturt Shop**, a special display of wooden modules and structures over printed with distinctive letters and designs by well-known local artist, Julie Krone.

Both artists push the boundaries of printmaking, creating new artforms and distinctive installations in the process.

### Plates, shapes and containers – new ceramics by Megan Patey: 5 June to 24 July

This exhibition will explore the expressive nature of brushwork on ceramics using on-glaze enamels and reduced lustre firings. Drawing inspiration from the vast world of functional ceramics, Megan's work uses slips, pigments and glazes as a set of tools for her mark making on platters and containers.

This will be Megan's first exhibition since resuming her ceramic practice in 2010.

The exhibition will be opened on **Sunday 12 June** at 11am with special guest **Karen O'Cleary, Director, Narek Galleries, Tanja NSW.**

**Mr Mark Viner, Head of Sturt**

## FRENSHAM News

### Deputy Head

On Friday 3 June, Winifred West Schools - Gib Gate, Frensham and Sturt - attend a combined **Birthday Service** in Clubbe Hall. The Birthday celebrations for Winifred West Schools are an important part of the School's annual celebrations. They provide the school community with an opportunity to reflect on what we have and where we are headed as well as an occasion to celebrate what we have achieved. Parents are welcome to attend the Service.

The information below outlines the programme for Friday 3 June and the expectations for girls.

Winifred West Schools Birthday Service:

Friday 3 June. 10.00am – 11.00am in Clubbe Hall.

Dress for the Birthday Service is full school uniform with blazers and hat.

Birthday Lunch:

Friday 3 June 12.45–2.00pm in the Dining Room.

The dress for lunch should be appropriate – smart casual for the party.

Each table hosts a member of Staff.

Birthday Weekend events for the whole family – Saturday and Sunday 4-5 June:

Please see full details in the separate flyer and on Schoolbox for this important annual highlight.

[There is no overnight Leave for the Birthday Weekend and no Leave from the Sunday Service or Concert but plenty of time for involvement of parents and the whole family, for all parts of the weekend.]

As we move towards the middle of Term 2, we continue to monitor the use of IT across the school. The management of private mobile devices in classrooms and the junior Houses continues to be an area of focus for both staff and students. The majority of students are working towards becoming skilled and appropriate users of IT, allowing their devices to support and enhance their learning. If you have any concerns about your daughter's use of IT, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Mr Geoff Marsh, Deputy Head**

### Boarding News

On the first Friday evening of Term 2, the girls revelled in a dress-up disco themed *Music from before you were born*. An array of famous stars from yesteryear graced the Dining Room - from The Village People, Elvis, Mozart, Beethoven to The Original Wiggles and the Seekers. After Saturday morning sport, the weekend that followed offered activities and study sessions for all. 'Big Croc' returned to The Centenary Pool, there were Hip Hop dancing sessions in the gymnasium as well as quieter times for study, reading and relaxation and in-House movies were shown in the Common Rooms on Saturday night.

On Friday 6 May, the girls dressed up to the theme of *High School Musical*. The Year 12 girls presented skits and posed trivia questions from the well-known musical and an entertaining evening was enjoyed by all.

On Saturday night, a group from Years 11 and 12 enjoyed a trip to the rugby to see the Waratahs defeat the Cheetahs in a thrilling match at Allianz Stadium. Mother's Day was celebrated the following morning with Breakfast Prayers that focused on considering the many facets of the dynamic role of 'mother' and on being thankful for the significant female figures in our lives. That afternoon an ice-skating trip was organised in Liverpool and Junior girls enjoyed the afternoon practising their skills on the ice.

**Mme Deborah Panaretto, Director of Boarding**

## Director of Teaching and Learning

### Da Vinci Decathlon Competition 2016 - TEAM: Together Everyone Achieves More



**Year 7 L-R Back: Grace Lewis, Emilie Hassall, Isabelle Promnitz, Eleanor Swan. Front: Sophia Pernice, Harriet Mackie, Annabelle Ranken, Lilith Parker**

The regional competition for this internationally recognised 'thinking' quest was held last Thursday 5 and Friday 6 May at **The Illawarra Grammar School**, Wollongong. Frensham fielded three teams of eight students from Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9. Team members have been 'in training' for this annual challenge throughout Term 1 and Term 2.

Twenty-six teams from schools in the Southern Highlands, Illawarra and South Coast areas competed in each of the 10 disciplines throughout the day which included: English, Art and Poetry, Philosophy, Mathematics Illawarra, Science, Code Breaking, Engineering, Cartography, Creative Producers and General Knowledge. The atmosphere of over 200 students working collaboratively in one multipurpose hall to use their knowledge and creative thinking skills to solve

extremely challenging problems together was incredible! We offer our congratulations to all members of each team who performed at the highest level and developed their exceptional problem-solving skills, their knowledge about the life, works and legacy of Leonardo da Vinci and their skills in collaboration and team work.

#### Results:

Year 7: 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Science; 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Coding; 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Art & Poetry;

Year 8: 1<sup>st</sup> place in Creative Producers; 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Art & Poetry; 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Coding; **3<sup>rd</sup> place overall for 2016**

Year 9: 1<sup>st</sup> place in English

### Vacation Programmes for July for Gifted & Talented Students in Years 7 to 10: Information for Parents

Both the **University of Wollongong (UOW)** and the **University of NSW (UNSW)** offer vacation programmes for gifted and talented students across a wide range of interest areas in the summer and winter vacation periods. Students at Frensham have enjoyed these opportunities previously and they are highly recommended for your consideration. Programmes are now open for the July vacation period and places are keenly sought from students state-wide.

The **UNSW Scientia Challenge** for Years 7–10 features a range of workshops taught over three days. The courses are developed and presented by academics at the University of New South Wales. The level of difficulty in the courses is aimed at two years higher than the students' grade level, providing a rigorous and challenging programme. The programme also provides the opportunity for gifted students to meet like-minded peers of similar interests. The next *Scientia Challenge* will be held from 5 to 7 July 2016 with applications closing on 1 June. These workshops are open to Years 7-10 inclusive, and the curriculum is differentiated to challenge gifted students across those grades.

For more information please visit:

<https://education.arts.unsw.edu.au/about-us/gerric/for-gifted-students/scientia-challenge-yr-7-to-10/>



**Year 9 L-R Back: Pippa Hanan, Georgina Ridge, Hayley Hunter, Imogen Senior, Elvira Berzins. Front: Adele Bouniol-Laffont, Isabella Allen, Harper Northam**



**Year 8 L-R Back: Adelaide Poulos, Cordelia Bell, Grace McKinley, Mia Horsfall. Front: Sarah Manwaring, Bronte Garcia, Gemma Macaulay-Black, Daisy Latimer**

The University of Wollongong offers **Learning Labs** for students in Years 7 and 10 from 6 to 7 July. These enrichment programmes are diverse and rigorous two-day workshops across a range of diverse disciplines including 3D design, Robotics, Web and Video Game design, History, Theatre Sports, Social Justice, Digital Photography to name a few. They are designed and presented by university academics and teachers with specialist training in gifted education. Applications close for these programmes on 24 May. Please visit the following site for detailed information:

<http://www.uow.edu.au/in2uni-myway/learninglabs/index.html>

#### The Armidale School's Forensic Science Camp 2016 - Have you ever solved a crime?

*We can put you right in the middle of the action for five exhilarating days in a crime-solving situation that is so realistic that you will forget that it's only a game. You will be a detective, you will interview witnesses, you will order medical and scientific tests, you will search the criminal databases, and you will test the physical evidence yourself in the laboratory. You will request search warrants. You and your colleagues will sift through the evidence, pursue 'red herrings', argue your point of view, and when and if you crack the case you will make a formal application backed by solid evidence to convince a judge that your suspect should stand trial. These could be the five most exciting, agonising, stimulating, frustrating and intellectually invigorating days of your life. Have you the courage to come? You won't be disappointed. Do you dare to stay away?*

The **Armidale School's Forensic Science Camp** is held at The Armidale School campus in NSW. It is an annual event for students in Year 8 and the 2016 Residential Programme runs from Tuesday 5 July to Saturday 9 July. Students from Frensham have regularly attended this programme and have informed us upon return that it was a fabulous experience and one they would recommend to all Year 8 girls. For more information about this exciting opportunity please visit the following site:

<http://wordpress.as.edu.au/forensic/>

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

##### **Director of Studies**

This term, at both the Year 8 and Year 12 Parent Weekends, parent teacher interviews allow students and parents to discuss progress with teaching staff and set goals for further studies.

Teachers are committed to meeting the individual learning needs of all students so that they feel supported and appropriately challenged. Stimulating activities require students to persevere and to develop the confidence and persistence necessary to solve problems, especially those that are complex. Appropriate challenge is critical to maintaining motivation and to foster learning. Requiring students to think harder, we can prepare them to take on some of the most difficult problems we face today as well as the unknown problems we are likely to face tomorrow.

The School's aim is to support all students to achieve at their optimum level and to be confident, life-long learners who are not afraid of challenge. Teachers accommodate the diverse learning needs of students in various ways, by:

making available a range of reading materials to accommodate the reading levels of students; pre-testing before a unit of work commences, to assist with lesson planning;

providing suitable reference material to students who need this to be successful, and expecting students of higher ability to locate additional sources;

offering sufficient opportunities for repetition or revisiting of skills or knowledge at different levels;

providing various types of assessment to accommodate individual learning styles; setting open-ended tasks so that students can follow their interests and be challenged to go further in their thinking;

building regular informal assessment - assessment for learning - into lesson plans and using this to adjust teaching strategies;

making themselves available for individual assistance outside the classroom.

#### **Ms Janene van Gogh, Director of Studies – in Residence**

##### **English and Drama**

###### Drama

Members of the cast of the Birthday Play, *Noises Off*, by Michael Frayn, are rehearsing feverishly in Clubbe Hall. The set has been constructed and costumes are being finalised. The girls involved have been working very hard and, once again, I am grateful to be working with such a dedicated and conscientious group of young people. Thank you to parents who have transported cast members to and from rehearsals and who have provided support.

Comedy is often patronised as being superficial, but to my mind, true comedies offer the greatest insight into the human condition in the most easily digestible form. Laughter makes unpalatable truths readily acceptable. *Noises Off* is a play built around a third-rate production of a creaky farce. Deep and meaningful? Of course! Its collision of art and life is pure Pirandello,

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the inevitability of a curtain that never fully descends is straight out of Beckett and the structural complexity is late Stoppard. *This is a play that teaches us that life is indeed no dress rehearsal; it is a regional tour of a badly written script that no agent can get you out of.*

(For further insights into the pointlessness of human existence, I suggest you review *Man About the House*, *George and Mildred* and the entire series of *Carry On* movies.)

### **Mrs Sally Hannah, Senior Teacher in English and Drama**

#### English

##### Public Speaking

*Freedom of speech holds different connotations depending on who you ask. For me, freedom of speech is something I view as a basic right, but for many across the globe it's only something wished for. I'm aware that my right to say what I want, and how I want is precious. But how often do I actually say what I really mean?* Sophie Hill, Year 12

*To seek and not to find may seem an illogical and futile concept to many. However, this young man has cut to the chase. Our lives seem to be full of searching for things we can't seem to find. What are we looking for? The proverbial pot of gold at the end of the rainbow? Or the lost sock tumbling without direction through the laundry of life? Is it the finding or the searching that brings true meaning to our lives?* Georgina Sutton, Year 11

These extracts were taken from the introduction to the speeches of Frensham's two representatives at the regional final of the **Sydney Morning Herald Plain English Speaking Competition** on Tuesday 3 May at Woonona High School. Sophie Hill (Year 12) and Georgina Sutton (Year 11) composed, independently, and delivered an eight-minute prepared speech on a topic of their choosing and a three-minute *impromptu* based on the concept of 'Leaders'. Ms Lee McGuinness assisted the girls throughout the preparation period and on the day and noted that the calibre of all the student presentations was extremely high. Sophie and Georgina spoke eloquently and passionately about their topics and gained valuable experience through competing in this highly respected competition.

#### Stage 4 learning in English for Term 2

Year 7 unit of work for Term 2 is entitled *Earthly Voices*. Students explore the unique connection which exists between cultures and the natural world, with a specific focus on indigenous cultures by examining the cultural and spiritual connection which underpins many societies. Students will consider how our environment impacts on our past, present and future identity and how relationships are shaped by these experiences. The literary focus is the classic New Zealand film text *Whale Rider*, directed by Niki Caro, which students will study closely to identify themes and issues in this 'story' and connect the narrative with other 'stories' past and present. Through this close study of a film text students will also learn to identify the variety of visual techniques used to convey meaning by the composer.

The Year 8 unit for Term 2 is a multi-textual study that focuses on the consideration of two key questions: *What is the truth of war?* and *What are the representations of war - past and present?* Students identify and consider how context (historical, social, cultural and personal) impacts on the way war is represented by a variety of composers. They study the propaganda posters of the WW1 period, war poetry written during the last 100 years and the Jackie French novel: *A Rose for the ANZAC Boys*. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the two inquiry questions by composing their own poetry that reflects their thinking and values on aspects of war.

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

#### **French**

Planning is underway once again to enable the Year 12 HSC French class to meet their counterparts from Oxley College for a series of **Mock HSC Speaking** examinations for some intensive hours of French conversation.

The Speaking Section – worth 20% of the total HSC examination – consists of a ten-minute individual recorded 'dialogue' with an examiner about the student, her world, her interests and her future. While discussions of these elements are thoroughly prepared in class in advance, nevertheless this practical component of the HSC French examination has traditionally caused the most anxiety and pre-exam nerves. Consequently, this 'mock' session, along with another planned in Term 3 for the week prior to the official exam, is designed to help defuse some of those concerns well before the day of the **HSC Oral Examinations** on Saturday 20 August.

During these practice sessions, each student is 'examined' by two or three unfamiliar French teachers, some of whom are experienced HSC Examiners, in realistic circumstances designed to emulate the conditions they will experience in August,

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when Frensham will again be the HSC French examining centre for the Southern Highlands district. These 'examining' teachers will be able to give advice as to what to revise and how to improve; and the girls should receive encouragement, reassurance and suggestions as to how to fine-tune their performances.

The senior French students involved are working hard for this first, challenging exercise and are to be commended for their focus and determination. We are all looking forward to a most productive, stimulating and sociable afternoon.

### **Mme Mary Kidner and Mlle Victoria Akins, Teachers of French**

#### **Latin**

Both Years 11 and 12 Latin classes have started new texts this term. Year 12 have started the poetry text prescribed for the HSC Examination – Aeneid Book 2. This is perhaps the most well-known of the 12 books of the Aeneid as it recounts the story of the Trojan horse and how the city was destroyed by the trickery of the Greeks.

Year 11 this term is studying *Marcus Tullius Cicero – vita extraordinaria* which contains extracts from some of his well-known speeches as well as letters to his family. It is amazing to think that these letters were written over 2000 years ago and yet we are still able to read about both family and political matters which concerned him at the time. The letters were rediscovered in 1345 by Petrarch, an Italian scholar and poet, probably in the Cathedral at Verona. The letters are varied, many about matters to which we can relate, such as consoling his friend Atticus about the death of a mutual friend, reporting a quarrel between his own brother and wife and expressing his grief at the death of his daughter, Tullia.

On the evening of Thursday 5 May, Year 11 and Year 12 Latin students attended the annual **Senior Classics Dinner** held for the first time at The Athenian restaurant in Barrack Street, Sydney. This is a popular excursion for Latin students as it enables them to mix with students from many of the Sydney schools which teach Latin and Greek, as well as participate in a Classical Trivial Pursuit. The menu was a Greek banquet and included well-known dishes including moussaka and taramasalata and was greatly enjoyed by all. Students are also encouraged to wear attire appropriate for a Roman dinner and the Year 12 girls dressed as Bacchantes and were awarded a prize.

### **Ms Liz Stephenson and Ms Victoria Akins, Teachers of Latin**

#### **Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)**

Year 10 History students have commenced a study of the Vietnam War. They were visited by three Vietnam Veterans during the week. The three veterans all reside locally and have been conducting visits to local schools over the past several years. As veterans were not welcomed home after their military service, it was most important that students had the opportunity to listen to the men first hand, to hear how the war had impacted on their lives. Their stories were heartfelt and served to engage the students' interest. Following are some reflections from the students:

*Their visit was incredibly interesting as they presented an opinion that was unique and of great meaning. All of them mentioned about how, at the time, they believed in the Domino Effect of Communism spreading across the globe. They were proud to be involved in the Vietnam conflict and if those circumstances were to arise again, they would do it again. It really helped me to understand the scale on which they were fighting and when they came back, how much they were looked down upon and had little help with problems such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. It was worthwhile and I gained a great deal from it that has and will change my view on this war throughout this unit of study.*

Year 12 Geography students commenced their research on Sydney as a case study of a large city for their Urban Places topic. Later this term they will be visiting Pyrmont, Ultimo as an example of Urban Decay and Renewal.

Year 12 Business Studies students have almost completed their topic on Finance. They will be preparing for an assessment task on this unit of work in Week 6. Year 11 Business Studies students have commenced work on their Business Research Task, with a wide range of small, medium enterprises having been chosen in industries such as real estate, veterinary science, aged care, construction and farming. Students are to construct a business report which will require them to research topics such as leadership styles, marketing, finance and human resource management, and then relate these topic areas to their small, medium enterprises.

Year 12 Modern History students are preparing for an in-class task on the personality of Trotsky whilst Year 11 students are working on their Independent Research Projects. Year 12 Ancient History students are studying the core topic on the Cities of Vesuvius.

Year 12 Economics students are analysing the 2016 Federal Budget and assessing the economic impact of its elements on the Australian economy. In addition, students are examining the issue of inflation and the features of Monetary Policy, in preparation for an excursion to the Reserve Bank of Australia on 18 May. Year 11 Economics are completing market equilibrium and are about to start the topic of Labour Markets.



In Year 9, students are studying World War I. This week, they have completed a task on Gallipoli and will now prepare for a source-based assessment task on Life in the Trenches.

On Saturday 7 May, Year 10 students **Sophia Parker, Katchmirr Russell and Celia Battcock [pictured left with Mrs Webb]** participated in the **Rotary Southern Highlands Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)**, a mock United Nations debate held at the Wingecarribee Shire Council chambers in Moss Vale.

The team represented Brazil, with teams from other local high schools representing a range of countries such as Iran, Canada, Russia and Nigeria. The event was a forum for students to debate a broad number of contemporary global issues including the proliferation of nuclear weapons, the Syrian conflict, poverty eradication and the rights of indigenous peoples. The standard of debate and public speaking across the day was high, and the Frensham team is commended for their level of commitment and engagement in delivering articulate speeches advocating their country's view on issues, proposing amendments to UN resolutions and engaging in diplomacy and UN bloc caucus meetings in order to reach consensus on issues in dispute. The team is grateful for the opportunity to participate in such an event and thanks the local Southern Highlands Rotary Clubs for their efforts in hosting such a worthwhile event.

### **Ms Janene van Gogh, Head of HSIE**

#### Mock Trial

On Thursday 28 April, the Mock Trial team participated in Round 2 of the state **Mock Trial Competition**, contesting St Paul's International School, Moss Vale. The team comprised first and second barristers, Georgina Sutton and Liana Berzins, Imogen Ryan, solicitor, Skyla Harris and Sarah Hassett, witnesses and Georgia Saeck as magistrate's clerk. Sophie Booth and Isabella Alderton attended in support. Frensham was the prosecution in this criminal case, which was loosely based around the Banjo Patterson poem *The Man From Snowy River*, and was acting for Henrietta Lawson against the defendant, Thea Mann. The defendant (we alleged) was riding her horse dangerously down a steep hill and struck Henrietta Lawson. The prosecution was required to prove one of two crimes were committed and the team was successful in proving beyond a reasonable doubt that Thea Mann had been riding in a way that was wanton and negligent, causing injury to Henrietta Lawson.

St Paul's prevailed on points, 169 to 165. The team was positive and have enjoyed the learning experience. Mr Jowett will return on Tuesday night to introduce us to the new scripts. Round 3 will be contested against Chevalier College.

### **Ms Judy Bradley, Coordinator of Mock Trial**

#### **Jamieson Programme**

Year 9: Students enjoyed a rigorous fitness session with Mr Marsh last Thursday. They learnt a lot about the seriousness of training and maintaining a regular fitness regime. Students re-visited the beep test for the second time this year as well as the sprint test, many students improving on their previous times.

Year 9 is also focusing on the unit *Financial Literacy*, with a current project on ethical promotion of a product or service.

Two groups of Year 9 students in the Cambridge IGCSE interdisciplinary course 'Global Perspectives' were invited to skype a school in Oman to assist them with questions about their research projects. They will begin to finalise a focus question for their second Individual Research Project, which is due for submission in late June.

Year 10: Year 10 students continue to visit Nursing Homes and participate in Holting and knitting squares for the Hamlin Fistula Hospital. Later in the term, Year 10 will do an intensive Jamieson unit on *Comparative Religions* and *Financial Literacy*

### **Ms Merrilee Harris, Jamieson Programme Coordinator**

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## Mathematics

This year, the **Mathematics Club** has been led by Zali Steiner and Jessica Herbert, assisted by Miss Wong. It was very well attended in Term 1 when 70 girls participated in Spy Club where they had to use a variety of skills to crack codes, solve problems and work as a team. Students were given a mission and needed to decipher a variety of codes and problems all in the name of *good conquering evil*. Students worked collaboratively, and the girls in the Iris Spy Association came out on top.

This term in Week 2, 40 girls were involved in the Mathematics Club where the ins and outs of hexaflexagons and trihexaflexagons were explored. All girls successfully made a hexaflexagon and learnt about the history of the hexaflexagon. They also solved puzzles under timed conditions. Towards the end of the term there will be a Skype session with a Mathematics Professor from the University of New South Wales, Dr Randell Heyman, as part of the **Mathematicians in Schools** programme which is a free national programme supporting long-term, professional partnerships between practising mathematicians and teachers across Australia. More than ever before, the expanding role of mathematics is recognised as having significant impact in all aspects of society and our daily lives, from health, mining, manufacturing and agriculture to natural resource management and the services economy. Mathematics plays a part in all aspects of our everyday experience – we just need to be shown the link.

*Need we add that mathematicians themselves are not infallible? Henri Poincare*

### Ms Sue Wymer, Head of Mathematics

## Music

The second concert in the **Sydney Symphony Orchestra's Meet the Music** series was attended by Year 11 and 12 Music students recently; they listened to a premiere performance of a new work by Australian composer, Paul Stanhope, Tchaikovsky's *Rococo Variations* and Shostakovich's enormous *Symphony No.7 'Leningrad'*.

The Madrigals have been rehearsing in preparation for the **Annual Foundation Dinner** where they will be presenting a Bulgarian choral work, supported by solo performances from selected Year 12 students.

The Madrigals are also working towards their appearance at the **Sydney Eisteddfod** where they will be competing in the **Youth Chamber Choir** section at 2.30pm on Sunday 29 May at *The Concourse*, Chatswood.

### Mr Michael Spencer, Head of Music

## Science

In Term 2 there are many opportunities for students to extend and enrich their learning in Science through external competitions and activities. Following on from her participation in the **National Youth Science Forum** (NYSF), Year 11 student (and HSC Biology student), Kate Swan has been invited to be one of six Australian ambassadors to attend the **Canada-Wide Science Forum** (CWSF) this month. The Science department congratulates Kate and wishes her an enriching experience. Closer to home, there are many other opportunities for students in all years.

The **code.comp competition** is entering its third week, with students in the beginner strand learning the fundamentals of printing, if and else statements and how to apply the mathematics of geometry and coordinates to graphics coding. The intermediate competition had a significant step-up in challenge this week with competitors having to apply mathematical logic and if/else commands within loops in order to analyse text and produce numbers in a mathematical series. <https://groklearning.com/codecomp/>

The **Bragg Student Prize for Science Writing** is now open. It is a competition where students write an 800-word essay on the history, discovery, impacts, applications and/or future of one great Australian scientific discovery or invention. The winner will be awarded a \$500 UNSW Bookshop voucher, a subscription to the Australian Book Review and a trip to the Bragg Prize award ceremony and launch of the **Best Australian Science Writing 2016** in Sydney in early November. Entries close 26 August. <http://www.refractionmedia.com.au/braggstudentscienceprize/>

The **ConocoPhillips Science Experience** is a school holiday programme consisting of three to four days of science activities for Year 9 and 10 students. It is run in universities Australia-wide. Participants undertake many hands-on activities in laboratories across a range of science and technology topics and participate in short lectures/demonstrations. Participants also learn about careers in science, visit places of scientific interest, and have the opportunity to meet and share ideas with students from different schools during barbecues and social activities. <http://www.scienceexperience.com.au/>

The **2017 National Youth Science Forum (NYSF)** is a 12 day summer-holiday residential programme for students entering Year 12 who are passionate about Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). It aims to show participants the wide

variety of study and career options in STEM fields and to nurture and encourage young Australians to be the next generation of leading scientists and engineers supporting a sustainable future for our nation. One of the most important aspects coming from the NYSF is a network of friends, colleagues and support groups throughout Australia, which will be of value to participants for the whole of their lives. <https://www.nysf.edu.au/>

If any students are interested in participating in any of these activities they are encouraged to email me for more information: [tburg@frensham.nsw.edu.au](mailto:tburg@frensham.nsw.edu.au)

**Dr Tristan Burg, Director of Innovation & Research and Acting Head of Science**

### **Agriculture & Show Cattle Team**

#### Year 8 Farm Management

In Terms 2 and 3, all Year 8 students are involved with Farm Management as part of their **Jamieson Programme** commitments. They have been allocated an afternoon of their choice in each term and will undertake activities such as the care and welfare of the school livestock, cleaning water troughs, removing weeds, collecting firewood, cleaning stalls and planting tree lots. Students will be required to work at either the Farm or the agriculture plot and the sessions, beginning this week, start at 4pm for one hour. Students will need to wear appropriate work clothing and boots.

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

### **PDHPE**

#### Let's Dance!

This term, in PDHPE students in Years 7 and 10 are completing practical units in Dance. In these lessons students are able to demonstrate and enhance their ability to respond creatively to music as well as to develop an understanding of the features of movement and the elements of composition. Year 7 are bush dancing, whilst Year 10 are ballroom dancing. It is really positive to see girls learn new dance skills and enjoy participating in these units.

**Miss Erin Gray, Head of PDHPE**

### **Sport**

#### **Wet Weather arrangements for Saturday Sport**

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.

For Football at Frensham, **TEXT** 'football'

For Basketball at Frensham, **TEXT** 'basketball'

#### Football and Basketball

The atmosphere on the Games Field for both Football and Basketball for the start of the season has been excellent and all girls are commended for the sportsmanship they displayed in matches. Please note that all Football players must wear football boots or similar (turf/grass shoes) - no sand shoes. Mouthguards are strongly recommended. In Basketball, shorts must have no pockets.

#### Cross Country

Trials for the **IGSSA Cross Country Carnival** were held on Friday 29 April. We had a large number of girls trialling for a place in the team. Eight runners in every age group are entered into the carnival which will be held this Friday 13 May at Frensham.

Estimated times of events are:

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Distance</b>
8.30am	Walk the Course	
9.30am	11-12 Years	3km
10.00am	13 Years	3km
10.30am	14 Years	4km
11.00am	15 Years	4km
11.30am	16 Years	4km
12.00noon	17 Years	4km
12.30pm	18-19 Years	6km
1.30pm	FINISH	

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## Football

Alex Alker, Airlie Blackman, Celia Stewart (Year 12), and Emily Cooke (Year 11) attended the **Open IGSSA Football** trials on Tuesday 3 May. The girls all performed well and are commended for their efforts.

## Hockey

On Wednesday 4 May, Minnie Arnott (Year 11), Lucy Begg, Celia Stewart, and Mimi Wylie (Year 12) trialed for the **Open IGSSA Hockey team** at Olympic Park, Sydney. The standard of Hockey was at an extremely high level. All girls trialed well and Minnie Arnott is congratulated on her selection to the team. She will now play in the **NSW Combined Independent Schools Championships** at Pennant Hills Park, Thornleigh on Wednesday 25 May.

## Hockey and Netball

Team 1 and 2 trials for Hockey and Netball will commence in Week 5 on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 6.15am. Hockey trials will be on the Turf and Netball trials in the Parker Gymnasium. A squad will be selected over the next two weeks and those selected will continue to train for the remainder of the term. Those who are not selected will trial with the remainder of the Netball and Hockey players later in the term.

Trials for all other players will take place on Saturday 18 June at the allocated times below:

Years 10-12: 12.30pm–2pm  
Years 8 and 9: 2.00pm– 3.30pm  
Year 7: 3.00pm–4.30pm

Juniors will also have trials on Tuesday 21 June during their normal Sport time.

## Athletics

The Athletics squad will commence training in Week 5 and will be held on Wednesday and Friday mornings as well as Tuesday afternoons (seniors) and Thursday afternoons (juniors). The schedule of training will be made available to girls in Week 4.

## **Mrs Jane Crellen, Head of Sport**

## **Equestrian News**

### Frensham Equestrian Jacket

In 2015, the Heads of Equestrian proposed the addition of a warm-up jacket for riders (showerproof/windproof). A brown zip jacket has been sourced as optional uniform for riders competing in Interschools competition from mid-2016. This week, riders have had the opportunity to try on a sample for size. This is not a mandatory part of the uniform, as the girls wear their School jumper, shirt and tie to compete and last year many wore their School Driza-Bone coats around the venues, when not competing.

Entries to the **Interschools Competition** at SIEC are now open via [www.nominate.com.au](http://www.nominate.com.au). The competition runs from Thursday 23 till Sunday 26 June. All competitors must be an Equestrian New South Wales Junior Competitive member. The cost is \$86.00, the Membership link: <https://www.nominate.com.au/EAOnline/MemberSignup1.aspx?sid=2>

Prior competition is required to ensure that each horse/rider combination is competent at their chosen discipline level. All competitors need to ensure they have read the current rules relating to their specific discipline. Interschool Rules can be found on the Equestrian Australia website at: [http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/EA\\_Interschool\\_Rules-MarkedVersion.pdf](http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/EA_Interschool_Rules-MarkedVersion.pdf)  
The first term break and the last couple of weeks have been full of events in which girls have competed and results are filtering in. Three major events were the **Albury Wodonga International Horse Trials**, **Camden One Day Event** and the **2016 Sydney CDI**, 6-9 April where girls placed in various classes across the disciplines. Full details will be included in the next Newsletter.

Team members are encouraged to share their performance results so that they can be included in the Newsletter.

## **Miss Victoria Akins, Equestrian Coordinator**

## **Visual Arts/Design & Technology**

As communicated in the last Newsletter, Emily Newton and Pia Wylie (Year 12), Isabella Alderton and Arabella Jones (Year 11), Stella Wilde (Year 10), and Rose Gamble and Adelaide Poulos (Year 8) were selected as finalists in the **Head On Photo Festival Student Prize**, with their work exhibited on-screen at the **Museum of Sydney**. On 29 April, all seven girls attended the opening of the festival and the announcement of prize winners across several categories, including the Student Prize, at Sydney Town Hall. Pia Wylie is congratulated on being awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize in the Student Section. It is worth reiterating that Frensham had seven out of 40 selected finalists for the Head On Student Prize, which is a great achievement. Congratulations to Pia and to all the girls for their selection in this prominent photographic festival.

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During Term 2, the principal focus of the art critical and historical programme for students of Year 12 Visual Arts is to prepare them initially for the Trial examination in early Term 3, and additionally and crucially for the HSC written examination in Term 4. Analysis of past HSC papers, practise responses and strategies for answering a range of question types will be covered in the coming weeks.

Year 11 Visual Arts students are using the phrase *These are Desperate Times* as a catalyst for artmaking in Term 2. In the first two weeks, they have been exploring possible socio-political themes on which to base an artwork or a series of artworks. When choosing subject matter, students have been advised to explore themes broadly, and then seek to find specific details and examples which can push their artworks beyond the general and the literal. The girls have the choice of employing any printmaking technique to produce works. Their options include dry-point etching, relief printing, mono-printing and collograph printing, and they have been encouraged to think laterally about 'what is a print' and whether they can explore unconventional, unique processes in order to produce something which could be termed a print.

Year 10 students began work on 30 x 30cm oil paintings late in Term 1, and are continuing to work on them during this term. This is the second work which students are making as part of *The Artist's Environment* unit (in Term 1, they produced a multi-colour reduction lino-print). The aim of this unit is to make students 'look close to home' for subject matter, and seek aspects of their world which they can perceive and transform in artworks. For many girls, this is the first time they have used oil paint. We provide girls with what are known as water-based oils which, whilst performing much like traditional oil paint, have the advantage of an easier clean-up process, with no mineral turpentine or other harsh cleaning fluids needed. Using oil paint is allowing students to work the paint surface over several days, either taking time to blend colour and tone or build textures with greater apparent freshness than acrylic paint. Students are encouraged to develop their own stylistic preferences when painting; the developing works range from strong realism to looser, more expressive handling of paint as a means of representing or responding to subject matter.

For Year 9 students, the focus of artmaking for Semester 1 is drawing. In Term 1, they produced a self-portrait in ink. Beginning with their own Photographs, the students used Photoshop to crop and re-size their images, then apply a range of editing processes to produce a graphic tonal composition. They worked from light washes of ink to deep greys and then black to produce a partially distorted and dramatic final drawing. At present, students are in the last phases of a charcoal still-life drawing of objects in the art studio. Whilst a sense of realism was one of the objectives of this work, this notion was 'played with' somewhat, with the original reference compositions featuring geometric divisions and polarised sets of tones to add a dynamic and contemporary element to the works.

**Mr Phil Alldis, Head of Visual Arts and Design**