



News letter

TERM 1 NO 1
6 February 2013


Frensham – 100 Years On

A glimpse of some of the special projects underway to celebrate Frensham's Centenary:

Founded on Grace

Commissioned by the School to celebrate Frensham's Centenary is Mr Michael Spencer's composition for orchestra and choir – *Founded on Grace*, to be premiered at the 6-7 April Back-to-Frensham weekend. Selecting from the words of Winifred West (1944), Mr Spencer's lyrics draw from the following inspirational text:

I am anxious that young people should not miss the realities of life and be put off with shams and shadows, that they should learn to see life not in terms of possessions, privileges and power but as adventure... an adventure in Time, to be undertaken in company with others - to help in building (up) a better order on earth... Safety may be good for the old, the weak and the very young, but for growing, vigorous people, Life should not be too safe or easy. The courage and strength which come from facing hardships and difficulties can be gained in no other way. But as well as this adventure in Time there is for each one of us an inner spiritual adventure, beyond ethics, a reaching out to the unattainable and infinite, an adventure in Eternity.

The Centenary Trail

Enhancing the Cross Country track and covering three kilometres through the Lower Holt, up to the Farm and alongside the Hockey Field, The Centenary Trail starts and finishes at the Frensham Games Field and features a new Centenary Avenue planting to which all are invited to contribute.

Centenary Sculpture

Sculptor Bronwen Berman has completed her design for the 'Centenary Sculpture' and all is on track for construction to commence off-site, prior to installation in April. (All remains under wraps till then!) This project is funded by private donation.

The Centenary Book and Centenary CD

Both are in the final stages of production, with purchase details to follow.

The Centenary Pool

NB: Next Monday 11 February, works are due to commence for construction of the Tennis / Basketball / Netball courts which will replace the courts currently on the site of the Centenary Pool. The courts are due to be completed by early April. Please see Foundation News for an update on our progress.

Back to Frensham Weekend 6-7 April

Invitations, with the full programme, are about to be posted – we are looking forward to hundreds of visitors that weekend!

Strategic Themes for Focus - 2013

Prior to the Christmas break, it was exciting to work as part of the Strategic Learning Team for Gib Gate and Frensham (including Mr Geoff Marsh, Ms Sally Robson, Mrs Kate Chauncy, Ms Janene van Gogh) to set directions for future focus. I include here some outcomes of early thinking:

Learning and Teaching – Next Practice:

Within the Learning and Teaching theme we were challenged to consider 'next practice' vs 'best practice' when setting benchmarks for success. Next Practice, as used by those currently driving this perspective on innovation around the world, is future-oriented and assumes that no single institution or company is an exemplar of everything that we think will happen ('best practice thinking'). 'Next practice' means *'amplifying weak signals, connecting the dots. Next Practice is disciplined imagination.'* (CK Prahalad, University of Michigan)

In the WWS context, we are committed to continual review and development of what we are doing, using a research-based approach to evaluation and change. In our efforts to enhance the quality of student learning, parents will increasingly hear us speak about 'Blended learning', the integration of face-to-face and online instructional content and methods, which acknowledge essential skills for students in a world where advances in information and communication technologies (ICT) are rapidly changing the way we share, use, develop and process information.

Servant Leadership - Staff and Students

Underpinning the philosophy of a WWS education is the Christian concept of servant leadership. In this context leadership means: responsibility to develop one's talents; responsibility to share these talents with the wider world; willingness and confidence to contribute to the wider world; recognition that valuing and pursuing excellence is not a selfish endeavour but rather a selfless, outward looking process.

We are committed to ensuring that students and staff have formal and informal opportunities to develop and display this type of leadership and that our interaction with students, colleagues and parents reflects this commitment.

In subsequent Newsletters I will expand on the outcomes of our important planning process.

Staffing Update

I am pleased to congratulate three colleagues on their promotional appointments, effective Term 1, 2013:

- Mrs Belinda Hill, *Coordinator of Year 8*
- Ms Lee McGuinness, *Head of English/Drama*, responsible to Mrs Trish Symons, Dir Language Arts,
- Ms Janene van Gogh, *Director of Studies – in Residence*, joining Frensham in a permanent position as a member of the Executive staff, following her Resident-in-Studies appointment in 2012.

Academic Highlights

Higher School Certificate – Where are they heading?

Prior to Christmas we published a summary of Higher School Certificate results for Year 12, 2012 and I am now pleased to note, for interest, the range of courses offered to our most recent high school leavers by universities. (First round offers)

The listing highlights the diversity of interest and significant achievement by individuals and by the group as a whole (34 different courses within a cohort of 50 students):

- B Nursing/Paramedicine
- B Visual Arts and Design
- B Commerce
- B Arts
- B Commerce/Asia-Pacific Studies
- B International Relations/Laws
- B Veterinary Biology/Vet Science
- B Dental Science
- B Animal Science
- B Medical Science (Advanced)
- B Nursing
- B Education (Primary)
- B Commerce (Accounting)
- B Early Childhood Education
- B Human Resource Management
- B Science (Psychology)
- B Laws
- B Education & B Arts
- B Arts (Psychology)
- B Fine Arts (COFA)
- B Engineering (Civil with Architecture)
- B Medical Science
- B Science (Advanced)
- B Public Health
- B International & Global Studies
- B Arts (Media & Communication)
- B Agricultural Economics
- B Science (Advanced Mathematics)
- B Health Sciences
- B Social Work
- B Arts, Communications (Journalism)
- B Veterinary Science
- B Medicine
- B Surgery

Scholarships and Other Awards

- Madeleine Quinn – UNSW Academic Achievement Award;
- Claudia Ross – 2012 Long Tan Leadership Award;
- Courtney Darville – Dean's Scholarship and entry to the Talented Students' Programme at University of Sydney;
- Lauren Sullivan – 12-month Snowy Hydro Internship;
- UWS Year 11 High Achiever Award: Sara Attard (2011) and Catherine Hall (2012);
- Alissa Heise – Royal College of Nursing Scholarship;
- Alice Scamps-Goodman – Recognition by UNSW for achievement in Sport: Elite Athletes and Performers Programme.

Acknowledgement to:

- Sturt staff and tutors for the successful Summer School in January, comprising 192 students in 21 courses;
- Black Parrot Award recipients for Poetry (See English News)
- Annabelle Cruikshank, Georgina Gotterson, Freya Spencer, Katie Stewart and Georgina Whatmore on completing with distinction the 2012 National Art School HSC Intensive Studio Practice course;
- End-of-2012 Iris recipient Rebecca McCreath (Academic Excellence) and Girdle recipients: Rachel Jin (Music), Elizabeth Bruce (Sport), Jessica Burns and Sophie Meredith (Service – Clubbe Hall Technical Crew);
- Rachel Jin, Year 12, Ruby Mowle (Music Tuition) Scholar for 2013;
- Students whose artworks have been selected for inclusion in the Frensham Permanent Collection: Hannah Black, Elizabeth Bruce, Annabelle Cruikshank, Joscelyn Markerink, Emma McCrabb, Georgina Whatmore;
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award recipients: Bronze: Ellie Gaff, Gemma Hill, Sally Montgomery; Silver: Phoebe Jenkins, Lucinda Lee-Warner, Clementine Retallack, Olivia Williamson;
- Rebecca McCreath, Year 12, 2013, awarded a place at Macquarie University to study 'Philosophy, Morality and Society' under the Talented Students' Programme;
- Isabel Faulkner (2011 cohort) – Darren Ellis Scholarship recipient for Robb College UNE.

Student Leadership – Frensham

The full listing of Year 12 Student Leaders is published in the Frensham Information Book. Please note the House Leadership positions for Years 10 and 11, for Term 1:

Year 10: Hartfield - Sarah Loveridge, Rebecca Power, Sophie O'Toole; Year 10 Kennedy - Catriona Fraser, Georgina Quinn, Sally Montgomery; Year 10 Linden - Madison Allen, Georgia Phillips.

Year 11: Bryant - Edwina Preston, Jemima Blackman, Charlotte Vidler; Year 11 Turner - Bridget Talbot, Holly Arnott, Skye Golledge.

Frensham Community Service support

In 2012, monies raised through the efforts of the Year 12 Community Service team or through the Offertory at School Services, were distributed to the following charities:

Aboriginal Literacy Foundation
Amnesty International
BDCU Children's Foundation
Bridges for Learning
Bush Heritage
Caritas Australia
Cerebral Palsy Alliance
DOLSH Overseas Aid Inc
Guide Dog Association of NSW
Hamlin Fistula Relief and Aid Fund
Mahboba's Promise
Médecins Sans Frontières
Oxfam Unwrapped

Royal Far West
Royal Flying Doctor Service
RSPCA
Rural Fire Service
Salvation Army
School of St Jude
Society of St Vincent de Paul
United Future Foundation
Wayside Chapel
Wildlife Victoria

Ahead:

Gib Gate:

- **Friday 8 February** Welcome Drinks for Families of Gib Gate (FOGG)
- **Wednesday 13 February** Parent Information Evening 6-7pm Stage One (R-K); 7.15-8.15pm Stage One (Years 1-2)
- **Thursday 14 February** Parent Information Evening 6-7pm Stage Two (Years 3-4) 7.15-8.15pm Stage Three (Years 5-6)
- **Saturday 2 March** 'Welcome Dinner' for parents of students new to Gib Gate and Frensham (7-10pm), hosted by the Board of Governors of WWS, WWS Foundation Ltd, Parent Advisory Committee Members and staff of both Schools

Frensham:

- **Saturday 2 March** Year 7 Parent Weekend & Frensham Open Day (12.30-4pm) 'Welcome Dinner' for parents of students new to Gib Gate and Frensham (7-10pm), hosted by the Board of Governors of WWS, WWS Foundation Ltd, Parent Advisory Committee Members and staff of both Schools
- **Sunday 3 March** Year 7 Parent Weekend Service – all of Years 7-12 to attend Picnic Lunch for Years 7 & 8 hosted by Year 8 families (Games Field)

Sturt Gallery:

- **Sunday 10 February** - Sturt Exhibition Opening: 11am *Elements*, Southern Highlands Printmakers
- **Saturday 16-Sunday 17 February** – Sturt School for Wood Tools & Techniques Event

I look forward to meeting Gib Gate parents for FOGG's Welcome Drinks on Friday evening as the first of our large community events for 2013.



Julie A Gillick
Head of Frensham
Head of Winifred West Schools

The Winifred West Schools Newsletter on the Website

The fortnightly WWS Newsletter is located at:
<http://www.frensham.nsw.edu.au/ch-www-newsletter>
 and is published on that site and mailed on Wednesday.

Information Notices sent via Email

- Year 7 Parent Weekend Programme
- Year 7 Letter of Welcome from the Head
- Year 8 participation in the Year 7 Welcome BBQ
- Years 11 & 12 Senior Studies Week
- Year Group Contact List

AHEAD ~ Term 1

Th 7	GG: K-6 Swimming Development Programme, Bowral Pool
F 8	University of Wollongong Discovery Days Programme 2013 - Yr 12 GG: Families of Gib Gate (FOGG) Welcome Drinks
S 9	F: IGSSA Round 1 F: Show Cattle Team, Nowra Show
S 10	F: Church Services S: 11am Sturt Opening - <i>Elements</i> , Southern Highlands Printmakers F: 11am-1pm Archives open
Week 3	Week A
M 11	
T 12	F: 9.00-10.40am Outdoor Education, student briefing, Years 7-10
W 13	Ash Wednesday GG: 6.00pm Parent Information Evening, Preschool - Year 2 F: 9.00am-3.00pm Year 12 Geography excursion, Minnamurra River Estuary
Th 14	GG: K-6 Swimming Development Programme, Bowral Pool GG: 6.00pm Parent Information Evening, Years 3-6 F: 1.45-8.30pm Jamieson Programme, Year 9
F 15	F: Show Cattle Team, Kangaroo Valley
S 16	IGSSA Round 2 S: Tools & Techniques Event - Sturt School for Wood
S 17	School Service S: Tools & Techniques Event - Sturt School for Wood
Week 4	Week B
M 18	GG: 6pm Outdoor Education Parent Briefing F: 11am Year 7 vaccinations, School Hall
T 19	F: Visual Arts Incursion, Year 8
W 20	F: 9.00am-12noon Riding for the Disabled, Year 8
Th 21	GG: K-6 Swimming Development Programme, Bowral Pool F: 9.00am-3.00pm Year 10 Geography excursion, Rose Valley F: 9.00am-3.00pm Year 10 History excursion, Australian War Memorial F: 6.45-8.30pm Pen & Ink, Years 9-12
F 22	GG: Swimming Carnival (Years 3-6), Bowral Pool

S 23 IGSSA Round 3

S 24 School Service
NB This is a change from the Glossy Calendar

NB ALSO: Calendar Amendment
23/24 March (the weekend before Easter)
is not a Closed Weekend for Frensham

PARENT/COMMUNITY NEWS**Advisory Committees****2013 Frensham Advisory Committee Contacts**

Mrs Georgy Alker	tarnuk.alker@bigpond.com
Mrs Frances Conomos	ftefany@acenet.com.au
Mr Ben Cruikshank (<i>Chair</i>)	cruikshank@bigpond.com
Mr Robert Dulhunty	dulhuntyr7@bigpond.com
Mrs Katrina Graves	graves@jkg.net.au
Mrs Lisa McCrabb	northbundy@activ8.net.au
Mrs Meredith Munro	meromunro@bigpond.com
Mrs Judy Newton	judy.newton5@bigpond.com
Mrs Elizabeth Phillips (<i>Sec</i>)	yarrowongamerino@bigpond.com
Mr Jonathan Purvis	frog.spawn@bigpond.com
Mrs Melody Talbot	melody@talbotnet.com
Mrs Jane Woods	woods farming@bigpond.com

2013 Gib Gate Advisory Committee Contacts

Mrs Rachel Arnott	rachelkarnott@gmail.com
Mrs Christine Chambers (<i>Sec</i>)	christine.chambers@joyglobal.com
Mr Stephen Grant	munropark@mac.com
Ms Nyema Hermiston	nyema@bigpond.net.au
Mrs Alison Lalak (<i>Chair</i>)	alisonlalak@bigpond.com
Mrs Elizabeth Mackie	eamackie@me.com
Mrs Lyndall McGrath (<i>Chair of FOGG</i>)	lyndallmc@bigpond.com
Mrs Helen Pernice	dandhpernice@bigpond.com
Mrs Zoe Suttie	zoeandrob@bigpond.com

2013 Term Dates Gib Gate and Frensham**Term 1****Gib Gate & Frensham:**

Thursday 31 January – Friday 12 April, 3pm
 [EASTER BREAK is within Term 1: Vacation is from Wednesday 27 March, 3pm – Monday 1 April. Classes resume Tuesday 2 April]

Term 2**Gib Gate & Frensham:**

Monday 29 April-Friday 21 June, 3pm
 (Boarders return on the evening of Sunday 28 April)

Term 3**Gib Gate & Frensham:**

Tuesday 16 July-Thursday 19 September 3pm
 (Boarders return on the evening of Monday 15 July)

Term 4

Gib Gate: Tuesday 8 October-Friday 6 December 3pm

Frensham: Tuesday 8 October-Sunday 8 December



WINIFRED WEST SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION
news

At the start of this our Centenary year, Foundation is planning what we hope will be another year of exciting opportunities and events that will contribute to our ongoing effort to raise much-needed funds. The goal of the Centenary Appeal, launched in 2006, has always been to increase Foundation's capital base to \$10 million and we have but \$2 million to go!

The Foundation's major project continues to be the Centenary Pool and, with construction to commence this year, it is hoped that attention will be focused on the need to support this significant project.

As Ms Gillick noted in presentations at the end of last year, support is something which can be offered in any number of ways. Nothing that can be given is too small or insignificant and all contributions are gratefully received. It will be the collective support of all members of our community, in whatever form that comes, that will allow us to succeed in achieving our goals.

Foundation's events in 2013, both large and small, will give everyone an opportunity to participate at some level. There will be a series of smaller functions throughout the year and the major event towards the end of the year is the Centenary Ball at the Westin in Sydney on Saturday 14 September. The Centenary Ball will be a glittering affair so be sure not to miss it – save the date.

Welcome to all new parents, Foundation looks forward to meeting you at the Welcome Dinner for Parents of New Students on Saturday 2 March.

For information about Foundation, please contact Michele Scamps on 4860 2000 or foundation@frensham.nsw.edu.au

Save the Date:
'Centenary Ball' – Westin Hotel, Sydney
Saturday 14 September 2013

THE
CENTENARY
POOL
APPEAL



GIB GATE

Gib Gate welcomed 34 new students at the start of term, and Gib Gate students greeted new and old classmates, while Kindergarten 2013 started the school year smoothly and confidently, after participating in the 2012 Kindergarten Orientation programme.

The Welcome Back coffee morning for parents provided the opportunity to meet with new and old families and many parents reported that their children had asked if they could arrive early, so they would have plenty of time to spend with friends before classes began.

Working with senior colleagues, new staff and Gib Gate staff in the weeks leading up to the start of school, I am confident Gib Gate students will have an excellent year guided by the expert teaching and learning team from Preschool to Year 6. The Gib Gate Preschool to Year 2 Early Years curriculum is stronger than ever, with the inclusion of the latest research in early literacy learning now part of a year-long programme for Transition students, complementing the outstanding results Gib Gate achieves in literacy in K-2. Across all year groups all individualised programmes are now in full operation with students moving between core, support and extension activities across the timetable.

Core classroom programmes K-6 will be complemented by high-quality specialist programmes and a full offering of interesting and stimulating extra-curricular activities. With the opportunity to include extra expert teaching in Science and Technology as part the Stage 3 curriculum, we are pleased to welcome Frensham Science teacher, Mrs Belinda Hill, to Gib Gate. Mrs Hill will be working alongside Gib Gate Stage 3 teachers on the global JASON project, Infinite Potential, where students will use research articles, inquiry-based activities, videos, games and online multimedia to investigate and analyse emerging technologies designed to meet the needs of an energy-hungry planet. The opportunity to immerse themselves fully during a term studying ceramics with Artist and Teacher, Mrs Gottlieb, has also captured the interest of Stage 3 students and we are looking forward to sharing the process and products of their work.

Stage 2 students are looking forward to the upcoming Outdoor Education programme where they will be learning to orienteer, cook outdoors, build an outdoor shelter, abseil and mountain bike. Year 4 students are particularly looking forward to the opportunity to practise their new mountain-bike skills on the Gib Gate Mountain Bike track which is in the process of final planning, with construction due to start shortly, while Year 3 students think they may require their abseiling skills in order to descend the six-metre high climbing tower which will be installed in the Gib Gate playground in the upcoming weeks!

I am looking forward to welcoming parents to upcoming events such as FOGG Welcome drinks, Parent Information evenings, Outdoor Education Camp briefings and the New Parent Welcome Dinner. All of these events are designed to assist you in finding out more about the School, your child's class and how you can support your child at school.

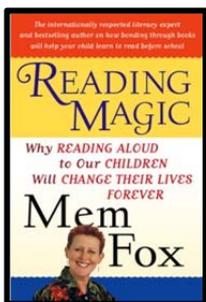
Ms Sally Robson, Head of Gib Gate

How to help your child learn to read and love to read

Stop for a moment and ask yourself what you are doing right now...reading! When we, as teachers, stopped for a moment and considered our answer to your commonly asked question, 'What can I do to help my child learn at home?' – we answered in three words – 'Read with them'.

At Gib Gate we have always made our priority, from the earliest years in Preschool Reception, that of developing in the children a love of reading and appreciation of literature in all its forms from picture books, information books, Australian and overseas classics, stories from long ago and contemporary titles that span a range of genres. Educators around the world agree that learning to read is the single most significant factor in ensuring children have every opportunity to become lifelong learners and take their place as active participants in our global community.

As parents will have noted, in 2013 we have made this priority explicit by setting the mandatory homework to be completed weekly as 'reading'. This allows you the opportunity to engage with your child in the most meaningful, enjoyable and stress-free way every day - and everyone can do it with no special training needed! Reading **to** your child, reading **with** your child and **listening to** them read to you for 15 to 30 minutes a day is, we believe, the best thing you can do to help your child learn at school and beyond.

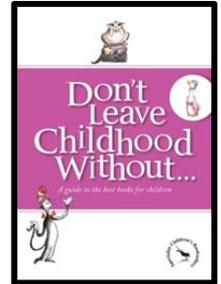


In order to assist you in getting started on this adventure with your child we recommend the following titles you may wish to read for yourself in the months to come. In her book *Reading Magic: Why Reading Aloud to Our Children Will Change Their Lives Forever*, Australian best-selling author (of *Possum Magic* fame) and literacy expert Mem Fox reveals the incredible emotional and intellectual impact reading aloud to and with children has.

Mem says: 'When I say to a parent, "read to a child", I don't want it to sound like medicine. I want it to sound like chocolate.' She speaks of when, where, and why to read aloud and demonstrates how to read aloud to best effect and how to get the most out of a reading session. She gives guidance on defining, choosing, and finding good books and closes with tips on dealing effectively with the challenges that sometimes arise when children are learning to read. Filled with practical advice and stories Mem believes that

the 'fire of literacy' is created by the emotional sparks between a child, a book, and the person reading. It isn't achieved by the book alone, nor by the child alone, nor by the adult who is reading aloud – it is the relationship winding between all three, bringing them together in easy harmony.

Another resource that is readily available is [*Don't Leave Childhood Without...*](#) This slim volume of literary treasures came about when a group of experienced children's booksellers based in Sydney (The Specialist Children's Booksellers) decided that there was a need for a small and inexpensive guide to the books that they thought were essential reading for children from 0 – 16 years of age. When they added up their combined time in the children's book industry, they came up with the impressive figure of 300+ years, so putting aside dodgy maths, we also believe they were entitled to say they were experts!



We are committed to ensuring all children at Gib Gate become dedicated, fluent, thinking readers and our library and classrooms are repositories of the highest quality reading material available from Australia and internationally. Please use all the resources available and seek guidance from our Teacher Librarian, Mrs LeeAnn Marsh and every teacher at the school to help your child on their learning journey.

Who could say it better than this?

*'So please, oh PLEASE, we beg, we pray,
Go throw your TV set away,
And in its place you can install
A lovely bookshelf on the wall.'*

Roald Dahl, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

For information about the Professional Learning of Teachers at Gib Gate in January, please refer to the article following in the Frensham section of the Newsletter.

Mrs Kate Chauncy, Director of Teaching and Learning K-12 and Coordinator of Gifted and Talented Programmes

Activities

Music - Orchestra rehearsals are on Fridays again this year so your assistance to remind your child to bring his or her instrument each Friday will be appreciated. At this point we have 85 Gib Gate students enrolled for music tuition and we are very pleased to see growing interest in clarinet and saxophone lessons.

Extra-Curricular Activities - Classes commence on Monday 11 February. This term there are classes in Mandarin Language, Ceramics, Robotics (WeDo and Mindstorm), Dancing, Public Speaking, Musicianship, Exploring Art,

Drama, Summer Craft, Medieval Mayhem, Gymnastics, Tennis and Swim Club. We are excited about the breadth and depth of our extra-curricular programme and the high quality of expert tutors who are running the classes. There are limited places available in some activities. Please contact Mrs Graham if you are interested.

Mrs Anne Graham, Gib Gate Coordinator (Administration)

Sport

The second half of the summer season is underway with Basketball and Water Polo games played prior to our start in Term 1 and an impressively full turn-out for each Gib Gate team. Swim Squad training has also recommenced with up to 30 children from Year 2 to 6 involved in early morning sessions at Bowral Pool.

The following children have been invited to trial for IPSHA representative selection in various sports over the coming weeks: **Chelsea Pernice (Year 6)** - IPSHA Tennis; **Ravi Wikramanayake (Year 6)** and **Dominic O'Shannessy (Year 5)** - CIS U12 Cricket; **Noni Brittain** and **Lucille Schmidt (Year 6)** - IPSHA Basketball.

Mr Michael Standen, Coordinator of PDHPE and Sport

STURT



FRIENDS OF STURT

Ann Schavemaker (President), Joan Dinning (Secretary), Julie Musgrave, Chris Topp, Denise Sumner, Robyn Gollidge, Nadine Harvey, Bill Dinning.

Special News

Welcome back to Sturt for 2013 - The full programme for the year is out and details of all classes, special courses, exhibitions and events are available on Sturt's website. New faces on the Sturt staff this year include master weaver Kay Faulkner who will be leading the Weaving Studio, ceramic artist and experienced teacher Simon Bowley who will be leading Pottery, David Upfill-Brown who will be the major teaching force in the Wood School plus new woodwork teachers Shelden Vaughan and Tony Pryce, who will be taking the term classes.

Stunning display of fine furniture by members of Studio Woodworkers Australia - From 18-20 January, Sturt hosted the inaugural conference and AGM of Studio Woodworkers Australia. On show now until 17 February in the Sturt Shop is a display of fine furniture by SWA members. The display includes work by fine woodworkers from all over Australia, some of whom have never before exhibited work at Sturt. This is a truly amazing display, worth a special visit to Sturt.

Artists-in-residence 2013 - It will be an excellent year for artistic visitors to Sturt with the residency programme featuring professional ceramic artist Rachel Wood from the UK and professional metalworker Maike Dahl from Germany, both undertaking three-month residencies. Woodworkers Katalin Sallai and John Shaw will undertake a short joint residency in marquetry in June. In July we will host a mass residency by potters from Australia and New Zealand who will share a wood firing, followed by an exhibition in the Sturt Gallery. Graduate residents this year include Amy Zubick (jewellery), Tom Scarcella (light fittings, timber, plastics) and Haeli van Veen (sculpture).

Tools & Techniques Weekend - Sturt School for Wood Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 February 2013, 10am - 4pm
Sturt's biggest annual event has everything for the aspiring or experienced woodworker. In the historic Sturt Wood School, visitors can browse displays and sales by Australia's finest toolmakers, including HNT Gordon Classic Planes, Colen Clenton, Micheal Connor Woodwork, Jim Davey Planes & Sharpening, Japanese Tools, Vesper Tools, and Gifkin's Dovetail Jig. Specialist timber suppliers will be in attendance, together with local Southern Highlands woodworking groups. There will be a daily programme of woodwork demonstrations by some Australia's best fine-furniture makers, including Leon Sadubin and David Upfill-Brown. The programme will feature a special lunchtime garden concert each day at 1pm on the Sturt Cottage verandah presented by local Southern Highlands classical string trio, *The Capricious Consort* (Kjell Goyer, Geoffrey Stewart-Richardson and Maria Dunn). Entry is complimentary, with food and drink available for purchase on site.

Short Courses 2013

Details of Sturt's short courses for next year are on the website. This year's programme includes a wide variety of weekend courses in all craft mediums, plus popular one-day courses for absolute beginners. Also offered: special woodwork courses for women, pottery and jewellery for kids, basketry, tuning and sharpening tools for woodwork, Indonesian wood carving, knitting, project planning, stone setting, soda firing and much more.

Term Classes 2013

Enrolments are now open for term classes in 2013. All 2012 classes are continuing, plus a new daytime class in jewellery/metalwork that will take place on Tuesdays.

Winter School 2013: 1-5 July

Sturt's Winter School provides an opportunity to rug up and become creative. On offer is an inspiring programme which includes clay throwing with Janet de Boos, wild knitting with Loani Prior, etching with Tony Ameneiro, metal forging with Tracy Hopkirk, botanical art with Leonie Norton and much more. The full programme of 15 different courses is on the website and there are accommodation and meals packages as well to provide the perfect artistic holiday.

Sturt School for Wood

The Certificate IV course in Furniture Design & Technology for 2013 is now up and running. Enrolments are open for an individual term of this accredited one-year course, with the opportunity to plan to achieve a Certificate IV over a longer time-frame. Full details of the content of each term can be found on the website. Students enrolling for a term:

- receive relevant course units of competency (subject to satisfactory performance) applicable to the term(s) of study completed towards the Certificate IV qualification;
- receive a statement of attainment for any terms completed at the end of the year;
- are eligible to include work produced at Sturt in the end-of-year student exhibition at Sturt Gallery;
- may apply for Austudy, rent assistance and travel allowance while in full-time education.

Special Woodwork Courses for 2013 - These include a four-week intensive beginners' course with Roy Schack in August and a five-week specialist chair design course with David Uphill-Brown in October.

Sturt Gallery - The Southern Highlands Printmakers return to Sturt Gallery with *Elements* - 10 February to 31 March.

The group was formed in 1993 and, over the years, has built an enviable reputation for quality and innovation with members exhibiting widely: locally, nationally and internationally. Twenty artists will exhibit in this new exhibition with a theme based on the idea of the elements: earth, fire, water and air. However, true to form as creative artists, many have taken this as just a starting point and have further explored both subject matter and mood. Works range from small intimate studies to three-dimensional pieces and encompass the broad spectrum of print media from traditional forms such as etching and linocut to cutting-edge digital techniques.

Exhibiting artists:

Tony Ameneiro, Kathie Atkinson, Judy Benjamin, Geraldine Berkemeir, Betty Bray, Marianne Courtenay, Tony Deigan, Lynne Flemons, Dorothy Freeman, Gill Graham, Janette Hanrahan, Freya Jobbins, Patti Jones, Robyn Kinsela, Kathryn Orton, Alan Purdom, Sandra Shrubbs, Britta Stenmanns, Peter Ward and Slavica Zivkovic.

The exhibition opening will take place on Sunday 10 February at 11am, with Special Guest, Akky van Ogtrop, President of the Print Council of Australia.

Misanthropology -- The World Art of Adam Rish
7 April–19 May

This exhibition tells the story of four decades of cross-cultural collaboration by one of Australia's best-known artists, featuring wooden carvings and sculptures. This touring exhibition will also visit Orange, Moree Plains, Cessnock, Manning and the Gold Coast. Adam will deliver a special workshop in Indonesian wood carving on 13 and 14

April while the exhibition is at Sturt. Full details are available on the Sturt website under Short Course Programme.

Events

Friends of Sturt Annual General Meeting

Sunday 10 February 2013 at 2pm in Sturt Cottage

All FOS members are encouraged to attend the AGM and consider nominating for positions on the FOS Committee. Light refreshments will be served.

FOS Cultural Coach Excursion, Canberra - Thursday 2 May

Leaving from Sturt at 8.30am (Range Road parking area), this excursion will visit Beaver Gallery in Deakin, the Canberra Glassworks in Kingston and Bungendore Woodworks Gallery, leaving by 4pm taking the road through Tarago to Goulburn and on to Mittagong by 5.30pm–6pm. Tickets cost \$30 for members and \$55 for non-members, which includes one year's membership.

Full details of all Sturt courses, exhibitions, residency programmes and events can be found on the website at www.sturt.nsw.edu.au or to make a booking or enrolment call Sturt Shop on 0248 602083 or email shop@sturt.nsw.edu.au

Mr Mark Viner, Head of Sturt

FRENSHAM

Deputy Head

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

The first round of IGSSA Sport will begin this weekend. Year 7 will have internal round-robin matches, and will commence the formal IGSSA competition the following week.

Most extra-subject and co-curricular activities commenced this week. Timetables for Tennis and Music lessons are in the process of being finalised.

Outdoor Education Week is to be held in Week 6 of this term. For girls in Years 7 to 10, OEG will use the information contained in the Frensham medical form and these forms should now be completed. Asthma Management and Allergy Management Forms are available directly from the OEG website (www.oeg.org.au). The username for our section of the site is *frensham* and the pass word is *west*. You can also find information about each of the camps on the site. Equipment lists for Outdoor Education Week are located on page 49 of the Frensham Information Book. Detailed information about the programme for each year group will be included in the next newsletter.

Mr Geoff Marsh, Deputy Head

Boarding News

In her 1918 Birthday Address, Winifred West said:

'The school does not get her power for good by magic; every mistress and girl who comes has her gift for the School.... She who comes keen and eager to help, who gives out the best that is in her, increases the School's power for good, and receives back her gift with interest. Give yourself.'

Had Miss West been present during the past Closed Weekend she would have seen girls eager to help one another in so many different ways: within the Houses, in activities such as mountain biking and swimming and within the routines of the Dining room and Sunday Service!

Activities over the weekend included a dress-up dinner and Trivia Night, Sports Trials, a sausage sizzle for Saturday lunch, craft workshops, swimming, a movie night and the School Service led by Year 12 and, for seniors, lengthy time for private and group study in the Library – both afternoons.

Reminders:

- In an effort to develop girls' independence, we ask parents to avoid dropping off 'forgotten items' during the week or on a Closed Weekend.
- For the safety of students and the School, all girls must be collected from and dropped off at their House.
- All Camp requirements will be needed before Outdoor Education Week. (Three weeks left to prepare.)

Mrs Jayme Rafferty, Head of Boarding

Director of Teaching and Learning

Congratulations to Frensham students on their success in the 2012 inaugural 'Black Parrot' Poetry Competition which was open to all schools in the Southern Highlands in November last year and is coordinated by local published poet Toni Cary:

Year 7/8 Division: Best Poem: Jessica Brooks (Year 8) for *The Cat who wore Berets*; Encouragement Awards: Lucinda Chambers (Year 8) for *Fly and Sadie* Archibald (Year 8) for *Robin Hood's girlfriend*. Year 9/10 Division: Best Poem: Sarah Loveridge for *Poetry*; Encouragement Award: Grace Lavender for *Just another simile*.

Professional Learning at Winifred West Schools 2013

Throughout January WWS Executive, Senior Staff, Coordinators, Gib Gate and Frensham teachers, House staff and Health Centre staff were involved in a professional learning programme with Frank Crawford, an educational consultant from Scotland, who has worked with the School over the past two years.

Frank Crawford has over 40 years' experience working in education and currently works with schools, districts and organisations in different parts of Australia on innovation and future strategy, as well as with groups of schools in

Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe and the United Kingdom. Frank gives keynote addresses, runs staff professional learning sessions and works as a school transformation partner covering topics such as classroom practice, leadership, self-evaluation, futures thinking, student engagement and transforming schools and services. Frank held the post of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland for 15 years. Prior to that, he was a science inspector, a senior manager in a large secondary school and a professional learning leader in Glasgow.

Senior staff from Gib Gate and Frensham worked collaboratively on 'Planning for Change' in three sessions running over Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 January. Frank introduced three effective leadership tools to assist school leaders understand the process of change, how people react to change and how best to go about making changes using a sound plan and measures of success that we developed ourselves. This work followed on from the discussion, planning and drafting of the *2013 WWS Mission Statement, Aims, Themes and Priorities*, completed by the WWS Strategic Learning Team (Julie Gillick, Sally Robson, Geoff Marsh, Kate Chauncy and Janene van Gogh), in video conferences with Frank throughout Tuesday and Wednesday 11 and 12 December 2012.

New staff members joining WWS at Gib Gate and Frensham were welcomed to the School in a variety of formal and informal orientation sessions over a two-day period prior to the commencement of classes. Sessions were conducted by senior staff, including a tour of the three campuses, and Faculty Heads and Mentors were on hand to guide them throughout the two-day programme.

All staff returned on Tuesday 29 January for two sessions entitled *What makes a great teacher?* and *Innovation, creativity and change*. Frank took Gib Gate and Frensham Teaching, House and Health Centre staff through a set of attributes of great teachers and staff then set their priorities for improving their own practices, whilst generating a priority list of issues for improving classroom practice across all staff.

Frank then teased out the relationship among ideas about innovation and creativity in education globally and tied in the work he completed with senior staff and coordinators about leading change.

Staff will continue working towards individual and group goals throughout 2013 and implement change across a wide variety of areas in order to meet the overall aim of continuing to be a world-class school that is *organically and organisationally fit and adaptable to continue to regenerate as a school and be fit to survive and to nurture future generations in ever-changing contexts*.

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

Director of Studies

Students in Years 7-10 have had a confident start to the term and have settled quickly into the routines of boarding, classroom and sport. Study and revision practices being established in Prep will enhance classwork and promote effective strategies for long-term learning.

Year 11 students have commenced their Preliminary HSC programmes of study. All students in Year 11 will study the English Advanced course, with an English Standard course commencing in Term 4 at the start of the HSC year. The Preliminary HSC programme lasts for three terms, at which point the girls confirm their subject choices in preparation for Year 12.

As part of their introduction to senior studies, Year 11 students will attend a meeting to discuss approaches to study, including expected study targets and Prep responsibilities, organisational skills and assessment procedures. Much of this information is available in the Senior Studies Information Booklet that was given to students and parents in Term 3, 2012.

As part of the NSW Board of Studies' requirements, all Year 11 students must complete an online programme called 'HSC: All My Own Work' before they can be enrolled as Preliminary course students. This programme is designed to help HSC students follow the principles and practices of good scholarship and includes understanding and valuing ethical practices when locating and using information as part of their HSC studies. Students will complete this programme by the end of Week 3.

Year 12 students have returned to School with a sense of determination and an understanding of the application and commitment needed to be successful learners. The positive outcomes that will result are earned through hard work, collaboration and the setting of challenging goals. The girls have quickly settled back into appropriate study patterns and their teachers have high expectations of their ability to succeed. Next week they will be given assessment schedules for the term and many students have commenced their major works in Visual Arts, Music, Drama, Design and Technology, History Extension and English Extension 2. As part of their tertiary training, all of Year 12 students will take part in an excursion to Wollongong University on Friday 8 February.

Ms Janene van Gogh, Director of Studies – in Residence

English and Drama

Juicy Writing – Inspiration and techniques for young Writers by Bridget Lowry opens with an invitation. The following is an extract:

'Writing is a joyous act. It is a pleasurable journey into the world of the imagination and the world of ideas. It brings our deep loves and our sorrows into the light and transforms

them, connecting us not only to ourselves but to other human beings. Good writing begins in the heart, with honesty and interesting thoughts, and takes us to places we didn't know we were capable of going. Good writing produces work that is profound... words are important and our stories matter. This book ... invites you to embark on a long mysterious journey for which there is no map... you don't need anything you don't already have: courage, a willing spirit and an enquiring mind. Here every part of you is welcome: your longings, your heartbreak, your flimsy dreams your unique intelligence.'

This encapsulates what the study of English strives to offer Frensham students. As they commence English classes in 2013 no doubt there are various thoughts and emotions present. There is probably a desire to have a map which clearly represents what the journey will entail and how it will end. However, the journey will look quite different for each individual girl and good teaching and learning understands and fosters this process.

While writing is an integral part of this subject, equally important is the world of the imagination, developing an enquiring mind, forming connections and gaining a deeper understanding of the world and the individual's role in shaping a positive future. Year 7 students begin with *The Hero's Journey*, Year 8 with Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, Year 9 with Mystery Genre and Year 10 with Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. In Year 11 Advanced English students begin with the Area of Study: *Journeys*, while Year 12 Advanced and Standard English undertake the Area of Study: *Belonging*.

As the students undertake their English courses, they will be encouraged to produce work which is profound and meaningful. They will develop and refine skills which will assist in their becoming more effective learners and thoughtful, reflective human beings.

Drama

On the evening of 5 February, senior Drama students attended the annual *OnStage* exhibition at the Seymour Centre in Sydney. *OnStage* offers an opportunity for students to view works considered to be exemplary, from the HSC Drama Performance Examinations of 2012. The showcase includes outstanding design projects of set and costume displayed in the foyer, as well as group-devised and solo performances on stage.

Ms Lee McGuinness, Head of English/Drama

French

The text used for studying French in the junior years is *Tapis Volant*. It is accompanied by a CD and an interactive website which allows the girls to listen to authentic French being spoken, as well as completing many varied activities ranging from vocabulary quizzes to grammatical exercises.

In Years 11 and 12, students use the *Tapis Volant* Senior text but are also provided with many recent and authentic resources to prepare them for the HSC. The girls in the Extension class are studying *Jean de Florette* as their literary text.

Over the vacation six students (three from Year 11 and three from Year 9) participated in the 'Antipodeans Abroad' exchange programme, spending five weeks in France and attending schools and staying with host families. Below are a few comments about their experience in the country:

I spent five weeks in Brittany on the west coast of France in a town called Larmor-Plage where I attended a high school with over 2500 students. The school was very different from Frensham, commencing at 8am and finishing at 6pm. It was a challenging but incredible experience. Not only did it improve my French but it also helped build my confidence and gain independence. (Sophie Kooros)

I spent five weeks in France - one week in Paris sightseeing and four weeks in Lyon attending school and staying with a host family. I attended school with my host sister, Alais. The days are long and there are between 35 and 40 students per class - very different from Australia. Overall I found my trip to France to be an amazing and very worthwhile experience. (Mary Lamond)

French exchange was an eye-opening experience and, in my opinion, the most effective way of immersing oneself in the language and culture. I spent five weeks in a small town in the Alps called Chambéry. When on exchange, you think you are not learning but, as I discovered, as you participate in daily life, learning becomes second nature. (Rachel Cossetto)

Madame Liliane Heininger, Teacher of French

Japanese

Students of Japanese have made an enthusiastic start to the year with a variety of topics being studied across the year groups. Year 12 students are following on from work completed over the vacation and preparing for an upcoming Speaking assessment task. Three students from the Year 12 class also enjoyed spending time in Japan during the vacation. Year 11 students have started the Stage 6 course and are embracing the challenges that come with beginning a senior course. Year 10 students have commenced their first topic for the year, 'Holidays', and Years 8 and 9 students of Japanese are commencing the year by learning, respectively, the new Japanese alphabets of hiragana and katakana.

Ms Stephanie French, Teacher of Japanese

Latin

From 21 to 25 January, the 2013 HSC Latin students, Catherine Hall, Hannah Hall and Georgina Whatmore,

attended the 19th Latin Summer School held at the University of Sydney. They all agreed that it was a great success and stimulating to be among others who enjoy Latin. It gave them the opportunity to review what they had learnt so far, gain different perspectives on the texts they are studying (Livy Book 5 and Aeneid Book 12) as well as authors they had not read, and also see the techniques which other students and teachers use when first translating a passage. The girls stayed at St Andrew's College, generously paid for by the Latin Summer School, thus gaining a first-hand idea of what college life will be like. This is now the fifth year that the students entering Year 12 have attended the Latin Summer School and no doubt the tradition will continue.

Related to the study of Latin, there was a most interesting article in the *Sydney Morning Herald's* 'Business Day' section on 28 January entitled 'Business can benefit from students of humanities'. It noted that Gail Kelly, CEO of Westpac Bank, started her working life as a teacher of Latin at Falcon College in Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe. It added that if she were to apply for a prized graduate position at her own bank today, it is more than likely that her Classics degree would not be enough to get her through the door. (Her 'heir apparent', Brian Hartzler, is an historian with a degree from Princeton). The article decried the out-of-date human resource practice of corporate Australia (described as 'conservative and risk averse') in insisting on business backgrounds in their recruits and overlooking Arts graduates. In the financial hubs of New York and London, corporate employers are happy to take on archaeologists, philosophers or even cello players! Google is more enlightened: they will be hiring 6000 people this year, probably 4000-5000 coming from the humanities or liberal arts. The article concluded: 'Business needs people who can understand the world beyond balance sheets and mathematical models.' It is hoped that corporate employers read the article.

Ms Liz Stephenson, Senior Teacher in Latin

Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

Year 12 Geography students are completing work on intertidal wetlands and will be visiting the estuary of the Minnamurra River in Week 3 to see firsthand the processes they have been examining in class. The Year 12 Business Studies class has just commenced the second topic on Marketing, exploring the role of marketing in business and examining strategies used to achieve goals. Year 12 Modern History students are investigating Russia and the Soviet Union, focusing particularly on consolidation of the Bolsheviks as the governing regime.

In Year 11, Business Studies students have commenced the first topic 'The Nature of Business'. As part of this topic they are investigating the various entrepreneurs behind the kikki.K and Boost Juice companies. The Geography class has commenced a unit entitled 'Global Challenges'. In this

unit, students will examine the changes in global population, look at development issues across the globe and examine the nature and use of natural resources. Students of Economics are investigating concepts such as opportunity costs, role of businesses and consumers in the economy in their first unit, 'Introduction to Economics'.

Year 10 Geography students have commenced the study of geographical issues in Australia's environment. In particular, they will examine issues relating to land and water management and to coastal management. Year 10 History students have commenced a unit on the Vietnam War, examining Australia's role in this conflict.

The Year 9 Geography classes have commenced the first unit: 'What Makes Australia Unique?' In the first three weeks they will be concentrating on the physical characteristics of the Australian continent such as landforms, drainage basin, weather and climate. Year 9 History students are examining the developments which occurred in Australian society during the Federation period at the turn of the 20th Century.

In Year 8, Geography students are investigating the process of globalisation and its impact on various countries. History students have as their major theme this year the impacts of colonisation on indigenous communities. They are currently studying the impact on the Aztecs as a result of Spanish colonisation in South America.

In Year 7, the History class has started the introductory unit 'What is History?' Students will be looking at concepts such as archaeology, timelines, historical eras and how historians obtain their information. The Geography class is beginning to look at 'What is Geography?' examining the various aspects of the physical (natural) and built (human) environments. They will also be developing skills in map reading, especially focusing on using latitude and longitude.

Mrs Jacqueline McCarroll, Head of HSIE

Jamieson Programme

The Jamieson Programme began with Jamieson Weekends in 1986 when some of the bequest of Hilda Jamieson was used to buy camping equipment for Frensham. It has expanded since then to become an integral programme in the School, built on the belief that... *'Exposure to challenges, in a secure environment, can awaken in young people a belief in themselves which will stay with them throughout their lives...'* Today this concept is applied to the planning for Closed Weekends, to Jamieson Week (the final week of the school year) and to a core curriculum area across Years 7–10. The essential topics in the programme fall under the focus areas of: Global Citizenship, Responsibility, Service and Leadership, Health, Fitness and Physical Challenge, and Critical, Ethical and Flexible Thinking. During this term, students will be involved in the following aspects of the Jamieson Programme.

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

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

Year 9: The fortnightly Thursday programme commenced last week with the girls participating in a fitness activity in the afternoon session. They were then asked to complete for Prep a set of Fitness Goals, both short-term and long-term, which they hope to achieve this year. In the next session they will be undertaking research prior to the visit in Week 5 to the Auburn Gallipoli Mosque and the Sydney Jewish Museum, as well as participating in a fitness-testing session during the afternoon.

Year 10: Year 10 complete a series of workshops on Financial Literacy and Religious Studies, programmed throughout the year.

Mrs Jacqueline McCarroll, Jamieson Programme Coordinator

Mathematics

The Mathematics teachers are happy to be back in their classrooms, whether working with new students or welcoming back their students from last year and there has already been much excitement. In all classes, students will be active participants in making important decisions about their learning. Giving students choices and making them responsible for their learning helps them connect new ideas to their current understanding and makes Mathematics more applicable in a 'real-life' context.

It is important for Mathematics teachers to help students learn how to think, reflect on their skills, recognise patterns and evaluate the methods they are using. When working with Frank Crawford at the start of term, we were reminded that creativity and reflection in Mathematics are necessary for successful students in the 21st Century. Our classrooms are student-centred environments built on challenges and quick and regular feedback: environments where students are constantly evaluating their methodologies and problem-solving abilities.

'Teachers used to be the repository of all knowledge. But my kids go on Google and get answers in 12 seconds.'

Ms Sue Wymer, Head of Mathematics

Music

The Music Faculty welcomes Ms Flora Benson who teaches classroom music as well as ensembles such as the Glenn Strings, Junior Choir and the String Quartet. Mr Richard Starr is also involved in classroom music, with an emphasis

on his expertise in music technology, as well as the Concert and Jazz Bands. In this our Centenary Year, it is exciting to anticipate the energy and initiatives these new staff members will bring to the music programmes at Frensham.

All Choir and Instrumental Ensemble rehearsals have resumed this week: the Glenn Strings, Kennedy Strings, String Quartet, Percussion Ensemble, Concert Band and Jazz Band. Instrumental Ensembles rehearse on Wednesday afternoons, beginning at 3.50pm with half-an-hour for sectional rehearsals and then the large ensembles reform to rehearse until 5pm. Those students selected for the Jazz Band and Chamber Groups continue until 5.30pm.

There are three choirs at Frensham: the Junior Choir, Senior Choir and Madrigals. The Junior Choir is an inclusive ensemble and all students from Years 7 and 8 are invited to join. Entry into the other choirs is by audition only and new students with an interest in singing have been approached already. It should also be noted that ensemble members are expected to commit to attending rehearsals and performances punctually and consistently all year.

Coordinator of Extra-Curricular Music Lessons, Ms Sabine Madden, has been scheduling students for their lessons beginning this week. Any further requests for enrolment should be sent to Ms Madden's attention this week.

Mr Michael Spencer, Head of Music

Science

Frensham Science students have begun the year with a range of interesting topics. Students in Year 7 are studying 'The Elements of Science' and have started by discussing what a scientist is before moving on to look at how to stay safe in the laboratory. Year 8 students are studying elements, compounds and mixtures as they begin their study of Cosmetic Chemistry. In Year 9 students have revised atoms and molecules before moving on to look at cells and the cell theory as they begin their study of 'Bodily Functions', while Year 10 students have also started with a Chemistry topic and will be performing many experiments in the study of 'Chemical Reactions'.

Two Year 12 students, Lauren Zawal and Sophie Meredith, have returned to School enthusiastic about the study of Science after two weeks at the National Youth Science Forum, Lauren in Canberra and Sophie in Perth. Both girls will soon be sharing their interesting experiences with the rest of the School in Morning Prayers. The following is an excerpt from Sophie Meredith report on the experience:

'NYSF was the best 12 days of my life. Starting from Sydney Airport on Monday 14 January 2013, a group of teenagers including myself set out for Perth, arriving at Currie Hall, our accommodation for the next 12 days. Over the 12 days, we had various lab visits in interest groups, mine being Biomedicine. My visits included Dentistry, CTEC

and the Telethon Institute, among others. We also attended several formal dinners, lectures, interactive workshops and ceremonies. Throughout this programme, I learnt so much about myself and increased my confidence. This was a very worthwhile experience and I would recommend it to students in the years to come.'

Mrs Alison Andrew, Head of Science

PDHPE

Two new staff members have joined the PDHPE Faculty this year. Moving to Frensham from Albury I will be teaching students in Years 7, 9, 10 and 11 and Ms Rachael Peet is teaching Years 8, 9 and 10 and is also a member of staff in Kennedy House. Mrs Jenny Pinczi is back this term teaching Years 7, 8 and 9 until Mrs Jane Crellen resumes her full role in PDHPE Sport from Term 2.

In the NSW curriculum, PDHPE encompasses both theory and practical units of study. In addition to the mandatory Years 7-10 course, students can also choose to continue this subject in Years 11 and 12 (Stage 6) and currently there are 28 girls undertaking Stage 6 PDHPE at Frensham.

This term Years 7-10 students study topics including: summer safety, fundamental movement skills, healthy relationships, gymnastics, net/court games, attitudes to and consequences of drug use and healthy food habits. For practical lessons, all students are reminded that they must have their full PDHPE uniform.

Miss Erin Gray, Head of PDHPE

Sport

Wet Weather Arrangements for Saturday Sport

Owing to the short season for all IGSSA Sports, every attempt is made to play the inter-school matches and 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.

Information concerning play can be found on:

IGSSA WEBSITE: <http://www.ahiqs.nsw.edu.au>

SMS Weather Information: Using your mobile phone, SMS your keyword to **19922767**. Messages cost 55c per message sent. Your keyword is the name of the sport and the first initial of the venue; for example, playing Softball at Frensham, **TEXT 'softball'**. A return SMS will be sent to your phone that gives you the status of your venue - open or closed.

Swimming

Swimming this term is for those swimmers keen to swim at the IGSSA Carnival and also for those who want to improve their fitness. All swimmers who attend the sessions will be following the training programmes of the coaches, Ms Jenny Balla and Miss Erin Gray.

Swim team members have nominated which sessions they would like to attend and they must attend all these for the duration of the season. Those girls who are doing Swimming as their only sport must attend their normal sport time (Seniors - Thursday afternoon, Juniors - Tuesday afternoon) and Saturday mornings as well as one other session. Those who are committed to Swimming as well as Softball or Tennis must attend two sessions each week.

If students would like to do more than the allocated trainings they are welcome to do so, but they will still need to nominate which sessions they would like to attend.

Tuesday and Thursday afternoons - Depart Stanley Street 4.00pm - arrive back at School by 5.30pm.

Wednesday and Friday mornings - Depart Stanley Street 6.10am - arrive back at School before 7.25am.

Saturday morning - Depart Stanley Street 9.50am - arrive back at School by 11.15am.

Swimming Carnival dates:

Monday 4 March: Southern Highlands Carnival

Friday 8 March: IGSSA Swimming Carnival

Softball and Tennis:

Trials for both sports began last term and have continued this term. Girls will know their teams this week to play matches on Saturday. All round matches are played at Frensham (and Gib Gate and Chevalier for Tennis) and finals will be played in Sydney.

Training sessions:

Juniors: Tuesday 4.00–5.30pm, Friday 4.00–5.00pm

Seniors: Thursday 4.00–5.30pm, Friday 5.00–6.00pm

Match times:

Softball: 8.00am, 9.10am, 10.20am.

Tennis: 7.45–9.45am, 9.55–11.55am.

Softball: There are 16 teams entered in the IGSSA Softball competition this season. Miss Fiona Harris will be the coordinator of Softball and is assisted by a number of excellent coaches.

Tennis: Mr Michael Poulos is continuing to direct Tennis at Frensham this term, with a strong team of coaches. Mrs Crellen will be the Coordinator of Tennis and games will be played at Frensham, Chevalier and Gib Gate. Transport arrangements will be made each week for the students playing at venues other than Frensham.

Tildesley Shield: The Tildesley Tennis team was selected in Term 4, 2012 and the team is in the process of being finalised, to account for new students. The competition will again be held at Pennant Hills in Week 8 of Term 1.

Tennis lessons: Extra-curricular Tennis lessons have commenced this week. Girls will attend their lesson on

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. If your daughter would like to start in Term 2, please advise the School in writing.

Gymnastics: The Gymnastics team will be training on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. All training takes place at the Miitagong Rec Centre and the coaches from Club Gymnastics train the students. Students will train throughout the year, with the IGSSA Carnival being held in October.

Mrs Jane Crellen, Head of Sport

Equestrian News

Girls already involved in equestrian events or interested in joining the team attended a meeting last week with Philippa Lawson and Lani Maher, Head and Vice Head of Equestrian. New families joining the School will be added to the Equestrian email group so they receive the messages from the School.

The Interschools Competition will be held from Thursday 28 February to Sunday 3 March at SIEC Horsley Park and entries are now open. The schedule is available on the EA website or via nominate.com.au with the changes to events and regulations. Any girls considering attending should advise the School so that the team can be confirmed and published prior to the event.

To assist with organisation of the volunteer roster, it would be appreciated if parents could send a list of events which have been entered so that the roster can be completed before the competition and submitted to the organisers.

This year the organising committee has requested that all enquiries about results, questions to the committee or organisational matters must come through the School Coordinator (Mrs Trish Symons). Girls are to wear their Frensham helmet covers and Frensham saddle cloths to the event. These are available from the Clothing Pool.

Please contact Mrs Symons if you have any further questions.

Mrs Trish Symons, Equestrian Team Manager, Interschools Competition

Frensham Show Cattle Team

The 2013 Show Cattle Team season has begun with the first show at Berry on Friday 1 February, after just one day back at school. A group of eight steers, one heifer and 11 students travelled to Berry for a very successful day.

With the cattle only having being handled by the junior members of the team for the first time in seven weeks on the previous afternoon, they were a little excited, but with the girls' experience and low-stress handling they were able to settle them quickly.

The day began well with Serena Mackay (Year 10) leading 'N-Bar Bara', an Angus heifer, to 2nd place in a Mixed British Breed Junior Female (16 months and under 20 months) competition. This was the first time Serena had led the heifer who only arrived at Frensham in the last week of the vacation. With a new group of students competing in the Westons Steer Competition, a progressive point score where steer, parader and their knowledge of the steer are judged, it was an exciting yet challenging event. The results were:

1st = Mia Withers (Gazza); 2nd = Sophie Currenti (Gilbert);
3rd = Savannah Kelly (Gene); 4th = Tyler Smith-Mailler (Milo);
5th = Katherine Reid (Ollie); 6th = Camilla Milne (Tucker).

The next event involved the steers being judged, with 'Gene', a Limousin, led by Savannah Kelly gaining 3rd place in the Middleweight Steer Competition and 'Ollie', an Angus steer, led by Katherine Reid winning 2nd place in the Heavyweight Steer Competition.



Mia Withers (Year 8) - Champion Parader at the Berry Show, with *Milo*.

The final events of the day were the Paraders classes which were divided into age groups. Mia Withers (Year 8), won her Junior Paraders event leading 'Gazza', an Angus steer.

The Intermediate class was long but exciting with the students being scrutinised by the Judge for some time as he was finding it difficult to pick places from the group of Paraders in the ring. In the end, Katherine Reid leading 'Ollie' just beat Sophie Currenti, leading 'Gilbert', an Angus steer, with Tyler Smith-Mailler placed 3rd, leading 'Milo' a

Poll Hereford, and Savannah Kelly, with 'Gene', who was placed 4th. All girls are current Year 10 students.

In the Senior Paraders class, Jessica Alker leading 'Gazza', placed first and Annabel Locke, leading 'Goofy', a Poll Hereford, placed second. Old Girl (2011) Georgina Milne competed in the Open Paraders class leading 'Tucker', her sister Camilla's steer, and was placed a commendable third.

These results led to a very interesting Champion Parader event with Mia Withers (Junior) competing against Katherine Reid (Intermediate), Jessica Alker (Senior) and a parader with 20 years' cattle-showing experience representing the Open class. Another very long and tough event finally concluded with Mia Withers winning the Champion Parader, with very positive comments from the Judge.

Tyler Smith-Mailler was awarded the *Schools Encouragement Award* for her continued enthusiasm and efforts in the Show Cattle Team.

The next event is the Nowra Show on Saturday 9 February. With further training and handling all the Frensham cattle should be ready to compete and there will be an opportunity for the new students who have joined the team to participate.

Ms Leonie Harris, Coordinator Show Cattle Team

Visual Arts/Design & Technology

Students from Year 8 to Year 12 have begun their study of Visual Arts with enthusiasm, with outlines of courses explained and ideas for artworks already being formulated as part of specific practical programmes. The theoretical study of art is mandated by syllabi from Stage 4 to 6, and the faculty is committed to the continual provision of challenging and relevant content in this component of the course.

After exploring and developing ideas for a Body of Work in Term 4 of 2012, Year 12 students of Visual Arts are expected to progress to the production phase of the course, executing plans in chosen media. Many students will find that their ideas alter in some way; this evaluation and refinement of direction is part of the creative process. It is important for each student to be committed and connected to their artmaking and not to feel locked into a direction with which they are no longer comfortable. Students have been reminded of the need to use time in a highly purposeful manner; they should be relentless in their aim to make the best Body of Work of which they are capable, and efficient use of time will be of great benefit when striving for this goal.

In response to the phrase 'These are Desperate Times', Year 11 students are exploring socio-political themes of their choosing as the basis for an artwork produced in a specific printmaking medium, such as silkscreen printing, dry-point and zinc-plate etching, block-printing and collagraph printing. We feel that students in Year 11 are at

an age where they can explore significant issues affecting our world and communicate them visually with compassion, sensitivity and insight. At this stage of their Visual Arts education, they are encouraged to test both conceptual and technical boundaries to increase the likelihood of independent and unique results in their work.

In Semester 1, Year 10 students are exploring aesthetic and conceptual possibilities available when juxtaposing imagery. In the early stages of this term, they will produce small studies which are concerned more with applying drawing and painting skills and forming coherent and visually balanced compositions than with conceptual strength and meaning. These small artworks will be exhibited during the Year 10 Parent Weekend.

This semester, we are introducing a new drawing programme for Year 9 students of Visual Arts. The core skill of drawing and its impact upon all modes of visual expression cannot be underestimated. The Faculty believes

that immersing students in drawing practice at the beginning of Stage 5 will increase individual students' confidence in their ability to express ideas and have a very positive 'flow-on' effect for students electing to continue the subject into Stage 6. During the semester, students will participate in a range of drawing exercises and produce four resolved drawings. The Year 8 Visual Arts course is for Term 1 only and focuses on depiction of the landscape. Students will produce drawings, paintings and prints in response to the beautiful natural bushland of the Upper and Lower Holt. During Week 4 of this term, students will spend a half-day in those parts of the School, producing preliminary studies which will be developed into refined, resolved artworks.

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

Mr Phil Alldis
Head of Visual Arts/Design & Technology

STURT GALLERY PRESENTS
elements
southern highlands printmakers

10 February - 31 March 2013

Exhibition opening
Sunday 10 February, 11am
To be opened by **Akky van Ogtrop**,
Art Historian, Curator and the President
of the Print Council of Australia

ALL WELCOME

