

# Newsletter

TERM 1 NO 2

Wednesday 18 February 2015

## of National Significance

STURT  
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STURT

Chris Weaver, 2014

SVEND BAYER  
LES BLAKEBROUGH  
LIZ CHARLES  
PAUL DAVIS  
VICTOR GREENAWAY  
MARTIN HALSTEAD  
CAMPBELL HEGAN  
IAN JONES  
YASUHISA KOHYAMA  
SANDY LOCKWOOD  
YASUO TERADA  
PRUE VENABLES  
CHRIS WEAVER  
KEVIN WHITE  
PATTY WOUTERS

**CERAMICS** then and now  
by artists in the Sturt permanent collection

STURT GALLERY 22 FEBRUARY - 12 APRIL 2015



**FRENSHAM OPENDAY 2015**  
Saturday 28 February from 12.30pm to 4.00pm

FOR PROGRAMME FOR THE DAY GO TO: [www.frensham.nsw.edu.au/openday](http://www.frensham.nsw.edu.au/openday)

Information Forum: 2.15pm at Clubbe Hall

'Boarding Beyond 2015' Ms Julie Gillick – Head of Frensham & Head of Winifred West Schools  
'Jamieson Programme' Mr Geoff Marsh – Deputy Head of Frensham

### The Centenary Pool Opening & Year 7 Parent Weekend Service

Sunday 1 March 2015  
Clubbe Hall ~ 10.00am

To be opened by

**Howard Tanner AM LFRAIA**

### Personalised Learning

Visitors to Open Day next weekend are urged to attend the plenary session at 2.15pm entitled **Boarding Beyond 2015...** where I will speak about our sense of the future in residential education at Frensham. I will also outline our approach to the setting of School goals—our deep consideration of ideas before action—as we embrace 'new thinking' based on latest research. So many of the ideas of those currently leading education debate at a world level—those developed by such as Daniel Pink, Lee Crockett, Frank Crawford, Carol Dweck, Susan Cain, Malcolm Gladwell, John Hattie, Dylan Wiliam and Sir Ken Robinson—confirm what remain cornerstones of the philosophy of education or of life set by Frensham's founders in 1913: collaboration and community, creative and disciplined thinking and a 'growth mindset' about what is possible for students to learn. We speak in earnest about the essential character habits of grit, gratitude and good humour...in a context which values aspiration...

**Beyond 2015**, we remain committed to providing a carefully structured residential programme which promotes the highest ideals of community commitment, connection and service, where quality of safety and wellbeing of every student are uppermost in our planning and embedded in daily routines. Within this context, we are also considering the level of flexibility required to meet the personalised learning needs of those for whom specialised planning is essential to their achievement at the highest possible level. Just as acceleration and enrichment are provided for gifted students in all areas of the academic curriculum, we continue to explore possibilities to improve our support of advanced athletes, sportswomen and musicians involved in the School's extra-curricular activities, where excellence may be contingent upon provision of complex programmes, requiring external input or a creative approach to training or practice.

### Ahead:

I look forward to meeting over the next week: all able to attend the important Exhibition Opening this Sunday at Sturt; those attending Frensham's Open Day and Welcome Dinner for new students (Gib Gate and Frensham) next weekend; guests for the Year 7 Service and Official Opening of The Centenary Pool; and, I will be seeing some of our long-distance boarder families, for part of the Annual Conference of the Isolated Children's Parents Association (ICPA) in Broken Hill (2-4 March, 2015).

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

## Parent / Community News

| Frensham Advisory Committee 2015 |                             | Gib Gate Advisory Committee 2015 |  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Mrs Pip Crichton                 | pipcrichton@bigpond.com     | Mrs Rachel Arnott (Chair)        | rachelkarnott@gmail.com                |
| Mrs Helen Gooden                 | jwhgooden@bigpond.com       | Mrs Caroline Atra                | caroline.atra@me.com                   |
| Mrs Katrina Graves               | graves@jkg.net.au           | Dr Guy Bashford                  | guy.bashford@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au |
| Mr John Hayes                    | hayes.it@bigpond.com        | Mrs Holly de Manincor            | hollydemanincor@hotmail.com            |
| Mrs Sam Hickson (Sec)            | shickson@bigpond.com        | Mr Gil Downes                    | gil.downes@neerim.net.au               |
| Mr Gavin Martin                  | gavin.martin@ap.jll.com     | Mr Stephen Grant                 | on Leave                               |
| Mrs Judy Newton                  | judynewton5@bigpond.com     | Mrs Sarah Lewis (Sec)            | sarahlew@me.com                        |
| Mr Sam Paradise                  | sam.paradice@rbsmorgans.com | Mrs Corina Nesci                 | corina@ipxplode.com                    |
| Mr John Penton (Chair)           | jbpenton@tpg.com.au         | Mrs Helen Pernice                | dandhpernice@bigpond.com               |
| Mrs Tina Scales                  | t.scales@bigpond.com        | Mrs Zoe Suttie                   | zoeandrobert@bigpond.com               |
| Mrs Melody Talbot                | melody@talbotnet.com        | (Chair of FOGG)                  |  |

| TERM DATES 2015 ~ Gib Gate & Frensham   | 2015 PARENT WEEKENDS ~ Ahead<br>(NB: all students to attend)   |
|---|--|
| <b>Term 1</b><br>Thursday 29 January – Wednesday 1 April, 3pm   | <b>Year 7</b> Saturday 28 February-Sunday 1 March<br>Frensham Open Day ~ Saturday 28 February  |
| <b>Term 2</b><br>Monday 20 April-Thursday 18 June, 3pm<br><i>Year 10 Work Experience ends Friday 19 June</i><br><i>Boarders return on the evening of Sunday 19 April</i>  | <b>Year 10</b> Saturday 21-Sunday 22 March   |
| <b>Term 3</b><br>Tuesday 14 July-Thursday 17 September 3pm<br><i>Boarders return on the evening of Monday 13 July</i>   | <b>Year 8</b> Saturday 9-Sunday 10 May   |
| <b>Term 4</b><br>Gib Gate: Tuesday 6 October-Friday 4 December 3pm<br>Frensham: Tuesday 6 October-Sunday 6 December 12.30pm (after 11am Carol Service)<br><i>Boarders return on the evening of Monday 5 October</i> | <b>Year 12</b> Saturday 30 -Sunday 31 May<br>WWS 102 <sup>nd</sup> Birthday Friday 29 May  |
|   | <b>Year 11</b> Saturday 1-Sunday 2 August<br>Saturday 1 August – Year 10 Senior Studies (with parents)   |
|   | <b>Year 9</b> Saturday 22-Sunday 23 August   |
|   | <b>Ranier Uniform Shop</b><br>All fittings for uniforms are by appointment.<br>Mondays and Thursdays 12noon-5.00pm<br>Shop Manager: Mrs Michelle Wynn<br>To order goods, please call the Shop: (02) 4860 2136 [BH]<br>or email: <a href="mailto:frensham@ranier.com.au">frensham@ranier.com.au</a> |

## WWS FOUNDATION News



**Opening of The Centenary Pool**  
**Sunday 1 March 2015, 10.00am, Clubbe Hall**  
 To be opened by **Howard Tanner AM LFRAIA**

**The Centenary Pool**  
 Range Road, Mittagong  
 +61 2 4872 3672  
[frensham@aquabliss.com.au](mailto:frensham@aquabliss.com.au)



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)

The Years 3-6 Swimming Carnival held on Friday 13 February, the first carnival to be held in The Centenary Pool, was a most enjoyable event. It was reassuring to know that regardless of weather conditions, the carnival would proceed as planned. Thank you to all parents who assisted staff on the day with timing of the races and placings. Meticulous planning and organisation by Mr Standen, ensured the carnival ran smoothly and ahead of time, allowing all to enjoy a relaxing lunch break on the veranda in the afternoon. I offer my thanks and appreciation to Gib Gate staff for their support on the day, supervising students, assisting with events and recording.



Parent Information Nights, held last week for Preschool to Year 5 highlighted the exciting learning which will be happening in classrooms this year. Many parents enjoyed the opportunity to participate in some fun classroom experiences and students were eager to know from their teachers the next morning how their parents participated in activities such as: maths warm-ups, 'lay it in the line' opinion sharing and literature circle poster making. As one parent noted at the end of the evening, the experiences gave them an insight into the hands-on focus on learning at Gib Gate and they appreciated the time teachers take to programme such active and enjoyable learning for students. The Year 6 Parent Information Evening, postponed to Thursday 19 February, offers parents of our most senior students, the important opportunity to be involved in, and informed about, what lies ahead for those in their last year of primary school.

### Ms Sally Robson, Head of Gib Gate

#### Curriculum Highlights 2015

From mammals to micro-organisms...what will your child be learning at school this term in Science and Technology?

Teachers are implementing the new NSW BOSTES Science and Technology K-6 Syllabus at Gib Gate throughout 2015 and they have designed units of work for each class which reflect syllabus outcomes and which will appeal to the young scientists in each year group.

The most important aim of the syllabus is for students to learn 'like scientists': to ask interesting questions and develop creative solutions to important 21<sup>st</sup> century problems; and to develop their curiosity and understanding about the Natural Environment and the Made Environment through learning about the Physical World, Earth and Space, the Living World, the Material World, Built Environments, Information and Products. Students learn about the influence and relevance of science and technology in their lives now and in the future.

In Term 1 each class from K-6 will be focusing their learning in the 'Living World' (Biology) strand and thus feature many 'hands-on' activities including close observation of creatures great and small:

Kindergarten: 'Staying Alive' students will investigate the needs of their guinea pig class pets 'Ig' and 'Big', and compare them to their own needs.

Year 1: 'Schoolyard Safari' takes the children's investigations outside into the school environment to find the wide variety of animals which reside with us. They will develop their understanding of how unique features help a range of living things to survive in their habitat. This will include close observation of earthworms and snails.

Year 2: Students will 'Watch it Grow' by exploring the processes of growth and change through close observation of the life cycle of meal worms.

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Year 3: Scientists are investigating 'Feathers, Fur or Leaves?' and will learn to classify plants and animals according to their observable features.

Year 4: Children will complete an in-depth study of the stages of a plant's life cycle and provides opportunities for students to explore and make connections about relationships which exist between plants and animals.

Year 5: A feature of this programme is the development of skills to undertake an Open-Ended Investigation in small groups and independently. Throughout their investigations, students will maintain written scientific journals and use technology to research and record their data. Students will share their investigations with the school community at the Gib Gate Science Fair in August.

Year 6: Throughout the 'Marvellous Micro-Organisms' unit, students will learn about the discovery of these living things and will explore different types in terms of their feeding, growth and reproduction. Students will also investigate what makes micro-organisms successful survivors and the important role they play in food production and in medicine around the world.

Parents are invited to view the BOSTES Parents' Guide to the New NSW Syllabuses:

<http://syllabus.bos.nsw.edu.au/support-materials/parents-guide/> for further information about what children learn at school through the implementation of the new syllabus documents which now includes English, Mathematics and Science and Technology K-6.

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

### Extra-Curricular Activities

There are still spaces available in ArtQuest on Wednesday and Ceramic Sea Creatures on Thursday. Please contact Mrs Graham if you are interested in your child joining these groups.

### OEG Adventure Days

Years 3 and 4 have their Adventure Day on Monday 23 February. Students have had a briefing with OEG staff this week and are excited about the new challenges ahead.

### Music Tuition

Please contact Mrs Graham if you are interested in your child learning to play the violin, trumpet or drums.

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

### Sport

#### Basketball

We wish the following children every success as they trial for IPSHA Basketball representation this week: Grace Mackenzie and Isabelle Promnitz (Year 6), Lily Veleba (Year 5). We also congratulate Lily on her selection in the Moss Vale and District Under 12 representative team.

#### Soccer

Congratulations to Thomas Lalak and George Penn (Year 6) on their selection into the Highlands Football Club Under 12 representative team.

#### Winter Sports

Notes were sent to all Gib Gate families last week asking children to nominate their winter sports team selections. Hockey, Netball and Soccer are offered as the winter team choices. Selections need to be finalised over the next two weeks, with trainings and games in all these sports to commence before the end of Term 1.

#### Skiing

Families who are interested in their child participating in the Northern NSW Region Interschools Snowsports Championships to be held at Perisher from Wednesday 1 to Saturday 4 July 2015, are asked to contact Mr Standen. All ability levels are encouraged to enter, with an emphasis on fun and participation, particularly in the initial regional competitions.

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

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## Preschool

### Reception

After reading Preschool Questionnaires, it became apparent that a number of Preschool families have been to the beach during the summer vacation. As a 'tuning-in' activity, children carefully observed a photo of the beach. They brainstormed things we either see or do when we are at the beach. These are the children's responses: *Waves, crabs, flying a kite, swimming, bucket and spades, beach houses, holidays.*

The purpose of 'tuning-in' activities is to engage children in the topic and also to provide opportunities for them to share what they already know and believe. We look forward to making many beach discoveries over the coming weeks.

### Transition

Wonders of the World: A great deal of importance is placed on inquiry-based learning in the Preschool at Gib Gate. Children are viewed as already being competent and they are capable of building their own theories about the world around them. Inquiry-based learning means that we are recognising the children's ability to drive their own learning. We place student questions and ideas at the centre of the learning process. Students are encouraged to ask questions and then investigate their own queries about the world. These are some of the children's wonderings about the world:

Phoebe McLaughlin: *'I want to learn more about the circus. How do the animals learn to do all the tricks?'*

Cameron Thornley: *'I want to learn about how you make water. I know ice melts when it gets hot. I mostly want to learn about the salty water in the sea. Where does the salt come from? I think when the fish are salty, all the salt washes off and goes into the sea and makes it salty.'*

James Moylan: *'I want to learn more about space and the moon. I know you jump on the moon – that's how you walk.'*

Students carefully observed a picture of the moon and were asked to brainstorm as many things as possible connected with space. These brainstormed words included: Saturn, moon, moon stones, astronauts, spaceship, Neptune, Earth, stars, shooting star.

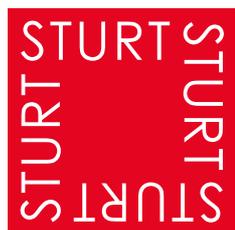
Students were asked, why do astronauts 'jump' on the moon? Responses included:

Aiden Woolley: *'I think it has to do with oxygen.'*

Cameron Thornley: *'There is no gravity. That means there is just strong air and you can't get down.'*

Xavier Kennedy: *'The suits they are wearing are pretty bouncy.'*

### Ms Kelly Lees, Preschool Teacher



## STURT News

### FRIENDS OF STURT

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

### Special News

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

**Opening Hours:** 10am to 4pm Wednesday to Sunday

### Tools & Techniques Weekend

Sturt's Tools and Techniques weekend (14-15 February) was highly successful with over 1400 people visiting to enjoy woodwork demonstrations and tool displays and sales. Wood School students raised over \$700 at the barbecue, which will contribute towards the costs of the end-of-year exhibition and Friends of Sturt raised over \$400 on the bric-a-brac stall.



### Virginia Kaiser Exhibition goes to Broken Hill

Sturt's 2014 exhibition on the work of basket weaver, Virginia Kaiser, will shortly be travelling to Broken Hill, Virginia's home town for the last years of her life. The exhibition will be on display at the Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery from 28 February to 12 April.

### Propose an exhibition for 2016

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

### **Sturt School for Wood 2016**

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

### **Winter School 2015**

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



### **Sturt Artists-in-Residence 2015**

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



### **Short Courses**

The 2015 short course programme is now available online. New course options will be available, including interacting with technology in the new Design and Fabrication workshops. [www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/education/short-courses](http://www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/education/short-courses)

### **Sturt Gallery**

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

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

### **Events**

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

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

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

**Mr Mark Viner, Head of Sturt**

## Deputy Head

Preparations for Outdoor Education Week and Senior Studies Seminars have now been finalised.

Parents of girls in Years 7-10 should have already completed the Medical Form and an outline of the programme has been included with this Newsletter. OEG [Outdoor Education Group] has briefed students about each camp and girls should be in the process of collecting the equipment and clothing they need for the week.

Parents of girls in Year 12 should have completed the permission slip for their overnight trip to Canberra

Staff have been briefed and are busily preparing for their camps or seminar programmes.

Information and departure times for each year group are included below. Day Boarders who are off campus on Thursday will be back at school by 5.30pm and can be collected from their Boarding House. Normal classes will commence on Friday 6 March

Students on the Years 9 and 10 camps are required to make their own meal plan and purchase their food for the trip. This is part of the requirement for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. These girls have now been briefed on the process and shopping for their camps will take place during the Open Day weekend.

| Tuesday 3 March |           |                |              |                |                                    |
|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Year            | Breakfast | Meeting Area   | Meeting Time | Departure Time | Approximate Return Times – 5 March |
| 7               | 7:00am    | Pavilion       | 8:00am       | 9:30am         | 3:30pm                             |
| 8               | 7:00am    | Gymnasium      | 8:00am       | 9:00am         | 4:00pm                             |
| 9               | 7:15am    | Front Lawn     | 7:45am       | 8:00am         | 4:00pm                             |
| 10              | 7:30am    | Cooper Hall    | 8:15am       | 8:45am         | 3:30pm                             |
| 11              | 7:30am    | Drama studio   | 8:30am       | NA             | 6:00pm                             |
| 12              | 6:45am    | Stanley Street | 7:30am       | 7.45am         | 3:00pm                             |

## Mr Geoff Marsh, Deputy Head

### Boarding News

A full weekend programme of activities is part of Boarding life at Frensham. Movie night, Water Aerobics, Jamberoo Water Park, Valentine's Crack Dinner, Ville Trips, Recreational swimming and Bounce Out were some of the activities offered to girls recently. Many students enjoy having the opportunity to spend Saturday and Sunday afternoons in The Centenary Pool with friends, participating in a wide range of water activities.

'Bounce Out' in Moss Vale was hugely popular last Sunday, with girls having exclusive admission to the centre for an hour and a half.

As noted in the Parent Information booklet, weekend travel to and from Sydney must be booked by the student on the appropriate sheets at White Cottage. If students are not booked on the Sydney bus by Thursday 1.00pm, we may not be able to accommodate a late request, owing to limited seating. Please see page 24 of the Parent Information Booklet, available on Schoolbox, for further details.

## Mrs Amanda Wansey, Acting Head of Boarding

### Director of Teaching and Learning

#### Pen & Ink News

Pen & Inkers met for their first time in 2015 on Tuesday 3 February welcoming new members from Years 9-12 and Ms Stephanie Goulter to the group. Heads of Pen & Ink, Rebecca Power and Sarah Loveridge, organised a number of creative writing activities to 'warm up' the creative thinking processes and the 'musical writing' proved to be a favourite. Members were excited to hear that \$800 was raised from the sale of the 2014 'green' edition of Pen & Ink and this money will now be donated to RAW Impact - a non-profit organisation whose major aim is: *Raising Awareness Worldwide for lasting social Impact by*

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*creating powerful change through sustainable projects in Cambodia.*

At the next meeting of Pen & Ink – scheduled for Tuesday 24 March, the group will celebrate World Poetry Day. This is a time to appreciate and support poets and poetry around the world. It is held on or around 21 March each year and is an initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). Our young poets will be invited to come to the meeting to read and share their original work with each other or to bring a favourite poem to recite during the evening. This will be one way members can begin to share ideas and draft their 2015 entry for the annual Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Competition which is open between 1 March and 30 June. The theme for this year is 'The Open Door'. This competition is another way for young writers to find their 'voice' and to strive for creative excellence in literature.

The group is eagerly anticipating the first Term 2 meeting on Tuesday 21 April when Anna Maria Dell'oso, a well-known Australian writer, journalist and critic will conduct writing workshops with Frensham students in Years 11 and 12 in two afternoon sessions from 4.00pm to 5.00pm and 5.00pm to 6.00pm and with Pen & Inkers from 6:30pm.

Her acclaimed book, *Songs of the Suitcase* (Harper Collins) won the Steele Rudd Award. Ms Dell'oso's fiction has been published in many anthologies and reviews including *Meanjin* and the *Griffith Review*. Her first book was *Cats, Cradles & Chamomile Tea*, a collection from her popular column in the Sydney Morning Herald's, *Good Weekend*. The author currently divides her time between teaching and writing fiction and has recently been awarded a Breaking New Ground Grant by the Literature Board of the Australia Council. Ms Dell'oso teaches creative writing at Sydney University's Centre for Continuing Education and at the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies. She founded Triple-I (Ideas In Ink), a writing group and social network for young women in the inner-west of Sydney.

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

#### **Director of Studies**

Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) has been created as a new authority in NSW for standards in curriculum, student assessment and teacher quality.

Last week, students in Year 11 were given an overview of the requirements for Preliminary Course Assessment, based on BOSTES guidelines. This includes information about completing and submitting assessments, illness/misadventure procedures and ethical behaviour in Assessment Tasks. This information can be found in the Senior Studies Handbook provided to students in hard copy in 2014 and is also available on Schoolbox. They have already received the Preliminary Course Assessment calendar allowing them to plan and prepare for formal assessments during the term.

For Year 11 students entering Stage 6, the final stage of secondary schooling, undertaking Preliminary courses for the HSC presents a new and different challenge. Having chosen the programme of study which best suits their learning profiles and tertiary aspirations, they now need to become more independent learners. For the first time, they will have scheduled study periods during the school day and it is essential that they use these wisely. Success in study depends not only on aptitude and hard work, but also on effective study techniques. Teachers, form tutors and mentors will guide and support students in developing efficient study plans and timetables.

The Record of School Achievement (RoSA) is provided by the BOSTES to students who leave school before completing the HSC, as a summary of their progress from Years 7-10. All students are required to study courses in each year in Years 7-10 in English, Mathematics, Science, Human Society and its Environment and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education. At some time during Years 7-10, students are also required to study courses in Creative Arts, Technology and Applied Studies and Languages. The RoSA records are now also delivered as part of students' final results at the end of Year 12.

Junior Assessment calendars (Years 9 and 10) for Term 1 have been posted on Schoolbox for ease of access and Form Tutors will ensure students are aware of task dates. Years 7 and 8 calendars will be finalised this week. The purpose of the School Assessment is to provide an indication of achievement in a wider range of syllabus objectives than can be measured by an examination alone. Course assessment programmes allow due weight to be given during a course to student achievement which, although evident to the class teacher, may not be adequately assessed in external examinations alone. Therefore, assessment covers both examination and non-examination objectives. Assessment is used to provide diagnostic information for teachers, to provide feedback to students and to report to parents.

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

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## English and Drama

### English

*O how blessed it would be never to marry, or grow old; but to spend one's life innocently and indifferently among the trees and rivers which alone can keep one cool and childlike in the midst of the troubles of the world!* Virginia Woolf

Year 12 Advanced English are currently studying Virginia Woolf's, *Mrs Dalloway*, which is the first of two texts they will explore in the HSC Module A. In this module, students compare texts in order to develop their understanding of the effects of context, purpose and audience on the shaping of meaning. Through exploring the intertextual connections between a pair of texts, students examine the ways in which different social, cultural and historical contexts impact on both composition and concepts. To enhance their understanding of the world of *Mrs Dalloway* and Virginia Woolf, they have been directed to consider issues such as: the impact of WWI and its aftermath, the significant political changes which were emerging, the modernist movement and the changing role of women. Once they have grasped the context of the novel to deepen their understanding, they will reflect on questions as follows:

How much of our identity is defined by our gender? How do artists create/challenge/present the 'truth'? Why does choice create individual conflict?

Once they have addressed these ideas in *Mrs Dalloway*, they will then explore how the text is connected to Stephen Daldry's, *The Hours* conceptually and then they will evaluate how a very different form and context offers different views and perceptions

In Year 8 English this term, students are enjoying an 'Introduction to Shakespeare' unit. As an introductory activity, we have explored how much we already know about Shakespeare...without knowing it. What do you think you already know about Shakespeare and his work?

Did you know that if you have ever referred to speaking 'the Queen's English' that you are quoting Shakespeare? When you are in a 'pickle' and find yourself 'tongue tied', you may ask for 'fair play' without realising you are quoting Shakespeare. Students are excited to learn that far from being 'dead', Shakespeare's work is still used and interpreted. We are thankful for *Hamlet* as from that we have *The Lion King*, excited that *The Taming of The Shrew* resulted in *10 Things I Hate About You* and inspired by the numerous modern productions of *Romeo and Juliet*. We are exploring comedy as we study *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and finding that some things are universally funny and ageless.

Students have produced some exceptional representations of Shakespeare, his work and his life which adorn the English classrooms in time for the up-coming Open Day. We look forward to welcoming you to the classrooms as we invite you to take part in an interactive Shakespeare class of 'Shakespearean Insults' and to see the variety of posters, booklets and presentations produced by students.

'Too much of a good thing?' Yes, that was Shakespeare, too.

### Drama

On the evening of 9 February, senior Drama students attended the annual *OnStage* exhibition at the Seymour Centre in Sydney. *OnStage* offers students a unique opportunity to view works, considered to be exemplary, from the HSC Drama Examinations. The showcase includes outstanding projects of design and critical analysis displayed in the foyer, as well as group-devised and solo performances live on stage. Students' comments below confirm the visit was extremely worthwhile:

- 'OnStage was incredible. The variety of pieces allowed so many possibilities for humorous, meaningful and thought-provoking moments. The standout performance for me was 'Backtrack', which incorporated just three plastic crates, lighting and acting to reproduce the railway crash at Granville. The students used different perspectives and stories to combine into a whole event'. Stephanie Markerink (Year 11)
- 'OnStage was a once-in-a-lifetime experience and I am so grateful for the opportunity. There were the most extraordinary and breathtaking performances as well as amazing design projects. These two elements combined enabled me to see the work of some very talented people. The atmosphere in the foyer and theatre was incredible because of all the talent in the room'. Olivia King (Year 11)

### Acting Intensive

Once a week, Year 10 meet with Ms Shannon for a 25-minute Acting Intensive workshop. This term they are focusing on Realism and the skills required for an actor to make their action on stage as real as possible for the audience. A range of scripts, situations and characters will be explored to help students identify and understand the methodology that is taught in the world's leading Drama schools.

**Ms Lee McGuinness, Head of English/Drama**

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## French

There are many new students to Frensham who have enjoyed differing levels of prior exposure to French language and culture, ranging from little or no exposure to native speakers. For those who encounter French for the first time, we hope to ignite a lifelong passion for all things French. Some students have already visited France and have discovered how much more enjoyable their trip would have been if they could have conversed in the language. Regardless of the current level of language, we endeavour to meet and satisfy all students' disparate needs in a fun, highly structured, stimulating and educationally-sound manner which will extend and enrich their knowledge and experience.

A multitude of resources, methods, games and exercises are used in each lesson: it is rare to spend more than 20 minutes on any single activity and all students have access at all times to extension or consolidation materials, as required. We use, or have available, French textbooks, novels, magazines, comics, pictures, maps, CDs, tapes, DVDs, videos, YouTube clips, online activities, French TV, recording devices, broadcasts.

*...there is always something to inspire and motivate every learner, whatever her linguistic background, and we trust that we are catering to every student's needs...*

This week, we welcomed the return of French *assistante*, Madame Annie Chabert-Mackay. Her authentic speaking style and wealth of teaching experience contribute to enhancing the accents and oral fluency of students from Years 7 to 12 Extension. She has a full timetable each Monday and spends the day – either *tête-à-tête* with senior girls or with small groups of 3-4 juniors – working through techniques for self-expression in the spoken language.

It is essential that students have opportunities to hone their oral skills in order to develop the ability to express oneself fluently in a wide variety of contexts and situations, as well as being able to write grammatically correct written language. Madame Chabert's reinforcement of this skill is greatly appreciated by all.

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

### Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

On 14 February around the year 278AD, Valentine, a holy priest in Rome in the days of Emperor Claudius II, was executed. Under the rule of Claudius the Cruel, Rome was involved in many bloody and unpopular campaigns. The emperor was experiencing difficulty recruiting men because they were missing their wives and loved ones. To remove this problem, he banned all marriages and engagements in Rome. Valentine, realising the injustice of the decree, continued to marry young people in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be executed. The sentence was carried out on 14 February. Legend has it, that whilst in jail, Valentine became quite friendly with the jailer's daughter. He left a farewell note for her, signing off '*From your Valentine*'.

Linking current day holidays and news items is important when discussing with students the relevance of curriculum. Understanding that the past influences the future is a key concept in HSIE, both in History and in Geography.

HSIE students have immersed themselves in the following areas of learning:

#### Year 12 Business Studies

All students in this class have an iPhone, so it seemed fitting to design an assessment task where students can assess the effectiveness of Apple's marketing strategies of iPhones, in relation to achieving its marketing objectives of increased market share and increased online sales.

#### Year 12 Economics

Students recently participated in a class seminar on Australia's balance of payments which required them to deconstruct the balance of payments components and explain cyclical and structural influences. This allowed students to practise their skills in interpreting data and also, analyse the reasons for the fluctuations in Australia's economic fundamentals in the areas of trade and financial flows.

Year 12 Geography: Students are completing work on intertidal wetlands during their fieldwork in Week 3 and will be visiting Homebush Bay to see firsthand the processes they have been examining in class.

Year 11 Economics: Students have been investigating the business cycle and learning how to read economic data and charts accurately. In particular, students have focused on what occurs when an economy slips into economic downturn or even recession, and how governments, business and consumers can stimulate economic growth and an economic recovery. Events such as the Great Depression and the Global Financial Crisis have been used as case studies for learning.

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### Stages 4 and 5:

Year 7 World Studies: Students have commenced work on their assessment task which examines World Heritage Sites and their significance. Students are to investigate current and future threats to their site and a multimedia presentation will be prepared following this research.

Years 8, 9 and 10 History students are investigating the Medieval World, the Industrial Revolution and Rights and Freedoms, respectively.

Geography students across Years 7-10 have begun a variety of units including Geographical Issues in Australia, What Makes Australia Unique, What is Geography and Global Inequalities.

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

#### **Jamieson Programme**

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

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

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

Year 7: In Frensham Studies, students are continuing to learn about the history and philosophy of the School, especially relating to changes which have occurred over the past 100 years.

Year 8: Riding for the Disabled commenced last week at Sutton Forest and the girls enjoyed helping other young people of their own age to experience being on a horse's back. Throughout Terms 2-4 girls will have the opportunity to be involved in Farm Management, which involves assisting in the general management of the School farm. Ms Harris will provide the roster.

Year 9: In the afternoon session of Thursday Week 3, students undertook a series of fitness activities including the 'beep' test, standing long jump and 'The Plank' facilitated by Mr Nash. Their results were recorded and will be used as benchmarks for testing throughout the year.

The evening session involved a presentation by Dr Kathleen Bokey on physical, social and mental wellbeing and the importance of eating well to maintain overall health and a positive body image. Over the next two weeks, students will be preparing for a visit to the Sydney Jewish Museum and the Auburn Gallipoli Mosque in Week 5 as part of a unit on 'World Religions'. This excursion will leave at 8.00am and return at approximately 5.00pm.

The Cambridge IGCSE '*Global Perspectives*' course has started in earnest, with a focus on building students' research and collaboration skills. The girls have completed a pre-test, designed by Dr Burg, on the range of skills they will be tested on in November. Students are being asked to choose a topic they would like to research as part of their first individual project. The first 'checkpoint' for *Individual Research Project No 1* was Tuesday 17 February.

Year 10: Visits to Nursing Homes commenced in Week 3 and many students are continuing to visit the nursing-home residents with whom they built relationships last year. On Tuesday afternoons, senior Holting students are working in the Lower Holt to remove introduced plants from the area around the Amphitheatre and the Centenary Trail. Several Year 10 students are also involved as coaches for junior sporting teams. Students may use these activities to fulfil their commitments for community service for the Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

### **Mr Paul Nash, Jamieson Programme Coordinator**

#### **Mathematics**

A group of 36 girls attended the first Maths Club evening, with Annabelle Carter and Olivia Battcock, preparing a group activity involving a mathematical scavenger hunt. Attendee were divided into four groups with members from each year group represented. The aim was to solve mathematical puzzles which then aided them in finding hidden clues to solve each subsequent puzzle. It was an energetic evening where all students contributed to each puzzle's solution.

#### Online Resources:

- All of Year 7 and Year 8 now have a Mathletics account to access a range of adaptive practice activities, aligned to the new National Curriculum. Each strand, topic, domain or learning outcome is supported with activities, pre and post testing.

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- Each student in Years 9-12 has been provided with either a Maths Online account or a HOTmaths account. Maths Online provides pre-recorded lessons that allow students to pause, rewind and repeat all or part of any lesson and work at their own pace. They are able to complete worksheets and interactive questions to test their understanding. Given that mathematics concepts build upon each other, sometimes it is necessary to go back and revise a particular concept before moving on to a new topic, Maths Online can help with revising concepts previously studied as all students have access to the entire K-12 Syllabus.

Cambridge *HOTmaths* is a comprehensive mathematics learning system - an interactive online maths learning, teaching and assessment resource for students and teachers, for individuals or whole classes, for school and at home. It contains a suite of flexible resources (printable and online) which are provided for all types of classrooms ranging from those with no technology to full laptop access.

*'Mathematics expresses values that reflect the cosmos, including orderliness, balance, harmony, logic, and abstract beauty.'*  
[Deepak Chopra]

### **Ms Sue Wymer, Head of Mathematics**

#### **Music**

Preparations are underway for Open Day and the Years 7 and 10 Parent Weekends: Frensham Ensembles such as the Kennedy Strings, Senior Choir and Madrigals always present workshop performances at Open Day; and individual musicians are involved by means of 'Open Door Practice Sessions' on their instruments in the Music Centre as well as Café performances from the Science & Technology Centre's Balcony.

Parents of Senior Choir members are reminded that the Choir will be singing at the Year 10 Confirmation Service on Saturday 21 March. Students are required to wear formal uniform (with blazer and hat) and should arrive at St Stephen's Anglican Church, Mittagong by 1.30pm to allow for a rehearsal of the Anthem. The service will finish at approximately 3.30pm.

### **Mr Michael Spencer, Head of Music**

#### **Science**

Frederica Romijn, Year 12, represented Frensham at the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) in Canberra in January. The following is a report written by Frederica about her experience:

'For two weeks of the Christmas vacation, I was fortunate to attend the 2015 National Youth Science Forum. Two hundred students and 22 staff were accommodated in Burgmann College on the ANU campus. The students were from all parts of Australia as well as international students from Zimbabwe, South Africa, Brazil and New Zealand. During some of the evenings, the international students gave presentations on their lives and their countries. For many students, this was the first visit to Canberra, so we visited many well-known sites in the capital, including: the National Portrait Gallery, the Royal Australian Mint, Parliament House (where the Forum opening ceremony was held), ADFA, Questacon and the AIS (where the Science Dinner was held).

During my time at NYSF we were privileged to listen to some extremely accomplished scientists and entrepreneurs. I was given the opportunity to introduce one of the lecturers, Associate Professor Andrea Morello, electrical engineer and quantum physicist. The many speakers' research and ventures which we heard about were extremely impressive and inspiring.

During lab visits my group made ice-cream with liquid nitrogen, fluorescent 'goo', crystals and blueprints. We used lasers, radioisotopes, considered genetically modified cotton and wheat and we conducted real DNA testing to solve a crime.

On Partners' Day, we learnt a great deal about many universities in Australia and throughout the session we had short lectures to assist with meeting the challenges of Year 12 and the next step... (eg applying to University).

All students were challenged and were encouraged to answer and ask provocative questions. It was a wonderful experience to be surrounded by so many students passionate about science. The leisure activities such as swing dancing, a disco, a pool visit and a concert encouraged the group to become more cohesive. Later in the year, we are given an opportunity to reconnect with those whom we met at the Forum during the Next Step and International Programmes.

Overall, I found the Forum extremely beneficial in finding motivation for Year 12 and the future. I highly recommend the programme to any student who is interested in Science. 'Frederica Romijn

Applications for the 2016 NYSF programme open on 1 March 2015. Applications are made online at [www.nysf.edu.au](http://www.nysf.edu.au) and a

non-refundable application fee of \$60 is charged when you formally submit your application. In order to complete the online application, a local Rotary Club must endorse the application. Frensham students may apply to Berrima District Rotary Club for assistance in this regard. Should you have any questions regarding the programme, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Mrs Alison Andrew, Head of Science**

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

The 2015 Show Cattle season continues with Nowra and Kangaroo Valley Shows being held over the last two weekends. Half of the team and most of the cattle travelled to the Nowra Show on Saturday 7 February. The Team performed very well, results are as follows:

- 6-12 months Heifer Class: 2<sup>nd</sup> -Talis Twilight (Poll Hereford)
- Reserve Junior Champion Female: Talis Twilight
- Junior Steer Competition: 1<sup>st</sup> place Mia Withers (Year 10), leading Juba; 2<sup>nd</sup> place Anna Horton (Year 12), leading Ralph; 3<sup>rd</sup> place Annabel Milling (Year 11), leading Rango.
- Middleweight Steers - 340 - 440 kg: 2<sup>nd</sup> place Ted (Limousin) led by Kate Gooden (Year 12); 4<sup>th</sup> place Rango (Limousin) led by Annabel Milling.
- Heavyweight Steers - > 440kg: 1<sup>st</sup> place Ralph (Charolais) led by Camilla Milne (Year 12); 2<sup>nd</sup> place Condo (Angus) led by Emily Ives (Year 10); 3<sup>rd</sup> place Juba (Angus) led by Mia Withers.
- Junior Paraders - under 14 years: 1<sup>st</sup> place Olivia Salkeld (Year 8) leading Ralph; 3<sup>rd</sup> place Augusta Wyrzykowski (Year 8) leading Rango.
- Intermediate Paraders – 14-16 years: 1<sup>st</sup> place Mia Withers leading Juba; 2<sup>nd</sup> place Emily Ives leading Condo; 3<sup>rd</sup> place Ellie Ireson (Year 10) leading Max.
- Senior Paraders - 17 years and over: 1<sup>st</sup> place Serena Mackay (Year 12) leading Max; 2<sup>nd</sup> place Tyler Smith-Mailler (Year 12) leading Condo; 3<sup>rd</sup> place Camilla Milne leading Ralph.

The entire Show Cattle Team travelled to the Kangaroo Valley Show on 13 February where excellent results were achieved. Many thanks to those parents who came along in support. This Show is an important one on the Show Cattle calendar as it holds the qualifying events for the Junior Beef Judging and Beef Paraders State Finals.

All members of the Team competed in the Junior Beef Judging competition where they had to judge a group of Angus bulls, Angus heifers and mixed breed heifers, placing the animals from first to fourth in each group. The results are compared to the Over Judge's results and tallied and the top scoring competitors then move to the second, oral round where they have to judge one of the classes before the crowd. They are awarded points on their presentation, speaking ability, accuracy of observations and ability to make comparisons between the animals.

Six Frensham students were selected to compete in the second round and performed commendably. The results from the day are as follows:

#### Junior Beef Judging

- Seniors: 2<sup>nd</sup> place Camilla Milne, 3<sup>rd</sup> place Phoebe Crowe (Year 12) ; Intermediate: 1<sup>st</sup> place Kate Gooden, 3<sup>rd</sup> place Sophie Currenti (Year 12). *Kate Gooden was placed second overall after Round 2 and qualified for the State Beef Judging Final to be held at the Sydney Royal Easter Show and Sophie Currenti is the Reserve.*
- Poll Hereford Junior Heifer
- 1<sup>st</sup> place Talis Twilight led by Anna Horton
- Junior Steer Competition: 1<sup>st</sup> place Serena Mackay leading Max; 2<sup>nd</sup> place Kate Gooden leading Ted; 3<sup>rd</sup> place Mia Withers leading Juba; 4<sup>th</sup> place Anna Horton leading Ralph.
- Lightweight Steers <400kg: 1<sup>st</sup> place Ted (Limousin) led by Kate Gooden; 2<sup>nd</sup> place Kipper (Poll Hereford) led by Ellie Ireson.
- Heavyweight Steers >400kg: 2<sup>nd</sup> place Ralph (Charolais) led by Camilla Milne; 3<sup>rd</sup> place Rango (Limousin) led by Annabel Milling.
- Champion Steer: Ted (Limousin) led by Kate Gooden.
- Junior Paraders 14 Years and under: 3<sup>rd</sup> place Pip Ireson (Year 7) leading Kipper.
- Intermediate Paraders 15 + 16 Years: 2<sup>nd</sup> place Annabel Milling leading Rango; 4<sup>th</sup> place Mia Withers leading Juba.
- Senior Paraders 17 - 24 Years: 2<sup>nd</sup> place Phoebe Crowe leading Juba; 3<sup>rd</sup> place Sophie Currenti leading Rango.



**Dimity Crowe and Pip Ireson (Year 7) with Kipper**

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The following students were placed in the top 10 out of 30 competitors in the qualifying event for the State Beef Paraders Final and will go to the Sydney Royal Easter Show to compete: Sophie Currenti, Kate Gooden and Serena Mackay (Year 12) , Annabel Milling (Year 11) , Mia Withers (Year 10).

Frensham was awarded the Best Maintained Exhibit for the excellent presentation of the Team, the cattle and stall area. The Robertson Show, on Saturday 7 March, is the next event on the 2015 Show Calendar.

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

### **PDHPE**

This term, students are currently completing a theory unit titled 'Summer Safety'. Already students have discussed factors influencing risk taking behaviour and the potential outcomes of such behaviour. Over the coming weeks, students will investigate strategies to minimise harm on roads, in water and in the sun. Also, students will learn how to assess and apply First Aid in emergencies that specifically relate to asthma, burns, bites and stings.

In practical lessons this term, students are participating in a number of activities designed to improve a variety of fundamental movement skills. A key component of this unit is the development of cooperation skills associated with learning to work together as part of an effective team. For these lessons, all students are reminded that they must have their full PDHPE uniform, including a school sports hat.

**Miss Erin Gray, Head of PDHPE**

### **Sport**

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

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

Means of gaining information concerning play:

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

For example:

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

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

#### Swimming

All members of the IGSSA Swimming Squad are continuing to train rigorously every morning before school. Next week the Southern Highlands Twilight Carnival will be held in The Centenary Pool, on Wednesday 25 February, commencing at 5pm. Results in this carnival will act as qualifying times for the Annual IGSSA Swimming Carnival (Friday 15 March, SOPAC).

#### Tildesley Tennis

Players have now been selected and all members are currently training on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 6:15am-7:15am. This year, Frensham will field three singles players and three doubles pairs in the two-day IGSSA Tildesley Shield to be held at Pennant Hills Tennis Centre on Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19 March. All girls who were not selected for the team will travel with the team and act as lines girls throughout the two days. Practice for this competition will commence soon.

**Miss Erin Gray, Acting Head of Sport**

### **Equestrian News**

Five of the seven junior riders selected for the 2015 NSW Elite Development Squad for Eventing are current Frensham equestrians, Madeleine Prell, (Year 12); Olivia Inglis (Year 11); Olivia Barton and Thea Horsley, (Year 10) and Antoinette Inglis, (Year 9). There are 30 riders in the NSW squad (seven of whom are juniors), selected as riders or horses of interest with the potential to represent NSW in interstate competitions with a view towards preparation for national squads and international representation.

The selection criteria is that members must be established senior riders on young horses showing talent or junior riders producing consistent scores of 50 penalty points or less at competition in pre novice (105cm) or one star (115cm). This means dressage scores above 65% and clean show jumping and cross country rounds. Performances which put a rider at an international base score (sub 50 penalties). The combination must have the potential to represent state at one star level or higher.

This year, a junior team will be selected for Sydney in May, the Melbourne international three-day event in June and there will be a National team selected for the trans-Tasman three-day event to be held in Taupo, New Zealand in July. Four junior horse rider combinations will be selected Australia-wide to ride for Australia here.

Planning for a Training Day prior to the Interschools Competition is underway and we will notify parents when the arrangements are finalised.

There is great interest in Equestrian competition this year with many new students indicating that they would like to be involved with the team. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have queries

**Mrs Trish Symons, Equestrian Coordinator**

### Visual Arts/Design & Technology

On Wednesday 11 February, *Artexpress 2015* was officially opened at the Art Gallery of NSW. Among the 39 outstanding Bodies of Work selected for this venue was Isabella Conomos' evocative sculptural installation titled, *Who looks outside, dreams; who looks inside, awakes*, completed as part of her study for the Higher School Certificate in 2014. Her Body of Work explores notions of entrapment and exclusion and features four ceramic figures, situated both inside and outside of a Perspex box, resolved with exquisite crackle glaze. The exhibition is staged in the Temporary Exhibitions Gallery, and I would encourage all of our community to see Body of Work in this context before the exhibition ends on 19 April.



Year 11 students of Visual Arts have been made aware that relevant information and forms for the 2015 HSC Intensive Studio Practice courses at the National Art School (NAS) in Sydney have been published on the NAS website. Students have also received these forms as an email attachment. The courses provide opportunities for Year 11 Visual Arts students to develop skills in specific media in a stimulating creative environment. Last year, five students were offered and accepted places in these highly sought-after courses.

Mrs Spencer and I will assist students in preparing their applications, which will include examples of work (in most cases photographic images of work). Students have been asked to inform staff of preliminary interest in applying for courses. Application Forms, signed by the student, parents/guardians, Ms Gillick and Mr Alldis/Mrs Spencer, together with specific examples of a student's artmaking practice, must be handed in to the School no later than Friday 27 March (Week 9). Applications will be forwarded to the NAS at the beginning of Week 10 to meet the due date of Thursday 2 April.

To be eligible for entry applicants must:

- be in Year 11,
- be nominated by their Visual Arts teacher, and
- be achieving at a high level in their Visual Arts studies.

The fee for courses in 2015 is \$300. Students requiring boarding accommodation are asked to pay an additional \$300 (\$600 total). For more detailed information, please follow the link below to the [HSC Intensive Studio Practice Brochure](#) and [Application Forms](#).

HSC Intensive Studio Practice: <http://www.nas.edu.au/experience/Senior-School-Programs/HSC-Intensive>  
Design & Technology / Technology

Last week, students of Years 11 and 12 Design & Technology and Year 7 and 8 Technology had their first experience of the Sturt Fabrication Studio. This exciting facility will provide Frensham students with state-of-the-art technologies to support learning and extend the refinement and sophistication of creative projects across the curriculum.

Working in the studio, students of Year 7 Technology have downloaded and installed Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator (Creative Cloud) on their laptops and have been exploring the capabilities of these graphic software programmes through introductory design tasks in preparation for the development of a light-box. Students will use Illustrator to refine a design which will be precisely cut and etched with the laser cutter.

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In Year 8 Technology classes, students have been involved in learning new skills with specific design programmes which will assist them when they begin to design their F1 Racing Car in Term 2 as part of the focus on STEM. Girls are learning about the new technologies available to them in the studio and the different methods which are available to both present and communicate information, such as the new IWB (touch screen). Students have observed the CNC router and laser cutter in action and have been introduced to the Inventor software programme which they will use to create designs to be machined by the CNC router.

Students in Years 11 and 12 Design & Technology have been exploring possibilities how the new technologies can provide for highly refined and resolved product design as part of their practice.

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