

# Newsletter

TERM 4 NO 4

Thursday 26 November 2015

**FRENSHAM PRESENTS**



**Annie**

© Tribune Media Services, Inc.

Book by **THOMAS MEEHAN**      Music by **CHARLES STROUSE**      Lyrics by **MARTIN CHARNIN**

Original Production directed by Martin Charnin  
Presented on Broadway by Mike Nichols

Produced by  
Irwin Meyer      Stephen R. Friedman      Lewis Allen  
Alvin Nederlander      The John F. Kennedy Center      Icarus Production  
Associates Inc.      for Performing Arts

Based on "Little Orphan Annie" By Permission of The Tribune Media Services, Inc  
Originally produced by The Goodspeed Opera House  
Michael P. Price, Executive Director

By arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd  
Exclusive agent for Music Theatre International (NY)

Directed by **SALLY HANNAH**      Musical Direction by **MICHAEL SPENCER**

**PUBLIC PERFORMANCE**      **FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER**  
**SCHOOL PERFORMANCE**      **SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER**  
**7.30PM – CLUBBE HALL**      Entry: S10, Family S20 (2 adults & 2 children)

FRENSHAM

**FINAL PRAYERS**

Saturday 5 December  
Clubbe Hall ~ 2.30pm

FRENSHAM

**CAROL SERVICE**

Sunday 6 December  
Clubbe Hall ~ 11.00am

## From Mrs Cherylynn Williams – Thursday 26 November

Looking ahead at the final week of celebrations for 2015, Cherylynn Williams reflected today with Frensham students on the significance of music in our lives...noting with personal gratitude the powerful contribution performance and involvement bring to everyone in our School, every day. For all who will be joining us for events such as Preschool Carols, Gib Gate Christmas Concert, Carol Singing in Nursing Homes, Final Prayers and the Frensham Carol Service, I share insight into the powerful messages conveyed... and urge all to note the extraordinary achievements supported by the large team of staff who inspire and guide students to study music in its broadest sense and to love performance and to value the sharing of music in its many and varied ways...

From Cherylynn's beautifully crafted text I draw the following excerpts:

- **Research tells us that music has the strongest impact on memory and emotions when we are fourteen years old.** The connection between the brain, memory and nostalgia is intense, and you only have to look around this campus to see your connection to music...
- **Albert Einstein** said: *If I were not a physicist, I would probably be a musician. I often think in music. I live my daydreams in music, I see my life in terms of music...I get most joy in life out of music.*
- In his Welcome Address to student musicians at the Boston Conservatory, **Dr Karl Paulnack**, prominent US pianist said: *One of my parents' deepest fears, I suspect, is that society would not properly value me as a musician, that I wouldn't be appreciated. I had very good grades in high school, I was good in science and math, and they imagined that as a doctor or a research chemist or an engineer, I might be more appreciated than I would be as a musician. I still remember my mother's remark when I announced my decision to apply to music school—she said, 'You're wasting your SAT scores!' On*

some level, I think, my parents were not sure themselves what the value of music was, what its purpose was. And they loved music: they listened to classical music all the time. They just weren't really clear about its function.

- The ancient Greeks were among the first cultures to articulate how music really works. They said that music and astronomy were two sides of the same coin. Astronomy was seen as the study of relationships between observable, permanent, external objects, and music was seen as the study of relationships between invisible, internal, hidden objects. Music has a way of finding the invisible moving pieces inside our hearts and souls, helping us figure out the position of things inside us...
- One of the most profound musical compositions of all time is the *Quartet for the End of Time* written by French composer **Olivier Messiaen** who was captured by the Germans in 1940 and imprisoned in a prisoner-of-war camp. He was fortunate to find a sympathetic prison guard who gave him paper and a place to compose, and fortunate to have musician colleagues in the camp, a cellist, a violinist, and a clarinetist. Messiaen wrote his quartet with these specific players in mind. It was performed in January 1941 for four thousand prisoners and guards in the prison camp. Today it is one of the most famous masterworks in the repertoire.
- Her final words included this note from Paulnak: '...musicians are not just entertainers who have to sell themselves. The truth is you don't have anything to sell; being a musician isn't about dispensing a product, like selling used cars. I'm not an entertainer; I'm a lot closer to a paramedic, a firefighter, a rescue worker. Musicians become a therapist for the human soul, a spiritual version of a chiropractor, physical therapist, someone who works with our insides to see if they get things to line up, to see if we can come into harmony with ourselves and be healthy and happy and well...

I look forward to joining parents and extended family members for next week's joyous celebrations and hope all will be in fine voice to add to the richness of our special end of year events.

#### Acknowledgement to:

- **Touch Football** Teams 2, 5 and Year 7 Green for winning their respective matches at the **IGSSA Finals**;
  - Paige Wilson who will be representing New South Wales in High Jump at the **Australian All Schools Athletics Carnival** next week;
  - Selected Year 11 students whose outstanding results were received this week for the **HSC Intensive Studio Practice** courses run by the National Art School: Lucy Barrett, Bianca Campbell, Madeleine Conomos, Claudia Cruikshank, Emily Fisher, Sophie Hill, Stephanie Markerink, Kate Marsh, Florance McGufficke, Willa Robinson and Andrea Tan;
  - Penelope McKillop, Elysia Horan and Olivia Salkeld on their success in recent **Equestrian** events;
  - Lucy Powell and Claudia Cruikshank (Year 11) who spoke at the Mittagong RSL **Remembrance Day Service**;
  - Gib Gate sports achievers and representatives, acknowledged in this Newsletter in a range of sports throughout 2015;
  - Lucinda Chambers and Shelly Mitchell (Year 10) who received Merit Awards for Japanese from the Open High School;
- **Mark Viner, Head of Sturt and the team of School for Wood teachers and students coordinated by Dale Dryen, for the standards achieved and celebrated at last Saturday's Graduation and Exhibition Opening.**



Pictured: Christopher Neal, Certificate IV in Fine Woodworking graduate, was also the recipient of the **Studio Woodworkers Australia Emerging Professional award**.

The magnificent work of the Sturt School for Wood class of 2015 is currently on exhibition at Sturt Gallery and all are urged to visit the Shop and Gallery over the next two weeks before the Exhibition closes on Sunday 6 December. [We are pleased to note that the class for 2016 is fully subscribed and places are now being confirmed for 2017.

#### Advisory Committees

As the 2015 School year comes to an end, I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to retiring Advisory Committee members for both Gib Gate and Frensham: Mr Stephen Grant, Mrs Helen Pernice and Mrs Zoe Suttie (Gib Gate); Mrs Pip Crichton, Mrs Helen Gooden, Mrs Katrina Graves, Mrs Judy Newton and Mrs Melody Talbot (Frensham). For 2016, we welcome new members to the Advisory Committees: Dr Caroline Ahern, Mrs Rowena Bendror and Mrs Sara Moylan (Gib Gate); Ms Ruby Curtis, Mrs Kiki Hill, Mrs Erica Holcombe, Mrs miChelle McGufficke and Mrs Angela Macken.

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

## Parent / Community News

Frensham Advisory Committee 2015		Gib Gate Advisory Committee 2015	
Mrs Caroline Begg	<a href="mailto:r-cbegg@bigpond.net.au">r-cbegg@bigpond.net.au</a>	Mrs Rachel Arnott (Chair)	<a href="mailto:Rkarnott1@gmail.com">Rkarnott1@gmail.com</a>
Mrs Pip Crichton	<a href="mailto:pipecrichton@bigpond.com">pipecrichton@bigpond.com</a>	Mrs Caroline Atra	<a href="mailto:caroline.atra@me.com">caroline.atra@me.com</a>
Mrs Helen Gooden	<a href="mailto:jwhgooden@bigpond.com">jwhgooden@bigpond.com</a>	Dr Guy Bashford	<a href="mailto:guy.bashford@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au">guy.bashford@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au</a>
Mrs Katrina Graves	<a href="mailto:graves@jkg.net.au">graves@jkg.net.au</a>	Mrs Holly de Manincor	<a href="mailto:hollydemanincor@hotmail.com">hollydemanincor@hotmail.com</a>
Mr John Hayes	<a href="mailto:hayes.jt@bigpond.com">hayes.jt@bigpond.com</a>	Mr Gil Downes	<a href="mailto:gil.downes@neerim.net.au">gil.downes@neerim.net.au</a>
Mrs Sam Hickson (Sec)	<a href="mailto:jshickson@bigpond.com">jshickson@bigpond.com</a>	Mrs Sarah Lewis (Sec)	<a href="mailto:sarahlew@me.com">sarahlew@me.com</a>
Mr Gavin Martin	<a href="mailto:gavin.martin@ap.jill.com">gavin.martin@ap.jill.com</a>	Mrs Corina Nesci	<a href="mailto:corina.nesci@yahoo.com">corina.nesci@yahoo.com</a>
Mrs Judy Newton	<a href="mailto:judy.newton5@bigpond.com">judy.newton5@bigpond.com</a>	Mrs Helen Pernice	<a href="mailto:dandhpernice@bigpond.com">dandhpernice@bigpond.com</a>
Mr Sam Paradise	<a href="mailto:sam.paradice@morgans.com.au">sam.paradice@morgans.com.au</a>	Mrs Zoe Suttie (Chair of FOGG)	<a href="mailto:zoesuttie@gmail.com">zoesuttie@gmail.com</a>
Mr John Penton (Chair)	<a href="mailto:jbpenton@tpg.com.au">jbpenton@tpg.com.au</a>		
Mrs Tina Scales	<a href="mailto:t.scales@bigpond.com">t.scales@bigpond.com</a>		
Mrs Melody Talbot	<a href="mailto:melody@talbotnet.com">melody@talbotnet.com</a>		

### TERM DATES 2015 ~ Gib Gate & Frensham

#### Term 4

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

Frensham: Tuesday 6 October-Sunday 6 December  
**12.30pm** (departure is after the Carol Service)

### TERM DATES 2016 - Gib Gate and Frensham

#### Term 1

Gib Gate & Frensham:

**Friday 29 January – Thursday 7 April**, 3.00pm departure  
(Frensham New Student Induction Thursday 28 January  
All boarders return evening of **Thursday 28 January**)

Easter:

Departure is from **3.00pm Wednesday 23 March**

Classes recommence **Tuesday 29 March**

#### Term 2

Gib Gate & Frensham:

**Wednesday 27 April -Thursday 23 June, 3.00pm**  
(All Boarders return on the evening of **Tuesday 26 April**)

(Year 10 Work Experience ends Friday 24 June)

Queen's Birthday Long Weekend: **Monday 13 June;**

Frensham departs 3.00pm Friday 10 June

#### Term 3

Gib Gate & Frensham:

**Tuesday 19 July-Thursday 22 September 3.00pm**  
(All Boarders return on the evening of **Monday 18 July**)

Frensham

(Year 12 Dinner with Parents and Staff is evening of  
Thursday 22 September)

#### Term 4

Gib Gate: **Monday 10 October-Friday 9 December 3.00pm**

Frensham: **Monday 10 October -Sunday 11 December**  
from **12noon** (after 11am Carol Service)

(All Boarders return on the evening of **Sunday 9 October**)

### 2016 PARENT WEEKENDS – Confirmed dates for attendance of all students Years 7-12

#### Term 1

Year 7 Saturday 27 February-Sunday 28 February  
Frensham Open Day ~ Saturday 27 February

Year 10 Saturday 12-Sunday 13 March

#### Term 2

Year 8 Saturday 14-Sunday 15 May

Year 12 Saturday 4-Sunday 5 June  
WWS Birthday - Friday 3 June  
Frensham's 103<sup>rd</sup> Birthday - Sunday 5 June

#### Term 3

Year 11 Saturday 6-Sunday 7 August

[Year 10 Saturday 6 August - Year 10 planning for Senior  
Studies (with parents on Saturday)]

Year 9 Saturday 27-Sunday 28 August

## Ranier Uniform Shop

### UNIFORMS FOR 2016

It is recommended that students starting in 2016 come in early to organise their uniforms. Fittings may be arranged during the remaining weeks of this term. **All fittings are by appointment.**

**Mondays and Thursdays 12noon-5.00pm [Last trading day for 2015 – Thursday 3 December]**

**Additional Trading Days – January 2016 - 12noon-5.00pm**

**[by appointment only]**

Wednesday 20, Thursday 21, Friday 22 January

Wednesday 27 January

Regular trading days [as noted above] will resume from **Thursday 28 January 2016**

Shop Manager: Mrs Michelle Wynn

To order goods, please call the Shop: (02) 4860 2136 [BH]

Shop Hours: Mondays and Thursdays: 12.00pm-5pm

or email: [frensham@ranier.com.au](mailto:frensham@ranier.com.au)

## WWS FOUNDATION News



# WWS Foundation ART SHOW

WWS Foundation Art Show – Eclectica 2016

A note for your diary:

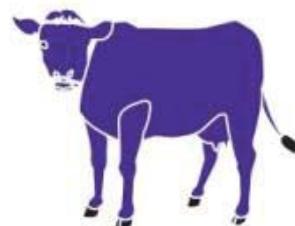
**Saturday 5-Sunday 6 November 2016**

**(Official Opening~ Friday 4 November)**

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)

## WINIFRED WEST SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

# Cattle Herd Project



### Learning to Learn through Service and Belonging

Throughout the past few weeks, students have been involved in a range of activities and events which have developed their sense of 'Service' and 'Belonging', both at school and in the wider community.

Children from Years 2 to 6 have visited the residents at **Anthem Retirement Village** in Bowral, a significant event for both the children and for the residents who have been looking forward to seeing, talking to, and listening to, the children for some time.

As outlined in Mrs Graham's report below, many children in Years 4 to 6 shared their musical talent with teachers and parents at the Semester 2 Soirée and conveyed their thanks to Music Tutors for their guidance and support throughout 2015. The children enjoyed sending their Christmas wishes to the children at **Katuuso Primary School, Uganda** on Wednesday via Miss Holly Claridge, **School for Life** representative who visited the school for the day. The School is also assisting Anglicare by collecting gifts to enable this charitable organisation to make a difference to many families' enjoyment of Christmas within the local community.

Throughout the past weeks, Year 6 students have been making all the necessary preparations to celebrate their primary school years by rehearsing the variety of presentations for which they are responsible at the **Year 6 Dinner** this Friday evening. We look forward to welcoming their parents to this formal occasion to celebrate with them and their teachers. As part of the Year 6 'handover' of responsibility for leadership of Gib Gate in 2016, Year 5 and 6 students with their teachers will enjoy a social occasion in a less formal atmosphere next Monday evening at the **Year 5 and 6 Social** which involves music, dancing, games and dinner together from 5:30pm–7:30pm in the Gib Gate Hall.

The first **Christmas Concert** for 2015 will be held in Pre-Kindergarten on Tuesday 1 December for children who attend the Monday and Tuesday programme and this will be followed by a **Concert** on Friday 4 December for those attending the Wednesday to Friday Pre-Kindergarten programme. The **Kindergarten to Year 6 Christmas Concert** will be held at Clubbe Hall on Tuesday 1 December commencing at 6pm, with parents and members of the school community invited to attend this last formal occasion at Gib Gate for 2015.

In addition, Year 6 students are planning their last day of school on Friday 4 December. Year 6 will spend the morning with Kindergarten Buddies and organise all the learning activities that celebrate their time together at school. The Final School Assembly, in the afternoon, is prepared by the Year 6 students for the children in Kindergarten to Year 5 and teachers only.

**Ms Kate Chauncy, Acting Head of Gib Gate, Director of Teaching & Learning P-6**

### **Curriculum Highlights 2015**

Please see details of the planned Staff Professional Learning Days, Term 4 in the Frensham section of this Newsletter under Director of Teaching and Learning

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

### **Enrichment/Activities**

#### Semester 2 Soirée

Last Thursday evening at the Term 4 Soirée, members of the audience were presented with over thirty items in the Gib Gate Hall. Students performed on piano, flute, drums, saxophone, voice, clarinet, guitar, violin and cello. The high standard was testament to the hard work put in by students, parents and music tutors throughout the year.

#### Christmas Charity Events

On Wednesday this week, Charity Monitors organised a Christmas Dress-up Day to raise money for educational resources for **Katuuso Primary School, Uganda**. Parents and children were able to view a range of gift items made by the mothers at the school and purchase items as Christmas gifts for their families.

#### Anglicare Giving Tree Appeal

Donations of food or gifts can still be made for the annual **Gib Gate Giving Tree** appeal in which Gib Gate partners with Anglicare to collect items for distribution to families within the local community. The final day for donating gifts and food is Tuesday 1 December.

### Christmas Concert

All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 will perform in the annual **Christmas Concert** in Clubbe Hall on Tuesday 1 December at 6pm. The evening will culminate with community carols accompanied by the 30-piece Gib Gate Orchestra and the moving recessional of Year 6 with their Kindergarten Buddies.

### Kids on Show

Gib Gate has exhibited a range of Art and Craft work in the Berrima District Art Gallery **Kids on Show** exhibition. The official opening is Friday 27 November at 5.30pm at the Gallery and this exhibition will be open to the public from Saturday 28 November–Sunday 6 December between 10.00am and 4.00pm daily.

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

#### **Sport**

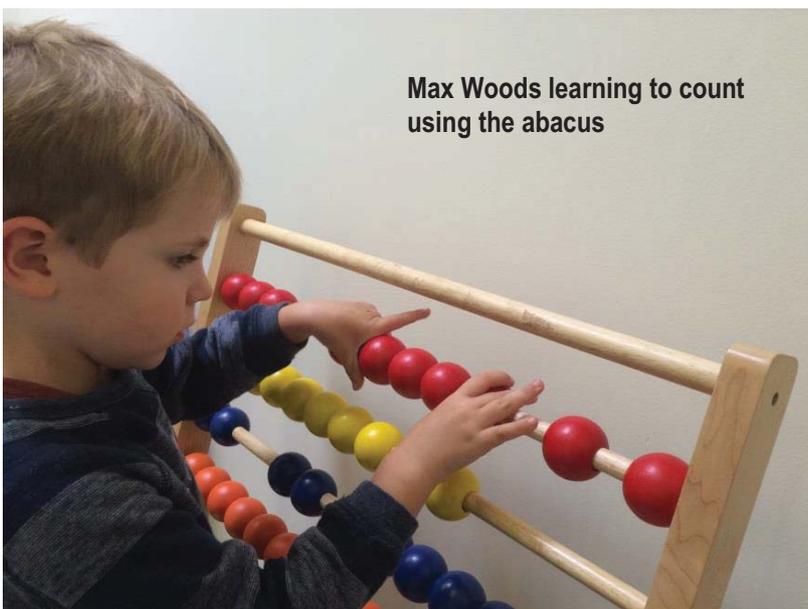
As we come to the end of another year in Sport, we can reflect on many achievements. Throughout 2015, Gib Gate teams have competed in Basketball, Netball, Cricket and Hockey finals. Ski teams have achieved podium finishes at State and National events. Swimming, Athletics, Gymnastics and Cross Country teams have competed with distinction at the various interschool meetings. Equestrian competitors consistently earned high levels of achievement at local, Interschool and State competitions. Individually, we have had many students achieving higher representation and honours in a range of sports and these have been highlighted in the Newsletters throughout the year:

Highlands Football Club Soccer, Under 12 Representatives: Thomas Lalak and George Penn (Year 6); CIS Athletics: Frankie Nesci (Year 6) and Luca de Manincor (Year 3); NSW and National Interschools Equestrian: Alexandra Inglis, Elizabeth Taylor (Year 3), Maya Basson (Year 5) and Thomas Lalak (Year 6); CIS Cross Country: George Penn (Year 6) and Isabella Barber (Year 2); Highlands District Cricket Association Under 12 Representative: Frankie Nesci; Southern Highlands Netball Under 12 Representative: Holly Horsfall (Year 5); Moss Vale and District Under 12 Basketball Representative: Lily Veleba (Year 5); National Interschools Snowsports Championships: Sophia Pernice (Year 6), Matilda Arnott, Lucy Pernice, Olivia Vertzayias, Matilda Walker and Lily Veleba (Year 5), Jessica Savage, Ella Veleba, Hannah Bendror, Bridget Schreck (Year 4) and Luca de Manincor (Year 3).

While we applaud all the individual and team achievements in Sport, we place high value on the participation and commitment displayed by the entire student body as they train and play each week in so many sports. We extend our appreciation to parents, coaches and managers involved in all teams and Sports. We are very fortunate to have a dedicated group of coaches and parents who are so supportive of the School's sporting ideals.

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

#### **Preschool (Pre-Kindergarten)**



**Max Woods learning to count using the abacus**

Early development of number concepts is critical in developing positive attitudes about Mathematics at an early age. Numeracy in Pre-Kindergarten is about order, patterns, comparisons, and measurement. Children learn abstract mathematical concepts through play. Loose parts such as dominoes, counters, numerals, playing cards, tape measures and scales lend themselves perfectly to Mathematics play. Providing the children with a wide range of materials helps them sort, compare, measure, count and make patterns.

### **Ms Kelly Lees, Preschool Teacher**

**FRIENDS OF STURT**

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

**Transformation** - an exhibition of new work by graduating students from Sturt School for Wood 2015 - continues to 6 December. Sturt's world-class Wood School, training Australia's future fine furniture makers and designers, celebrates the **graduation of its 2015 students** with the end-of-year exhibition in Sturt Gallery. The Sturt School for Wood is now more in demand than ever with a full school already for 2016 and enrolments now being taken for 2017. The high quality of the work on display at this important exhibition showcasing emerging talents, is truly outstanding.

**Pictured, Ruth Thompson of the 2015 class, receiving her Graduation Certificate from Ms Gillick, Head of Winifred West Schools.**

**Summer School 2016 - 4-9 January**

Places at the Summer School are almost filled. View courses with places remaining via the website where there is an option to book online. Some courses with places remaining include – Drawing flowers with Suzanne Archer, Digital crafting for artists with Rod Bamford.

2016 Term Classes

All the term dates for weekly classes are now available in Sturt Shop. In 2016, Sturt will be offering **Weaving for Beginners**, **Tapestry**, **Woodwork** (a class for beginners and an advanced class), **Ceramics** (three days of classes to choose from), **Jewellery** and **Metalwork for Beginners**.

Sturt Gallery

**Drawn to Clay** – ceramics and drawings by Carlos Barrios, Vince Vozzo, Slavica Zivkovic, Justin Pearson - 12 December to 15 February

Four Australian artists work in clay and on paper to explore the relationship and influences between these very different media. All have spent time recently working in clay and, in this innovative exhibition will, for the first time, show their work in clay alongside raw experimental drawings. The resulting exhibition captures a unique studio atmosphere and insight into the thinking of these inspiring artists.

The exhibition opening and Sturt's popular **Christmas Shopping Night** will take place on **Friday 11 December** from 6pm. The evening will feature live music and complimentary sparkling wine and canapés with special guest, **Michael Yabsley**, Designer and owner of Wombat Hollow, opening the exhibition.

Sturt Shop and Gallery are perfect places for early Christmas shopping and a look at the current exhibition. There are many exciting new ranges in the shop currently which will make ideal gifts for Christmas.

Sturt Coffee

Sturt's Café in the Gallery and garden courtyard provides the perfect place for coffee and delicious sweet and savoury treats, courtesy of Gilbert's of Mittagong.

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

This time last year we introduced the Frensham Community to the **Schoolbox Parent Portal**.

As well as a Learning Management System (LMS), Schoolbox is also a Communication Management System (CMS). A CMS allows schools to disseminate and post information to its community quickly and efficiently but unlike a website only, the members of the school community have access to the CMS via a portal (the portal being password protected).

During the year, the Parent Portal has provided access to vast amounts of information for parents. This has included the fortnightly Newsletter, Sports Draws as well as notices to parents, Term Calendars and yearly publications, such as the Parent Information Book. A number of forms have also been made available including Exeat forms, equestrian leave forms, term by term extra-curricular forms and medical forms.

The goal for 2016 is to improve the format and efficiency of the information and documents available on Schoolbox for parents.

To achieve this goal and to complete planning for Term 1, please note that Schoolbox will be unavailable to all users between **18 December 2015 and 18 January 2016**. Information will be emailed to parents and students during this period.

### Mr Geoff Marsh, Deputy Head

#### Boarding News

After Dinner, on the evening of Friday 6 November, the girls enjoyed a fancy dress Karaoke in the Dining Room. Following Saturday morning sport, the weekend evolved into one of study for Year 9 girls before their assessment week. Free time activities included swimming for relaxation and dodgeball in the Gymnasium. On Sunday afternoon, the Year 8 Boarders created Christmas cards for the end-of-year carol singing while the Year 7 girls continued preparing their Shadow Books to welcome the Year 7, 2016. Some Year 11 girls also completed a Barista Course in the Pavilion.

On the evening of Friday 13 November, the Year 12 Prefects conducted a successful *Spicks and Specks Music Quiz* in the Dining Room. Much thought had gone into the selection of video clips to be shown and the excerpts of selected songs. Other weekend activities included a visit to the ice skating rink at Liverpool on the Sunday afternoon, as well as recreational swimming and sessions in the Gymnasium.

### Mme Deborah Panaretto, Director of Boarding

#### Director of Teaching and Learning

Winifred West Schools Host International Education Consultant, Simon Breakspear

Gib Gate and Frensham Teachers, as well as House Staff will work with Dr Simon Breakspear on Monday 7 December on the first of the two Professional Learning days at the end of Term 4. Simon is known internationally for his practical insights on learning innovation and system reform. As the founder and CEO of *LearnLabs*, a global learning research and design agency, Simon has advised educational leaders across more than 10 countries helping them to navigate change, develop innovation capabilities and drive continuous improvement for better learning.

Simon holds degrees in Psychology and Teaching, a Masters of International and Comparative Education from the University of Oxford and a PhD in education from the University of Cambridge. He was a Commonwealth Scholar at the University of Oxford and a Gates Scholar at the University of Cambridge. He began his work in education as a high school teacher in Sydney.

An internationally engaged keynote speaker and facilitator, having delivered presentations to over 80,000 people, Simon inspires teachers to find innovative ways of leading for the future of learning. His keynote presentations for us will include: *An Education worth having: How rapid globalisation & new technologies are changing what and how we learn*, and *Digilearn: How to design deeper learning in a digital age*.

Following Simon's presentations, teachers will spend the afternoon as a 'team' in a collaborative session entitled: *Teachers Talking about Teaching* where Mrs Coupland, Ms Bradley, Mrs Spencer and Ms Horan will present the work they have designed for their classes throughout the year using *Making Thinking Visible* routines with their students.

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

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## Director of Studies

With the completion of the Year 9 and 10 examinations over the last two weeks, Semester 2 Reports for these students are being finalised completing the end-of-year reporting period for all year groups. The Reports contain an assessment of the learning outcomes in which students have demonstrated their knowledge and ability to perform.

Reports provide teachers with opportunities to make meaningful and authentic judgements about student performance in relation to a series of standards which act as milestones or thresholds for assessing student achievement. Contained within the overall Frensham Report for each student, are separate reports on academic subjects, the Jamieson Programme, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, and House participation and contribution.

Also included is a General Report which contains three sections. The first section lists each student's school involvement and responsibilities; the second section contains a Personal Development/Habits of Mind list of seven learning behaviours on which the student grades herself in discussion with her Form Tutor; the third section contains personal semester highlights as identified by the student.

In the Jamieson Programme Report, students work with their Form Tutors to evaluate their experiences and identify future goals within the Jamieson Programme. The General Report and the Jamieson Programme Report provide valuable opportunities for students to reflect on their learning and to consider personal goals.

At Frensham, a 'growth mindset' underpins all teaching and learning; this is a belief that dedication and hard work (on the right skills) will develop most abilities and foster a love of learning and the resilience essential for accomplishment.

In the words of Irish poet Samuel Beckett, *'Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try Again. Fail again. Fail better.'*

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

### English and Drama

#### Drama

What is Drama? Drama is a unique tool to explore and express human feelings which are fundamental to whom we are. People do not realise that we unknowingly use Drama skills every day. This can include holding a learning conversation with a teacher, working with your peers, being empathetic and putting oneself in another person's shoes, or simply leading a meeting or discussion.

Drama is one of many subjects at Frensham that extends well beyond the classroom with school plays and performances presented throughout the year. This year's end-of-year musical, **Annie** is well underway with final costume rehearsals scheduled this week. Everyone has been working incredibly hard and we are all very excited to showcase the talent and dedication of those involved in the forthcoming performances.

In addition to the Birthday Play, Junior and End-of-Year Productions, Theatresports – a new aspect of Drama at Frensham – will be included during Friday night activities. Essentially, Theatresports is a programme of improvisation-based drama games which emphasise building engaging characters and spontaneous stories. Recent examples of these types of games include *Whose Line is it Anyway*. It goes without saying that these games will be tremendous fun and will help with life skills such as thinking on your feet, confidence, teamwork and public speaking. All are welcome to be involved!

As the new Heads of Drama for 2016, we are hoping to make the coming year of Drama the best yet.  
*Remember: there are no small parts, only small actors* – Constantin Stanislavski.

Let's get excited for Drama at Frensham in 2016!

## Madeleine Conomos and Eliza-Jane Middleton, Heads of Drama, 2016

#### English

*'We realise the importance of our voices only when we are silenced.'*

*I don't want to be thought of as the girl who was shot by the Taliban but the girl who fought for education. This is the cause to which I want to devote my life.'* Malala Yousafzai

Education is one of the key ways in which women around the world can achieve equity and improve their socio-economic circumstances. In modern-day Australia, it is easy to forget that over the last century women have been able to vote and stand for public office and that they are still trying to achieve equity in the workplace.

For millions of girls worldwide, equal opportunity in education, employment and social status remains just a dream. Many believe supporting girls and young women to improve their education and reach their full potential is critical to the economic development and wellbeing of communities, both in Australia and around the globe.

Storytelling is a powerful way to assist students appreciate and understand their fortunate life and instil in them a desire to continue learning and make a difference in their own lives, the lives of others and for the generations of girls to follow.

As part of the Orientation Programme, Year 10 students have been studying the concept of Change through the documentary *Girl Rising*. Girls in groups were allocated individual stories about girls from third world nations who have, against extraordinary odds tried and in many cases gained, some access to an education. The girls were expected to conduct research into the cultural, social, geographic, economic, religious and historical status of the country and present this to the class. In addition, they were asked to find their own additional text and make connections conceptually and or contextually.

Year 8 English students have been collaboratively creating their own Graphic Novel, inspired by their study of David Selznick's *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* which has proved to be the most exciting English text this year. Students were guided to choose a magic or mysterious object which they could build into their story. The search for objects and the imaginative way in which the girls wound some 'magic' around these items was an excellent way to elicit quality creative writing.

The task involved the following aspects:

- The story must take place in a foreign context (place, time).
- A 'magic item' that plays a meaningful role in the story.
- The novel must include a subtle *intertextual reference* – a small reference or hint at another text studied this year.
- Mixed media may be used, but some pages must have aspects that are hand drawn.
- There must be an element of 'magic' – magic is a broad term, be creative with how you define it!



**Left: Sophie McLean, Sophie Arnott and Georgie Tooth choosing artwork for their graphic novel.**

**Right: Pippa Hanan, Mia Coupland, Georgina Ridge and India Shead comparing their finished novels.**

So, a magical object, somehow linked to *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Trash* or *War Poetry*...set in a foreign place or time, with hand drawn artwork!

We wonder what the stories will be? What amazing stories, characters and graphics will interweave with items as diverse as a silver thimble, a tiny gold jewel box or a real dinosaur fossil?

*'I opened the letter. Months of hard worked flooded out. Months of dedication, love, confidence, family, time, care, support, longing, future, dreams, hopes and beliefs.'*

*'He then unfroze and started mumbling until he finally regained his voice and then his words. 'Tilly!' he exclaimed, 'Look, look very carefully at the photo you are holding in your hand and now look at mine.'*

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Authors are working hard on their task, groups taking on the persona of imaginary authors and working incognito with pen names such as, Charli Everdeen, Thomas Bukowski, L M Bancroft and the hopeful, Neil Lee-Dun. We all look forward to celebrating the works of our budding authors.

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

#### **Latin**

Girls in Years 9 and 10 have now successfully completed their examinations. Having finished the last chapter of their workbook before the examination, those Year 10 students who are continuing are now having a 'taste' of Year 11 work with two weeks of Orientation during which they are studying more grammar as well as looking at some authentic Latin, mainly the poetry of *Gaius Valerius CATULLUS* (c. 84-54BC), Rome's first and most popular love poet.

Year 8 students' major work this term was a project where the girls were required to research some legacies from Roman civilisation still evident in the contemporary world. The girls were required to select a topic such as the *Concept of Time*, *Innovation* or *Power* and create a PowerPoint presentation which was shared in class, giving the girls an opportunity to demonstrate their excellent use of technology and to learn from each other's engaging presentations on the various topics. In the final week of term, students will be working in groups on translating the Latin version of '*Goldilocks and the Three Bears*' into English and then performing a short role play (in Latin) in class.

### **Mrs T Symons and Ms V Akins, Teachers of Latin**

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

HSC Geography students are continuing their case study of the Great Barrier Reef as an example of an 'Ecosystem at Risk'. The Stage 6 Geography course places particular emphasis on students' using current information in relation to their case studies, such as recent newspaper articles. Students of Modern History are working on their case study of World War I and have just completed a source-based assessment task. Extension History students have embarked on the first section of the course which involves 'Historiography' and are discussing topics and possible questions with their teacher. The Year 12 Modern History class spoke at the Frensham Remembrance Day Service on 11 November, whilst Lucy Powell and Claudia Cruikshank represented the School at the Mittagong RSL service on the same day. Students of Economics completed their first assessment task based on a case study of China. Year 12 Ancient History students have completed their first topic 'Spartan Society to the Battle of Leuctra 371 BC' and are now perusing past papers and sample answers, as well as preparatory work for their study of the Julio-Claudians.

As part of the Orientation Programme for Year 10, the Business Studies and/or Economics students, 2016 have been studying a range of introductory topics to broaden their experience of commercial concepts. Through case study investigations and wide research, students have examined concepts such as entrepreneurialism and marketing, the causes and consequences of the GFC and budgetary sustainability within the Australian economy. The Modern History class has investigated the conditions that lead to revolution, with a focus on the Cuban Revolution.

In Year 9, Geography students are completing a study of how Australia's unique characteristics are marketed to the world, whilst History students have completed a study of the First and Second World Wars, writing and presenting speeches on the role of an individual involved in the conflicts.

Geography students in Year 8 are focusing on 'Global Citizenship' and are completing a 'tug of war' debate regarding the use of nuclear technology as an energy source, whilst History students are producing an art work or movie presentation reflection on Colonisation.

In Year 7 World Studies, students are continuing their study of Ancient China. Having completed an inquiry task on Emperor Qin Shi Huangdi, students are currently creating climatic graphs, comparing the temperature and rainfall of Mittagong and Beijing.

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

#### **Jamieson Programme**

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

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

The School year finishes next week with **Jamieson Week**, a well-loved and much-anticipated period in the School calendar. Within the wider Jamieson Programme, students have benefited from a myriad of learning opportunities throughout the year. At

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the end of each semester, each student in Years 7-10 reflects on her individual highlights and challenges within the Jamieson Programme. This then forms part of the Jamieson Report and guides her ongoing personal development.

This term, Year 7 students have been preparing Shadow Books for the incoming Year 7 students and will complete them during Jamieson Week. Students in Year 8 continued their important role as Shadows to Year 7. Last week, rostered girls continued their Farm Management duties, tending to the animals on the Farm. Riding for the Disabled also continued during the term. During Week 7, Year 9 students completed the 'Walk in Her Shoes' activity to raise awareness of how far some women have to walk every day. In developing countries, women and girls walk many hours each day to collect food, water and firewood, often in rugged terrain and under quite dangerous circumstances. The hours spent walking prevents them from spending time going to school or earning an income. Girls and staff walked approximately seven kilometres around Mt Alexandra. Upon their return, the girls reflected on the toll that a walk like that every day, often carrying 10-15 kilograms of water or firewood would have on their schooling, leisure time and physical wellbeing. The final activity to be undertaken by students this week, is the completion of an on-line course evaluation, of both the Jamieson Programme and the **Global Perspectives** course as well as presenting a short talk on a 'Global Issue' that they feel warrants the attention of the United Nations General Assembly.

This week, students in Year 10 complete their Orientation Programme into their senior subjects, in preparation for Year 11 in 2016.

### Mr Paul Nash, Jamieson Programme Coordinator

#### Mathematics

This term, we welcomed Ms Jaime Ashworth to Frensham as a teacher of Mathematics as part of an **Intercultural Student Teaching Scheme**. Ms Ashworth studied at Capital University, Columbus, Ohio in the United States. Whilst at Frensham, she has taught and visited many Mathematics classes including Year 12 Mathematics General, Year 7, Year 9 and Year 10 Orientation for Year 11. It has been a valuable experience for the School to have such a vibrant, young, energetic, innovative, helpful and diligent teacher as part of our team and the cultural exchanges between staff and students alike has been informative and interesting.

Year 10 students have commenced the **Orientation Programme** and girls have chosen to study one of three levels of Mathematics, Mathematics General, Mathematics or Mathematics Extension 1, in preparation for Year 11. In Mathematics General, girls are investigating a Focus Study incorporating the Mathematics of Communication. In this topic they study Mobile Phone Plans and Usage, as well as uploading and downloading speeds and file storage and size. In Mathematics, students are learning Trigonometric Identities and using these to develop formal proofs. The Extension class is learning about Polynomials applying both their Algebraic and Graphing skills.

*'If people do not believe that mathematics is simple, it is only because they do not realise how complicated life is.'*  
- John Louis von Neumann

### Ms Sue Wymer, Head of Mathematics

#### Music

Year 12 Music students soaked up the sights and sounds of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at the recent **Meet the Music Concert**. A symphony orchestra in full flight is a powerful thing to experience and the finale to Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* was one of those moments to remember.

Ms Benson has produced two excellent choral performances in Morning Prayers recently. The Junior Choir performed an original arrangement inspired by Orff Schulwerk and the singers in the Year 12 Music 1 class, performed *Barbershop Chorale*.

The Senior Choristers have completed their preparation for Carols and Final Prayers while the musicians of Kennedy Strings, Brass and Percussion Group have been re-polishing their parts in support.

### Mr Michael Spencer, Head of Music

#### Science

**Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools (SMiS)** is a national programme managed by CSIRO aimed at providing skilled volunteers the opportunity to have a positive impact and make a difference to STEM education in primary and secondary schools. Partnerships between STEM professionals and teachers provide access to real world contemporary experiences that promote understanding and inspire students. Frensham Science teachers have recently been partnered with Thomas Smith, a retired Industrial Chemist/Analytical Chemistry Consultant. He has a strong background in analytical chemistry and a broad

range of interests including history of science and chemistry, music, modern art, German language and modern German history. Tom will be visiting Frensham on Tuesday 24 November to assist Year 10 Orientation Chemistry students perform their first titration, helping them with titration techniques and safety as well as explaining the importance of analytical chemistry in industry. We look forward to a strong partnership.

Year 12 Chemistry students have just finished examining research being undertaken to ensure the supply of fuels and petrochemicals can continue in the post-fossil fuel age. Their studies focused on the use of renewable chemicals such as glucose and cellulose as the raw materials for manufactured organic compounds in the future. They are now beginning to study atmospheric chemistry, the way that humans have damaged the ozone layer and the steps being taken to rectify the problem.

Year 12 Physics students have completed a study of the physics of gravity rocket launch, orbit and re-entry and are now starting to examine Einstein's theory of special relativity. Their work will take them through the origins of the theory; its impact on Physics and our understanding of light, space and time; and the implications for space travel.

### Mrs Alison Andrew, Head of Science

#### Agriculture & Show Cattle Team

*King* [pictured] is a purebred Angus who is being prepared by Year 11 student, Florance McGufficke from Cooma. He was bred by Mr Tim Reid who manages Melon Pastoral Company at Roslyn. Tim has had a long relationship with the Frensham Show Cattle Team. In his role as manager of the N-Bar Angus Stud near Goulburn, Tim provided the team with steers: *Banjo* (5<sup>th</sup> in the Heavyweight Steers) and *Guinness* (2012), *Gilbert*, *The General* and a heifer, *N-Bar Bara* (2013), and *Hughie* and *Wilba* (2014). Tim and his wife, Jemma also have their own Angus Stud, JTR Cattle Co and in 2015 they provided *Sailor*, who was also prepared by Florance. '*Sailor*' was awarded the Champion ribbon in the Virtual Taste Test at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. *King* arrived with a good level of condition already on him and the team are monitoring his weight gain and fat development in order to enter him in the Heavyweight Export class at the Sydney Royal.



The steers will spend the Christmas break at Holt Farm and will be awaiting the return of the team next year, ready for the first local Show scheduled for the first weekend of Term 1.

Dates for the 2016 Shows are as follows:

Berry	Saturday 30 January
Nowra	Saturday 6 February
Kangaroo Valley	Friday 12 February
Robertson	Saturday 20 February
Moss Vale	Saturday 5 March
Sydney Royal Easter Show	Thursday 17–Wednesday 30 March
	Frensham will be attending from Monday 14–Sunday 20 March.

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

#### PDHPE

##### Year 8 Focus

This term in PDHPE theory lessons, Year 8 students have been developing an understanding of the responsibilities that come with becoming more independent, how to identify potential risky situations, how to minimise risk proactively and how to access support. Students have also discussed what it means to be mentally healthy. In practical lessons, students have been practising and refining skills common to Target Games, with particular emphasis on golf, lawn bowls, bocce and croquet.

### Miss Erin Gray, Head of PDHPE

#### Sport

##### Touch Football

Frensham had a very successful Touch Football season this year. With 20 teams entered in the IGSSA Competition, 15 of these qualified for the semi-finals and seven were successful in reaching the finals. These matches were played at either Loreto

Normanhurst or Abbotsleigh. Congratulations to Teams 2 and 5, and Year 7 Green for winning the **IGSSA Competition** in their respective grades - an excellent achievement.

All girls involved in Touch Football this term are commended for their efforts throughout the season. They were led by a team of highly qualified and enthusiastic coaches and we thank them all for their efforts this term.

#### Softball and Tennis trials

Softball and Tennis trials have started, with many girls attending morning sessions for Teams 1 and 2 of both sports, as well as the **Tildesley Shield** team. Trials will be taking place on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons and Saturday morning. All girls participating in Softball or Tennis in Term 1, 2016 will be required to attend trials this week, including Saturday morning.

Details are as follows:

Thursday 26 November	Years 10 & 11: 4.00pm – 5.30pm
Friday 27 November	Years 7 & 8: 4.00pm – 5.00pm; Years 9-11: 5.00pm – 6.00pm
Saturday 28 November	Years 9–11: 8.00am – 9.30am; Years 7 & 8: 9.30am – 11.00am

#### Swimming

There has been a squad in Swimming in Term 4 of approximately 50 girls, swimming at least three times a week. As well as the training sessions, the girls have had the opportunity to participate in the Mittagong Swimming Club's trials on three Friday nights, held at The Centenary Pool. These time trials have allowed times and improvement to be tracked throughout the term. During the term, the focus has been on technique and fitness to prepare the squad for the **IGSSA Carnival** which will be held in March. With the emphasis on squad training this term, Frensham is in a promising position for Swimming in Term 1, and we look forward to more swimmers joining the squad.

#### Athletics

Paige Wilson (Year 10) will be competing in the **Australian All Schools Athletics Carnival** held in Melbourne next week, and will be representing New South Wales in the 16 years High Jump. This is an outstanding achievement and we wish her the best of luck at the Carnival.

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

#### **Equestrian News**

In recent weeks, several girls have been competing successfully on the Equestrian circuit: Penelope McKillop, Elysia Horan (Year 10), and Olivia Salkeld (Year 8) competed in **Heights in the Highlands** competition. Elysia was placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 75cm AM7 and Penelope received three places in events as well as 1<sup>st</sup> place in the 75cm and 55cm. Olivia was placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the 65cm and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 85cm.

At the **Berry Interschools**, and **The Zone 28 Show Jump Day**, Olivia was also placed in her events. The preparation and involvement in these competitions prepares riders for the **2016 Interschools Competition**. Thea Horsley also recently won the **Silver Hills** Pre-Novice Junior class (105cm).

#### **Mrs Trish Symons, Equestrian Coordinator**

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

As noted during Term 2, eleven Year 11 students were offered places in the **HSC Intensive Studio Practice** courses run during 2015 by the **National Art School, Sydney (NAS)** – this is the largest number of Frensham students to be accepted in these courses in a given year. Further, all students who applied for a place this year were accepted, which confirmed their strong artistic ability and the high quality of their applications. The NAS received nearly 300 applications from across the state, with 154 students from 89 schools successful in attaining a place.

The final bodies of work were assessed by NAS faculty members and last week, we received final course marks for each of the 11 students. Collectively, their results were outstanding, with all the girls receiving marks between 44/50 and 49/50. The HSC Intensive Studio Practice course will appear on the students' HSC certificates as a one unit course with a mark, but will not contribute to the student's ATAR. Congratulations to the girls for their fine achievements in these courses.

The eleven students who completed *HSC Intensive Studio Practice* courses successfully in 2015 are:

Lucy Barrett, Painting; Bianca Campbell, Painting; Madeleine Conomos, Printmaking; Claudia Cruikshank, Printmaking; Emily Fisher, Painting; Sophie Hill, Ceramics; Stephanie Markerink, Painting; Kate Marsh, Painting; Florance McGufficke, Painting; Willa Robinson, Printmaking; Andrea Tan, Painting.

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