

Newsletter

TERM 1 NO 4

Wednesday 15 March 2017



NSW Equestrian Awards ~ Gib Gate and Frensham

Mr Matt Miller, Chief Executive NSW Office of Sport, presented the NSW Equestrian Awards for 2016. Pictured - Elizabeth Taylor, Emily Baldwin, Olivia Barton, Thea Horsley (Frensham Equestrian Captains 2017), with Thea's parents Louise and Patrick Horsley. Emily, Thea, Gib Gate and Frensham were NSW Champions. [See Equestrian News]

Curriculum Development – Gib Gate and Frensham – looking ahead...

~ *What's worth learning – for a good life, in a complex, changing world?* ~
Harvard Professor of Education Dr David Perkins

Curriculum development at WWS is achieved through an ongoing process of review and exploration for which our Strategic Learning and Studies teams share responsibility. Mr Geoff Marsh, Ms Janene van Gogh, Ms Kate Chauncy, Ms Sally Robson and Dr Tristan Burg - joined this year by Ms Jennie Mickle and Ms Sue Wymer – initiate research, draft ideas, inspire consideration of change and plan for implementation. With and in support of colleagues in all faculties, we debate the value of curriculum research and initiatives, explore international curriculum opportunities and apply collective professional judgement to refinement of existing courses, as well as source expert external provision of curriculum elements – accessible online, through intensive course delivery or by specialist workshop facilitation or lecture-style seminars.

For implementation in 2017-2018 I am pleased to provide an overview of the following areas of proposed curriculum enhancement:

- (i) Cambridge, UK: ICT starters - Gib Gate - Accessible through our formal association with Cambridge as a **Cambridge International School, ICT starters** provides a flexible framework to develop primary school learners' ICT competence – to underpin our **STEM focus**. The course is mapped against national ICT standards in a number of countries and the skills assessed reflect competencies, user safety and expectations demanded internationally. Gib Gate will be the first Australian School to undertake the programme.
- (ii) Cambridge AS General Paper – Year 10 - Taught in around 200 countries, the AS General Paper will be implemented from 2017 as an 'additional core subject' for Year 10. Successfully trialled with 'elective' Year 10 groups in 2015 and 2016), the Cambridge International AS Level General Paper encourages learners to develop a maturity of critical thought and argument and a mastery of expression in the English language; academic writing skills are honed explicitly. The syllabus draws on topics from across the curriculum, and learners are able to draw upon knowledge and understanding gained from their study of other subjects. '
- (iii) Year 10 PDPHE - Jamieson 10 - Further development of 'specialist personnel', senior staff and professional provider delivery of 'highly sensitive areas' of the mandatory **Year 10 PDPHE** is the result of our Studies team review over the past 12 months. We want to provide the most authentic context for content delivery in the areas of personal development and health, in response to the myriad external pressures on teenagers associated with self, relationships and wellbeing.

Acknowledgement to:

- All who contributed to the success of Frensham's Open Day and Year 7 Parent Weekend - including the full teaching and House staff, administration and support staff, students and parents;
- Student and staff hosts for the 20 and 60 year Reunions, also welcomed over the Year 7 Weekend;
- Recent **Girdle** recipient, outstanding performer (vocal and instrumental) - Charlotte Bernays (Music);
- Dimity Crowe, Olivia Salkeld, Emily Gubbins State Finalists in various elements of Judging of Grain, Fruit and Vegetables, Sheep and Fleeces – with finals to be held at this year's **Sydney Royal Easter Show**;
- Frensham Swim Team finalists at the recent **IGSSA Swimming Carnival**;
- Valentina Aliprandi, Madeleine Johnston and Imogen Ryan (Year 12) for their creativity in preparing a film clip as their 'Reflection' for the **Opening of Linden Turner House** on Sunday.

Also - from letters to the School this week, acknowledgement to:

Year 11:

- **From Burn Bright - Year 11 Leadership Camp presenters:** 'We were incredibly impressed by the girls' willingness and enthusiasm throughout the day. It is a rarity that we feel instant rapport with and connection to a group, but the girls allowed us to feel so welcomed and made our day seamless. It was such a refreshing and rewarding program amidst a busy week.'

Madrigals:

- **From a Frensham Old Girl at the Memorial Service for Andrew and Anne (Annie Basnett) – Gunning:** 'I just wanted to convey a personal thank you for the beautiful contribution made by the Madrigals to the Memorial Service for our dear friends...the quality of the music was second to none and added such a special and personal dimension to the day...'

Year 10 Tour Guides – Open Day:

- From a visitor: '...the stand out for us was the School tour by two wonderful, well-mannered and high-spirited students...and I believe they are in Year 10. ...they were generous with their time, and they were so kind and welcoming to our daughter...'

Year 7:

- From an Old Girl attending the 60-year Reunion: 'The Service was quite beautiful; we are in awe of those Year 7 girls...putting it all together and presenting with such great confidence...'

All:

- From an Old Girl attending the 60-year Reunion: 'After an exceptional weekend spent in such beautiful grounds, I wished it were possible for all girls to attend Frensham!'

Year 7 Parent Survey

With thanks to parents; we received 57 responses to the Survey – for our cohort of 57 students.

At this stage we believe we have responded to all parents who registered queries or concerns (where name was provided) and we are now working our way through the valuable feedback. Our questions were seeking input on the following:

- The means by which parents are gaining information on School Policies and Processes. (Through the Parent Information Book and published policies on Schoolbox; through direct contact with the School, or via other parents or own daughter.)
- How well parents feel they understand: BYOD programme, Homework/Prep expectations; Leave protocols; Channels of communication for general queries; Enrolment process for activities (Extra Subjects and Co-curricular Activities); Uniform requirements and purchasing processes.
- From the Parent Teacher Discussions and Plenary Session on Saturday morning: the extent to which parents gained understanding in the following areas: An update on your daughter's academic progress; An opportunity for you to extend your understanding of the shared School/parent responsibility for your daughter's overall growth; An opportunity for you to raise any areas of concern.

Finally we noted:

Now, five weeks into the Term, are there particular areas where you would appreciate further information or immediate action? (For immediate action, please email us at frensham@frensham.nsw.edu.au so we can be in touch with a response)

Year 10 Parent Weekend – Confirmation Service – Opening of Linden Turner House

In advance, I thank all who have been preparing for the weekend ahead, for a full programme of Parent/Teacher discussions, Services, a Concert and the Official Opening of Linden Turner House.

Julie A Gillick
Head of Frensham
Head of Winifred West Schools

Parent / Community News

Frensham Advisory Committee 2016

Mrs Caroline Begg	r-cbegg@bigpond.net.au
Ms Ruby Curtis	44ruby@gmail.com
Mrs Penny Hanan	pennyhanan@mac.com
Mr John Hayes (Chair)	hayes.jt@bigpond.com
Mrs Kiki Hill	kikihill64@gmail.com
Mrs Erica Holcombe	erica@dc-it.com.au
Mrs miChelle McGufficke	milliefarming@activ8.net.au
Mrs Angela Macken (Sec)	themackenfamily@gmail.com
Mr Gavin Martin	gavin.martin@ap.jill.com
Mr Sam Paradise	sam.paradice@morgans.com.au
Mrs Nicola Robertson	nicola@nicolarobertsonots.com.au
Mrs Tina Scales	t.scales@bigpond.com
Ms Jo Thomson	j.thomson@tpg.com.au

Gib Gate Advisory Committee 2016

Dr Guy Bashford (Chair)	guy.bashford@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au
Mrs Rowena Bendror (FOGG Representative)	sales@littlestepsonline.com.au
Mrs Holly de Manincor	hollydemanincor@hotmail.com
Mrs Chelsea Doyle (Chair of FOGG)	chelseakdoyle@gmail.com
Mr David Griffin	david.griffin291@gmail.com
Mrs Kate Iori	kateiori@hotmail.com
Mr Trent Johns	trent@theimperial.com.au
Mrs Sara Moylan	saralmoylan@gmail.com

TERM DATES 2017 – Gib Gate and Frensham

Term 1

Gib Gate & Frensham

Tuesday 31 January- Thursday 6 April, 3.00pm

Term 2

Gib Gate & Frensham

Wednesday 26 April-Thursday 22 June, 3.00pm

(Boarders always return evening before classes start)

(Year 10 Work Experience ends Friday 23 June)

Queen's Birthday Long Weekend: Monday 12 June;

Frensham departs 3.00pm Friday 9 June

Term 3

Gib Gate & Frensham

Tuesday 18 July- Thursday 21 September, 3.00pm

(Boarders always return evening before classes start)

Frensham

(Year 12 Dinner with Parents and Staff is evening of Thursday 21 September)

Term 4

Gib Gate: **Tuesday 10 October-Friday 8 December, 3.00pm**

Frensham: **Tuesday 10 October-Sunday 10 December from 12noon** (after 11.00am Carol Service)

(Boarders always return evening before classes start)

2017 PARENT WEEKENDS – Confirmed dates for attendance of all students Years 7-12

Term 1

Year 10 Saturday 18 March-Sunday 19 March

Term 2

Year 8 Saturday 13 May-Sunday 14 May

Year 12 Saturday 3 June-Sunday 4 June

WWS Birthday – Friday 2 June

Frensham's 104th Birthday – Sunday 4 June

Term 3

Year 11 Saturday 5 August-Sunday 6 August

[Year 10 Saturday 5 August – Year 10 planning for Senior Studies (with parents on Saturday)]

Year 9 Saturday 26 August-Sunday 27 August

Ranier Uniform Shop

All fittings for uniforms are by appointment: Mondays and Thursdays 12noon-5.00pm

Shop Manager: Mrs Michelle Wynn

To order goods, please call the Shop: (02) 4860 2136 [BH] Shop Hours: Mondays and Thursdays: 12.00pm-5.00pm

or email: frensham@ranier.com.au



This sheet is dedicated to all the news of the Fair and will be included with each Newsletter.

- **The Committee has now been formed** and the Contact List has been attached to this Newsletter email. If you are able to assist in any of these areas then please contact the relevant manager.
 - **Storage space is now available at Frensham and Gib Gate**
 - **Gib Gate** – deliveries can be made into the left hand garage below the pick-up shelter. Please only park in the loading dock area to unload. The key is available from the office.
 - **Frensham** – deliveries can be made any weekday or on Saturday mornings. Please advise Michele of any deliveries so that access to the storage areas can be arranged.
- We are seeking clothing, furniture, homewares, kitchenware, art – inside and out, toys and games, interesting objects and curios and other items you might have in order to support **Vintage Clothing and Furniture** and the **White Elephant** stall.
- **Raffle prizes needed!** Our raffle ticket sellers are ready to start, but we still need to finalise the list of prizes and print the tickets so we can start selling in Term 2. If you have something to donate that might entice someone to buy some raffle tickets, please advise Michele at: mscamps@frensham.nsw.edu.au
 - **Can you sew or wield a pair of scissors?** It will not be long before Annette O'Connell will need help with the production of the ever-popular pyjama pants. She is proposing that two days (dates to be advised) be spent cutting out the patterns, at a venue at Frensham, and then sewers can take them home to put them together at their leisure. If you can help in any way please contact Annette at: annette@mocelectrical.com.au
 - **Jams, pickles, relishes and fresh produce.** Anna Massey is managing the **Produce Stall** and is looking for volunteers to provide jars, make the delicious contents and/or provide fresh produce on the day. Anna can be contacted at: annamassey@bigpond.com
 - **Would anyone like to make scarecrows?** Always very popular and they make the Iris Country Fair look very jolly.
 - **Second hand books.** Annabel Dulhunty and Krissy Arnott (both in Oxley's Hill Road, Bowral) are ready to accept donations of books (including audio) and DVDs and any related paraphernalia. Books need to be clean and in good order. DVDs must be in the correct cover. Please do not include textbooks or magazines, other than 2016 or later issues of *National Geographic*, *Highlife*, *Country Style*, *Delicious* and *Gourmet Traveller*. For delivery, please contact Annabel annabel.dulhunty@me.com or Krissy kristinaarnott@me.com. Delivery to the school is also possible, please contact Michele.
 - **Volunteers.** Please register all offers of help with either Alison Lalak alisonlalak@bigpond.com or Jo Thomson j.thomson@tpg.com.au

For information please contact: Michele Scamps

Iris Country Fair Coordinator

mscamps@frensham.nsw.edu.au

02 4860 2100

0407 919 718

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

FRENSHAM Fellowship

Our thoughts are with the family of Andrew and Anne (Annie) Basnett (Mortlock, 1971), [pictured below] who died in a farm accident three weeks ago. They leave three children Tom, Campbell and Emily Poole (Basnett, 2000) and five grandchildren. Annie's sister is Susan Jardine (Mortlock, 1962).

Annie served as a Fellowship Committee Member and retired after 11 years in 2016 to spend more time with family and friends and to travel more widely.

Frensham Madrigals sang at the Memorial Service in Gunning, which was also attended by hundreds of Old Girls and their families – including members of the Fellowship Committee.

Photo courtesy: Goulburn Post



To celebrate **International Women's Day 2017**, reporter Cara Waters of the *Sydney Morning Herald* wrote an article on *Australia's nine most influential female entrepreneurs 2017*. The article included a vignette of Old Girl, Jane Cay (Boyce, 1995):

*You might not expect an online clothing retailer with more than \$20million in turnover to be based in a rural town like Cooma. But **Birdsnest** founder, Jane Cay, is used to going against the grain.*

***Birdsnest** started out as a little clothes store in Cooma's high street in 2004 when Jane moved to the town from Sydney. She launched an online store in 2009 and now employs 140 staff. Her workforce is 95 per cent female and many work flexibly and part-time to fit around school hours and other commitments.*

'Yes, we are a frock shop, but I think of us as being a customer service business,' Jane says. 'In a regional area you really have to make the most of the assets you have. I don't want to be any bigger, but I realise we have to keep striving to be the best at what we do. If our business can be proof of anything it is that you can take a crazy idea and make it work.'

***Biggest influences:** 'You don't have to be the smartest or the strongest, as long as you keep being adaptable to change and evolving, you can survive and thrive. I always had something that held me back and I thought I'm not the smartest in my class, can I really start a business on my own?' It was just a case of realising you just have to try it. That has been the biggest comfort on my journey when you feel like you are winging it.'*

***Influencing others:** 'Our vision is about making fashion friendly and empowering and recognising women in their own style. We also had to recognise we were part of a huge problem about how women feel about their bodies. We've partnered with Taryn Brumfitt who made the documentary Embrace and we're assisting with her outreach work. From a business viewpoint, we're looking at what can we do at our level which is introducing more body diversity into our photography and saying that's it for Photoshopping. Not that we did much Photoshopping but we won't even brighten teeth anymore.'*

'I think the best way to influence someone is to believe in them. We do that from the minute a staff member comes in the door. You see a twinkle in someone's eye when you hire them. If you see that twinkle and remind them of that sometimes they see the possibilities they didn't see before.'

Article and photo courtesy: *Sydney Morning Herald*. The full article <http://www.smh.com.au/small-business/-gukte5.html>

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



Communication between parents and classroom teachers is greatly valued and forms an important role in setting goals with students. As we are progressing towards the end of Term 1, students and teachers are engaged in the final stages of units of work and are reflecting on individual progress to date. A critical part of the goal setting process is the **Kindergarten to Year 6 Parent/Teacher interviews** which are taking place up until the end of this term. Parent/Teacher interviews are an important part of the reporting schedule and take place formally in Term 1 and Term 3. However, we encourage parents to request meetings at any stage of the school year in order to address questions or issues that may arise outside of formal interview times.

At the end of Term 2 and Term 4, formal written reports from Kindergarten to Year 6 are sent home and parents are encouraged to contact the school for an interview to discuss any aspects of the reports. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to respond to your class teacher's request for an interview before the end of term, so we can all work together to help your child work to the very best of his/her ability.

Ms Sally Robson, Head of Gib Gate

Curriculum Highlights 2017

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) 2017

Students from Years 2 to 6 are invited to enter the **International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) 2017**. ICAS is an initiative of **Educational Assessment Australia (EAA)** which is a not-for-profit organisation owned by the University of New South Wales. The ICAS Competitions includes Year 2 students in English, Mathematics and Science. The Year 2 assessments will be held on the same dates as those for Years 3 to 6 in these three disciplines.

ICAS provides an opportunity for students to gain a measure of achievement in an external assessment situation against other students who demonstrate a high level of ability in a variety of disciplines. It provides teachers and parents with comprehensive reporting of results in Science, English and Mathematics for Year 2 and English, Mathematics, Science and Writing for Years 3-6. Parents are advised that students wishing to challenge themselves by participating in these competitions should note that a high level of literacy, including highly developed comprehension skills in a 'limited time' situation, is needed for success with these papers, including the Mathematics and Science papers. Parents should also be aware that, at present, ICAS papers are not based on, nor designed to test, the syllabus, unlike the NAPLAN papers, which are designed to test basic literacy and numeracy skills in Years 3 and 5.

In 2017 the **ICAS Writing** task will assess persuasive writing to allow students the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in text purpose and audience; language choices that enhance writing; syntax as well as grammar and punctuation.

To support the participation by interested children, examination conditions and supervision will be provided. To assist your child to prepare, past papers are practised at school prior to the competition date.

Competition dates are as follows:

Science	Term 2, Week 6	Tuesday 30 May
Writing	Term 2, Week 8	Thursday 15 June (available for Years 3-6 only)
English	Term 3, Week 3	Tuesday 1 August
Mathematics	Term 3, Week 5	Tuesday 15 August

If you would like your child to participate in any of the disciplines offered, please make your selection on Schoolbox via the online Survey and follow the prompts. If you have one or more children who wish to participate, you will be required to repeat the procedure for each child.

Permission is required by Friday 24 March 2017. Only children for whom we receive permission on Schoolbox will be registered for the Competition.

Please contact Ms Robson or myself if you have any questions about the ICAS competitions for this year.

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

Enrichment/Activities

All classes from Year 1-6 enjoyed their immersion sessions at the **Tanken Nihongo Japanese Centre** in recent weeks. Lilly Treweeke and Elizabeth Taylor [pictured below right] are playing a game where they used their knowledge of Japanese characters.



Arabella Whitehead and Isabella Leahy creating small felt animals in Lucy's Craft Workshops



Eva Telford and Kate Nicholl (Year 5) enjoying the Nihongo Tanken Japanese Excursion



Andrew Campbell, Luke Suttie and Laura Barnsley-Adams assisting with Clean-up Australia

The Term 2 Extra Curricular Enrolment Form is available on Schoolbox. Please return the form to enrol your child for activities from next term. Lucy's Craft Workshops are available on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday and students can select their own project.

Mrs Anne Graham, Gib Gate Coordinator (Administration)

Sport Swimming



Congratulations go to all children who competed at the **SHIPS** and **IPSHA Swimming Carnivals** over the past two weeks. The results were highlighted by a large number of personal best times achieved. Oliver Linde (Year 4), performed especially well at the IPSHA carnival, achieving personal best times in all his events and finishing 9th overall in the 50m Backstroke and 15th in the 50m Freestyle.

Camilla O'Brien, Elizabeth Nesci, Savannah Linde, Ava Berkelouw (Year 6)

Summer Sports

The Summer Sports programme concludes over the coming weeks. We offer our best wishes to all those teams in Basketball and Water Polo as they contest the semi-finals and finals.

Equestrian

At the **NSW Equestrian Awards** presentation last week, Elizabeth Taylor (Year 5) on behalf of last year's Equestrian team, accepted the **Champion Primary School** trophy from the organisers of the 2016 Interschools Equestrian competition.



Elizabeth Taylor and Alexandra Inglis (Year 5) with the trophy for Champion NSW Primary Interschools Equestrian Team

Elizabeth Taylor is also congratulated on her outstanding performances at the Royal Canberra Show last week: 1st place - Child's Show Hunter Galloway (Grand Nationals qualifier - the only winner from child's events at Royals, SHC Horse of the Year and SHC [Show Horse Council] Grand National qualifying shows); 1st place: - Open Pony 12.2-13 hands. Elizabeth finished ahead of the professional and adult riders in a strong class of about 25 ponies. The quality field included the 2016 Nationals winner, Sydney Royal Champion and Reserve Champion from last year, last year's Horse of the Year champion; 2nd place Girl Rider Under 11; 4th place - Open Ridden Riding Pony.

At the **Horse of the Year** awards held last weekend, Elizabeth won Medium Child's Pony, runner-up Small Show Hunter Galloway and runner-up Rider under 12. This qualifies her for the National competition to be held in December 2017.

Winter Sports

Winter Sports begin very soon with Hockey beginning 1 April. Soccer games commence in Term 2.

Snowsports

Gib Gate offers two levels of Snowsports experience for students. The Recreational ski trip in August is a family-oriented **Learn to Ski programme** and we are seeking interested families to join this activity. Any parents who have not yet responded and would like to be involved in this opportunity are asked to contact Mr Standen or Mrs Russell for more information.

The **Interschools Snowsports** is a competition-based activity on three levels: Regional, State and National. Last year, Gib Gate entered 35 Skiers in various disciplines and divisions in this activity. In 2017 we already have quite a number of children who have registered their interest in competing at the Interschools events this year.



Pictured left, the **Gib Gate U12 Cricket Team**, from left to right: Hamish Murray (Year 3), Thomas Campbell (Year 4), Archie Maitland (Year 5), Charlie Johns (Year 5), Joseph O'Shannessy (Year 5), Mr Standen, Duncan Greig (Year 6), Jessica Savage (Year 6), Andrew Campbell (Year 5).

Mr Michael Standen, Co-ordinator of PDHPE and Sport

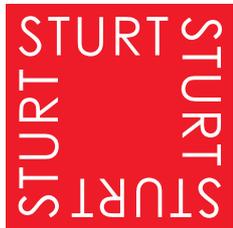
Preschool (Pre-Kindergarten)

Following our exploration of mini beasts in the preschool outdoor environment and in the forest behind preschool, it was a natural progression to explore *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle. Most of the children are familiar with this story so they were ready to meet 'Cat' (a toy caterpillar) and take him for home visits with the story and a notebook. This was a great opportunity to strengthen the connection between home and school as the children were invited to read the book with their family and take Cat on an adventure before returning to school to share with their peers what had occurred during the home visit. Not only was this lots of fun, it was a wonderful way to promote the concept that what is said by each child can be transferred into print and then be read by the teachers exactly as each child shared it with their family. This experience helps to lay the foundation that dialogue and print are related. One classmate offered, 'That's really what I said!' when the home visit notebook was read. The children's photos and notebook messages have been included in a class book to which they are eager to refer with their peers in reflection or anticipation.

Preschool (continued...)

A visitor from the **Wingecarribee Shire Council Waste Centre** encouraged us to explore recycling. A waste audit prompted us to set ourselves a challenge to discover how we could reduce the landfill we created at Preschool. We introduced recycling bins and a worm farm into our environment. There is no doubt we are keen environmentalists as we have become very proud that we have the power to change the world (one small step at a time). Promoting environmental issues through practical hands on experiences allows children to see the power that they have not only in recycling but in all areas of life. If we promote children to be problem solvers with inquiring minds they will continue to develop knowing that there are always answers to challenges.

Mrs Tinna Loker, Preschool Coordinator



STURT News

FRIENDS OF STURT

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

New Resident

International glass and installation artist, B Jane Cowie, is coming to Sturt to undertake a residency to finalise work for her exhibition in Sturt Gallery, opening on Sunday 9 April. B Jane is based in Singapore and has an extensive list of exhibition and major project credits. She will be working in the Waverley classroom in the middle of Frensham campus from Monday 20 March.

Winter School 2017

The *Winter School* programme is now on the Sturt website and includes a diverse selection of courses such as *portraits in watercolour; botanical art – nuts, seeds and pods; figurative sculpture in clay; etching and champlevé enamelling; digital marquetry; exploring ice cool porcelain and much more*. We also have daily art classes for children.

Short Courses 2017

Short courses are now on the Sturt website and feature a diverse range of opportunities from *ephemeral art* to *tool restoration* and *steam bending* to *still life painting*. More courses will be included as workshops are confirmed.

<http://www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/education/short-courses>

Book now for Term classes in 2017

Dates for term classes in 2017 are now on the Sturt website. With a newly refurbished woodwork studio and machine room, we will have increased opportunities for woodworkers to attend classes during the day and evening as well as jewellery/metalwork, weaving and ceramics classes. <http://www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/education/term-classes>

Exhibitions

Alumni – selected graduates of the Sturt School for Wood 1985-2005 – continues to 2 April 2017

The *Sturt School for Wood* was established in 1985 as an intensive training place for aspiring fine furniture makers and designers. Over 30 years later the school has built a national and international reputation offering an unrivalled course taught by some of the best fine furniture makers and teachers working in Australia and overseas. For the first time, this exhibition will invite a selection of graduates from the early years of the School to display their current work and furniture-making philosophy. Artists include: Alex Springall, Blair Ossendryver, Chris Wilford, Geoff Tonkin, Jeff Freeman, John Gallagher, Laura McCusker, Mark Lenny, Nick Statham, Paul Nicholson, Roy Schack, Stuart Faulkner, Stuart Pinkerton and Warwick Wright.

Gauge - a matter of moisture – an installation by B Jane Cowie -9 April to 28 May 2017

The installation will create an environment within the Gallery of an ethereal nature that is pleasant, comforting and soft. This exhibition will address issues of water and rainfall, by investigating the collection and creation of these matters of moisture occurring within different lived environments. This exhibition will be opened on **Sunday 9 April** at 11am by special guest **Peter Minson, Glass Artist**.

Friends of Sturt Committee Meeting, Sturt Cottage Wednesday 5 April 5.30pm

Join the Committee for a glass of wine and a preview of the next exhibition in Sturt Gallery.

Full details of all Sturt courses, exhibitions, residency programmes and events can be found on the website www.sturt.nsw.edu.au or to make a booking or enrolment call Sturt Shop on +61 2 4860 2083 or email shop@sturt.nsw.edu.au

Mr Mark Viner, Head of Sturt

Deputy Head

Students in Years 7-12 have been asked to nominate either Soccer or Basketball as their Term 2 team sport. Students are also able to participate in Cross Country. Training for Cross Country will begin in Week 7 on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

The IGSSA Cross Country will be held at Frensham on Friday 12 May. This is one of the major sporting events on the IGSSA Calendar with over 800 runners from more than 30 schools involved. Schools are allowed to enter up to eight runners in each age group.

Extra Subjects Forms for Term 2 will be sent to parents during Week 9. It is assumed that students will continue their Term 1 music and tennis lessons. All other activities, including Sturt, are on a term by term basis and parents should complete new forms where applicable.

BYOD Programme

The BYOD programme across the school continues to provide students with valuable educational tools and opportunities for staff to educate students on the appropriate use of IT. BYOD is not just about the technology; it is about a school providing quality education in a networked world and schools operating in a networked paradigm. It is also about schools providing transformational instructional activities where students are able to demonstrate what they have learned using their chosen device. At Frensham, students are linked to classes through their mobile device via a **Learning Management System (LMS)**, in our case Schoolbox. A LMS allows teachers and students to collaborate, communicate and integrate other learning tools through one learning portal.

Mr Geoff Marsh, Deputy Head

Boarding News

After the success of Open Day and the Year 7 Parent Weekend where many people took the opportunity to visit the Boarding Houses, including Old Girls from the 60-Year and 20-Year Reunions as well as many new visitors to Frensham, students set off on the various expeditions as part of the Outdoor Education programme. Year 11 students remained on campus for the **Year 11 Leadership Programme** and were accommodated in Linden Turner House.

There were many experiences to be shared on their return with equipment to be cleaned and stored away for future use.

This week, students will sit at different tables for all meals until the end of term. Changing table places is designed to enable students to become better acquainted with girls in other years as well as their own cohort.

We are in the midst of planning for the **Year 10 Parent Weekend** and the **Confirmation Service** as well as the official opening of **Linden Turner House**.

Mrs Ros Buick, Director of Planning & Events; Mrs Amanda Wansey, Deputy Head of Boarding

Director of Teaching and Learning

2017 Illawarra Regional da Vinci Decathlon

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) is one of the world's great thinkers and scholars. He was a polymath with a career spanning visual arts, architecture, cartography, poetry, academics, anatomy, mechanical and military engineering, mathematics and astronomy. Leonardo demonstrated a superior ability to perceive the interconnected nature of knowledge and he maintained a lifelong passion to discover the unknown. His intellectual legacy sets a permanent challenge for leaders and thinkers in the 21st century

The da Vinci Decathlon is an academic competition designed to challenge and stimulate the minds of school students. This year, Frensham will compete in the Year 7, Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 divisions. A team of eight students from each year group will represent the School. Team selections are based on the students' independent applications and demonstrated academic ability.

The Theme for this year's da Vinci Decathlon is *Imagination*. All tasks in the da Vinci Decathlon emphasise higher order thinking skills – thus assisting students to develop their abilities in analysis, synthesis and creativity. Each team of eight students competes in 10 disciplines:

- Mathematics: problem solving, number patterns and logic puzzles
- English: spelling, word origins, definitions, textual analysis and writing tasks
- Science: engaging with higher level scientific concepts and testing student ability to apply them
- Code Breaking: deciphering complex, mysterious codes
- Engineering Challenge: a design task that tests problem-solving skills, creativity and ingenuity
- Ideation: (new for 2017) involves the skills of design thinking and the process of creating new ideas
- Creative Producers: create and perform a 60 second drama or 30 second commercial to promote a product
- Art and Poetry: develop an original poem and a connected art work on a given theme
- Cartography: interpret spatial information, decipher and create imaginative maps
- General Knowledge: current affairs, entertainment, the Renaissance, sport and trivia – you name it!

Teams will compete against other schools in the Southern Highlands and Illawarra at **The Illawarra Grammar School** in Wollongong in Week 2 of Term 2. In preparation, they will be 'training' weekly to develop their individual and team skills.

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

Director of Studies

Senior staff have been involved in **HSC 2016 analysis of data**. This has been facilitated by material provided by NESAs, which allows close examination of both course and individual results. The advantages of this process are the professional conversations that inform programme adjustments, the confirmation of practices and procedures leading to student success, and the identification of areas where further improvement can be made. This analysis is a key strategy for improving student outcomes, in line with the **WWS Strategic Theme: Learning and Teaching**, whereby we continue to strive to achieve the highest academic standards within a broad educational experience that fosters excellence across all aspects of the educational programme,

Year 11 students have adapted well to the demands of the **Senior Students' Programme** and the rigour of the Preliminary HSC courses. This week, they will sign their NESAs subject confirmation form to ensure correct enrolment in courses. Efficient work habits and skill consolidation are essential elements in moving forward in their HSC studies.

Last week during Outdoor Education/Senior Studies programmes, Year 11 students had a very positive experience. Workshops included planning study timetables, public speaking and exploration of ethical decision-making. In addition, Ms Gillick conducted a Leadership at Frensham session prior to a full day presentation by the **Burn Bright** organisation. With a focus on servant leadership and the value of positive relationships in being able to lead purposefully and constructively, girls were actively involved in exploring leadership in a fun and dynamic environment. Other elements of the programme included a visit to the cinema to see the film, *Hidden Figures*, and guest speakers from Cricket NSW, who addressed the group with messages about teamwork leadership and striving for excellence. A noteworthy highlight was the **Year 12 Student Panel**, who shared with Year 11 their wisdom about being a successful student and urged Year 11 to be fully engaged in all aspects of School life and to work hard to achieve their goals.

Ms Janene van Gogh, Director of Studies – in Residence

English and Drama

Drama

Year 7 students were very involved in Drama during the Year 7 Parent Weekend with a class workshop presentation during Open Day and their first opportunity to tread the boards on the Clubbe Hall stage for the Year 7 Concert. For their performances, all three Drama classes adapted a well-known picture book for the stage. One group performed Giles Andreae's book, *Rumble in the Jungle*, directed by Mrs Sally Hannah, another group performed Julia Donaldson's book, *The Gruffalo*, directed by Ms Fiona Shannon, and a third group performed Mem Fox's book, *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*, directed by Mrs Amanda Metua. The students enjoyed their first public Frensham performance, demonstrating their skills in characterisation and their ability to work as an ensemble. They entered the stage confidently and exited with large smiles on their faces in response to enthusiastic applause from the audience.

On Friday 3 March, Year 9 Drama students participated in a **Commedia Workshop** with Scott Parker from **Matriark Theatre**. Matriark is a unique, multi-arts theatre company specialising in *Commedia dell'Arte* and physical/visual performance. Scott provided the context for the 16th century theatrical style and demonstrated how it informs theatre today. The students began by looking at the purpose and physicality of each character archetype, then developed their own lazzi (comic action) and familiarised themselves with the masks of each role in their performances. The workshop was an excellent introduction to this highly stylised and physical form of theatre which provided a great foundation for students to base their own study.

The **2017 Birthday Play**, *The Real Inspector Hound* by Tom Stoppard, has been cast and rehearsals have commenced under the direction of Mrs Sally Hannah. The plot follows two theatre critics named Moon and Birdboot who are watching a ludicrous setup of a country house murder mystery, in the style of a 'whodunit'. By chance, they become involved in the action causing a series of events that parallel the play they are watching. It is a parody of the stereotypical parlour mystery in the style of Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*, as well as of the critics watching the play, with their personal desires and obsessions interwoven into their bombastic and pompous reviews. The play examines the ideas of fate and free will, as well as exploring the themes of the 'play within a play'. The Year 11 and 12 cast and crew look forward to your attendance on Thursday 1 and Saturday 3 June at 7:30pm in Clubbe Hall.

The cast: Emily Cooke, *Moon*; Madeleine Johnston, *Higgs*; Annabella Lewis, *Cynthia*; Chloe McCrabb, *Birdboot*; Kate Swan, *Hound*; Olivia Thomas, *Maid*; Susannah Watson, *Mrs Drudge*; Georgia Gardner, *Radio Announcer*; Caroline Gotterson, *Felicity*; Phoebe Hill, *Simon Gascoyne*; Ruby Kennett, *Radio Announcer*; Stella Wilde, *Radio Announcer*; Chipo Riva, *Magnus*.

Mrs Sally Hannah, Senior Teacher

English

No two people ever read the same book. Edmund Wilson

It was a great pleasure to meet so many new Frensham parents during Open Day and to discuss their daughters' reading preferences and skills in relation to their English learning. Of the two texts studied by Year 7 so far this year, the play *Honey Spot* by Jack Davis seemed to be a universal favourite, while the novel *So Much to Tell You* by John Marsden had a mixed reception, from 'too sad and confronting' to 'the best book my daughter has ever read.'

It is remarkable that personal reception of almost any work of fiction published is as varied as the people who respond to it. However, whether we love or loathe a book, our reaction to it is always a learning experience. Armenian-Russian writer, Vera Nazarian, believes that 'Whenever you read a good book, somewhere in the world a door opens to allow in more light.' Certainly, education and literacy are universally valued, and nowhere more so than at Frensham.

Fiction texts chosen for study in English classes are selected for their potential to entertain, enlighten and inform. Issues raised by the texts are a major element of classroom discussion, and students are frequently encouraged to choose their own reading matter from a range of suggested texts, or to propose their own choices.

Classroom discussion of literary themes promotes a thoughtful consideration of issues common to the human experience. With this goal in mind, the Frensham English curriculum provides a carefully selected menu of classic and contemporary texts for the girls to enjoy. In studying Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, Year 10 students consider, among other things, the addictive nature of power and ambition and its consequences. In discussing major themes in Markus Zusak's contemporary novel, *The Book Thief*, they come to recognise the power of words, and to admire the sustained exhibition of courage in the face of adversity. Similarly, Year 9 students enrich their understanding of family expectations, relationships and individual autonomy in their study of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. This context then serves as a framework for their appreciation of the complex migrant family dynamics in Melina Marchetta's contemporary Australian novel, *Looking for Alibrandi*.

Year 8's study of *Trash* by Andy Mulligan, a deceptively simple novel with a complex narrative structure, raises issues of poverty, corruption, waste and excess. Additionally, in their wide reading, Year 8 students have the opportunity to engage with novels and true stories of courage and survival. With choices ranging from *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *The Boy in Striped Pyjamas*, to Morris Gleitzman's series of Jewish Holocaust stories, *Once, Now, Then*, there is something to pique the interest of young readers with a broad range of literacy skills.

Through the ages, people have enlarged their understanding of human societies and individuals through listening to and reading stories. In the 19th century, novels with strong social themes such as those written by Charles Dickens and Elizabeth Gaskell were influential in improving the lifestyles of those less fortunate. Similarly, many contemporary novels draw attention to specific concerns of our time. Our current Year 12 HSC English Standard students are studying *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon, which provides insight into the perspective of a teenager with Asperger's Syndrome. All of the texts mentioned in this article are interesting and enjoyable for so many readers, enabling them to vicariously experience joys and traumas that enlarge their understanding of themselves and their world. Although some of our Year 7 readers of *So Much to Tell You* may have found the book confronting, in sharing the narrator's worries, fears, hopes and desires, they have all been introduced to a new world of experience.

Ms Jennie Mickle, Director of English

French

Life in *la Section de Français* is now calm after the combined excitements of the Year 7 Parent-Teacher Weekend, Open Day and Outdoor Education Week. It was a pleasure to meet many Francophile parents among the Year 7 cohort and to discover the extensive general parental support for the subject. Girls from Year 7 to Year 12 Extension classes are now preparing for their Term 1 Assessment in French. For most classes, this consists of a joint Listening Task with Reading Skills, considered to be the most straightforward of the 'passive' comprehension abilities. As the year progresses, the intensity and challenge of the students' learning build towards the Term 2 Writing Assessment, which tests grammar and ability to write 'freely' and accurately in French; thence to the consolidation of all skills in Terms 3 or 4 Speaking (Oral) tests. By the time the students are tested on their ability to communicate orally, it is hoped that they will have mastered correct grammar and pronunciation so that they become competent to express themselves accurately. The theory underpinning the programme of French teaching at Frensham is that the spoken word is usually retained in the memory longer than the written word.

Mme Mary Kidner, Teacher of French

Latin

During the Latin 'in class' session at Open Day, a group of Year 9 girls participated in a *Kahoot* quiz which consisted of 35 multiple choice questions, all requiring different skills and knowledge, based on language and cultural content primarily from the Year 8 Course Book. Parents and visitors attended the session, some participating and proving quite knowledgeable in areas such as word derivations. The quiz was fun and educational and it was wonderful to see the girls demonstrate their knowledge of the Roman world and the Latin language.

Latin students in Years 9-12 are practising past papers in preparation for the annual **National Latin Examination** in Week 7. Girls in Years 9 and 10 with Ms Akins have been focusing particularly on revision and acquisition of the grammar and cultural knowledge necessary for the examination as well as the style of questions asked.

Ms Liz Stephenson and Miss Victoria Akins, Teachers of Latin

Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

Recently, a number of parents have asked about the value of HSIE subjects. As an HSIE teacher, the values of my subject area are immediately obvious to me, but that may not always be the case for everyone. I hope the following explanation will convey the importance of HSIE subjects and the value what we are teaching.

Research skills: If a student cannot recall who the first Pharaoh of Egypt was at the end of Year 7, this is not of concern for an HSIE teacher, but if they have not developed the skills to find out who it was then we need to rethink how we are teaching the course. One of the main skills taught in HSIE subjects is the ability to locate, verify and use information. My father recently asked me, 'If you do not teach content, what do you teach?' In a world where information is readily accessible on computers, mobile devices and the like, it is more important to teach students to make judgements about which content material is the best and how to verify it, rather than simply teaching content.

Writing skills: HSIE subjects teach a highly critical and analytical writing style that is required for success in most university courses. Students in HSIE are taught to write in this highly critical and analytical style from Year 7, using scaffolds to ensure that they understand how the parts of an argument fit together. This skill is then built upon in successive years.

Source analysis: Analysing primary sources or data may not seem an important skill in life, but in an age when news sources provide completely different sets of facts and viewpoints on the same situations, events and personalities, it is critical to ensure that students can discern the facts for themselves by sifting through information that may be biased or one-sided. This is a skill explicitly taught in HSIE subjects, again from Year 7, so that students can verify information presented to them in a variety of media.

Upcoming events

On 21 March, Year 7 will be visiting the **Nicholson Museum at the University of Sydney**. They will be studying the primary sources on display for Ancient Egypt (including the mummies and sarcophagi) and learning how to analyse artefacts. Students will also be studying the university's Main Quadrangle as an historic site, learning about its stages of development and analysing its features to understand why the main Quadrangle was constructed in the way that it was.

Studies

Year 12 are currently undertaking their assessments this week. Year 11: Ancient History students are about to commence their study of the ancient City of Troy, while the Business Studies class are continuing their study of factors influencing business growth and decline. Modern History classes are finishing their study of the Romanov Dynasty and Geography students are studying natural resource uses.

Year 10 Australian Studies students have just started their investigation of Australia in its regional and global context and Year 9 Australian Studies are learning about migration. Year 8 World Studies are continuing their study of global inequalities while Year 7 girls are commencing their study of Ancient Egypt.

Mr Stephen Clarke, Head of HSIE

Jamieson Programme

The Jamieson Programme began with Jamieson Weekends in 1986 when some of the bequest of Hilda Jamieson was used to buy camping equipment for Frensham. It has expanded since then to become an integral programme in the School, built on the belief that ‘... Exposure to challenges, in a secure environment, can awaken in young people a belief in themselves which will stay with them throughout their lives...’

Congratulations to all year groups on completion of their respective Outdoor Education Camps. Students braved the challenges of camp and, by all accounts, really enjoyed the camp week.

Last Thursday, Year 9 students visited the **Sydney Jewish Museum** and the **Auburn Gallipoli Mosque** as part of the *Religious Studies* component of the Jamieson Programme. Students listened to informative presentations about the nature of both the Jewish and Islamic religions. These presentations gave the students an insight into the lives of Australians who belong to the Jewish and Islamic faiths and of how religion fits into their daily lives.

A report from a Year 9 student:

Year 9 enjoyed visiting the Sydney Jewish Museum and Auburn Gallipoli Mosque. The excellent presenter at the SJM was bombarded with questions from the year group and we were fascinated by the individual tour guides who explained the celebrations, symbols and history of this religion. The Auburn Gallipoli Mosque was so beautiful, especially the ceiling. The guide was helpful in answering all our questions, particularly about the role of women in the Islamic religion. Whilst the traditions and rituals of each religion were quite different we were also surprised by the many common elements shared among the Jewish, Islamic and Christian faiths. We are looking forward to learning about the Buddhist religion in a couple of weeks.

Finally, Year 9 students in the Cambridge IGCSE interdisciplinary course *Global Perspectives* have been investigating a range of interesting debates and issues in preparation for their first Individual Research Project, which is due for completion at the end of this term. They have received feedback from their teachers on the first Checkpoint and are now working towards submitting the second Checkpoint by 20 March

Ms Merrilee Harris, Jamieson Programme Coordinator

Mathematics

This week saw all classes build on their knowledge and skills of Integers (Year 7), Data (Year 8), Algebra (Year 9), Algebra (Year 10) and various topics in the Year 11 and Year 12 courses. Years 7-12 learning is best described as a continuum and is cyclical in nature; topics are revisited from previous years and further learning is designed to include new concepts and to extend students' thinking. Learning new skills and applying knowledge to unfamiliar questions are both requirements of the syllabus and important for 21st century learning.

Continuing the Mathematics Department's **Pi Day** traditions we celebrated Pi Day on 14 March, officially marked at 1:59 pm (3.14159...). Over the last few weeks, students have been voluntarily remembering the digits of Pi. Why would they do this? Year 7 classes were quick to explain that it was fun and that they would always remember that Pi is an irrational number and the digits are infinite. Some students enjoyed discussing various memory techniques needed for learning (eg remembering names and the importance of being able to recall facts and formulae) and whether being able to predict the next digit in this seemingly random number is a problem that today's mathematicians are yet to solve. Many students are fascinated by this simple symbol and its application to so many areas of Mathematics from Year 8 learning about circles, to Year 11 who recognised Pi in the movie *Hidden Figures*, to Year 12 understanding the application of Pi in Calculus.

The following records have been set by girls: Year 7 Zé McGrath (72 digits), Year 8 Eleanor Swan (110 digits), Year 9 Mia Horsfall (56 digits), Year 10 Alexandra Hill (61 digits), Year 11 Gabrielle Steiner (191 digits) and Georgia Gardner (150 digits); and, Miss Wong (26 digits). Sophie Booth (Year 12) is commended for her enthusiasm and organisation.

All students are commended for their participation in the Pi Day class quiz and Pi recital. There were many students who recite Pi to over 20 decimal places. Thank you to the Mathematics faculty whose passion and enthusiasm for Mathematics created the rich activities that made Pi Day such fun.

Mrs Yvette Semler, Head of Mathematics Music

While **Open Day** and the **Year 7 Parent Weekend** was always going to be busy for Frensham musicians, the Madrigals were given another rather poignant role to play on the Friday beforehand: the Basnett family specially invited the choir to sing at the Memorial Service for Old Girl, Anne and her husband Andrew Basnett in the Gunning Shire Hall. The Madrigals sang a special item, with Charlotte Bernays (Year 12) and Róisín Spencer (Year 12) on cello and violin respectively, and supported the hymn-singing beautifully. Of particular note was a very moving vocal performance by Charlotte Bernays with Nina Jephcott (Year 11) accompanying on flute. The Madrigals supported the service in just the way we would expect and they earned themselves and the school great credit in the eyes and ears of the Gunning community.

On Sunday, the Concert Band opened the **Year 7 Concert** with a very polished, comic performance of the theme from *The Muppets*. It was very pleasing to see the Year 7 instrumentalists (two trombone players) already participating so confidently. Later, the Senior Choir performed Karl Jenkins' *Benedictus* featuring Charlotte Bernays on cello, Róisín Spencer on violin, the Frensham trumpets, percussionists and the entire school singing at the climax. As is traditional, the final item featured all Year 7 students in a percussive performance which reflected their recent exploration of rhythm and making music from found objects.

Parents of Senior Choir members are reminded that the Choir will be supporting Year 10 students by singing at the Confirmation Service this Saturday 18 March. Students must 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.

Mr Michael Spencer, Head of Music

Science



Acidic and basic environments exist everywhere. The human body has a slightly acidic skin surface to assist in disease control and digestion occurs in both acidic and basic environments to assist the breakdown of the biopolymers constituting food. Many industries use acidic and basic compounds for a wide range of purposes and these compounds are found in daily use within the home. Year 12 Chemistry students are studying a topic called the *Acidic Environment* and have been carrying out titrations. Titrations are a type of experiment where a known property of one solution is used to infer an unknown property of another solution. In acid-base chemistry, titration is used to determine the pH of a certain solution.

Ellie Fox and Mia Withers (Year 12) performing titrations [pictured]

National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) applications have opened and will close on 31 May. NYSF is a 12 day residential programme for students entering Year 12 (ie studying Year 11 Science currently) who are passionate about Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The programme aims to show participants the wide variety of study and career options available in STEM fields. The next programme will be run in January 2018 in Canberra and Brisbane. Year 11 students studying Science have been given information in their classes and are encouraged to apply through the local Berrima District Rotary Club.

Mrs Alison Andrew, Head of Science

Agriculture & Show Cattle Team

Robertson Show

The fourth Show for the Cattle Team was at Robertson last weekend. Twenty students accompanied 11 cattle to the Robertson Show as well as many parents who came in support of the team. The team had another successful day. The results were as follows:

Senior Bull 24-30 months: 1st - *Wildwood Genesis* led by Daisy Latimer; Champion Senior Bull: *Wildwood Genesis* led by Daisy Latimer; Grand Champion Bull: *Wildwood Genesis* led by Daisy Latimer

Lightweight Steers: 1st - *Miles* (Charolais) led by Olivia Salkeld; 3rd - *Kahn* (Highland) led by Isabelle Perrottet. Heavyweight Steers: 1st - *Lester* (Angus) led by Mia Withers; 2nd - *Macca* (Simmental) led by Miriam Hopkins; 3rd - *Levi* (Angus) led by Grace Halliday. Champion Steer: - *Miles* (Charolais) led by Olivia Salkeld. Junior Paraders < 13 Years: 2nd - Zé McGrath leading *Miles*; 3rd - Brigitte Watkin leading *Odo* (competing in a younger age group due to more girls than steers in the Intermediate class).

Intermediate Paraders 13-15 Years: 4th - Alice Hayes leading *Pablo*. Senior Paraders >16 Years: 1st - Mia Withers leading *Lester*; 2nd - Olivia Salkeld leading *Miles* (competing in an older age group due to more girls than steers in the Intermediate class). Champion Parader: Mia Withers leading *Lester*. Junior Steer Competition: 1st - Mia Withers leading *Lester*; 2nd - Olivia Salkeld leading *Miles*; 3rd - Ellie Ireson leading *Pablo*.

On Friday 10 March, 10 students from the Years 9 and 10 Agriculture classes attended the Robertson Show to compete in the **Young Judges Zone Finals for Grain and Fruit and Vegetables**. There were approximately 30 students from four schools from the South Coast and Tablelands region in the competition.

In the Fruit and Vegetable judging, the competitors had to judge four samples of apples, tomatoes and cucumbers, placing them in order from first to fourth. The results from the first round were collated and then the top scoring students competed in the second, oral round where they had to judge one of the classes in front of the gathered crowd. Olivia Salkeld (Year 10) achieved 1st place with Emily Gubbins (Year 10) in 2nd place. Both students have now qualified to compete in the Young Judges Fruit and Vegetable **State Final** to be held at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Later in the day, students competed in the **Young Judges Grain Zone Final**, judging samples of canola, barley and wheat. Dimity Crowe (Year 9) achieved 1st place and Olivia Salkeld (Year 10) 3rd place, with both qualifying for the Young Judges Grain State Final at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

L-R: Olivia Salkeld, Dimity Crowe and Emily Gubbins



On Tuesday 14 March, Frensham hosted the **Young Judges Zone Final** for Meat Sheep Breeds, Merino Sheep and Merino Fleeces, at the Holt Farm. Sixty students from Frensham, MacArthur Anglican School and St Gregory's College competed on the day. The Merino Fleeces class was judged by Mr Peter South from Landmark Goulburn. Mr James Frost from Hilden Poll Dorset Stud, Bannister, was the Overjudge for the Meat Breeds Sheep class, where competitors judged Poll Dorset rams from Hilden Poll Dorset Stud and White Suffolk ewes from MacArthur Anglican School. The Merino ewes judged in the Merino Sheep class were provided by Mr Alex Wilson, Tarago. All of the sheep were exhibited by the Year 9 Agriculture class with the Year 10, 11 and 12 Agriculture classes competing in all events. Paige Wilson (Year 12), Olivia Salkeld and Amelia Thomson (Year 10) qualified for the second, oral round in the Meat Sheep Breeds class with Olivia Salkeld (*pictured right*) winning the event and qualifying for the **State Final** at the **Sydney Royal Easter Show**. In the Merino Sheep class, Charlie Rogers (Year 11), Pippa Hanan, Olivia Salkeld, and Gina McGinnis (Year 10) competed in the second, oral round with Olivia Salkeld winning the event and Pippa Hanan placing third. Olivia qualified for the **State Final** to be held at the **Sydney Royal Easter Show** in April. All students performed admirably with outstanding results from Olivia Salkeld who has qualified for five **State Finals – Beef Cattle Paraders, Grain, Fruit and Vegetables, Meat Breed Sheep and Merino Sheep**.



Ms Leonie Harris, Co-ordinator of Agriculture, Show Cattle Team & Farm Manager

PDHPE



Year 10 PDHPE students are participating in their final week of practical activities as part of their *Fit for the Future* unit of work.

Students were given a choice of participating in one of the following physical activities: yoga, aqua aerobics or gym style fitness sessions. The aim of these sessions was to give students the opportunity to target specific fitness components that were most meaningful to them. The level of motivation of girls in all of these sessions has been outstanding. They are commended for the individual improvements that they have made to their personal fitness throughout this period.

Additionally, they have investigated the Australian Physical Activity Guidelines and have compared their own current activity levels and made suggestions as to how they might meet these guidelines. The unit culminates in students designing and participating in a three-week fitness programme aiming to show personal improvement.

Ms Janene van Gogh Acting 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. [See details on Schoolbox re three ways to access information direct from IGSSA.]

PLEASE NOTE: IGSSA is proposing that **all Softball and Tennis teams** play a nominated 'replacement Round' on the final Saturday of this term (1 April) in an effort to add a game for all teams. This is owing to the 'Wet Weather' and 'Extreme Hot Weather' rounds when all matches were cancelled, early in the season. Details will be advised as soon as they are confirmed.

Swimming

On Thursday 9 March, the Swimming team represented Frensham in the 92nd **IGSSA Swimming Carnival** held at SOPAC, Homebush. Congratulations to Molly Paradise (Year 11) who won the Division 3 17 Years 50m backstroke, qualifying for the final. Congratulations also to Paris Ow-Yang (Year 7), Lucy Hayes (Year 10) Kiara Stone (Year 11), and Natasha Long (Year 12) who all qualified for the 'B Final' in their 50m freestyle races.

Congratulations to the following girls who were placed within Division 3: Paris Ow-Yang (Year 7) 3rd in 12 Years 50m breaststroke; Heidi Montgomery (Year 9) 3rd in the intermediate medley relay and Claudia Logan (Year 9) 3rd in the intermediate medley relay; Lucy Hayes (Year 10) 3rd in 16 Years 50m backstroke and 3rd in the intermediate medley relay and Isabella Allen (Year 10) 3rd in the intermediate medley relay; Kiara Stone (Year 11) 3rd in 17 Years 50m freestyle and 3rd in the senior freestyle relay and Monica Webster (Year 11) 3rd in the senior freestyle relay; Skyla Harris (Year 12) 3rd in the senior freestyle relay and Natasha Long (Year 12) 2nd in 18 Years 50m freestyle, 3rd in 18 Years 50m breaststroke and 3rd in the senior freestyle relay.

All swimmers were cheered on by our proud supporters and thank you to senior girls who helped out throughout the day.

Cross Country

Cross Country training has commenced this week with a large group of runners committing themselves to two morning training sessions each week. These sessions will continue until the end of term and recommence in Term 2.

Basketball and Football

Trials have commenced for girls in Years 10, 11 and 12 who wish to trial for Teams 1 and 2 in either sport. It is pleasing to observe so many girls commit to these trials on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Miss Erin Gray, Acting Head of Sport

Equestrian

2016 Equestrian NSW Awards for Excellence

On 8 March, Frensham representatives and their parents attended the **2016 Equestrian NSW Awards for Excellence** night. **Equestrian NSW** holds its annual awards in March each year in recognition of outstanding performance across all equestrian disciplines.

Frensham was awarded **Champion Secondary School for 2016** and Year 12 Captains of Equestrian, Olivia Barton and Thea Horsley accepted the award. Gib Gate was awarded **Champion Primary School** and Elizabeth Taylor (Year 5) accepted the trophy on the night. Thea was also the recipient of an individual award for Equestrian NSW – the **2016 Eventing Junior Pre-Novice Athlete of the Year** and Emily Baldwin (Year 9) for Equestrian NSW – the **2016 Overall Senior Show Jumping Champion of the Year**.

A fantastic night was had by all and the girls who attended were very grateful for the opportunity to attend.

Over the last fortnight, riders in the Frensham Equestrian team have been competing in a range of competitions state wide.
Riders Series (SIEC) - 25 February: Ivy Hayes (Year 8) placed 1st in the 95cm Show Jumping and 2nd in the 85cm Show Jumping and Poppy Jensen (Year 7) placed 1st in the 75cm Show Jumping and 4th in the 65cm Show Jumping.
Goulburn Show - 4 March: April Stokman (Year 11) placed 3rd in the Open 1.20m Show Jumping.
The State Eventing Championships (Scone) - 5-6 March: Olivia Barton placed 5th in the Bates Saddles 2 star (the only junior in the class) and Thea Horsley (Year 12) placed 1st and 2nd in the Junior 1 star; Willa Mitchell (Year 8) placed 1st in the Junior Pre-Novice 105 class and Rebecca Muller (Year 9) placed 14th in the Junior Preliminary 95 class.

The next Interschools Event on the calendar is **Oxley College Equestrian Day** on 30 April. Entries are now open via Nominate.

Miss Victoria Akins, Equestrian Coordinator

Visual Arts/Design & Technology

On Monday 6 March, Year 12 students of Visual Arts and Design & Technology attended an excursion to Sydney to view the *ARTEXPRESS* and *Shape* exhibitions.

At the *Shape* exhibition at the **Powerhouse Museum**, Ultimo, students were able to view outstanding **Major Design Projects** produced by students studying Design & Technology for the 2016 Higher School Certificate. On display were both examples of sections of design portfolios and tangible products, systems or environments created by students. Whilst still modest in scope, we felt that the exhibition was more ambitious than in the previous two years, when fewer Major Design Projects were exhibited.

Later in the morning, we visited the **Art Gallery of NSW** to view *ARTEXPRESS*. Thirty-eight Bodies of Work produced in 2016 were on display at this venue, including Willa Robinson's *And you call us lazy*. In the afternoon, the students visited **Hazelhurst Regional Art Gallery**, Gymea to view another selection of works as part of *ARTEXPRESS* (whilst the Art Gallery of NSW is the most prominent venue for *ARTEXPRESS* exhibitions, it is worth noting that several venues are used to showcase these outstanding Bodies of Work). This exhibition featured 52 Bodies of Work, including Lucy Barrett's series of paintings titled *SKIN-SKHN* produced last year. At both exhibitions, the girls had the opportunity to appreciate and note the scope and variety of themes and ideas explored and the media with which these were conveyed. Seeing Willa's and Lucy's work on display helped the girls understand that achieving highly in this subject and producing work considered worthy for selection in a showcase exhibition is well within reach for students at Frensham.

On Tuesday 14 February, as part of their study of the landscape in both artmaking and art criticism and history, students in Year 8 attended a Visual Arts incursion. Under the guidance of Ms Farmer and Mrs Spencer, the girls spent the morning in the bushland of the Holt, taking photographs, completing some drawing exercises and collecting objects such as twigs and gumnuts in preparation for a small collograph print.

After lunch in the Drama Studio, artist Robyn Kinsela spoke about her artistic practice and showed students examples of her work. From photographs and small drawings completed on the day, students are working towards completing their collograph print and a painting which combines elements of photographic resource imagery, drawing and abstracted patterns found in natural forms.

Mr Phil Aldis, Head of Visual Arts and Design