



Newsletter

TERM 1 NO 1
8 February 2012


Inspiration - through the eyes of students...

When Gib Gate and Frensham teachers return for a new year there is always a mix of focus on our recent graduates and our 'new students'. We wonder and worry about those who have headed off for high school or university and we enjoy feedback or updates (from parents or students) about their 'next steps' educationally. For those new to the School, there is an intense sense of responsibility shared by returning students, formally appointed 'Shadows' and all staff – everyone wants the start to be smooth, manageable and positive. To the credit of parents and the 'School team', our first week has been filled with examples that reflect careful preparation and keenness to contribute to the wellbeing of each and every member of the School.

I urge all to consider the significance of the report by Mrs Cheryllyne Williams (in the Careers Advisor part of her senior staff role) on the tertiary offers to Year 12, 2011. (page 2 of this Newsletter). A few months ago the 'Class of 2011' was completing the Higher School Certificate examinations. Over the past few weeks they have been reporting back to us with excitement about their tertiary study and scholarship offers or contacting Mrs Williams to seek further guidance about the array of options from which to choose...and that 'ongoing contact' is not limited to our most recent leavers.

There has been news from former students completing undergraduate degree courses, those heading for overseas for post-graduate studies and those sharing early career news with teachers for whom they retain the highest respect. This week I share from an email sent by Inca Hutchinson (2006) who completed an undergraduate Science degree in 2011:

I have just started my second week of medical school at the University of Wollongong (Nowra campus) and was excited to discover that Rosie Hanbury (2008) is also in my cohort. The programme promises to be demanding and enjoyable. It is interesting to draw parallels between what we are currently learning in medical ethics and the values promoted by Winifred West. The four basic medical directives of Non-maleficence (do no harm), Beneficence (do good), Justice (be fair) and Autonomy (respect other people) mirror the core values of Frensham and its founders. I dare say that it is hardly a coincidence that many Frensham graduates enter medicine, as this way of thinking and relating to others comes almost as second-nature by the end of our high-school education. I thought that this was an interesting and probably deliberate strategy engineered in the vision of the ever-inspiring Miss West which I should share with you...!..'

Academic Highlights

Higher School Certificate:

Prior to Christmas, by separate letter we forwarded to parents the initial summary of Higher School Certificate results for Year 12, 2011 and we have recently received advice about University Offers. I note here, for interest, the range of courses offered in the first round by universities – highlighting the diversity of interest and significant achievement by individual girls and by the year group as a whole:

- B Arts
- B International & Global Studies
- B Liberal Arts & Science
- B Media & Communications
- B Communications (Public Relations)
- B Science with B Arts
- B Political, Economic & Social Science
- B Criminology with B Law
- B Criminology & Criminal Justice
- B Veterinary Science
- B Animal & Veterinary Bioscience
- B Medicine with B Surgery
- B Genetics
- B Medical Science
- B Nursing
- B Biomedical Science
- B Pharmacy
- B Applied Science MRS (Diagnostic Radiography)
- B Medical & Health Sciences
- B Nursing with B Arts – International Studies
- B Sports Studies
- B Sport Coaching & Exercise Science with B IT
- B Rural Science
- B Agriculture with B Business
- B Sustainability
- B Environmental Science
- B Science (Advanced Science)
- B Architectural Studies
- B Design Interior & Spatial Design
- B Engineering (Civil)
- B Commerce
- B Business
- B Commerce with B Journalism
- B Commerce with B Media Arts & Production
- B Business (Marketing)
- B Business with B Marketing and Communication
- B Commerce (Event Management)
- B Economics

INTERSTATE OFFERS

- B Environments (Melbourne)
- B Science (Melbourne)
- B Arts (Melbourne)
- B Clinical Sciences with B Medicine & B Surgery (Adelaide)
- B Business with B Marketing and Communication (Queensland)

- B Exercise Science with B Business Management (but considering B Arts as well) – (Queensland)
- B Creative Arts (Queensland)

Acknowledgement to:

- Sturt staff and tutors for the successful Summer School of almost 200 students;
- Gib Gate parents who hosted a morning tea on the first day of term for new parents (including Kindergarten).
- Lauren Zawal for her participation in Exploring Engineering as part of Learning Labs, a gifted and talented programme for high school students at the University of Wollongong;
- Recent Duke of Edinburgh's Award recipients: Bronze: Keely Mackie; Silver: Amelia Caillard, Hannah Hall, Emma McCrabb, Emma Murphy, Alexandra Perry;
- Student Shadows, Heads of Houses, Heads of Day Boarders and Prefects for their efforts in the welcome of new students and their families at Orientation;
- The Year Book Committee 2011 for their publication, distributed last week: Anna Gemmell-Smith, Elizabeth Lamond, Kate Lee, Emily Marsh, Brooke Martin-Smith, Ella Purvis, Madeleine Quinn, Claudia Ross; Cover Design: Elizabeth Bruce; Illustrations: Claudia Ross; Coordinators: Mrs Kate McGregor and Mrs Merrilee Harris;
- Tertiary award recipients (2011 Year 12 students): Emma Quinn - UNSW Academic Achievement Award; Kate Daniel - ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award; Harriette Nation- UNE Robb Foundation Scholarship Girdle Award recipients from the end of Term 4 2011: Ashleigh Syme – Service to Drama Performance; Georgina MacDiarmid – Drama; Madeleine Quinn – Service to Music;
- Iris Award recipients from the end of Term 4 2011: Emily Maker - Academic Excellence; Katherine Miller - Art & Design.

Year 9 Parents – Hosting on the Games Field

I am pleased to note that Mrs Jane Romijn has undertaken to coordinate Year 9 parents' hosting of Frensham's Games Field Pavilion refreshments for Term 1. She will need the support of every Year 9 parent for part of at least one Saturday morning this term, to meet visitor demand. Please note that all proceeds are directed to Frensham Sport: to add to the coaching and equipment budget.

Staffing Update

Further to advice sent with the 2012 Information Book and the January Letter to Parents, please find here an update to clarify changes in responsibility:

Frensham – Studies / Academic Care:

In 2012 Mrs Sue Flaxman moves to the position of Executive Assistant in Studies, supporting Deputy Head, Mr Geoff Marsh, who will be managing with students and parents, on a daily basis, the planning for course pathways academic progress. Within the Studies team, Mrs Kate Chauncy, Director of Teaching and Learning continues to

drive, for Gib Gate and Frensham, individualised learning programmes, gifted and talented mentoring and overall 'quality teaching' approaches. This year, Ms Janene van Gogh is also appointed to play a major role in support of our teaching and learning, as a resident of the School.

Frensham – Seniors in Boarding:

Mrs Trish Symons' senior role in Boarding has expanded for 2012, with her overall responsibility for House life on Mondays and Tuesdays, when Director of Boarding Mrs Amanda Barrie has her 'weekend.' Mrs Symons also remains Director of Language Arts (English, Drama and Languages) and is supported in that role by Senior in Languages, Ms Liz Stephenson and Acting Coordinator of English and Drama, Ms Lee McGuinness.

Mrs Jayme Rafferty continues to support management of Boarding across the full week and weekend, with particular focus this year on the junior Houses and on student leadership development within that context.

Events and Management

Mrs Ros Buick, most recently Co-Director of Boarding, working in support of Mrs Barrie is this year accepting responsibility for support of the management and direction of major events for Frensham and for WWS. This brief includes such events as Open Day and Parent Weekends in addition to special on-off events like *The Father Daughter Ball* and *The Iris Country Fair*. With 2013 being Frensham's Centenary year, Mrs Buick also has a major role to play in working with the team of staff and community members who will design a worthy programme of events to celebrate this milestone in the School's history.

House Leadership - Frensham

The full listing of Year 12 Student Leaders is published in the Frensham Information Book but please note the House Leadership positions for Term 1:

Year 10 Hartfield:

Caitlan Mahony, Fenella Milling, Matilda Schmohl

Year 10 Kennedy:

Jemima Purvis, Bonnie Robertson, Jessica Southwell

Year 10 Linden: Olivia Williamson, Tara Stewart

Year 11 Bryant:

Hannah Black, Caitlin Devereux, Alexandra Perry

Year 11 Turner:

Amelia Caillard, Alexandra Crowe, Katie Stewart

Year 12: McCarthy: Chloe Andrews and Adelaide Nielsen

Prefects 2012:

Year 7: Georgina Alison, Georgina MacDiarmid, Anne Moser

Year 8: Phoebe Hawley, Ella Purvis

Year 9: Nicola Fenaughty, Kate Hawker, Brooke Martin-Smith

Year 10: Molly Collins, Annabelle King

Year 11: Mollie Borschmann, Madeleine Quinn

Year 12 & Head Girl: Claudia Ross

Year 12 & Vice Head Girl: Emily Marsh

Frensham Community Service support

As part of the School's Community Service, numerous activities are arranged which are designed to raise money in support of a number of charities. In 2011, monies raised were distributed to Amnesty International, \$1000; BDCU Children's Foundation, \$2000; DOLSH Overseas Aid Inc, \$1500; Guide Dog Association of NSW, \$500; Hamlin Fistula Relief and Aid Fund, \$1000; Médecins Sans Frontières, \$1000; Oxfam Unwrapped, \$750; Rural Fire Service, \$500; Salvation Army, \$1000; Society of St Vincent de Paul, \$1000; The Spastic Centre, \$750; Royal Flying Doctor Service, \$500; Wayside Chapel, \$500; Bridges for Learning, \$500; Aboriginal Literacy Foundation, \$500; United Future Foundation, \$600; Bush Heritage, \$500; Tangara, \$500; Royal Far West, \$500; Caritas Australia, \$1000; School of St Jude, \$750; RSPCA, \$1000.

Ahead:

Important Community Dates:

Friday 10 February

Welcome Drinks for Families of Gib Gate (FOGG)

Sunday 12 February

Sturt Exhibition Opening: 11am *HHT Meroogal Women's Art Prize*

Wednesday 15 February

Gib Gate Parent Information Evening
(6-7pm Stage One R-K; 7.15-8.15pm Stage One Years 1-2)

Thursday 16 February

Gib Gate Parent Information Evening
(6-7pm Stage Two Years 3-4; 7.15-8.15pm Stage Three Years 5-6)

Saturday 18-Sunday 19 February

Sturt School for Wood Open Days

Sunday 19 February (new location for 2012)

Frensham Equestrian Training Day

Saturday 3 March

Year 7 Parent Weekend & Frensham Open Day (12.30-4.00pm) - 'Welcome Dinner' for parents of students new to Gib Gate and Frensham (7.00-10.00pm), hosted by the Board of Governors of WWS, WWS Foundation Ltd, Parent Advisory Committee Members and staff of both Schools.

Sunday 4 March

Year 7 Parent Weekend Service –Years 7-12 to attend Picnic Lunch for Years 7 & 8 – hosted by Year 8 families (Games Field)

I look forward to meeting Gib Gate parents for FOGG's Welcome Drinks on Friday evening as the first of our large community events for 2012.

Welcome back and welcome!



Julie A Gillick
Head of Frensham
Head of Winifred West Schools

The Winifred West Schools Newsletter on the Website

The fortnightly WWS Newsletter is located at:
www.frensham.nsw.edu.au/newsletter.htm
 and is published on that site and mailed on Wednesday.

Information Notices sent via Email

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

Year Group Contact Lists

Included with this Newsletter is the Year Group Parent Contact List. If there are changes to your information, please contact Mrs Jenny Martin, 02 4860 2000 or email jmartin@frensham.nsw.edu.au

AHEAD:

Th 9	F: 7.30am-4.30pm Year 12 University Discovery Day Programme
F 10	F: 11.00am-3.30pm <i>All My Own Work</i> , Year 11 students GG: 6.00pm Families of Gib Gate (FOGG) Welcome Drinks
S 11	IGSSA Round 1 F: Show Cattle Team at Nowra Show
S 12	Church Service S: 11.00am Opening HHT Meroogal Women's Arts Prize (Archive Open 11.00am-1.00pm)
Week 3	Week A
M 13	GG: CSIRO visit, K-6 F: 4.30-11.00pm <i>The Magic Flute</i> , (elective Music students)
T 14	F: Valentine's Day Mufti Day – Charity Fundraiser F: Outdoor Education Week Planning Briefings (Years 7-10) GG: 8.45am FOGG Class Representatives Meeting, Music Room F: 6.45-8.30pm Pen & Ink
W 15	GG: K-6 Swimming Development Programme, Bowral Pool GG: 6.00-7.00pm Parent Information Evening, Stage One R-K GG: 7.15-8.15pm Parent Information Evening, Stage One Years 1-2
Th 16	F: 1.45-8.30pm Jamieson Programme, Year 9 GG: 6.00-7.00pm Parent Information Evening, Stage Two Years 3-4 GG: 7.15-8.15pm Parent Information Evening, Stage Three Years 5-6
F 17	GG: Swimming Carnival, Years 3-6, Bowral Pool F: Show Cattle Team at Kangaroo Valley Show F: Valentine's Day 'Crack Dinner' – Dining room
S 18	IGSSA Round 2 S: Sturt School for Wood Open Day
S 19	School Service

	S: Sturt School for Wood Open Day F: Equestrian Training Day F: Boarding Activity: Jamberoo
Week 4	Week B
M 20	F: 11.00am Immunisation, Year 7 GG: 6.00pm OEG Parent Briefing, Years 5-6, Gib Gate Hall - NB this is a change of date from Tuesday 21/02
T 21	F: 9.00am-3.35pm Minnamurra Wetlands, Year 12 Geography students GG: 4.00-7.00pm SHIPS Twilight Swimming Carnival, Bowral Pool
W 22	Ash Wednesday GG: K-6 Swimming Development Programme, Bowral Pool F: 11.00am-3.35pm Visual Arts Incursion, Upper Holt, Yr 8
Th 23	F: 6.45-8.00pm Mathematics Club
F 24	
S 25	IGSSA Round 3
S 26	School Service

PARENT/COMMUNITY NEWS**Advisory Committees****2012 Frensham Advisory Committee Contacts**

Mrs Georgina Alker	tarnuk.alker@bigpond.com
Mrs Clare Blackman (<i>Chair</i>)	blackmanhome@gmail.com
Mr Mark Bowdern	mark@visionchart.com.au
Mrs Frances Conomos	ftefany@acenet.com.au
Mr Ben Cruikshank	cruikshank@bigpond.com
Mr Robert Dulhunty	dulhuntyrv7@bigpond.com
Mrs Jo Hawker	hawkvet@bigpond.com
Mrs Lisa McCrabb	northbundy@activ8.net.au
Mrs Rosemary Mitchell	rosiermi@iprimus.com.au
Mrs Meredith Munro	meromunro@bigpond.com
Mrs Elizabeth Phillips (<i>Sec</i>)	yarrowongamerino@bigpond.com
Mrs Jane Woods	woodsforming@bigpond.com

2012 Gib Gate Advisory Committee Contacts

Mr Ben Battcock	battcock@bigpond.com
Mrs Christine Chambers (<i>Sec</i>)	chrisc25@bigpond.net.au
Mrs Shivawn Davis	sol@shivawndavis.com
Mr Stephen Grant	munropark@mac.com
Ms Nyema Hermiston	nyema@bigpond.net.au
Mrs Alison Lalak (<i>Chair</i>)	alisonlalak@bigpond.com
Mr Richard Lavender	rich@hinet.net.au
Mrs Elizabeth Mackie	eamackie@me.com
Mrs Lyndall McGrath (<i>Chair of FOGG</i>)	lyndallmc@bigpond.com
Mrs Zoe Suttie	mayberryfarm@bigpond.com



2012 TERM DATES ~ WEEKENDS

2012 Term Dates Gib Gate and Frensham

Term 1

Gib Gate: Tuesday 31 January-Wednesday 4 April

Frensham: Wednesday 1 February-Wednesday 4 April

Term 2

Gib Gate & Frensham: Tuesday 24 April-Thursday 21 June

NB: Frensham is working on ANZAC Day

Term 3

Gib Gate & Frensham: Tuesday 17 July-Thursday 20 September 3pm

Term 4

Gib Gate: Tuesday 9 October-Friday 7 December 3pm

Frensham: Tuesday 9 October-Sunday 9 December

2012 Frensham Parent Weekends Ahead

Year 7	Saturday 3-Sunday 4 March Frensham Open Day ~ Saturday 3 March
Year 10	Saturday 17-Sunday 18 March
Year 8	Saturday 12-Sunday 13 May
Year 12	Saturday 2-Sunday 3 June WWS Birthday Friday 1 June
Year 11	Saturday 4-Sunday 5 August Saturday 4 August – Year 10 Goal Setting (with parents)
Year 9	Saturday 25-Sunday 26 August

Ranier Uniform Shop

Mondays: 8.00am-1.00pm

Thursdays: 12noon-5.00pm

Shop Manager Mrs Cherie Heard

To order goods, please call the Shop: (02) 4860 2136 [BH]
frensham@ranierdesigngroup.com



WINIFRED WEST SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION

news

Welcome to 2012!

2012 promises to be another busy year for Foundation as it strives to generate contributions to the ongoing Centenary Appeal.

The Centenary Pool continues to be the main focus of fundraising activities, particularly now that the renovations to Bryant/ McCarthy House at Frensham are complete.

Year 12 girls have already expressed great delight in their new surroundings – “I love the Common Room and the kitchen is amazing” was just one of the comments. So, thank you to all who have contributed to date making it possible for Foundation to fund this project.

With plans for the Centenary Pool awaiting final Council approval and this project due to mark Frensham's Centenary year in 2013, time is now of the essence to raise as much as possible to support this major project. This facility will make a huge contribution to both our schools and the wider local community. Some of your children may not be here to enjoy the new pool but please remember that you are already enjoying facilities provided by the generosity of others in the past and that all generations are asked to contribute to the future success of our schools.

Iris Country Fair – Saturday 17 November

While financial contributions to Foundation are crucial, there are other ways to give and the Iris Country Fair presents a multitude of such opportunities.

In future newsletters there will be a dedicated page for 'Fair News' but in the meantime

- Save your jars
- Make some jam or other produce
- Bag up your old clothes
- Clean out your cupboards for the 'Trash 'n Treasure' stall
- Sort out your old books

Delivery instructions and contacts will be advised in due course.

If you have a particular skill or talent that might be of interest, then please let Michele Scamps know.

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

GIB GATE

The organisation and planning by Gib Gate staff and students' families prior to the start of term last Tuesday ensured that all students started the term prepared and eager to get going. Kindergarten students were particularly well prepared through their participation in the 2011 Transition to Kindergarten programme which helps familiarise them with their new surroundings prior to the start of the school year. Lining up in the courtyard on their first day with their teacher, Mrs Lees, and supported by Kindergarten Assistant, Mrs Rowley, Kindergarten looked confident and excited. Both Kindergarten and Year 6 were thrilled to be introduced to their 'buddies' and Year 6 stepped seamlessly into their leadership role from the very first day.

Being fully engaged in classroom curriculum activities and looking forward to the commencement of the full co-curricular programme, students were reminded of the Gib Gate philosophy of *Learning to Learn*. Looking at photographs from previous years, we shared our understanding of *Learning to Learn* through Adventure, Belonging, Challenge, Doing, Excellence and Service. Students spoke of their excitement and sense of anticipation as they look forward to the new challenges they will encounter at each year level. These Gib Gate 'adventures', in and outside the classroom, are carefully sequenced to enable students to build skills in developing resilience, emotional intelligence and academic rigour across an enriched curriculum. In order to give parents an insight into a few aspects of the Gib Gate experience, below are some highlights of the new experiences that students are eagerly anticipating as they start their 'new' year level:

Preschool Reception: Music with Mrs Graham and borrowing books from the Gib Gate Library. **Preschool Transition:** Japanese, PE with Mr Standen, the T-2 Junior Musical, T-2 Grandparents' Day, Book Week, T-6 Mother's Day, T-6 Father's Day, the T-2 Fun Athletics Carnival, T-6 visiting performances, attending and presenting at Performance Assemblies and In2Cricket after-school activity. **Kindergarten:** Year 6 buddies, starting Home Reading, Junior Singing K-2, Birthday Books, PE and Sport, Visual Arts lessons, computers, sport training, starting co-curricular activities in Tennis, Ceramics, and Art, the Swimming Development Programme and the K-2 Swimming Carnival. **Year One:** Cricket and In2Cricket, Soccer, Minkey, Tee-ball and Fun-Net, the Year One Violin programme, starting co-curricular activities in Gymnastics, Create a Book, Chess Club and Bike Education K-2. **Year Two:** leadership roles in T-2 Musical, T-2 Athletics Carnival, leading the K-6 Remembrance Day Assembly, taking part in the Gib Gate Cross Country Carnival, drama, debating, public speaking, Netta, Basketball, before-school Swimming Squad, before-school Athletics/Cross Country

training and Music tuition in guitar and drums. **Year Three:** taking part in the Years 3-6 Swimming and Athletics Carnivals, Woodwork, Robotics, Public Speaking/Debating Competitions, Music tuition in saxophone and trumpet, Hockey, joining the Gib Gate Orchestra and the Senior Choir, abseiling on the Year 3 Adventure Day, Archery and taking part in the Gib Gate Senior Musical. **Year Four:** performing in Gib Gate soirées, Tournament of Minds, UOW Science Club, ROBOcup, Scriptoris, Netball, Softball, Waterpolo, Mountain Biking as part of the Year 4 Outdoor Adventure Day, participating in the 'Sturt Experience' and the excursion to Minnamurra Rainforest. **Year Five:** trying the Giant Flying Fox at the Outdoor Education Camp, auditioning for Madrigals, participating in the JASON Project, the Year 5 and Year 6 Social, Maths Olympiad, the Gib Gate trip to visit Hokuriku Gakuin School, Sample High School Day, NSW Parliament excursion, Brett Whitely excursion, participating in the Transition to Kindergarten Programme Term 2 2012 and starting the lead-up to the Year 6 2013 Leadership Programme. **Year Six:** Mountain Biking as part of the Outdoor Education Camp, participating in the Year Six Leadership programme, Monitors' role, taking the lead roles in the Gib Gate Senior Musical, leading the Anzac Day Assembly, Legacy of the Leaders Project, the Year 6 Dinner and the Year 6 Major Artwork.

Ms Sally Robson, Head of Gib Gate

Professional Learning at Gib Gate December/January

After the exciting end to Term 4 for Gib Gate students and prior to welcoming back the children to their new classrooms for 2012 last Tuesday, class and specialist teachers enhanced their knowledge and skills by immersing themselves in a five-day Professional Learning programme.

On Monday 5 December, led by AIS consultant Sally Egan and joining with Frensham staff, teachers reviewed and reflected on the 2010-2011 *Evaluating Excellence in Independent Schools* (EEIS) programme and collaborated in formulating a vision for 2012 with their colleagues across campuses.

On Tuesday 6 December, teachers participated in a full day of lectures, workshops and professional discussions led by Australian researcher Maggie Hamilton, author of *What's Happening to our Girls?* and *What's Happening to our Boys?* Maggie brought staff up-to-date on her latest research and shared her findings on how we can work together with parents and children to resource our boys and girls for the 21st Century. In addition, Maggie also presented a parent-information session to members of the Gib Gate and Frensham Advisory Committees in the Frensham Library.

On the final day of the programme, Wednesday 7 December, teachers were led by Mr Greg Hannah, Year 5

teacher, to develop their skills in using Microsoft Excel and Outlook applications at an advanced level in an interactive, hands-on workshop designed and facilitated by Mr Hannah specifically for his colleagues.

After the Christmas and New Year vacation, Gib Gate teachers returned on Friday 27 January to work intensively with our Literacy Consultant, Mrs Maria Dent, on programming enriching learning activities in the daily literacy block in our classrooms. To enhance the children's developing reading, writing and spelling skills, innovative, research-based practices using high quality resources will continue to be delivered throughout 2012 from Preschool to Year 6.

On Monday 30 January all teachers from Preschool to Year 12 came together to participate in lectures, workshops and professional discussions led by international speaker, Frank Crawford. Frank was the Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland for more than a decade and currently works beyond Scotland speaking and advising on a range of educational issues. He has developed a keen interest in the impact of technology, learning spaces and different teaching approaches that better engage learners and develop the skills they will need in order to be successful in a 21st Century global community. He applies the same approach to professional development, since 21st Century skills apply equally to the teaching force, devising the quality indicators in the first edition of the internationally known self-evaluation tool 'How good is our school?' This was the catalyst for Sally Egan's development of the programme for the Association of Independent Schools NSW and her subsequent work with us in 2010-2011.

Mrs Kate Chauncy
Director of Teaching and Learning P-12

Extra-Curricular activities commence next week at Gib Gate with classes in Ceramics, Robotics, Woodwork, Exploring Art, Puppetry, Drama, Tennis, Gymnastics, Create-a-Book.

There are a number of places available in some classes. Please contact Mrs Graham if you are interested.

Music Tuition has commenced with 87 lessons being held each week in the Gib Gate Music Centre.

Orchestra and Choir rehearsals have also commenced for the year.

CSIRO are visiting Gib Gate on Monday 12 February with all students from Kindergarten to Year 2 participating in the 'Solids, Liquids and Gases' Show and all students from Year 3-6 engaging in a hands-on experience, 'Simple Machines'.

OEG Year 5 & 6 Camp

Parents of Years 5 and 6 students are invited to attend a briefing about the Biloela Camp on Monday 20 February at 6pm in the Gib Gate Hall (*please note change from Tuesday to Monday evening*).

Mrs Anne Graham
Gib Gate Coordinator (Administration)

Gib Gate Sport

The second half of the summer season is underway with Cricket and Basketball and there was an impressively full turnout for each Gib Gate team involved in those sports. Tee-ball and Softball recommence in Week 2 of this term.

Chelsea Pernice (Year 5) has been selected to trial for the IPSHA Tennis squad which will compete at the CIS tournament later this term. Chelsea has also been invited to join the NSW Tennis Institute Tier 1 Squad which trains at Olympic Park in Homebush. This was formerly the NSW State Junior Squad. We congratulate Chelsea and wish her every success.

Jasmin Wikramanayke (Year 6 2012) had a stellar year in sport last year, and has received two prestigious awards: the Berrima District Junior Sports Award for the month of November 2011 and a CIS award to be named at a special ceremony and dinner at Olympic Park, Homebush, on Friday 24 February. She is also in the running for the Berrima District Junior Sports person of the Year for 2011. Jasmin's NSW CIS Cricket team was runner-up to Queensland in the National Girls' Cricket Carnival held in Albury over the summer holidays. We congratulate Jasmin again on her achievements and wish her every success for the future in her sporting endeavours.

Mr Michael Standen, Coordinator of PE and Sport

STURT



FRIENDS OF STURT

Ann Schavemaker (President), Ruth Wright (Secretary), Julie Musgrave (Roster Secretary), Denise Sumner, Alan Matthews, Nadine Harvey, Joan and Bill Dinning, Debbie White.

Special News

Welcome back to Sturt for 2012 - The new term commenced on Monday 30 January with our Wood School intake and term classes beginning in all workshops. It promises to be a busy and productive year.

Sturt gains funding from Arts NSW - For the first time Sturt has been successful in receiving funding under the 2012

Annual Programme Funding category of the NSW Government's arts-funding body, Arts NSW. This is a very important achievement for Sturt and indicates both the significance and competitiveness of our programme that includes exhibitions, artists in residence, special events, workshops and classes, as well as our major shop and production opportunities.

Friends of Sturt Gallery Excursion - The Friends of Sturt have organised a trip to Sydney for Thursday 22 March. The itinerary for the day will include three galleries:

1. Object Gallery – Australia Centre for Craft and Design – St Margaret's Precinct Bourke Street Surry Hills – the exhibition planned for March is "Storied in Form" – the work of five designers.
2. Sabbia Gallery – 120 Glenmore Road, Paddington – their March exhibition of "Tutti" glass by Ben Edols and Kathy Elliott – this is likely to be absolutely stunning!
3. Kerrie Lowe Gallery – this gallery specialises in ceramics but also shows paintings/prints and jewellery etc.

In addition to the gallery visits, we will lunch in the Danks Street area at Sopra or one of the many other cafés, and also shop at Fratelli Fresh or stroll through the other galleries found in the area. The coach will leave Sturt at 9 am, returning at approximately 5.30 pm. The cost for the day trip is \$25.00 and bookings can be made through Sturt Shop. All bookings should be received by 1 March please. We do hope you will be able to join us – it promises to be a great day out.

Summer School 2012 - This year's Summer School was another huge success that was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback from attendees and also some constructive suggestions about new ideas or changes that could be made in the future. All suggestions will be fully considered. This year's school featured fantastic teachers, great events and talks, a live painting demo and even a movie world premiere that, along with our 70s' themed party, capped off an incredibly busy week. This year's school features an exhibition of works by the 2012 tutors that is on display in the Sturt Shop and Café until 26 February, so make sure you get to Sturt to see it.

Sturt Wood School graduates have got the edge - Congratulations to David Cummins and Elliot Holdstock (2011 graduates from the Sturt School for Wood) who have both been selected as finalists for the 2012 *The Edge* furniture-design competition. The competition is in its ninth year and is known for unearthing the next generation of furniture design talent. We wish David and Elliot the very best of luck.

Sturt School for Wood - Welcome to our one-year Wood School students! Led by Director of the Wood School, Stuart Faulkner, our new intake studying for the one-year VETAB-accredited Certificate IV Furniture Design and

Technology – Fine Woodworking Course for 2012 began their exciting and challenging year on 30 January. Welcome also to David Uphill-Brown who will be teaching the first of our special ten-week woodwork courses for 2012, which also began on the same day.

Just three places remain available for the second ten-week wood course for 2012. The tutor for this course, James Carr, is a graduate of the Sturt Wood School and has since established his own business in the local area, specialising in commissions for a wide range of clientele. James is a regular and highly popular teacher at Sturt. This course begins on 23 April.

Term Classes - Enrol now for term classes. New teachers this year include: Tracy Hopkirk teaching jewellery (on Monday nights); Kwirak Choung teaching ceramics (on Thursdays); and Phoebe Everill teaching woodwork (on Monday nights). Daryl Ingate will also be teaching a new daytime woodwork class on Tuesdays.

Short Courses - Our first weekend of short courses for 2012 is scheduled for 10 and 11 March. Courses include woodwork - tuning and sharpening your tools with Daryl Ingate and ceramics - creative wheel forming with Kwirak Choung. Full details can be found on our website and places are filling fast. There are special 'Easy Start' one-day introductory workshops on 22 and 23 March. Absolute beginners can 'have-a-go' at ceramics, woodwork, jewellery or textiles for the special price of just \$58.

Winter School 2012 - The full programme for Winter School 2012 is now available on the Sturt website (www.sturt.nsw.edu.au).

Courses for 2012 include: book binding, botanical art, clay – kilns and raku, 3D felting, fresco painting, wild knitting, calligraphy, painting acrylics and much more.

Sturt Gallery
Meroogal Women's Arts Prize 2011 - 12 February to 25 March 2012

This is a touring exhibition from the Historic Houses Trust. The Meroogal Women's Arts Prize for 2011 asked entrants to respond to the theme "Made by Hand" through visual arts, crafts and design. The resulting exhibition showcases winning, commended and selected works from the 2011 competition. The exhibition will be opened on Sunday 12 February at 11am by special guest Councillor Juliet Arkwright, Chair of Wingecarribee Arts and Culture Board. This is a FREE EVENT - ALL WELCOME.

Kay Faulkner – Textiles - 1 April to 13 May
Australian master weaver Kay Faulkner returns to Sturt in 2012 for an extended residency. This exhibition will showcase new work developed by Kay over the last two years.

Events - Tools & Techniques Weekend, Sturt School for Wood, 18-19 February 2012 - Explore Sturt's workshops in this special annual event when Sturt hosts many of Australia's finest tool makers, including HNT Gordon Classic Plane Maker, Colen Clenton, Harold & Saxon Chisels and Michael Connor Woodwork, offering you the opportunity to discuss, try and buy their beautifully crafted tools. The weekend will also feature a programme of demonstrations on a range of special woodworking techniques presented by experienced Sturt teaching staff. There will be FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING with food and drinks available on site. Open 10 am to 4 pm both days.

Friends of Sturt Annual General Meeting, Sunday 12 February 2012 at 2pm in the Sturt Cottage - All FOS members are encouraged to attend the AGM and consider nominating for positions on the FOS Committee. Light refreshments will be served.

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

Mr Mark Viner, Head of Sturt

FRENHAM

Deputy Head

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

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

Most extra-subject and co-curricular activities commenced this week. Timetables for Tennis and Music lessons are in the process of being finalised. The final planning for Dance and Pilates classes is now in process.

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

Studies

Parents of students in Years 7-10 should have received an email outlining the curriculum structure and an explanation of class groupings for each year group. These emails were sent on Monday 6 February. If you did not receive the email or you have questions as a result of the email, please do not hesitate to contact the Deputy Head.

Year 11 students have begun their Preliminary HSC programmes of study. All students in Year 11 will study the English Advanced course, with an English Standard course also available in Term 4, at the start of the HSC year. It is exciting to see students commence senior courses, especially when, aside from English, they have been able to make their own choices based on their special interests and abilities. The Year 11 programme lasts for three terms, at which point the girls narrow their subject choices in preparation for Year 12.

As part of the NSW Board of Studies' requirements, all Year 11 students must complete an online programme called "HSC: All My Own Work" before they can be enrolled as a Preliminary course student. This programme is designed to help HSC students to follow the principles and practices of good scholarship. This includes understanding and valuing ethical practices when locating and using information as part of their HSC studies. Students will undertake this programme on Friday 10 February.

Year 12 students have returned to school in a positive frame of mind, settling straight back into appropriate patterns of study. The sense of collaboration created by the shared spaces in the new boarding areas has helped in this process. This week they have received their assessment schedules for the term and many students have commenced their major works in Visual Arts, Music, Drama, Design and Technology, History Extension and English Extension 2. As part of their tertiary training, all of Year 12 will take part in the University Discovery Day this week.

Acceleration in Studies: As has been the case in previous years, there are a number of students from Years 7-11 being accelerated in a variety of subjects. Frensham adheres to the Board of Studies' guidelines that apply to accelerating students and it is important to understand that 'acceleration' should never be seen as a privilege or a reward, or as special recognition.

The decision to accelerate a student is based on what is felt to be best academically for that student and what is possible or felt to be essential. At Frensham we apply considerations such as:

- Is the student most likely to gain 'top-of-class results in the class above'?
- Is it much easier to meet the student's needs outside her current class rather than extend her within the class?

- Will she have to miss other subjects that are crucial to her course or that are not easy to be studied independently, to fit the different timetable? (eg if the 'selected subject for acceleration' were timetabled at the same time as another crucial subject for that student)
- How does the student manage being 'out of step' with friends? (ie studying for exams while her own year is relaxing after finishing assessments or exams)
- Is maturity seen to be a crucial factor for success at HSC in this subject?
- What is her overall load re studies and special interests; will special interests suffer or have to be cut back and, if so, is that a good thing or not?
- Are there other subject-specific considerations to be considered?

We always have to come back to the start; that is, are her needs best met by taking the 'grade level' pathway or is acceleration both essential and possible?

Mr Geoff Marsh, Deputy Head / Director of Studies

Director of Boarding

Frensham welcomed back boarders after the long summer break. At Orientation, House Staff had the opportunity to meet the parents of new boarders and to show day boarders around the Houses.



The first Closed Weekend ('parent free') had a busy programme of activities to help settle everyone into the routine of boarding life. On Friday night, Year 12 hosted a dress-up Bingo evening; on Saturday, after sports trials in the morning, Year 7 had orientation using mountain bikes on the Lower Holt, assisted by Year 10, and decorated their own mugs for use in the House. Years 8 and 9 played games on the playing field and took the bikes out later in the afternoon. In the evening, all students had a 'cinema' experience in Clubbe Hall with popcorn and ice-cream. Students were well presented on Sunday morning in full uniform for the first Sunday Service of the year, led by Year 12, in which the notion of change and new beginnings was

addressed. In the afternoon, we headed to Mittagong Pool to make the most of the change in the weather, where girls played water volley-ball and had fun on the giant inflatable structure.

Next week we are planning a trip to Lake Alexandria and Mittagong to familiarise new boarders with their local surroundings.

Up-and-Coming Events

The Valentine's Day Crack Dinner will be held in the Dining Room on Friday 17 February.

On Sunday 19 February, we are planning to visit Jamberoo Water Park and girls are advised to sign up outside White Cottage or on the lists in the Houses. The cost will be approximately \$30.

Reminder:

- Weekend Travel – Parents and students are reminded that all weekend travel arrangements need to be finalised by Thursday, morning tea, to allow for adequate time for the purchase of tickets. If assistance is required, please contact Mrs Barrie or refer to page 25 of the Frensham Information Book.
- The Sydney bus departs Frensham at 12.30 pm on Saturdays (Open Weekends) and returns on Sunday evening at 6.30 pm, departing from Central Station, Eddy Avenue; girls are reminded to sign up outside White Cottage. For further details refer to page 24 in the Information Book.
- Exeat Forms – Full Boarders require Exeat Forms which must be faxed or posted to the School to arrive by 12 noon on Friday. This allows for the Houses to be informed of student plans and to avoid confusion and disappointment.
- Weekly Boarders not going to their own home after Sport on Saturday must also have an Exeat Form, completed by 12 noon on Fridays. Further information can be found on page 58 of the Frensham Information Book.

Mrs Amanda Barrie, Director of Boarding

Director of Teaching and Learning

Professional Learning at Frensham, December/January

While the Carol Service on Sunday 4 December marked the end of the 2011 school year for Frensham students, Teaching, House and Health Centre staff returned ready for reflection, review and inspiration on Monday morning of 5 December to begin a four-day professional learning programme.

On Monday 5 December, Frensham Teaching, Health Centre and House staff reflected on the 2010 - 2011 *Evaluating Excellence in Independent Schools* (EEIS) programme and collaborated in formulating a vision for 2012.

On Tuesday 6 December, teachers participated in a day of lectures, workshops and professional discussions led by Australian researcher, Maggie Hamilton, author of *What's Happening to our Girls?* and *What's Happening to our Boys?* Maggie brought staff up-to-date on her latest research and shared her findings on how we can work together with parents and children to resource our boys and girls for the 21st Century. Maggie also shared the content of her soon-to-be released title, *Secret Girl's Business*, which aims to support the positive growth and development of girls throughout the various stages of their lives through encouraging immersion in a variety of creative, hands-on activities and hobbies in their leisure time. In addition, Maggie also presented a parent information session to members of the Gib Gate and Frensham Advisory Committees in the Frensham Library. Further information about Maggie Hamilton and her work can be viewed at:

<http://www.maggiHamilton.org/index.htm>

On the final day of the 2011 programme, Wednesday 7 December, teachers were led by Mr Geoff Marsh and Mrs Amanda Barrie in ICT workshops to enhance educational professional practice of Frensham staff. Small-group workshops covered a variety of applications including File Maker Pro, Outlook and Excel.

After the Christmas and New Year vacation, Winifred West School executive and senior staff welcomed new staff to the School community over two days. 'Shadowed' by their colleague mentors, new staff participated in a number of orientation activities, including a tour of the campuses led by Mrs Ros Buick who provided vivid historical detail to enhance their experience. Senior staff also participated in seminars relevant to their roles throughout the two days.

On Monday 30 January, all teachers from Preschool to Year 12 came together to participate in lectures, workshops and professional discussions led by visiting international speaker Frank Crawford. Frank was the Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland for more than a decade and currently works beyond Scotland speaking and advising on a range of educational issues. He has developed a keen interest in the impact of technology, learning spaces and different teaching approaches that better engage learners and develop the skills they will need in order to be successful in a 21st Century global community. He applies the same approach to professional development, since 21st century skills apply equally to the teaching force, devising the quality indicators in the first edition of the internationally known self-evaluation tool 'How Good is our School?' This was the catalyst for Sally Egan's development of the programme for the Association of Independent Schools NSW and her subsequent work with us in 2010-2011.

Mrs Kate Chauncy, Director of Teaching and Learning P-12

English and Drama

Students in English and Drama have commenced the year with classes that have embraced some innovative and thoughtful approaches to inspire deep thinking and learning. Year 12 Advanced and Standard English students will complete their first assessment task this week and are currently studying the Area of Study - Belonging. English Extension 2 students are consolidating their vision for their Major Works and undertaking the first drafts. They will continue with workshops in preparation for the Viva Voce in Week 4. English Extension 1 students have immersed themselves in the thinking and context of the Romantic period and will complete their study on the poetry of S T Coleridge.

Year 10 English students will be studying Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Additionally, they will examine excerpts of modern representations to enhance their understanding of form, audience and context. Year 9 English students will be thrilled by the mystery genre, where they will explore the conventions through a range of texts. Year 8 English students will analyse Shakespearean comedy in *Much Ado About Nothing* and Year 7 English students will embark upon a *Hero's Journey*.

Year 12 Drama students are continuing their HSC programme with the study of *Ruby Moon* which is part of the Australian Contemporary Theatre module. The Year 11 Drama class is enjoying being perplexed by *Waiting for Godot* and the Theatre of the Absurd. The Year 10 Drama class is being introduced to Realism in the theatre, while the Year 9 class faces the challenges of Improvisation. The excitement of Year 7 students is palpable as they explore performance skills and begin preparation for the Frensham Open Day presentation.

**Ms Lee McGuinness,
English and Drama Acting Coordinator**

Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

Year 12 students in HSIE subjects are following on from work completed during the vacation. The Economics students are preparing for an assessment task relating to the Chinese economy (a major case study), while Business Studies students are examining 'Quality Management and Operations Strategies'. Geography students are beginning their second case study of 'Ecosystems at Risk', focusing on inter-tidal wetlands. The focus in Modern History is World War 1, while Ancient History students are exploring the Julio-Claudian period of Roman History. History Extension students are preparing their log books and will have individual conversations with their teacher over the coming week in relation to their proposals for their Major Works.

Year 11 students are being introduced to the various HSIE courses and have displayed an enthusiastic approach to their new subjects.

Students in Year 10 Geography have commenced the first major topic 'Geographical Issues', exploring issues such as land and water management and coastal management in Australia. Year 10 History students are examining the events of the Cold War and the impacts of these on Australian society.

Year 10 Elective History students have commenced a unit on 'Hitler and the Holocaust', while Year 9 Elective History students have commenced a unit on 'The Inquisition'.

Year 9 Geography students have commenced work on the topic 'Australia's Physical Characteristics', while Year 9 History students are investigating Australian society at the time of Federation.

Year 8 Geography students are working on a unit titled 'Global Change' and Year 8 History students have commenced a unit on 'Contact History', focusing on the Aztec society and the impacts of colonisation on this community.

Year 7 History students are beginning an introductory unit on 'Investigating the Past' which examines the roles of historians and how evidence and source material are obtained. Year 7 Geography students commence 'Investigating Geography' which will focus on skill development relating to mapping.

Mrs Jacqueline McCarroll, HSIE Coordinator

Jamieson Programme

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

- During this term, students will be involved in the following aspects of the Jamieson Programme:
- Year 7 Frensham Studies - learning about the history and philosophy of the School.
- Year 8 Farm Management - being involved in farm management which includes assisting in the general management of the school farm. Ms Harris will be in contact with them to develop a roster for first term.
- Year 8 Riding for the Disabled - begins this week. The girls will have the opportunity to assist once during the year for a morning session at the local RDA Club.

- Year 9 Jamieson Programme - commenced last week with the girls researching the ten components of fitness in small groups. Each group presented their findings in the form of either an information pamphlet or a demonstration. The demonstrations were conducted in the gymnasium so that the girls could encourage audience participation. Next Jamieson evening, Dr Kathleen Bokey will talk to the girls about their health and wellbeing. The girls will also have the opportunity, in the afternoon, to set their fitness goals for the semester.
- Year 10 Financial Literacy - learning about relevant and useful aspects of finance.

Ms Sharyn Stafford, Jamieson Programme Coordinator

Mathematics

This year the Mathematics Department is looking forward to providing all girls with a variety of opportunities to be engaged in their learning. Students will be active participants in making important decisions about their own mathematical learning. This will involve discussions between teacher and students and between students themselves, relevant practical work, consolidation and practice of fundamental skills and routines, problem-solving including the application of Mathematics to everyday situations, and investigational work.

It is important for Mathematics teachers to help students learn how to think, reflect on their skills, recognise patterns and evaluate the methods they are using. In the book *A Whole New Mind* by Daniel Pink, it is suggested that the challenge for mathematicians is to teach Mathematics in a way that highlights right-brain thinking and that this will help students to be equipped to ask questions, investigate patterns and make connections that are yet to be asked, explored and discovered.

Creativity and reflection in Mathematics are necessary in the 21st Century where the classroom is a student-centred environment built on challenges and quick, continual feedback; a place where students are constantly evaluating their methodology and solutions to problems.

"Teachers used to be the repository of all knowledge. But my kids go on Google and get answers in 12 seconds." (...for consideration...)

Ms Sue Wymer, Mathematics Coordinator

Science

Science students have made an enthusiastic start to the year with a variety of topics being studied across the year groups. Year 7 students have been looking at the branches of Science and discovering how to work safely in the Science laboratory so that they can start doing experiments in future weeks. Year 8 scientists are developing their knowledge of basic chemistry through a

study of Cosmetic Chemistry. They are looking at elements, compounds and mixtures before they begin to make some simple cosmetics in the laboratory.

In Year 9, the student scientists are studying 'Bodily Functions' starting with cell theory. This week they will be preparing microscope slides and extending their skills in the use of a light microscope. In future weeks they can look forward to studying the different parts of the body and how they function. Year 10 students have started the year with a study of the history of our understanding of atoms, before they move on to how elements and compounds react as part of their study of 'Chemical Reactions'.

Mrs Alison Andrew, Science Coordinator

Personal Development/Health/Physical Education

The PDHPE department welcomes Ms Janene van Gogh this year. She is a highly experienced teacher who has much to offer our faculty. Mrs Wendy Elliott and Mrs Jane Crellen continue their roles in PDHPE/Sport and Ms French is also joining the faculty to teach a class in 2012, expanding her role as teacher of Japanese.

All students have made an enthusiastic start to 2012 in PDHPE. Years 7–10 will undertake units on Fundamental Movement Skills, New Challenges, Mental Health, Badminton, Modified Games and the Health of Young People. For practical lessons, all students are reminded that they must have their sports uniform, including hats.

Year 11 students have made a strong start to the Preliminary course in the study of Core One: Better Health for Individuals. Year 12 students worked hard over the holidays and are currently working through Core Two: Factors Affecting Performance.

Mrs Jane Crellen, PDHPE Coordinator

Visual Arts

Students of Visual Arts have begun 2012 in a most positive manner, undertaking preliminary explorations for art-making tasks specific to each year group.

Year 12 students are consolidating the purposeful start they made in Term Four, 2011 on the development of their HSC Bodies of Work and are aiming now to translate clever concepts and media explorations into tangible pieces of work. This process will be different for each student, as she seeks to distil and refine ideas, and clarify how she uses materials and techniques to best communicate her intentions. The clear expectation is that girls will support each other and work in an organised, diligent manner in order to make weekly progress.

In response to the phrase 'These are Desperate Times', Year 11 students are exploring socio-political themes of their choosing as the basis for an artwork. The students are required to produce an artwork in a specific

printmaking medium, such as silkscreen printing, dry-point and zinc-plate etching, block-printing and collograph printing. At this stage of their Visual Arts education, they are encouraged to test both conceptual and technical boundaries to increase the likelihood of independent and unique results in their work.

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

Year 9 students are formulating ideas for ceramic sculptures which will respond to the urban, industrial environment. The designing, constructing and glazing of their work will take most of Semester One, offering a challenge for students to be able to manage long-term projects and sustain practice over a significant period of time.

The Year 8 Visual Arts course is for Term One only and focuses on the depiction of the landscape. Students will produce drawings, paintings and prints in response to the beautiful natural bushland of the Upper and Lower Holt. In Week 4, students will spend a half-day in those parts of the School, producing preliminary studies which will be developed into refined, resolved artworks.

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

Mr Phil Alldis, Visual Arts Coordinator

Music

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

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

Some dates for Term 1 include: the *Magic Flute* on Monday 13 February, 4.30-11.00pm (Music students in Years 9-12); *HSC Encore Concert* on Monday 19 March 4.30-11.30 pm (Years 11 and 12 Music students); the *Meet the Music Concert* on Thursday 8 March, where students will travel to the Opera House to hear the SSO perform a programme of Ravel, Stravinsky and contemporary Australian music (Year12 Music students); and, finally, the first Concert Practice is in School Hall at 4.45 pm on Wednesday 28 March. Parents are very welcome to attend.

Mr Michael Spencer, Music Coordinator

Careers News

Congratulations to Year 12, 2011 on their outstanding HSC results. **Every student who applied for tertiary studies received a university offer within their first three preferences.** Information to date indicates that this cohort has chosen to study at ten universities across NSW, ACT, Queensland, Adelaide and Melbourne and the range of courses is broad (over 43 different areas of study). Some have decided to defer acceptance of an offer for twelve months in order to work, travel or volunteer. News is beginning to trickle through about scholarships and I would be delighted to hear from former students (or their parents) to let me know where they are now and what plans they have for the future.

Please email: cwilliams@frensham.nsw.edu.au

This week, **Year 12, 2012** will participate in the annual University of Wollongong 'Discovery Day' programme where they are treated as university students for the day. Areas of interest were chosen late last year so that an individualised program could be organised. The girls will attend lectures, tutorials and workshops covering a broad range of subject areas that provide a valuable insight into tertiary study. In March, a visit to the campuses of the Australian National University (ANU) and the University of Canberra (UC) will be held.

Year 10 students and their parents are reminded that planning for their Work Experience mid-year needs to be well underway. Potential work placements need to be sourced and applications made well in advance. It is also a good idea to have a backup placement in mind. I have already received advice from some parents about placements and will be sending the School's information package to respective employers **during the next vacation period.** Please note: I require details of confirmed Work Experience placements **by the end of this term at the latest** so that the necessary paperwork can be sent to employers.

Tax File Numbers: Applying through the school is a very simple process for students and even if your daughter does not anticipate working for a while, it is great forward planning to have a tax file number sorted. I will be sending

in applications later this term, so ensure your daughter collects a form from me soon.

Parents will need to supply their daughter with a birth certificate number and place of birth.

Cherylynn Williams, Careers Adviser

Sport

Wet Weather arrangements for Saturday Sport

Owing to the short season for all IGSSA sports, every attempt is made to play the inter-school matches and cancellations of Saturday Sport are rarely made before Saturday morning, unless a venue notifies IGSSA that the facilities will not be playable prior to this. Means of gaining information concerning play:

IGSSA Website: <http://igssa.ahigs.nsw.edu.au>

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

Swimming

Swimming this term is for those swimmers who are keen to swim at the IGSSA Carnival and also those who are keen to improve their fitness. All swimmers who attend the sessions will be following the training programmes of the coaches, Mr Vince Emmerick and Mrs Wendy Elliott.

Swimming team members have nominated which sessions they would like to attend and they must attend all these for the duration of the season. Those girls who are doing Swimming as their only sport must attend their normal sport time (Seniors - Thursday afternoon, Juniors - Tuesday afternoon) and Saturday mornings, as well as two other sessions. Those who are doing Swimming for Fitness as well as Softball or Tennis must attend two morning sessions. If students would like to do more than the allocated trainings then they are welcome to do so, but they will still need to nominate which sessions they would like to attend:

Tuesday and Thursday afternoons - Depart Stanley Street 4.00 pm - arrive back at School 5.30pm. Please change into full sports uniform at lunchtime.

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

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

Swimming Carnival dates:

Monday 27 February: Southern Highlands Carnival

Friday 9 March: IGSSA Swimming Carnival

Softball and Tennis

Trials for both sports began last term and have continued this term. Girls will know their teams by Friday this week to play matches on Saturday.

Training sessions:

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

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

Match times:

Softball: 8.00, 9.10, 10.20 am.

Tennis: 7.45 – 9.45 am, 9.55 – 11.55 am.

Softball: There are sixteen teams entered in the IGSSA Softball competition this season, which is a record at Frensham. Miss Fiona Harris is the coordinator of Softball and is assisted by a number of excellent coaches. Mr Colin Pegler will be coaching Team 1 this season, sharing his expertise and talent with a junior team as well. We also have an outstanding addition to the coaching of Softball this term with Ms Janene van Gogh joining the department. She will coach a junior and a senior team. Other coaches will be Mr Richard Beath, Miss Fiona Harris, Ms Jo-Ann Leishman and Mrs Jane Crellen.

Tennis: With fifteen teams this term, Tennis is looking good for 2012. Coaching will again be directed by Mr Michael Poulos and he will be supported by a team of qualified professional coaches as well. Mrs Jane Crellen will be the coordinator of Tennis this term.

Tildesley Shield: The Tildesley Tennis team began training in Term 4, 2011 and the team has been selected for this year's competition. It comprises eight players as well as two reserves. A team of line girls will also be attending the competition which is held at Pennant Hills in Week 8 of Term 1. Congratulations to all girls who have trialled for Tildesley this year.

Tennis lessons: Extra-curricular Tennis lessons will commence on Monday 6 February. Girls will attend their lesson on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday afternoons. If your daughter would like to start in Term 2 please advise the School in writing.

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

Mrs Jane Crellen, Coordinator of Sport

Snowsports

The 2012 Snowsports season will kick off this winter with the Northern NSW championships at Thredbo, from the 4-7 July, at which Frensham plans to be a major contender. We will

enter team events across the board in skiing and snowboarding, including all ability skiers at each level. All those new to the school, and those who are now ready to join, should express their interest to Ms Allison, Coordinator of Snowsports jallison@frensham.nsw.edu.au. Thredbo accommodation is filling up fast; we remind all parents planning to attend the 2012 Interschools to book accommodation if necessary. If you would like to further investigate the Interschools program, please follow the links at <http://www.interschools.org.au>

**Anna Gemmell-Smith and Victoria Sanderson,
Snowsports Captain and Vice-Captain
Ms Joanne Allison, Snowsports Coordinator**

Frensham Show Cattle Team

The 2012 Show Cattle season has begun with thirteen students competing in the rain and mud at the Berry Show on Friday 3 February. Some steers were still a little fresh from the Christmas break, so only eight out of the thirteen cattle were ready to compete. Despite the trying conditions, the team performed very well, winning four out of the six events entered.

The results were:

Westons steer competition (ongoing point score judging student and steer): 1st = Jess Alker - "T-Bone"; 3rd = Fenella Milling - "Gulliver"; 4th = Grace Ives - "Scotch"; 5th = Tyler Smith-Mailler - "Reggie".

Heavyweight steers: 1st = Annabel Locke - "Charlie Brown"; 2nd = Caitlin Devereux - "Banjo".

Junior Paraders: 1st = Tyler Smith-Mailler - "Reggie"; 4th = Sophie Currenti - with a borrowed bull.

Intermediate Paraders: 1st = Grace Ives - "Scotch"; 4th = Jess Alker - "T-Bone"; 5th = Sophie Meredith - "Reggie"; 6th = Isabeau Gavel - "Truck".

Hopefully the weather will be a bit better for Nowra Show on Saturday 11 February!

2012 Year of the Farmer

At the end of Term 3 2012, a letter was sent home to all Frensham families requesting family photos. The requested photo needed to show your family *in situ* on the farm. Since then there has been a flow of photos from all around NSW depicting all manner of agricultural enterprises. However, we need more – we have received about 20% of the possible farming photos. The photos will be part of a display for the Show Cattle team at the Sydney Royal Easter Show in April. It will be great to display where the Frensham farming families come from and what they produce.

Thanks to those who have sent in a photo for our 2012 Farmer of the Year display. There are some great photos so far. If you have not sent in your photo, please do it soon as we need to start getting the display ready. Some students who have sent in photos have kindly agreed to open their farm gates to let everyone know a little more

about their life beyond the Frensham gates. Please see our first story, below:

'We live on the property "Dundee" but we also own two other properties called "Killarney" and "Wambidgee". The three properties that we run are north-west of the town of Gundagai. "Killarney" is approximately 5km out of town, "Dundee" is about 10km and "Wambidgee" is about 15km, all along the same road.'

'Gundagai is known for... The Dog on the Tuckerbox! It's a small farming community with about 2000 people and many farms in the surrounding areas running various enterprises including cattle, sheep and cropping.'

'The property that we live on was owned by my grandfather. We used to lease the other two properties until we bought them a few years ago.'

'We produce 4000 prime lambs, 650 Angus beef cattle and 650ha different crops, including wheat, triticale and canola. The best part about living on a farm is...? I suppose it would be dealing with all of the animals and knowing that the long hours you spend vaccinating thousands of unappreciative lambs is actually doing something!'
(Charlotte Nicholls, Year 12)



The Nicholls Family - Gundagai. Mum Freda, Dad Anthony, a younger brother Sam and older sister Hayley.

Ms Leonie Harris, Coordinator Show Cattle Team

