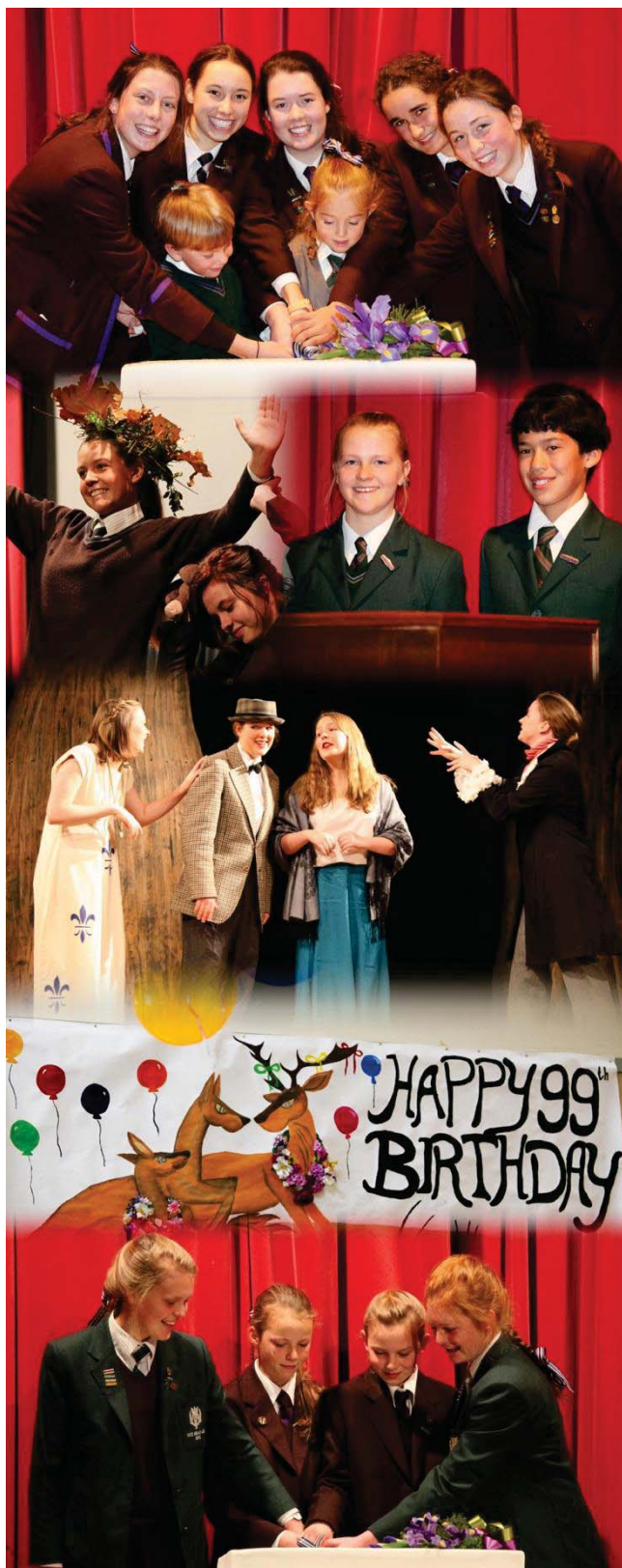




News letter

TERM 2 NO 4

6 June 2012



99th Birthday Thoughts...

At Sunday's Service, I asked those present to consider: *What is it that turns what most consider 'impossible' into reality?* I note from my Address:

With the world saying every day 'it is so hard', 'be careful', 'the future looks bleak', why wouldn't we embrace the challenge to do everything we can to turn the tide - do our best to make a positive difference in the world?

At age 72, Lorraine Munro, author of 'Nothing's Impossible', entered her Harvard Principal's Centre session 'kick-boxing' as she made her way to the front of the auditorium. Her message that day was about what it takes to effect 'transformation'.

Some people are born magicians, (she said) able to do wonders in their work. But everyone can learn to make a contribution. Excellence takes both kinds. And, in relation to her core role, 'transformation of schools', she challenged the school leaders present to:

- Make no excuses
- Do whatever it takes (to assist students to learn)
- Persevere
- (Pray for guidance to do and say the right things daily)
- Stop or leave when you no longer 'do' the above and when you no longer believe that 'Nothing Is Impossible'.

Her final words that day remain in the forefront of my mind: *Schools should not reflect what society is (but rather)... schools should model what society should be.*

It is important to affirm that at Frensham we consider real education is what happens **between** people in a community, not something that is done **to** someone – and that living and learning are really one. Academic rigour is essential but not enough. Just as crucial as literacy and numeracy, is emotional intelligence: confidence without arrogance, self-esteem that is neither too low nor unjustifiably high.

International educational research, right now, is catching up with what boarding schools have known instinctively about holistic education and the power of education to drive change in the world. Currently there is a particular focus on research into 'what the world needs of young people' and 'what are considered to be deficits' in society or in schooling

today', with schools being challenged to take note and take action. For example:

First, the universal need for teenagers to feel loved and included is seen to be less well met in society - with far-reaching implications for student learning and the role schools are expected to play within the community.

Second, (possibly a reaction to this?) teachers and parents are no longer asking young people to do things that are difficult – they are retreating from difficulty. (?)

Third, economists are saying that what the world needs most is 'high functioning young people': emotionally intelligent, with high self-management skills. (*See London School of Economics research linking character to national productivity*)

Fourth, tertiary educators are saying that the world of work needs 'young people with global empathy': talented people who can value other's points of view, who can truly think globally - think outside their own culture.

In summary, the deficits identified are all about character:

- the need to feel loved / to belong
- the need to embrace challenge
- the value of values
- ...in particular, the value of global empathy...

... all about hard choices, but not 'impossible', at all.

I went on to share some of the commentary offered by current Year 12 students on Frensham's support for development of each of the elements of character described above. For example, on 'the value of values':

I think Frensham has taught us to share our talents, not for the glory of being noticed but for the pure joy of teaching others and watching them learn. Desired, moral characteristics such as patience, kindness and service have been passed down from seniors who have modelled these attributes for us...

And on the need to embrace challenge:

The journey of a Frensham girl is not easy; the school has high expectations of each and every one of us. But these expectations are not a burden; they work to help keep us on track until they eventually become expectations of ourselves...

I also acknowledged, through a recent real example, the complexity of achieving global empathy.

In closing, I drew on the words of Sarah Uther ('young Old Girl' of 1989), guest speaker for the Year 9 Service 2011, who described well the challenge for the next generation - teenagers of today - to turn into reality what others might consider impossible:

The world will become your classroom and the opportunities will be endless. What you do with those opportunities is up to you...but it will be influenced by what you are learning here and now... Frensham taught me the

importance of having the strength and courage to follow my dreams. It instilled a sense of service. So no matter what dream you decide to follow... the important thing is to do it with commitment and a sense of purpose...be brave, take the teachings (of your teachers, families and friends) with you and stay open to the lessons around you.

Acknowledgement to:

- All involved in the myriad components of the 2012 Birthday Celebrations, including: Ms Sally Robson who offered the Address at the WWS Service, Lyreda Bennetts and Lucy Hay speaking on behalf of Year 12 and Mr Geoff Marsh, speaking at Year 12's request at the Birthday Lunch, Year 12 actors in the *Little Tree*, musicians appearing in Services and Concerts, Year 6 Gib Gate speakers, *As You Like It* cast and crew, parents of Year 12 – so fully involved in the entire weekend, with their daughters and all members of the staff, student and parent community and the Year 12 cohort from 2007;
- Recent Girdle recipients: Mollie Borschmann (Sport); Elizabeth Lamond (Academic Excellence); Brooke Martin-Smith (Visual Arts); Lauren Sullivan, (Academic Excellence); Madeleine Bowdern (Public Speaking);
- Gifted and Talented Forensic Science Camp participants (Armidale 26-30 June): Bianca Campbell and Rosanna Scanlan (Year 8) and Frederica Romijn (Year 9 Peer Facilitator);
- Georgina Gotterson, Annabelle Cruikshank Freya Spencer, Georgina Whatmore, successful applicants to the National Art School HSC Extension Intensive Studio Practice programme and to the BDAS Prize-winning artists in the 2012 awards;
- Sports team members successful in the semi-finals of IGSSA Football and Basketball;
- WWS Foundation Golf Day organiser Peter Macqueen, Director, and Ms Michele Scamps, Director of the Centenary Appeal;
- Mia Coupland, selected to perform at the ISTEAL Gala Concert at the Wollongong Town Hall on 17 June (See Gib Gate Report);
- Recent Iris recipients (Service): Mollie Borschmann, Sophia Macken and Annabelle King;
- Every member of WWS staff for the individual and collective efforts offered in support of all aspects of major weekend events like the 'Birthday'; the example set is inspirational and comments expressed at various events and since the weekend confirm the appreciation felt by students and parents.



Julie A Gillick
Head of Frensham
Head of Winifred West Schools

The Winifred West Schools Newsletter on the Website

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

Included with this Newsletter

Iris Country Fair Raffle Flyer

AHEAD ~ Term 2

Th 7	GG: ICAS Science Competition F: 1.45-8.30pm Jamieson Programme, Year 9
F 8	GG & F: 3.00pm depart for Long Weekend
S 9	Queen's Birthday Long Weekend Boarding Houses Closed – Exeat Free Weekend Sturt Gallery & Café Open
S 10	Sturt Gallery & Café Open
M 11	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday F: Boarding Houses open from 5.00pm Sturt Gallery Open, Café Closed
Week 8	Week B
T 12	F: Fellowship AGM and Luncheon, Sydney Including 65 Year Reunion F: 3.10pm Blood Donation, Years 11 & 12 F: Term 2 Sports Dinner
W 13	GG: 8.45am Parent Information Morning F: 12noon-4.00pm Robotic Dairy, Camden, Year 12 Agriculture F: 3.10pm Blood Donation, Years 11 & 12 F: 5.00-11.00pm Kevin Lee Latin Quiz, Sydney, Years 9 & 10 Latin
Th 14	F: Year 10 Career Testing Day F: John Clear, AIS ICT Integration Consultant at Frensham F: Garvan Institute Tour and Lecture, selected Year 12 Biology Students F: 7.00pm Mathematics Club
F 15	F: 12.30pm-10.30pm Sydney Eisteddfod, The Concourse, Chatswood (Madrigals) F: 5.00-6.00pm Junior Production rehearsal
S 16	Closed Weekend F: 8.00am-12noon IGSSA Finals F: 1.00-4.00pm Year 12 Chemistry Workshop (B Hegarty) F: 4.00pm 9km Bridge Run Trial/Training Session F: 1.30-3.00pm Boarding Activity, Mountain Bikes / Library open
S 17	Closed Weekend F: 10.00am School Service F: Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze Expedition (Year 9) F: 1.00-3.00pm Year 12 Geography Workshop F: 1.00-4.00pm Library Open, Years 11 & 12 F: 11.00am-5.00pm Boarding Activity, Mountain Bikes
Week 9	Week A
M 18	GG: ICAS Writing Competition F: Year 10 Work Experience GG: Year 6 <i>Passing a Bill</i> F: Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze Expedition (Year 9) returns

T 19	GG: Sample High School, Year 5 F: Year 10 Work Experience GG: John Clear, AIS ICT Integration Consultant at Gib Gate GG: 1.45pm Reception Grandparents' Day F: 7.30am-5.00pm Year 12 Latin Study Day, Sydney, Year 12 Latin Students
W 20	F: Year 10 Work Experience GG: T-6 Indigenous Performer GG: Mathematics Olympiad F: ICAS Writing Competition (please note change of date from 18 June)
Th 21	GG: Charity Day GG: Puppetry Class ~ Puppet Show, T-6 F: Year 10 Work Experience 3.00pm Term 2 ends for Gib Gate and Frensham
F 22	F: Year 10 Work Experience WWS Staff Day
JULY	
S 7	
S 8	S: 11.00am Exhibition Opening ~ Darren Oates, Furniture (Archives open 11am-1pm)
TERM 3	
M 16	WWS Staff Day All Boarders return by 6.30pm
Week 1	Week A
T 17	Term 3 Classes commence Gib Gate and Frensham

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

Mrs Georgy Alker	tarnuk.alker@bigpond.com
Mrs Clare Blackman (Chair)	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 Rosie Mitchell	rosiermi@iprimus.com.au
Mrs Meredith Munro	meromunro@bigpond.com
Mrs Elizabeth Phillips (Sec)	yarrowongamerino@bigpond.com
Mrs Jane Woods	woods farming@bigpond.com

2012 Gib Gate Advisory Committee Contacts

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

2012 TERM DATES ~ WEEKENDS

2012 Term Dates Gib Gate and Frensham

Term 2

Gib Gate & Frensham: Ends Thursday 21 June 3pm

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 11 Saturday 4 - Sunday 5 August

Year 10 Planning for Senior Studies
(with parents - Saturday 4 August)

AND FATHER – DAUGHTER BALL (4 August)

Year 9 Saturday 25 - Sunday 26 August

Ranier Uniform Shop opening hours

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

2013 Term Dates Gib Gate and Frensham

Term 1

Gib Gate & Frensham:

(Frensham New Student Induction Wednesday 30 January and all boarders return evening of 30 January)

Classes: Thursday 31 January – Friday 12 April, 3pm

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

Term 2

Gib Gate & Frensham:

Monday 29 April-Friday 21 June, 3pm

(Boarders return on the evening of Sunday 28 April)

Term 3

Gib Gate & Frensham:

Tuesday 16 July-Thursday 19 September 3pm

(Boarders return on the evening of Monday 15 July)

Term 4

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

Frensham: Tuesday 8 October-Sunday 8 December

Golf Day Sponsors

Thank you to our sponsors:

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WINIFRED WEST SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION

news

Gib Gate – Frensham Golf Day 2012

Fine weather and an enthusiastic field of players made this year's Golf Day a great success.

It was a hard-fought competition with the Winning Team of Rob Dulhunty, Darce Amott, Jono Purvis and Robert Blackman only narrowly beating the team that has won the event for the previous two years.

Many thanks to all the sponsors and players for contributing to a result that will see some \$12,000 being added to The Centenary Pool Appeal.

**THE
CENTENARY
POOL
APPEAL**



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

WWS Foundation Gib Gate ~ Frensham Golf Day



Clockwise from top left (L-R) - **Winning Team:** Rob Dulhunty, Darce Arnott, Jono Purvis and Robert Blackman; **Runners-Up:** Al Bailey, Gavin Martin, Toby Phelps and Ben Battcock; **Mixed Team:** Mark Hawker, Jo Hawker, Penny King and Ross King; **Best Dressed:** Dale Goodman – with Andrew Tomkin; **Mixed Team:** Nick Gemmell-Smith, Trini Faulkner, Martin Fenaughty and Cath Brennan.

GIB GATE

Head of Gib Gate

Each year Gib Gate hosts an information morning for parents. Past topics for parent workshops have included: 'Mathematics in Action', 'Assisting Students with Internet Research Skills', 'Hands-On Mathematics', 'Positive Parenting', 'Learning to Read', 'Parenting in a Digitally Connected World', 'Mathematics for Understanding', 'The JASON Project', 'Learning to Learn: The Gib Gate Experience' and 'Are you a Tech Savvy Parent?'

In 2012, feedback from parents and the Gib Gate Advisory Committee recommended that parents would appreciate

the opportunity to attend a workshop focusing on parenting skills. In response to this, the school has organised for Ms Jane Whittingham, Counselling Psychologist, to conduct a workshop on 'Positive and Effective Parenting'. Ms Whittingham is a registered psychologist with a broad range of clinical and consultancy experience, running a private practice as well working in a consultancy role for the Department of Education, Independent Schools, the Family Court and corporate psychology services. In her work with students and families, Ms Whittingham provides evidence-based intervention and therapy to children, adolescents and adults.

Ms Whittingham will be conducting an updated version of a workshop given for Gib Gate parents in 2007, which was

well received by parents as a practical and useful session. The workshop will be held in the Gib Gate Library on Wednesday 13 June at 9:00am, with tea and coffee available at 8:45am. Parents who are interested in attending are asked please to RSVP to Mrs Karen Russell on 4860 2000.

Parents looking for some reading material on parenting are welcome to borrow one of the School's copies of *Parenting for Character - equipping your child for life* by Andrew Mullins. This text comes highly recommended as a practical manual to help parents encourage children to think independently and make choices that are good for themselves and others. If you would like to borrow a copy, please see Mrs Russell.

Ms Sally Robson, Head of Gib Gate

Curriculum Insights - Learning 'outside' the classrooms of Gib Gate

Gib Gate students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are extending their learning in the HSIE and Science and Technology Key Learning Areas throughout the next two weeks of school. Carefully planned excursions and field trips connect students with the 'real world learning environment', make learning meaningful and memorable and enhance classroom topics and units of work.

During Week 7, Years 3 and 4 students visited The Rocks area in Sydney to participate in a guided, interactive walking tour to enhance their HSIE unit *Terra Nullius*. At the beginning of the tour each student was given a 'new identity' and 'became' a significant person (complete with dress-ups!) from the early colonial era. They visited a variety of historic sites including the first hospital, the earliest man-made tracks (later to become the oldest streets in Australia), Cadman's Cottage and the Government dockyards.

Years 1 and 2 students visited the Wollongong Science Centre and Planetarium at Fairy Meadow as part of their learning in Science and Technology. The programme was delivered by the specialist Science Education staff and included a 'Laser Concert' session in the Planetarium, an interactive session of fun activities in the hands-on section and an educational session entitled 'Bubbles and Balloons'.

Kindergarten students left their classroom and stepped out to learn about the history of their School. After completing detailed maps of Gib Gate's built and natural environment in the Library last week to guide their 'history mystery' adventure, they discovered and examined first-hand the many interesting artefacts that are to be found nestled among the gardens and buildings in the School's environment. Learning that each artefact has a story to tell has helped the children learn to work as historians and to learn about, and value, the contribution past generations

A poster for a parent workshop. At the top, the words "GIB GATE" are written in a green, serif font. Below this is a photograph of two hands shaking, symbolizing agreement or partnership. The background of the photo is a soft, light green. Below the photo, the text "PARENT WORKSHOP" is written in a large, bold, purple font. Underneath that, "Positive and Effective Parenting" is written in a smaller, bold, purple font. The name "with Ms Jane Whittingham" is in a smaller, purple font, followed by "Counselling Psychologist" in a smaller, black font. The date "Wednesday 13 June 2012" is in a bold, purple font, and the time "8:45am for 9:00am - 10:30am" is in a smaller, black font. At the bottom, the website "Details: www.gibgate.nsw.edu.au/news.htm" is written in a small, black font.

GIB GATE

PARENT WORKSHOP
Positive and Effective Parenting
with **Ms Jane Whittingham**
Counselling Psychologist
Wednesday 13 June 2012
8:45am for 9:00am - 10:30am
Details: www.gibgate.nsw.edu.au/news.htm

have made to make their School what it is today in 'their times'.

In Week 8 Years 5 and 6 will undertake a field trip to Jervis Bay to enhance their study of fragile marine environments in the JASON unit *Resilient Planet*. The senior Jervis Bay Marine Park biologist will give a presentation about the nature and complexities of inter-tidal plant and animal communities, the aims of the Park to protect marine biodiversity while catering for a broad range of recreational and commercial activities such as fishing, sailing and tourism and the way in which the Park is managed through the use of zones which permit various activities.

Students will also enjoy a Dolphin Cruise where they will learn more about this marine mammal's unique characteristics, their fragility and how biologists measure the acoustic effects of vessels on Bottle Nose Dolphins in particular.

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

Debating Workshops - Students who have been participating in co-curricular debating at lunchtimes, together with all of Year 6, will be attending debating workshops on Friday 15 June with members of UNSW Debating Society.

Indigenous Performance - Students from Transition Preschool to Year 6 will attend a performance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander songs, dance and stories presented by Ryka Ali in the final week of term.

Reception Preschool - Reception children will be performing for the first time on Grandparents' Day on Tuesday 19 June. They will share a range of songs they have been learning in their specialist Music lessons.

Charity Day - The Year 6 Charity Monitors are organising a fundraiser for James, Gib Gate's foster child from Malawi. Gib Gate students will be able to wear something special to School on the last day of term (more information to follow) and donate a gold coin in support of James.

Illawarra Suzuki Talent Education Association (ISTEA) Gala Concert - Mia Coupland (Year 5) has been selected to perform at the ISTEA Gala Concert at the Wollongong Town Hall on 17 June. Mia was selected following her performance of *The Wild Rider* by Robert Schumann at the ISTEA Piano Performance Day in Wollongong. She was chosen as 'an outstanding performer of a Suzuki Piano Book 3 piece'.

Mrs Anne Graham, Gib Gate Coordinator (Administration)

Gib Gate Sport ~ URGENT RESPONSE

Holiday Games - Parents of all Gib Gate children playing Hockey, Minkey, Soccer or Netball need to be aware that games in these various competitions extend into the holiday period. A note has gone home asking all parents to indicate their child's availability to play these games during the holidays. Times and venues for all games up to the 14 July are listed on the Gib Gate Bulletin. It is important that we have this information so we can inform the various associations if we do not have enough players to field teams on these dates. There will be no holiday training sessions for Gib Gate teams.

Mr Michael Standen Coordinator of Sport and PDHPE

STURT



FRIENDS OF STURT

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

Special News

Sturt will be participating in the *Sydney Timber & Working with Wood Show* at its new venue of Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush, from 27-29 July. Sturt will be promoting its many courses and workshops, including the accredited one-year course in fine furniture-making and design. There will be some Sturt furniture and objects on display. At the show, visitors will discover new skills, hone the ones they already have and learn about the latest in tools, wood, techniques and training opportunities.

Sturt supports National Contemporary Jewellery Award with an Artist's Residency prize - The National Contemporary Jewellery Award is produced by Griffith Regional Art Gallery and is open to all jewellery artists,

designers and artisans Australia-wide. This biennial award brings together contemporary applied arts, visual arts and design practice and awards a \$5,000 acquisitive prize sponsored by Griffith City Council, and now, as a separate prize, a full Artist's Residency at Sturt in 2013. Metalab in Sydney is offering a solo exhibition as another award. The resulting exhibition of selected entries will be visiting Sturt early in 2013. Entries close 22 June 2012 – for more information visit www.griffithregionalartgallery.com.au

Cabinet-Making with Roy Schack - This special four-week course with Brisbane-based designer-maker Roy Schack offers an exceptional opportunity to design and make your own cabinet on a stand with one of Australia's best known contemporary furniture makers. This course is for intermediate and advanced students and is full time from 20 August to 14 September; the cost is \$2,750 plus materials.

Susie McMeekin exhibition opening - The opening of the new exhibition of ceramics by Susie McMeekin was well attended. Special guest Paul Davis gave a passionate speech about the quality of Susie's work and her lifelong dedication to the art of ceramics. Many works were sold on the day.

Sturt Collection preservation-needs assessment has commenced – Sturt has begun the next important step in the development of the collection. Thanks to a community heritage grant from the National Library of Australia, Sturt has engaged consultant Karen Coote to undertake a preservation-needs assessment of the Sturt Collection. This important process will make recommendations about the storage, care and management of the collection, and will look at the recognised collection as well as the many important items of industrial machinery, tools and equipment on the Sturt site that now have significance as evidence of the early production of craft and associated raw materials in post-war Australia.

Sturt School for Wood – Enrolments are now open for the one-year, accredited fine furniture-making course for 2013. A full prospectus with application and enrolment procedures can be found on the Sturt website. Students who are accepted for enrolment in this course may be eligible for a range of government assistance programmes to help support them while they undertake full-time study including Austudy, Youth Allowance and Fares Allowance.

Short Courses - The next weekend of short courses for 2012 is scheduled for 18-19 August. Courses include Ceramics – surface design with Stefan Jacob; Jewellery – metal textile techniques with Nicola Bannerman; and, Woodwork – Shaker-style boxes with Phoebe Everill.

Sturt Gallery

Delineation – ceramics by Susie McMeekin. This exhibition continues to 1 July.

A journey unended and deeply felt - Susie McMeekin does not think she is funky or breaking new ground. The irony is that in her tireless, almost obsessive, quest to perfect her art, Susie shows us that she is, in fact, at the forefront of classical contemporary pottery-making in Australia. This exhibition at Sturt tells the story. *With this exhibition I am seeking to define where I have been and where I am going with a deep desire to keep making beautiful, peaceful pots and I am now happy with that.*

Reclamation – fine furniture by Darren Oates. This exhibition runs from 8 July to 19 August and will be opened on Sunday 8 July at 11am by special guest Terry Gleeson, Director of Terry Gleeson School of Woodwork and former Chairman of the NSW Woodworkers' Association.

Sturt Shop

David Moore photographs - Acclaimed Australian photographer David Moore took a series of images at Sturt in 1960 for the book *Sturt Workshops*, published in 1962. The links that brought David Moore to Sturt were established many decades earlier. David's father was the architect John Moore who was a close friend of Winifred West. John Moore was responsible for the design of the buildings at Sturt and of the North and West wings at Frensham, for which he won the prestigious Sulman Award for public architecture in 1937. Sturt has now produced a set of six greetings cards from David Moore's photographs. The cards are available for purchase from Sturt Shop at \$4 per card or \$22 for the full set of six (all cards blank inside).

Events

Winter School Artists' Talks – The Winter School week of art, craft and design classes (from 2 to 6 July) includes a programme of events of illustrated talks by guest tutors, presented throughout the week in the Frensham Drama Studio. All talks are free and open to the public; a full programme will be posted on the Sturt website in the week before the Winter School or may be collected from the Sturt Shop.

Friends of Sturt Meetings – Wednesday 22 August - All Friends of Sturt are invited to join the committee meetings in 2012, contribute to discussion and enjoy a glass of wine and preview of the new exhibition. All meetings begin at 5.30pm and are held in Sturt Cottage.

Full details of all Sturt courses, exhibitions, residency programmes and events can be found on the Sturt 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

FRENSHAM

Deputy Head

Planning

Parents are reminded that all girls should be dropped-off and picked-up from their Boarding Houses. Thank you for your support with this.

The final closed weekend of Term 2 promises to be an exciting one for the girls: Years 7 and 8 will have fun mountain-biking on campus; Year 9 will head off on a wilderness expedition on Sunday and Monday; Year 10 will prepare for their week of Work Experience; Years 11 and 12 will undertake a 9km run in preparation for the Bridge Run later in the year; and Year 12 will hone their academic skills in Chemistry and Geography workshops.

Netball and Hockey selections will also take place over the last two weeks of term. 1sts and 2nds teams have already been selected and the Hockey and Netball touring teams are preparing for the Southern Skies Tournament on the Gold Coast scheduled for the middle week of the holidays.

Studies

During the past few weeks, teaching and boarding staff have been finalising their Semester 1 reports for students in Years 7-10. Reports for students in Years 11 and 12 were sent out earlier. Students have contributed to these reports by identifying their own personal development attributes and commenting on their particular highlights during the semester. Once reports have been sent home, Form Tutors will follow up with their students to discuss their teachers' comments and help them set goals for the coming semester.

With the Long Weekend coming up and a Staff Professional Learning Day on the last day of term, the final two weeks of term are both short weeks. Most students have assessment tasks due in one or more subjects and all classes will be working on new material until the end of term.

Mr Geoff Marsh, Deputy Head/Director of Studies

Director of Boarding

On the evening of Friday 25 May, the Dining Room resounded to calls of 'Unlucky for some!' and 'Legs' eleven!' and the occasional excited shouts of 'House!' as the boarders participated in several games of Bingo.

That same weekend, a team of Year 12 girls, organised by Sophia Macken and Sara Attard and with instruction from Ms Cherie Gleeson, made a range of cakes. This involved learning a variety of decorating techniques, including the creative use of fondant icing, for the Year 12 cake stall. Sales from the cake stall raised almost \$600 for School charities. On the Sunday, the girls visited Bowral to buy last-minute items for the Birthday Weekend celebrations

and a group of Year 11 girls went to the cinema to watch the newly released *Avengers* film.

Saturday morning of the Birthday Weekend provided an excellent opportunity to meet with Year 12 parents and discuss their daughters' progress whilst the majority of the School headed to Sydney to compete in the IGSSA semi-finals.

On Sunday 17 June, girls in Years 7 and 8 will be involved in sessions on 'Life Balance' with Tai Chi expert Jan Lee; there will also be an opportunity for Years 11 and 12 students to attend. Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese martial art practised both for its defence training and its health benefits. The session the girls will attend will give them strategies to calm the mind, reduce stress and tension and promote holistic health and wellbeing.

Long Weekend Travel - CountryLink tickets for this weekend are to be issued this week. Please contact Mrs Amanda Barrie (abarrie@frensham.nsw.edu.au) with any queries.

Mrs Amanda Barrie, Director of Boarding

Professional Learning ~ Term 2

Professional Learning is an ongoing process for all teachers at Winifred West Schools, whether independently in an area of passion, 'informally' in an area of specific interest or formally through engagement in and contribution to weekly staff meetings and visits by expert consultants throughout the teaching term. In Term 2, members of the teaching staff have represented our teaching community at a variety of seminars, workshops and information sessions both outside the School and within School with colleagues.

On Monday 21 May, Ms Kidner and Ms Heiningler attended a full-day course at the AIS in Sydney with Language teacher colleagues from schools across NSW. The course was designed to assist teachers to continue to design authentic tasks to provide 21st century student language learners with a concrete sense of achievement through their language learning. Sharing expertise, knowledge and strategies with other teachers from diverse school environments gave the teachers the opportunity to consider new ways to engage Frensham students in their learning.

The Science Faculty spent a day 'at school' with Science Consultant Mrs Susan Millar on Wednesday 23 May to continue developing inquiry-based learning units of work and implementing 'Thinking Science' strategies, which has been their area of specific interest for 2012. Years 7 and 8 students enjoyed working with their teachers and Mrs Millar in scientific investigation and high-level metacognitive discussion throughout the day. Teachers then had the opportunity to use Mrs Millar's expertise to add to their bank of contemporary resources and integrate a variety of techniques into their programmes.

On Tuesday 29 May, Mr Geoff Marsh and Ms Sue Wymer participated in a Masterclass delivered by Alan November, a globally recognised expert in education technology. Alan thrives on confirming and challenging educators' thoughts about what is possible in the world of teaching and learning and spoke about the importance of building learning communities, with an emphasis on global connections and developing students' understanding of another person's point of view in other countries.

On Tuesday 5 June, Gib Gate teachers worked with Mrs Jan Stone, the AIS Numeracy Consultant and a long-standing colleague who has guided teachers in developing engaging and authentic teaching and learning activities in Mathematics across Kindergarten to Year 6. Ms Katie Horan (Year 4 class teacher) and Mrs Benita Neilson (Year 1 class teacher) completed their three-day *Learning in Early Numeracy* certification course at the AIS earlier this term under the guidance of Mrs Stone and her colleagues at the AIS. Team-teaching in classrooms throughout the day on Tuesday, Mrs Stone then delivered an informative after-school workshop for all teachers on new strategies to assist students learn about multiplication and division.

Teachers have also participated in a variety of hands-on, interactive workshops in small groups with AIS ICT Integration consultant, Mr John Clear, throughout the term. Staff are looking forward to his return to both Gib Gate and Frensham campuses in Weeks 8 and 9 this term when they plan to 'ask the expert' for continued guidance in implementing new technologies across all subject areas in tasks and activities designed for our 'digital natives' from Preschool to Year 12.

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

English and Drama

English - Students in Years 10 and 11 are completing oral presentations during this week. Speaking is an important component of the English syllabus and it is mandated we assess students in this skill. While a challenging form, it provides an opportunity for those students who are more confident when articulating their ideas about texts rather than writing about them to highlight their skills in this area.

Drama - The Junior Production audition process continues with another session organised for Wednesday 6 June from 4.30-6pm in the Drama Studio. All students who have auditioned or expressed an interest in stage management will be offered an opportunity to be involved.

It is frequently quoted that 'too much of a good thing' has its origins in Shakespeare's play, *As You Like It*. The audience was treated to a great many 'good things' during the traditional Birthday Play performances on Friday 1 and Saturday 2 June. The stage was transformed into a forest called Arden. We had a captivating *Rosalind* (Georgina

MacDiarmid) and a handsome Orlando (Phoebe Hawley) who led an exceptional cast through the trials of unrequited love, masquerade, usurped rulers, Lotharios who love to woo, philosophical shepherds and a deer who evaded becoming dinner for a bunch of hungry banished nobles. Thanks to Mrs Muir-Smith for her direction, insights and expertise and to all the cast and crew for creating a witty, surprising and thoroughly entertaining evening.

Ms Lee McGuinness, English/ Drama Acting Coordinator

French

The School has been informed by the Board of Studies that the HSC French Continuers Oral examination will now be held for Southern Highlands' students on Saturday 1 September instead of Saturday 4 August. This change of date gives the students an extra month to hone their skills in what is generally considered to be the most challenging section of their examination.

The French Oral HSC examination consists of a ten-minute interview with an outside Examiner, which is recorded for later assessment by HSC Markers in Sydney. The interview is totally unscripted, so each candidate's questions, topics and discussions are unique, with no possibility of predicting or preparing the track that the conversation will follow. Thus, candidates need to have thought through every possible scenario to feel ready, covering a vast array of topics including such things as family and friends, hobbies, home- and school-life work choices, post-HSC plans and career aspirations.

Madame Mary Kidner, Teacher of French

Japanese

This year the Languages Faculty received a grant from the AIS which was used to purchase eight iPads. Students of Japanese have begun a trial using these new iPads and have enjoyed using the Apps that have been uploaded especially for use in Japanese lessons. Students have also used the iPads to prepare for assessment tasks and will continue to use them for the rest of the year.

At the end of the term, Frensham will farewell our Assistant Japanese teacher, Miss Yuko Kanamaru, who has been working with all students of Japanese at Frensham during Term 2. The girls have enjoyed having Yuko in their Japanese lessons and the senior students are extremely grateful for the time she spends with them during their study periods to work on speaking skills. We wish Yuko the all the best for her English studies in Japan.

Ms Stephanie French, Teacher of Japanese

Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

Year 12 Geography students undertook fieldwork on the Pymont peninsula on Friday 25 May. The purpose of this work was to obtain first-hand evidence of the processes of

urban decline and renewal. Students were able to identify the results of change in the characteristics of the suburb as a result of economic and social change over time. On the same day, Year 12 Economics students visited the Reserve Bank of Australia in Macquarie Street, Sydney. They were fortunate to have both a senior economist from the RBA and a recent economics graduate speak to them about Monetary Policy, which was particularly useful as preparation for the assessment task they on which they have been working.

Year 12 Modern History students are investigating the Arab-Israeli conflict and are preparing for an assessment on this topic in Week 8 and History Extension students are finalising their individual projects which are due at the end of Term 2.

Year 11 Economics students are preparing for an assessment task on the labour market as part of the major topic, Markets. Year 11 Business Studies students are also working on an assessment task, writing a business report on a Small or Medium Enterprise (SME).

Year 11 Geography students have commenced the second major unit, Global Challenges, and are currently examining the factors involved in global population growth, with an assessment task based on this work to be completed in Week 9. They are also beginning to work on the analysis component of their Senior Geography Project.

Year 10 students in Australian Studies have completed their semester examinations and changed subjects at the beginning of this week. Geography students will be investigating geographical issues associated with land and water management, while History students will be investigating the Vietnam War. Both classes will have fieldwork associated with these topics in Week 2 of Term 3.

Year 10 Elective History students are working on an essay on Terrorism and critically analysing a range of media sources. This is the basis of their assessment work for this term.

Year 9 Geography students are finalising their group research tasks based on their Cabramatta fieldwork and are enjoying developing their multimedia skills using Audacity (podcast software) and Moviemaker. They are to submit these this week and will then students prepare for their end-of-semester examination in Week 8.

Year 9 History students have completed their assessments on World War II, which involved using sources from the Australian War Memorial collection. They are now preparing for their end-of-semester examination in Week 8. Students in Years 7 and 8 have completed their first semester courses and commenced their second semester course at the start of Week 6. Year 7 Geography students are investigating the 'tools' geographers use and will focus

especially on developing their mapping skills. Year 7 History students are investigating the origins of the earth, Palaeolithic people and migration.

The Mock Trial team will know details of their next case in Week 8. This will be the final round prior to elimination rounds.

Mrs Jacqueline McCarroll, HSIE Coordinator

Jamieson Programme

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

Year 7: In Frensham Studies, the girls are continuing their walking tours of the Campus looking at significant sites/buildings and tracing their history/usage since the School's opening. They are learning about the people who contributed to the first 25 years of the School's existence.

Year 8: The girls continue their much loved and important role as Shadows to Year 7. This week those girls who are rostered continue their Farm Management duties; this involves one afternoon per term, in a small group, tending to the animals on the Farm. Riding for the Disabled continues throughout the term.

Year 9: Last week the girls visited Nan Tien Temple with Mr Nash and Mr Marsh. The experience was well received by all girls and, upon their return, they spoke confidently about the Buddhist faith, all the beautiful buildings and grounds, and the people they met. They enjoyed their Tai Chi class and marvelled at the instructor's skills in this martial art. In the evening they excitedly shared their experiences and appreciation for the beauty and tranquillity of the Temple. They discussed and then wrote a reflection on the topic, 'Is Buddhism a religion or a philosophy?'. This week the girls will film their commercials advertising their eco-product, and then begins the technical job of editing the films ready for the viewing audience.

Year 10: The girls are continuing the important role as Cracks to Year 8 and last week they met for a chat and catch-up during Form time. This week the girls continue their programme of study on Financial Literacy. They have started discussing their spending journal and analysing the evident trends. They are also continuing their work in the Stock Market Game, enjoying watching stocks rise and fall as well as developing an understanding of investment strategies.

Ms Sharyn Stafford, Jamieson Programme Coordinator

Mathematics

During the past fortnight, students in Years 9 and 10 have been preparing for their second formal Mathematics assessment task of the year. Their study has included

honing skills that are essential for success in Mathematics: summarising notes, learning formulae and practising various types of questions. They have also been encouraged to seek advice in understanding the processes that lead to successful problem-solving.

Some students in these two year groups have teamed up with an older girl as a mentor. This helps the younger girls by exposing them to the thought processes and good study habits of successful senior Mathematics students. One of the aims of the Mathematics Faculty is to instil in all students the courage to attempt difficult problems and to know when to ask for help. Learning by enquiry develops students who are independent and who enjoy learning.

Make your mistakes work for you by learning from them.
Donald Trump

Ms Sue Wymer, Mathematics Coordinator

Music

The Birthday celebrations presented many Frensham musicians with the opportunity to challenge themselves and to contribute to what is always a special occasion. The String Quartet, comprising Chloe Andrews, Kate Lee, Georgina Quinn and Madeleine Quinn, began the Friday Service by playing the Processional with great poise and excellent intonation. The Madrigals performed *Deo Gracias* from Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* and the soloists for *One Voice* this year were Kate Lee, Charlotte Nicholls and Madeleine Quinn.

Year 11 pianist Rachel Jin was invited to accompany the Anthem at the Sunday Service and she did so flawlessly. Chloe Andrews sang the solo verse in *A Hymn for Frensham* and Madeleine Quinn was the cantor for *The Lord's Prayer*.

In the Year 12 Concert, flautist Mollie Borschmann played in a blend of Jazz and Baroque styles; Chloe Andrews sang a Kurt Weill song in the original French; violinist Ella Purvis played a mixture of Gypsy, Klezmer and Ska styles; Kate Lee performed the virtuosic "Nigun" from the *Baal Shem Suite* by Ernest Bloch on the violin; saxophonist Kate Hawker performed Piazzolla's *Tango Etude*; the Madrigals sang a dramatic arrangement of *Bohemian Rhapsody*; and the final item was a slide show of memoirs followed by Year 12's medley of songs selected for the Concert.

The Year 9 Music students had been studying Wagner's *Siegfried Idyll* in preparation for an excursion to hear the famous conductor and educator, Richard Gill, present the work at the City Recital Hall. The performance was inspirational and the students came away with a little of the presenter's passion for the repertoire.

Mr Michael Spencer, Music Coordinator

Science

On Wednesday 6 June, all students from Years 7-10 sat for the ICAS Science Competition. This competition is open to students from 20 different countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, the Pacific and the USA each year. Students are assessed on their ability to interpret data using skills such as observing, measuring and interpreting diagrams, tables and graphs. Skills in the application of data, such as inferring, predicting and concluding, as well as higher order skills such as investigating, reasoning and problem-solving are also tested. Later in the year, the School then receives helpful data about which skills need extra time spent on them and in which year groups. Students also receive certificates and data sheets which identify their individual strengths and weaknesses.

Year 7 Science students are finishing their study of 'Kitchen Chemistry' where they have been conducting experiments using different separation techniques. They are starting a new topic called 'Keeping Warm in Winter' which looks at the Kinetic Theory of Matter, the behaviour of solids, liquids and gases, changes of state and energy. Year 8 students are studying human body systems, emphasising how they relate to the process of cellular respiration. Students in Year 9 have commenced their study of 'The Chemical World', looking at how chemistry has led to the development of modern materials, and they have been making polymers like casein and slime.

Students in Year 10 have been studying the structure of DNA and how it can be altered by mutations or by gene technology. They have just completed a research task on biotechnologies and genetically modified foods where they have been looking for evidence to support the benefits and concerns of these things for society and the environment.

Mrs Alison Andrew, Science Coordinator

Sport

Wet Weather arrangements for Saturday Sport

Owing to the short season for all IGSSA Sports, cancellation of Saturday Sport is rare as every effort is made to complete all rounds.

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

Towards the end of the term, teams are playing in semi-finals and playoffs, and selection of Hockey and Netball teams has commenced. The Southern Skies Tour teams are training well and have practice matches against Chevalier College this week.

Over the weekend, IGSSA semi-finals and playoffs saw 280 girls travel to Sydney to compete. In Football, eight teams have made the finals and in Basketball six teams.

Athletics training has also commenced with a large number of students electing to train and compete in the Friday-night carnivals, hoping to gain selection for the IGSSA Carnival in Week 5 next term.

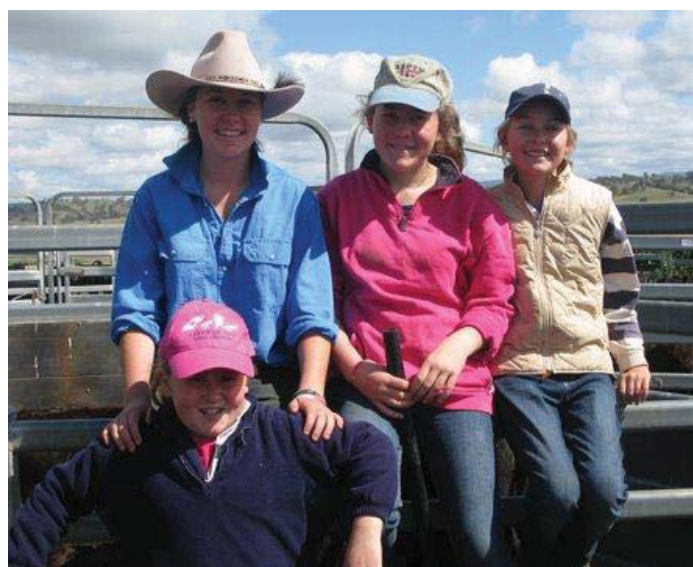
The CIS Cross Country Carnival is on 14 June at Eastern Creek and Emily Marsh, Emily Fisher and Annabelle Burns have been selected to represent IGSSA at this event.

Mrs Wendy Elliott, Cross Country Coordinator

Agriculture

Continuing the series of stories from Frensham's farming families, Jessica Alker, Year 11, describes her life with her family: Mum (Georgy), Dad (David), sister Alex (Year 8) and younger sisters Harriet and Adelaide.

Jessica is pictured below with her sisters.



'Tarnuk', our main property, is located 12km north of Merriwa and 'Glendower' is located another 38km further north of Merriwa towards Willow Tree. The Merriwa region is located in the Upper Hunter Valley, approximately four hours' drive north-west of Sydney. It is a diverse agricultural area with naturally fertile basalt soils and receives approximately 600mm of rain a year. The district produces beef cattle, prime lambs and wool, a whole array of winter and summer crops, grapes and olives and has a large herb farm. Merriwa is also the birth place of the Pony Club movement which started in 1946 and is now popular all over Australia. We also have the Festival of the Fleeces each June Long Weekend which celebrates the wool industry in our area.

Dad's great-grandfather purchased 'Tarnuk' as a bare block of land in 1928. Dad is the third generation to

manage the farm. Mum and Dad bought 'Glendower' to provide an opportunity to expand the cropping programme and cattle-fattening operations.

Currently we are running a self-replacing, EU-accredited beef cattle breeding operation which is turning off weaners or growing cattle out for the feedlot market, if the season allows. We also grow winter and summer crops such as wheat, barley, canola and chickpeas, grazing oats, sorghum and mung beans depending on the season.

The best part about living on a farm is the freedom and the idea of being with your family and helping where you can. I love working on the farm and helping Dad - I look forward to it each time I go home.

Ms Leonie Harris, Coordinator of Agriculture

Visual Arts / Design & Technology

During Week 5, Frensham entered 40 individual artworks into the *Arthead* High School Prize held at the Bowral and District Art Society Gallery. Students attending secondary schools in the region were invited to enter artworks in Year 7-8, Year 9-10 and Year 11-12 categories, with a 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prize awarded in each of these categories. The entire exhibition featured 89 artworks.

Louise Owen, a local artist, judged the exhibition and the prize-winners were announced at the official opening on Saturday 26 May. In the Year 7-8 category, Kate Marsh (Year 8) was awarded First Prize for her mixed-media painting titled *Impression of the Holt*, with Louise Owen remarking that the work '... shows an engagement with the materials and process – an interesting layering of surprising materials and media'. Anna Horton (Year 8) was awarded Second Prize for her mixed-media artwork, also titled *Impression of the Holt*. Rubyanna Edwards (Year 8) was awarded Third Prize for her intimate acrylic study titled *Reflections*.

In the Year 11-12 category, Catherine Hall (Year 11) was awarded Second Prize for her suite of etchings titled *Art of Survival*, with the judge commenting on the 'quirky and surprising observations of snippets of life'. Georgina Whatmore (Year 11) was awarded Second Prize for her fine oil painting titled *Bottle Top Study 1*.

Kate Owen also awarded Certificates of Commendation to several Frensham students: in the Year 11-12 category - Emily Collins; Year 9-10 category - Isabella Conomos; Year 7-8 category - Celia Stewart.

All the girls who put their artworks forward for public scrutiny are commended for sharing their talents with a wider audience.

During Term 4 of 2011, Brooke Martin-Smith (Head of Art Exhibitions), together with Anna Gemmell-Smith and

Elizabeth Lamond (Art Exhibitions team members), submitted a proposal to begin exhibiting student photography in School Hall on a rotational basis. The following excerpt from their proposal provides a clear sense of its aim: *In 2012, we propose to extend the exhibiting of student artworks to include the hanging of photography in School Hall. In doing this we hope to establish the beginning of a Frensham archive of artistic photographs which will reflect the School and its values from the perspective of students. Our aim is to implement this project for 2012 and lay the platform upon which future leaders of the School can build.*



Kate Marsh with her artwork that was awarded 1st Prize in Year 7-8 section of Arthead High School Prize

The opportunity to display photographs will be open to students from all years once a term. Participation is not limited to Visual Arts students. Whilst this exhibition is not viewed as a competition, photographs will be selected on artistic merit.

During Week 6, the first exhibition of 12 photographs, printed in 8" x 10" format, was hung in School Hall by the Art Exhibitions team. The photographs capture a sense of life at Frensham, from evocative images of the natural and built environment of the School to images of girls engaged in varied activities.

From the submitted photographs, Brooke, Anna and Elizabeth selected images from the following ten students: Hannah Black (two images), Georgina Campbell, Amber Fahey, Kate Hawker, Annabelle King, Rubyanna Edwards, Emily Newton, Brooke Parr (two images), Amelia Phillips and Jessica Southwell.

Mr Phil Alldis Coordinator of Visual Arts / Design & Technology