No. 37  4 December 2014

Principal's News

As another busy school year draws to a close, I’d like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your cooperation and support this year. As educators, we rely on parent support in all that we do to help students be the very best they can be and we value the partnerships we build together as we watch children grow and develop during their primary school years. We wish you all the very best for a safe festive season and a happy new year. For those leaving our Frenchville family, we wish you well, particularly our seniors as they head off to secondary school education, and those families who are finishing up with us, with their youngest children graduating this year. We will miss seeing your faces around the school but we look forward to hearing about the ongoing success of your students as they build their futures. A double graduation is just around the corner – the first new reality in 2015.

As we go to press I’d like to pass on some warm congratulations to two Frenchville staff members. Mrs Rhonda Busk has been appointed as Frenchville’s Master Teacher from 2015. This is a three year position, to support teachers with pedagogy, instruction and data improvement. We are fortunate to be benefiting through Mrs Busk’s expertise and we welcome her to our leadership team. We also say farewell to Mrs Lisa Wogand, who has been promoted to a Master Teacher position at Woorabinda. Congratulations Mrs Wogand – we will miss your friendly smile and expert teaching knowledge and we look forward to working with you from afar as you take on your next professional challenge.

I’d also like to say a huge thanks to our many Great Results Guarantee teacher aides who are have worked in classrooms this year. We have all benefited from the extra support given to our learners and teachers. We look forward to being able to offer continued employment to most of you in 2015, as the GRG program funding continues.

Finally, best wishes to our graduating Years 6s & 7s. Work hard, be honest and proud of your achievements and show persistence in all you do. You are, and always will be, a ‘Frenchville kid’.

Please ring the office to clarify any student absences and provide absence reasons. We need to tidy up our attendance records in preparation for printing end of year report cards.

Leisa Neaton, Principal

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Report Cards</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Battle of the Brains</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Class Lists posted</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our P&C meets the 2nd Thursday of each month. All welcome. P & C Email: pandc@frenchviss.eq.edu.au
End of Year Events

- The end of semester reports will be released on Monday 8 December. Please ensure your child keeps reading over the break to maintain their improvement trajectory. Students who do not read or write over the holidays, who are not encouraged to talk and explore, play and experiment will have difficulty keeping up with their cohort peer group in 2015.
- The anticipated class organisation for 2015 will be released on Tuesday 9 December. Changes may need to be made if numbers differ from anticipated enrolments. The lists can be viewed near the school office and under G block, as well as outside of the prep classrooms for students moving to year one.
- No changes will be made at this stage of the year. Please note: graffiti on school uniforms is not acceptable at the double cohort graduation.
- The Year 6 & 7 Senior Graduation and Awards Ceremony will be held on Thursday 11 December from 9.00am sharp in the School Activity Centre. Parents, families and friends of Year 6 & 7 students are invited to attend the Senior Graduation Ceremony. During this ceremony trophies and pennants will be awarded. Students must be well presented in school uniform including appropriate footwear (black or white shoes which may include minor colours that support the uniform standard, and white socks). All students from Year 3 to Year 7 will attend the ceremony. Nb Prep to year two students will not attend this year due to the high numbers of parents expected to attend. However, if a younger sibling of a graduating student wishes to attend from these year levels, please inform the child’s teacher beforehand and take him/her with you to the ceremony. We have now excluded year 2 as well due to the concerns we may not have sufficient space.

Awards to be presented include the following and they will be presented to a year six and a year seven student in 2014 due to the double cohort graduation:
- Academic Achievement Award
- Citizenship Award
- Sportsperson of the Year Award
- Principal’s Award
- Overall Excellence in Music Award
- Band Award & Orchestra Award
- LOTE Award

- Senior Dance Thursday 11 December in the SAC 6.30-7.00pm photos and parents welcome in the SAC, 7.00-9.30pm dance for year 6 & 7 Seniors.
- Break-up day is Friday 12 December. This day is generally a free dress day and individual class requirements will be communicated by individual teachers. Normal school hats and footwear must still be worn. Remember the usual rules – clothing must be sunsmart and free of inappropriate slogans. Any children departing early need to be signed out through the office.
- Please note: graffiti on school uniforms is not acceptable at any time.
- The school office will re-open on Monday 19 January 2015 from 7.30am – 3.30pm.
- The 2015 school year will commence on Tuesday 27 January for students.

Staff Leave & Departures 2015

Best wishes to our staff members commencing maternity leave in early 2015: Mrs Zenna Booth and Mrs Cassie Kelso.

Farewell and best wishes to Mrs Wogand who has accepted a Master Teacher position in Woorabinda.

Digital Communication in 2015

From 2015 digital communication will become much more important at Frenchville. In the interests of sustainability and saving our environs, we will be publishing newsletters in digital format each week. These will be available from our website or can be pushed to you via the QSchools app or emailed to you via an email list. We will generate this email list from One School records. Please ensure your records are completely up to date to be sure you don’t miss out on the communication available. The QSchools app is compatible with Apple, Android and Windows devices and is free. Please don’t forget to download the QSchools app - it is free. You can always be up to date with the latest Frenchville news with this app. Here’s what you need to do to be able to receive push notifications to your portable device.

Without this service, we have no other way of communicating emergent critical information. For example, if over the holidays we sustain flood damage and need to inform you of classroom damage, we would do so via QSchools app. If we had to evacuate the school for any reason eg. bush fire, we would notify you of where we would assemble via the QSchools app. Please download the app and favour us, enabling your device to accept our push notifications. Remember, you must have the latest update to receive notifications successfully. We are planning a test notification message on Friday 5/12/14.

In the event of a natural disaster – Access to school closure information over the break

1. QSchools app

The QSchools app will provide up-to-date information about school closures, in the event of a natural disaster causing damage to the school or preventing access to the school. Visit the department’s apps page for more information and all the features: http://dete.qld.gov.au/about/app/

2. Websites

Up-to-date information about school closures can be accessed on the following websites.
- School Closure Website: http://esc.eq.edu.au

Leaving Frenchville in 2015?

If your child will not be with us for the 2015 school year we would appreciate a call or note to our office so that we are able to accurately plan our 2015 classes.

Report Cards coming home

Written report cards will come home to students on Monday 8/12/14. Please be sure if your child is in a situation where parents do not reside together, that we have your arrangement details eg. have you arranged for an email copy or a duplicate copy to be provided through the office? We are more than happy to assist where communication has been provided to us.

This year we have included the distribution spread for each of the key learning areas on the report cards. We hope you find this information useful – you will be able to see how many students achieved each rating from A-E and know where your child sits in the overall cohort achievement pattern.

These are our last hard copy report cards. In 2015, all report cards will be digital and emailed to parents directly. Please be sure to have provided the office with the best email contact address. A details sheet was sent home last week – these forms need to be returned to the office so we can confirm your email addresses to be ready for 2015.
Battle of the Brains

Battle of the Brains will be conducted in the SAC on Tuesday 09 December 2014. This is a student event conducted by teachers. We do not require parent assistance on this day.

Book Returns

Yes it is that time of year when we are wanting all our resources returned. This includes any stray library books or home readers. Please keep an eye out for these pesky things during your holiday spring cleans and bedroom clean ups. Books can be returned at any time. In fact we get quite a large number back early in the new year. We do appreciate all your efforts in looking after our books and keeping our resources in such good condition.

Student Council News – Christmas Project

The Christmas spirit is certainly alive and well at Frenchville State School. We saw this last week with the overwhelming generosity of our families in providing enough food for our Christmas hamper to go to not one but six families. We made over 6 HUGE hampers for delivery by Anglicare to deserving families. We also raised over $1100 for the Kmart Wishing Tree appeal. Student Councillors have purchased gifts and wrapped them and placed them around our school Christmas tree in the TWIST until we deliver them next week. You are welcome to come and have a look. It is just wonderful how many families have supported this project and demonstrated the true meaning of “giving” at Christmas.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Sansuka DeSilva who received a State Medal in the ICAS computer testing program, travelling to Brisbane with his parents and teacher Mrs Briggs to be awarded the medal on Monday.

Congratulations Boys

Congratulations to the Under 12 Rockhampton Boys Rep basketball team who won three out of their four games at the Central District Championships in Gladstone on the weekend. Half the team are Frenchville students: Riley Fehlhaber, Lleyton Muggeridge, Mitchell Kuhl, Caiden Labone and Jack Grayson. Well done boys. It’s lovely to keep celebrating achievements right up until the end of the year.

Information supplied by Jodie Grayson.

Reading Knights

We have had a very successful year with so many children participating in our reading Knights program. We will knight over 100 Knight Masters this week with some getting to the next level (which is over 400 nights of reading). This program continues through the Christmas holidays with you able to record one book each night (except maybe Christmas Eve when everyone should be in bed early!) If you need extra sheets to read over the break please call into the TWIST before you leave for holidays or alternately the sheets are available on our school website. Remember...Reading Knights read every night!

Smoking Ban

The Queensland Government has passed amendments to the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act (1998), banning the use of smoking products in all areas at state and non-state schools in Queensland and for five metres beyond the boundary of school land. The new laws take effect from 1/01/15 and apply at all times—during and after school hours, on weekends and during school holidays. For information about Queensland’s tobacco laws contact 13QGOV (137468) or visit www.qld.gov.au.

Firestorm Update

The “Firestorm” magazines will be distributed to students from Monday 8 December. Magazines will also be on sale at the Year 1 Christmas Concert and Graduation ceremony. If you have not already placed your order, drop into the office this week and secure your copy. Remember, they are only $10.

Lost Property

Please check the lost property collections under C Block and beside the tuckshop. A large bank of items has accumulated. Left over items will be put in our uniform seconds stall or sent to charity on breaking up day. Please check the lost property before Thursday 11/12/14 at 3pm to avoid disappointment and loss of items.

Laptop Payments

All payments for the year 687 laptop program are now overdue and need to be finalised by 5/12/14.

Please Stay out of the Frenchville Grounds over the Break

Community members are urged to report any trespassers to the Police by calling the School Watch Number.

School Watch: Remember – Look, Listen, Report

131788

Slow down around our school

As we all get busier heading towards the break, parents and carers are being urged to slow down in the school zones. Most school areas have 40km/hr speed limits in place.

Parents can set an example to other drivers by observing these limits when dropping off and collecting the kids from school. Please remember, don’t pull up on the crossing. The crossing supervisor requires a car length to do her job safely and effectively. Be sure not to encroach on the crossing safe zone while waiting.

Parents should also take the time to teach their children about road safety and the safest ways to travel to and from school.

Some basic tips:

• ensure your child knows the safest route to and from school
• teach your child to always walk on footpaths
• make sure your child crosses at traffic lights, pedestrian crossings or supervised school crossings and ensure they know the safe times to cross
• accompany young children when they are walking or riding to school until they are old enough to understand road safety
• teach your child to be alert for cars going in or out of driveways
discourage your child from playing with balls or toys while walking to school.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuesday 27 January - Thursday 2 April</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tuesday 20 April - Friday 26 June</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Monday 13 July - Friday 18 September</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tuesday 6 October - Friday 11 December</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student free dates for 2015:

Term 1 – 22 & 23 January
Term 4 – 19 October

Tuckshop Roster

Roster commencing Monday 8 December

Monday:  J Connolly
Tuesday:  P Simpson
Wednesday:  K Smith
Thursday:  Help needed
Friday:  No tuckshop

Bookpack orders will be available for collection from Monday. Please bring your receipt.

2015 opening hours

Monday 19 January to Friday 23 January 9am-12.00pm.
Christine Hills
Tuckshop Convenor

Community Notices

Visit FLOW at Old Rockhampton Post Office for school holidays. For more information check the website www.discovercq.com.

Attention 10–12years Club swimmers nominations for 2015 Greater Rockhampton and District Swimming Trials Tuesday 3 February and Wednesday 4 February 2015 Rockhampton Grammar School 3.30pm each day. For information and qualifying times please see Ms Sampson. Nominations are due by Thursday 29 January 2015.

Junior Footy Academy (JFA) School Holiday sessions 2 to 4 January 2015 at Browne Park Rockhampton. Bookings are essential. For more information check the website at www.juniorfootyacademy.com.au

walson@juniorfootyacademy.com.au