At Frenchville we have recently commenced a writing improvement project. We knew from our writing data and student attitudes towards writing that we needed to try some new ideas. We have commenced a working partnership with Louise Dempsey from New Zealand, who co-authored a wonderful resource called “The Writing Book”. All teachers received a copy of this practical book earlier in the year and many of them have been trying out new ideas from this text. We have seen some great enthusiasm from teachers and students towards writing since we have adopted some of these new strategies.

One of the ways you can assist us with our writing improvement agenda is to help learners stretch their sentences. If your child is writing, he/she may tend to use words that are easy to spell or that they are familiar with, not stretching their vocabulary or extending themselves to take writing risks. If not addressed, this issue continues, extending to uninspiring paragraphs in longer texts. Through taking a few simple steps, children’s writing can be enhanced. One of the ways to do this is to use what our writing consultant calls ‘adding detail’ prompts. These prompts can be used one, two or three at a time to support students to add detail.

An uninspiring sentence before the ‘adding detail’ prompt:

The fish swam in the tank.

Now add some detail. Let’s try the see and hear prompts.

The shimmering orange goldfish swished frantically around in the tank, slapping his tail against the glass.

Which sentence is better? Obviously the second one helps form a much more vivid picture in the mind of the reader.
Congratulations

On Friday night Lionel was awarded the Darumbal Community Youth Perpetual Indigenous Education Award for Primary School Student of the Year. He is the first Indigenous student from Frenchville State School to achieve this award. After being nominated for all three categories (Academic, Citizenship and Sporting), it appears that Lionel was the clear choice for the prestigious Primary School Student of the Year Award. We are so very proud of Lionel’s achievements. This is a very deserving win. Congratulations Lionel.

Congratulations to Akaysha Muggeridge (Sport) and Kaylah Frazer (Academic) who also received awards.

Need new uniforms in 2015?

Why not order now? We have an order form available on the home page of our website. Simply print, complete the form and return to our tuckshop either in person or by emailing a scanned copy to pandc@frenchviss.eq.edu.au. We will fill your order and advise you when it is ready for collection.

End of Year is Approaching Fast

Of course, whilst the end of the year is approaching, learning continues until 2.45pm on Friday 12 December 2014. It is important to us as educators that every minute is made of every school day and whilst there are some necessary changes to routine such as end of term events, our teachers will be working with students right up until the end of the year to keep routines in place. Even though some high school year levels finish before primary school finishes, we do not want any younger brothers or sisters thinking that it is ok for them to stay at home because their older sibling is finished for the year. Your assistance is needed to maintain our high standards. Please support us by:

- Ensuring students wear full school uniform (including sensible footwear with laces or velcro) every day and observe the jewellery rules.
- Ensuring belongings, homework etc. continues to come to school every day.
- Ensuring punctuality continues every day and that students are here every day at school, on time. School starts at 8.40am.
- Ensuring afternoon pick up routines remain in place and are known to students.
- Ensuring students are not in the school grounds out of school hours without permission from the Principal.
- Ensuring morning drop off times are reasonable. We are unable to provide early morning supervision.

Student Awards

Along with stickers, parade certificates, verbal praise and report cards, these awards are another way for teachers to celebrate student success and provide feedback.

Year 1-2 Academic Awards Assembly

The Academic Awards parade for Year 1-2 students will be conducted on Tuesday 2 December in the SAC at 2:00pm.

Year 3-5 Academic Awards Assembly

The Academic Awards parade for Year 3-5 will occur on Monday 1 December in the SAC at 2:00pm. Please see the awards criteria below.

Criteria for Frenchville Academic Awards:
- GOLD – two A’s from English, maths, science + three other A’s (total of at least five A’s)
- SILVER – one A from English, maths, science + three other A’s (total of at least four A’s)
- BRONZE – three A’s from any key learning area (total of at least three A’s)
- ACADEMIC BLUE - mostly A’s and B’s in classroom core areas (this excludes PE, music or LOTE). Students cannot receive any rating under a C standard, but one C is acceptable across the core learning areas.

Effort and behavior awards are presented in class towards the end of the year. Again a high standard is expected. These awards recognise the following:

EFFORT: very high ratings in classroom core areas. (Students may have no more than one high rating in the classroom core areas only).

BEHAVIOUR: very high rating for behavior overall

Please note: we do not give awards in the prep year level. Year 6 and 7 achievement will be recognised through Graduation Awards.

Sports Parade

The annual sports parade will be conducted in the SAC on Wednesday 10 December at 2:00pm. Trophies are awarded to the best and fairest players of school based sport. Pennants are awarded to students who have represented Rockhampton, Capricornia or Queensland for school sport. Trophies are awarded for players of the year for various sports.

Yr 7 Graduation and Awards

Parents, families and friends of Year 6 & 7 students are invited to attend the Senior Graduation on Thursday 11 December at 9:00am in the SAC. 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 2 to Year 7 will attend the ceremony. Nb. Prep and year one 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.

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.

Prep Open Day

Our Prep Open Day for new prep students in 2015 will be held on Thursday 4 December. Parents and students should report to the School Activity Centre at 8.45am. Students will move to their 2015 prep classroom with their teacher at 9.00am. Please ensure your child brings a hat and water bottle.

Uniforms will be available for sale at the School Activity Centre during the morning. Card facilities will be available. Prep 2015 book packs and uniform orders will be available for collection.
Student Banking Update

Just a reminder that Term 4 Rewards are handball, shark keyring, scented pencils, moneybox, swimming bag, sea streamers, projector cup and some 2013 Rewards (10 tokens each). Penguin keyring and whale shark pencil case are out of stock. Please order now if you have enough tokens so that you definitely receive your reward before the school year finishes. Until 30 November, keep depositing money at school each week for an entry into the Term 4 Treasure Competition – prizes include GoPro cameras and Slip 'N Slides (visit commbank.com.au/deepseasavers).

Last Student Banking Day for the year is Thursday, 4th December. Thank you for your wonderful support.

Laptop Payments

As it is getting close to the end of the year and the exit of our senior students, all payments for the Year 6 & Year 7 laptop program need to be finalised by 21 November 2014.

P&C News

- P&C authorised the purchase of a digital school sign, which will replace the old sign on Georgie Street. This new sign has been specifically designed for us by parent and P&C member Errol Meyer. We are very excited! Councillor Fisher kindly donated $300 towards this sign.
- Requests for uniform supply quotes have been sent out to potential suppliers. Please note: the 2014/2015 start of year order is from our current supplier.
- The P&C agreed to purchase several laser lights for student dance parties in 2015.

Secondary Timelines and Dates

Awards: Applications for these awards are available on the school website or on the school’s “i drive”. Applications are due on 21 November 2014.

Senior Graduation Ceremony: Thursday 11 December 2014

Senior Graduate Dance: Thursday 11 December 2014 6.30-7.00pm photos and parents welcome in the SAC, 7.00-9.30pm dance for year 6 & 7 Seniors.

Tuckshop Roster

Roster commencing Monday 24 November
Monday: T Bau, J Connolly
Tuesday: J Spyve
Wednesday: J Pirie, J Hall
Thursday: K Hawkins
Friday: R Grant, Y Taylor, J Connolly
Christine Hills
Tuckshop Convenor

Firestorm Magazine

The Firestorm has been sent to the printer. If you’d like to purchase a copy, highlighting Frenchville’s 2014 school year, please return the slip below, with $10 payment.

FIRESTORM ORDER FORM

NAME: .................................................................
CLASS: ..................................................
NUMBER TO BE ORDERED: .................
PAYMENT ENCLOSED: ................. ($10 per magazine)
.................................................................
Parent/Guardian Signature

News from State Member Bruce Young

In a recent email to the principal Mr Young reported the following about traffic concerns:

“I have received a response from the District Director of the Department of Transport and Main Roads regarding the road issues at Frenchville. The right-turn arrow at Frenchville State School has been discussed with TMF and Rockhampton Regional Council. Council has advised that consideration will be given to a right-turn arrow when resources become available. If you would like to discuss this matter please feel free to contact Martin Crow at Rockhampton Regional Council.”

Kind regards, Bruce Young, Member for Keppel

Christmas Fundraiser

Christmas free dress day is Thursday 27 November. We ask you to come in your best Christmas clothing and bring a gold coin, and a small gift of non-perishable food. We are supporting the Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal and Anglicare Adopt-A-Family through the Morning Bulletin. Your gold coin will go towards purchasing toys for the Wishing Tree and your hamper donation is going to support a family of, Mum, Dad, Boy-12yrs, Girl -9yrs and a Girl-5yrs.

Normal school hats and footwear must still be worn. Remember the usual rules – clothing must be sunsmart and free of inappropriate slogans.

SPORT FIXTURES

Cricket Semi Finals

21 November 2014

Frenchville Seniors v St Joseph’s PA
Frenchville Junior White v Crescent Lagoon
Frenchville Junior 5’s v Frenchville (Blue)
FSS Minors v St Joseph’s PA

Softball Semi Finals

Draw not available at time of printing.

Hockey at Kalka Shades

1.00-1.15pm Frenchville 2 v Crescent Lagoon
1.20-1.35pm Frenchville 1 v Allenstown
1.40-1.55pm Frenchville 2 v Allenstown
2.00-2.15pm Frenchville 1 v St Joseph’s Wandal

Basketball at Hegvold Stadium

(Draw is likely to change - check with your coach)

12.55pm Frenchville 4 v RGS Kellow
12.55pm Frenchville 6 v Glenmore
1.20pm Frenchville 3 v Allenstown
1.20pm Frenchville 5 v Allenstown
1.45pm Frenchville 7 v Allenstown

Community Notices

P&C Fundraiser 28 November 6pm Master & Apprentice Café $15 per member to a maximum of $100 for a team of no more than 8 members. Bar open. Pizza can be ordered on the night. Prizes to be won. Register your team at the NRHS Tuckshop or call 49247818.