One thing I love about today’s world is the ability for us to ‘pull in’ pieces of inspiration from social media. Whilst Twitter and Facebook sometimes get a ‘bad wrap’ in the media, there’s lots of good things about staying in touch with others and sharing educational ideas on the web. One of the useful links I discovered recently was a set of questions on the Huffington Post site. These questions are great starters for encouraging children to talk to you about their school day. So much better than ‘How was school today?’ which is how I usually start my conversation with my own daughter. Here’s a selection of questions and openers from the site:

- What was the best thing that happened at school today?
- Tell me something that made you laugh today.
- If you could choose, who would you most like to sit next to in class? Why?
- Where is the coolest place at school? What makes it so cool?
- Tell me a weird word that you heard today.
- If I called your teacher tonight, what would he/she tell me about you?
- How did you help somebody today?
- How did somebody help you today?
- Tell me one thing that you learned today.
- Where were you happiest today? Why?
- Who would you like to play with during play time that you’ve never played with before?
- What word did your teacher say most today?
- Who in your class do you think you could be nicer to?
- What was your favourite part of lunch time today?
- Who is the funniest person in your class? Why is he/she so funny?
- If you became a teacher tomorrow, what would you do?
- Tell me about three different times you used your pencil today at school.

Friday is World Teachers’ Day in Queensland. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful teacher colleagues I have the pleasure of working with during the school week. Our Frenchville teaching team’s consistent dedication to learners is second to none.
Slow down in the SAC carpark please
It was recently reported by a staff member that a parent pulling into the SAC carpark and not following the directional arrows on the bitumen cut across parks as they zoomed in to collect their children from Schools Out. Please remember that safety for all members of our school community is important. Please follow the usual rules in this area, no matter how many cars are there.

Crossing at the pedestrian crossing or lights
Late last week we received an email from a concerned parent about students making poor decisions and crossing the road in unregulated areas. Here’s the email:

“I thought I should let you know I observed two separate incidents this afternoon of boys running across the road without looking; one was extremely lucky to have not been hit by a car. They were both on Geordie Street. The first boy was trying to cross the road and when a car on his right slowed down he thought he could run straight across the road not even looking for traffic coming the opposite way, and this is where he was nearly hit by a vehicle which would have not seen him due to the build up of traffic. The second boy waited for a break in traffic to his right but then ran across road without looking to his left; again a car would not have seen him due to the traffic.”

Please reinforce with your child how important it is, no matter how old he/she is, to cross at the lights or the crossing. We regularly receive similar complaints about crossing on Frenchville Road near the shop.

On a similar note, staff members have reported that on Geordie Street, parents are beeping the horn and expecting students to run out between parked cars to their parent’s car. Obviously this is extremely dangerous. Driver behaviour is the most powerful tool we have in our mission to keep Frenchville kids safe.

Twitter – Follow us
Don’t forget to follow us on Twitter: http://twitter.com/frenchvilleqs
Twitter is a great way of getting all the news and reminders from school. We have over 300 followers now. It would be great to think that we can sign up everybody in the parent body.

P & C notice to parents – book packs for 2015
Orders closed 29/10/14. We hope to have everything ready for collection by Monday 8 December 2014.

Q Schools App
A postcard style card has been sent home with this newsletter to promote the download and installation of the QSchools app. We encourage all parents to take advantage of this wonderful application. This will improve ‘just in time’ communication and reminders, as well as urgent reminders. There were more details in last week’s newsletter about how to access the app. Here’s last week’s stats on the number of Frenchville parents who have favoured us and who are receiving notifications:

QSchools dashboard

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.

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.

Firestorm 2014
Staff and Students are currently working on the 2014 Firestorm magazine. This magazine includes annual highlights from the school year, pictures and articles from each classroom and messages from our principal and deputy principals. The Firestorm is written and produced by children, for children, and is an excellent record of the year. Permission notes were sent home last week. NO permission form, no appearance in the Firestorm magazine. Please note: the general media permission form signed on enrolment is not sufficient to appear in the Firestorm. A separate form must be signed. We apologise for this inconvenience – this is a departmental rule.

Instrumental Music 2015
Applications for Instrumental Music in 2015
Recruiting of instrumental music students for 2015 has commenced. Positions will be available in the areas of strings, woodwind, brass and percussion for students in years 4-6 in 2015. Education Qld provides specialist teachers who offer free group lessons during school time. More details can be found on the Application Forms which are available from the school office.

Laptop Program – Year 5 (2015) Information Night
All current Year 4 parents are invited to attend an information session regarding a new approach to our laptop program for our 2015 Year 5 students. New priorities and platforms from the Department of Education have enabled us to put forward a proposal which will reduce costs to parents. The purpose of the information session is to introduce the new approach, then make a decision about whether we proceed with the laptop program for Year 5 in 2015. The session is on Thursday 30 October 2014 at 7:00pm in the SAC. All Year 4 parents are encouraged to attend.

Laptop Payments
As it is getting close to exiting our school, all payments for the Year 6 & Year 7 laptop program need to be finalised by 21 November 2014. More details will follow regarding the laptop transfer.

Graduation
Senior Awards & Senior Dance
Last fortnight we spoke with all year 6 & 7 students about the forthcoming graduation and senior dance. The students were given a note with details about the end-of-year 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. We also discussed how the seniors would like to have their senior dance – whether to have separate dances, a combined dance, or a bit of both. A decision was made earlier this week and a note will come home to parents about the dance arrangements for 2014. The senior graduation will be a combined ceremony on Thursday 11/12/14.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Certificates for students who participated in the Premier’s Reading Challenge will be sent home this week.

Emmaus Orientation Day
Year 7 students Wednesday 19/11/14 8.45am-2.30pm
Year 6 students Thursday 20/11/14 8.45am-2.30pm
Students are required to wear school uniform including hat and take a pencil, morning tea and lunch including drinks. A water bottle would be advisable. (Tuckshop not available on the day)
If you have any queries please contact Ms Julie Maher (Deputy Principal on Yaamba St Campus).
Dance Party

**Disco / Dance Party**

Theme: Summer Glow

Dress up in your coolest summer outfit.

Friday 7 November 2014

Prep – Year 3 (only) 5.30pm – 6.45pm
Year 4 – Year 7 (only) 7.00pm – 8.30pm

Cost: $5 single or $10 Family (Parents and small children free)

Conditions: Tickets must be purchased through newsletter by Wednesday 5 November or at school on Thursday 30 October, Friday 31 October, Thursday 6 November and Friday 7 November outside the tuckshop. Tickets will be on sale from 8.15am – 9.00am.

No tickets will be available at the door.

We would appreciate children being collected by 6.45pm and 8.30pm respectively.

Year’s 4-7 children are not permitted at the “littlies” dance party and no supervision can be provided for years 4-7 children arriving before 7.00pm. Children will not be allowed to leave the hall until collected by a parent. We would ask that you come in and collect your child.

Poor behaviour will not be tolerated. We want all the children to enjoy themselves (as they have in the past) without being affected by unacceptable behaviour. Poor behaviour may lead to a child being barred from attending the next disco or sent home. “Foreign” objects are not allowed to be brought in to the disco, eg. MP3 players. Large bags which can be used to conceal objects will not be allowed in.

Parents of younger children are welcome to stay and enjoy the dance party with their children.

Chips & drinks will be on sale for $2.

P-3: These can be paid for by parents at the door (children’s hands are stamped for what they purchase).

Years 4-7: Bring money to buy from the canteen.

Pre-Purchasing Tickets (Return form below to Office) an envelope with your tickets will be sent home with your eldest child attending the dance party.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
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Ticket Amount $ __________

Dance Party Help: Adults are needed for various duties at the dance party. Please complete your details below if you can help out on the night.

Adult Volunteer Name:

Prep – 3 5.30pm-6.45pm □ (Please tick time slot
Year 4 – 7 7.00pm-8.30pm □ (you can help at)

Special Glow Products on Sale for the Dance Party

We are having a different range of glow products at our end of year dance party. These will be presold with tickets on 6/11 and 7/11 under the covered area and can be worn at the dance party. Any unsold items will be sold on the night:

- Glowstick caps $4
- Glow smiley necklaces $3
- Glow dreadlock wigs $5
- Glow eye shades $4
- Glow leis for around the neck $5

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**Tuckshop Roster**

Roster commencing Monday 3 November

Monday: J Connolly
Tuesday: K Askew
Wednesday: Help needed
Thursday: M Mackenzie
Friday: I Stevens, J Connolly

Christine Hills

Tuckshop Convenor

**SPORT FIXTURES**

31 October 2014

**Cricket**

- Frenchville Seniors v Allenstown Rocky Cricket Grounds 4
- Frenchville Junior White v The Hall Kalka Shades 5
- Frenchville Junior 5s v Glenmore Glenmore SS
- FSS Minors v Allenstown forfeit

**Softball**

- Frenchville Year 7 v Park Avenue Frenchville
- Frenchville Year 6 v Glenmore Glenmore

**Hockey at Kalka Shades**

- 1.00-1.15pm Frenchville 4 v Glenmore 2 Turf 1
- 1.15-1.30pm Frenchville 2 v Stanwell Turf 2
- 1.20-1.35pm Frenchville 3 v Glenmore 1 Turf 1
- 1.20-1.35pm Frenchville 1 v Glenmore 3 Turf 2
- 1.40-1.55pm Frenchville 4 v St Joseph’s Wandal 3 Turf 1
- 1.40-1.55pm Frenchville 2 v Rockhampton Grammar 2 Grass 2
- 2.00-2.15pm Frenchville 3 v St Joseph’s PA 5 Turf 1
- 2.00-2.15pm Frenchville 1 v Glenmore 1 Grass 2

**Basketball at Hegvold Stadium**

- 12.55pm Frenchville 1 v Frenchville 2 Court 1
- 1.20pm Frenchville 3 v Frenchville 4 Court 2
- 1.20pm Frenchville 5 v Frenchville 6 Court 3
- 1.45pm Frenchville 7 v Glenmore 3 Court 3

**Firestorm Magazine**

Once again we are in the process of producing our annual school magazine, FIRESTORM. The “Firestorm” has over 90 pages of annual highlights from Frenchville, including a page for every class. The photographic and editorial content has largely been done by our junior Firestorm reporters. The final copy will be professionally printed. A project consent form has been sent home this week requesting permission to use students’ names, images and/or work in the publication. Without a returned, completed form by Wednesday 05/11/14, your child/children cannot appear in the magazine. The signed permission form does not guarantee inclusion in the publication.

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**FIRESTORM ORDER FORM**

NAME: ____________________________

CLASS: ____________________________

NUMBER TO BE ORDERED: __________

PAYMENT ENCLOSED: __________ ($10 per magazine)

Parent/Guardian Signature ____________________________

**Community Notices**

**Learn to Row** Starting high school in 2015? This Learn to Row Course is for you. Sessions cover 4 weeks - Sunday 9, 16, 23 and 30 November, 8.15-9.30am at 30 Harman St Wandal. $80 for 4 sessions. For more information please see Ms Sampson (Year 6S) or email rowing@rfrc.org.au.
