Another school year has commenced. In my first moments here back in 2005, we opened the school activity centre, a major facilities improvement for our large school that had long outgrown the assemblies we used to have under the H block covered area. So much has happened over the past decade, but there is still much to do and I am, as always, excited about the many challenges and opportunities ahead of us in 2015. The first thing to know about our school is that I used the term ‘us’ very deliberately. Our vision statement is ‘Together we shape tomorrow’. Indeed, the design on this newsletter symbolises that vision, with the figures in the Indigenous print showing how we all work together for the same goals: a brilliant future for our young people, the school and community we live, study and work in. Without you and your support, we can only accomplish so much. Please be sure to be a presence in our school – to work with the educators who want so much for your child. Partnerships are important at Frenchville.

Together with Frenchville’s experienced Deputy team, Mr Bill Smith, Ms Donna Earle-Morrison, and Mr Gary Lynn I have worked with our staff team to develop our school’s improvement agenda and strategic direction, lift data performance and promote the deep and rich curriculum programs offered in a large school like Frenchville. Complementing these roles Ms Lisa Driscoll, our Head of Curriculum, provides a leadership role in the TWIST, the dynamic hub of reading and learner engagement in our school and also works with our teachers to ensure we cover the curriculum and that its delivery is well resourced. This year we also welcome Mrs Rhonda Busk into the role of Master Teacher. She will support our teachers with coaching, student improvement and research about the most effective teaching strategies as we continue to improve what we do. We are also fortunate to have the continuing dedicated services of Steve Hull as our Head of Special Education at Frenchville. Steve’s team in special education works diligently to support learners and families on their educational journey. Another member of the classified officer team who provides high levels of support is Mr Greg Muller, our Guidance officer. Greg is always ready to share professional readings, advice and to support students and families in times of hardship, trauma or difficulties. Greg continues with us in 2015, providing consistency for families and staff. We have also increased our speech support services this year, welcoming Mrs Kylie Hull onto our team. This additional staffing will support our youngest learners, assisting them with oral language development, as well as working with our teachers and teacher aides. We will also maintain and expand our teacher aide support in classrooms, funded by the Great Results Guarantee funding from the State government. As you can see, we have firm plans in place to further enhance the educational outcomes of our school. We look forward to sharing more about our improvement plans in subsequent newsletters.

We wish all students a productive 2015 and look forward to working with you to achieve even greater things ahead. Welcome to all of our new Frenchville family members and particularly to our new prep students. You are now a ‘Frenchville kid’.
State schools update

Increased resources to empower principals and their school community

The Queensland Government is committed to empowering principals and their school communities to deliver high quality education and to lift outcomes for every state school student in Queensland. That’s why there has been a significant increase in the amount of resources allocated to schools, as well as a concerted effort to allocate these resources directly to schools.

Now, more than ever, principals have the resources and the autonomy they need to lead school improvement. The direct allocation of the Great Results Guarantee funding, the Students with Disability Resources, and the Whole School Support – Student Learning Resources give schools the means to lift outcomes for all their students. Our school is working hard to make the most of the opportunity to work with our community using high impact strategies that will make a positive difference for all of our students.

Staffing welcome

A big Frenchville welcome to:
-Mrs Natasha Sutton to year two
-Ms Whitney Hagan to general teacher relief duties
-Mrs Kylie Hull, speech services

A warm welcome back to Anna Wright returning to the PE role three days a week, and Wanita Milburn returning to Frenchville and working on year 2.

Digital communication in 2015

Digital communication will become much more important at Frenchville this year. In the interests of sustainability and saving labour, 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.

Download, or upgrade to the latest version of QSchools to their phone/tablet from:
- Apple iTunes
- Google Play
- Windows stores to their smart device or phone.

- Open the QSchools app
- Select OK to receive push notifications
- Select School search > Name search
- Type in the school name
- Select the school
- Tap the grey star to favourite the school

Without this service, we have no other way of communicating emergent critical information. For example, 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 favourite us, enabling your device to accept our push notifications. Remember, you must have the latest update to receive notifications successfully.

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.

Student attendance reminders

- It is important that your children attend school every day. Taking a day off because the fish are biting, or you want to go shopping on your birthday, is not an acceptable reason to miss a day of school.
- If your child is sick you should contact the school as soon as possible with an estimation of how long your child will be away from school.
- If your family has to travel away for family or cultural reasons, and expect to be away for more than 10 days you will have to apply for an exemption from Compulsory Schooling. Exemptions should be applied for and approved by the Principal of your child’s school BEFORE you travel away.
- It is not acceptable to take your children out of school for holidays. Families should plan their holidays to coincide with school holidays.

Student Absence Line 49315366

Please slow down around our school

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.

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 and 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>
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Student free dates for 2015:

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

Start of the Year Reminders

Medical Alerts - At the start of each year we prepare extensive information for teacher rolls re student medical conditions. This information includes a picture of the child with the condition, details of how the condition presents, and emergency treatment of the condition. We have a number of children in our school with anaphylaxis, diabetes, asthma etc. and it is crucial we have full and current information on all children with these and other serious conditions. Please check in at the office this week if your child has a condition to check the information we have is current.

Mrs Hull is now managing student medication, working out of the office area. Any new medications, updates etc. should be communicated with Mrs Hull.

Hats are needed every school day. No hat, no play. Wear a hat every day. Please be sure your child’s hat is named.

Sunscreen - students are encouraged to bring a small roll on sunscreen in their bags and to apply it before play times. We are a sunsmart school.
Thanks - Mums and Dads for the effort with book list items and the covering and labelling of school requisites. We appreciate your support.

Parent Evenings and Afternoons - Notes will be coming home from class teachers about these important events. We encourage all parents to attend to learn about the expectations regarding homework, routines, rules and curriculum and assessment tasks. Obviously we cannot please everyone with the timing of these events. We apologise in advance for disappointment if you are unable to attend due to work or clashing commitments. Please make arrangements with the teacher to have notes sent home about the information shared if you are unable to attend.

After School Arrangements - Please be sure that your child is familiar with after school arrangements for pick up. Some students have been confused about how they are to go home after school. Please also ask your children to report to the office if they are ever concerned that you are running late, that they have missed the bus etc.

Punctuality - Instruction begins at 8:40am on each school day. It is essential that children arrive on time. If children are consistently arriving at 9:00am, they are missing a significant proportion of quality learning time. Both late arrivals and student absences are monitored carefully. Lateness can be a big reason for failing to thrive at school and can impede learning. When considering who we offer additional support to we also consider the support given to us by parents to ensure that every minute during the school day is respected and that students are on time in regular attendance.

Access to Teachers – Please respect the need for teachers to commence instruction on time at the start of the day to avoid disruption to classes. At the parent info session teachers will provide details of the best times to catch them if you need to share important information about your child. We are increasingly finding that email is an effective way of arranging appointments with teachers or sharing routine information. Teacher email addresses are provided on our website and every teacher checks his/her email at least once a day. Email is not the tool to use though in more complicated or complex circumstances. If you have an emergency situation or the need to convey something after the start of instruction, you can drop into the school office where a member of the admin team will record details and convey them to the teacher. If nobody is available to meet with you we will certainly get back to you before the end of the day.

Updated Contact Details – Please, if your details change (eg. home address, phone number at work or home or mobile, emergency contacts, email address, custody situations), keep us informed. In emergency situations we need to be able to contact you. Routine matters may also necessitate a call to your workplace or mobile. Your assistance with keeping our records current is vital.

School Communication – This newsletter is the best place to learn about what is happening at Frenchville. It is distributed electronically every Wednesday. If you do not have internet access, additional copies are available in the school office for your child to access. The weekly newsletter is also uploaded to the Frenchville website and can also be accessed on the departmental app 'Q Schools'. Following us on Twitter may also be a good idea to get little snippits of emerging information. Search for Frenchville SS to follow us on Twitter.

Uniforms - At Frenchville we wear our shirts tucked in. We also try to stick to white socks and black or white shoes. Let’s keep up this great standard all year. We also like our students to wear their uniforms with pride after hours. If they don’t want to wear their shirt in and keep their shoes on after school, we prefer students change out of the ‘blue and white’ before heading to shopping centres etc. Jewellery is discouraged, apart from a watch if needed, small earrings for pierced ears (studs are preferred), or a piece of jewellery of special significance eg. religious cross worn under uniform or medical brace for preferred), or a piece of jewellery of special significance eg. watch if needed, small earrings for pierced ears (studs are preferred).

Welcome back to 2015 for our new and continuing students. All beginner students will have their first lesson in week 2. All continuing students will commence lessons in week 3. Before school ensemble rehearsals will commence when your teacher advises your child.

Our teachers are: Mrs Robyn Everitt – Strings; Mrs Michelle Iott – Woodwind and Brass; and Mr Rogan Clancy – Percussion, Woodwind and Brass.

Values Education at Frenchville

One of the ways we induct new students into our school and remind all existing students of expectations and responsibilities is through our school values program. This program is shared on the interactive whiteboards with all students at the start of the year and assists teachers to review important values at Frenchville which include:

- how to wear your uniform with pride
- how to address staff and peers
- how to play sensibly and constructively
- how to be a ‘good friend’ and include others
- school rules and responsibilities
- school song
- play areas, out of bounds areas, expectations in play areas which help keep students safe
- anti-bullying messages
- cybersafety messages

These are just a few key components in our school developed program. Teachers have already commenced this work with students in every classroom.

Student Data Action Planning

Another important component of the first few weeks of school is for teachers to become familiar with those new to our school. This includes developing an understanding of any emotional needs, family complexities, going home arrangements, illnesses or medical conditions, etc. as well as examining the past performance data of students. Teachers invest time in getting to know individual student performances by looking at previous report cards, NAPLAN data reports, reading levels, sight word attainment levels (prep and year one), as a starting point for teaching. This important information becomes part of the teacher’s data action planning process. If you have any particular additional details or your child has had changes in his/her circumstances which you need to share with us, please contact the school office to arrange a meeting with a member of admin or contact the teacher.

Tuckshop Roster

Roster commencing Monday

Monday: 

Tuesday: K Askew

Wednesday: 

Thursday: M Mackenzie

Friday: J Connolly, I Stevens

Christine Hills

Tuckshop Convenor

Community Notices

Jok Sang Martial Arts Kung Fu Kids “Try for Free” Day 2 February 11am-12noon QRI Hall. 0419532149 / 0448504631.

Graemere Cubs School Rugby League Sign On 1 February 9.30am-12.00pm. Bek bekag1282@gmail.com Kim graceremerji@hotmail.com.

Frenchville Football (Soccer) / Netball Club Sign On Soccer Sunday 1st Feb 9am-12pm (David 0488238999) and Netball Wed 4 Feb (Trudy 0419331392) 3:30-7pm at Frenchville Sports Club.

Frenchville Scorpions Softball Club Sign On 1 February 9am-1pm Frenchville Sports Club. Selena 0458619803, Kylie 0437060212.

Runaways Netball Club Sign On Jardine Park. 1st Feb 9.30-2pm. runawaysnetballclub@hotmail.com.

Nerimbera Football Club Sign On 1 February 10am-2pm Pilbeam Park. Horner St Lakes Creek. Angela 0408738476 or nerimbera@gmail.com.

Beak’s Tennis free come and try tennis hour 1st Feb 3-4pm / 4-5pm. Bring hat, sunscreen & water. beaksleisuretennis@gmail.com.

Frenchville Rovers Hockey Sign On 1 February 9am-12pm Frenchville Sports Club. Phone Julie 0421389048 or Joseph 0422865168 roversfrenchvillehockey@gmail.com.