



# FRANCIS GREENWAY HIGH SCHOOL GAZETTE



Mrs Edwards (Principal)

## We Value Your Input

Please feel free to contact us at any time:  
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Email: francisgre-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

**Edition 4  
April 2016**

## Calendar of Events

### April 2016

Friday 8 April	End of Term 1 - Autumn Holidays
Tuesday 26 April	Day 1 Term 2 students AND staff
Tues 26 & Wed 27 April	Year 7 Camp
Wednesday 27 April	Anzac Service
Wednesday 27 April	Whitecard
Thursday 28 April- 3 May	Year 11 Examinations
<b>May 2016</b>	
Friday 6 May	Year 12 Pink Day
Monday 9 May – 20 May	Dental Bus
Tuesday 10 May – 12 May	NAPLAN
Tuesday 17 May	P&C Meeting 6pm Cultural Room

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Term 1 at Francis Greenway has been amazing so I would like to share some of the highlights with you.

- This year we turn 50 with birthday celebrations occurring during the first week of August.
- We have our new logo as part of the rebranding of our school to modernise our look.
- The architects have been to visit and are currently designing how the front of our school will look in 2017.
- Our bus has arrived and is already providing students with opportunities outside the school.
- The P&C Brunch in Week 8 was a wonderful way to meet our P&C from the primary schools.
- The first ever Cross Country Colour Run was a huge success, with lots of parents wanting to be involved next time.
- Both "Harmony Day" and "Bullying, No Way Day" were celebrated with special lessons and a performance from the "Harmony Day" Organisation.
- Yr 12 Enrichment Day was identified by students as a great day of learning and support.
- Drama students are busy rehearsing for the Musical in term 3.

- The Maths staff have been working with Thornton Primary school each week.
- Our Japanese garden is nearing completion and will provide an outdoor learning space for classes.
- The Community Hub is fully operational with a range of support services for students and families.
- Lorin Nicholson, a motivational speaker, came to speak to students and staff about overcoming adversity and succeeding in achieving your dreams.
- Our new website has gone live, reflecting our rebranding and has important information for parents and community as well as stories about our fabulous students.

Next term will be equally busy with our VIVIO assembly on Friday May 6, the E-Program starting with our primary schools, and the Dental Bus providing a free dental check for students. NAPLAN is also an important event in Term 2. This is the only external test other than the HSC which students now sit. The results from the test are important for parents to be able to see how their child has progressed in the previous two years. Literacy and numeracy are the two areas tested and are the foundation for all other learning. They are also the cornerstones for being able to function successfully in our society. I cannot express how important it is that students approach the tests prepared to do their best, to answer all questions and to write as much as they are able to in the time provided. Teachers have been focussing on preparing students by having them complete sample questions in class during Term 1. The tests will be done in classrooms this year to provide students with a quiet and less daunting environment.

Skateboards and scooters have been causing some concerns in our community. We have received reports that some students are riding on the roads and placing themselves and others at risk by weaving in and out of traffic. If your child rides either of them to school could you reinforce the need to ride in a safe and responsible manner.

Another concern that I have and ask for your support in is the issues we are dealing with around social media. Most of the issues occur outside school hours and are brought into school causing disruption to learning for many students. From Term 2 our policy will be to contact parents/caregivers to come and collect their child. This will allow parents to work with their child around the safe and appropriate use of social media and allow the school to focus on teaching and learning. Any inappropriate social media incidents which occur at school will be dealt with by the school as will any inappropriate behaviours which occur in connection with social media.

**Mrs Jo Edwards  
Principal**

## FROM THE DEPUTIES

### Year 12

Term 1 has been a busy one for Year 12 as they prepare for their assessment events to wrap up the term, including some courses having Half Yearly Examinations.

A **Senior Enrichment Day** was held for Year 12 all day on Wednesday March 16 and students appreciated this event being organised at their request to support their development of great study habits and positive learning behaviours in the lead up to the HSC examinations. Thank you to the teachers that made this event possible with their additional preparation time of excellent, skill based sessions for our kids.

I have some concerns about the number of Year 12 students who are absent from school too often. Those students **with an attendance rate below 85% will be placed on an Improvement Plan in Term 2** and parents will be contacted regarding their unsatisfactory attendance. Unfortunately poor attendance is the most common concern for the Year 12 cohort at this stage and for those students who cannot come to school for at least 85% of the time or have a poor application to their studies; then they will be asked to leave school to alternative pathways for education if improvement is not made. Any parents concerned about their Year 12 student and progress, please let me or their Year Adviser Ms Wills know as soon as you are aware of any issues.

### Parent Teacher Interviews

We will be holding Parent Teacher Interviews on Wednesday April 6 between 3pm-6pm in the Hall. Please make bookings at [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and come along. This is an invaluable opportunity to speak to your child's class teachers and keep in touch with what is happening within the school. We hope to see you there!

### Learning Hub

We are again offering the Learning Hub in our school in the Library Monday and Wednesday afternoons, 3.00-4.30pm, commencing Monday March 21. During this time we will have tuition and support for homework, assessment tasks and subject specific learning, and students will be offered fruit, water and a small packet of chips. Please encourage your son/daughter to come along and work together to promote positive study and homework habits.

### School Bus



**IT HAS ARRIVED...**The School Bus was delivered to the school on Wednesday March 23 and we will have it on display at the Parent Teacher Interviews if you would like to have a look. Thank you again to the P&C who have subsidised and supported the purchase of this enormous asset in our school. We hope that the bus will assist all of our students' access events in the community and get us noticed as an amazing school providing unique opportunities for our kids.

**Janene McIntosh**  
Deputy Principal – Years 8, 10, 12

### Year 11

Progress reports for Year 11 students have been completed by staff to give students and parents an indication on how the year has started for them. This report highlights social development, learning indicators and a general comment to date. Some subjects may have not completed an assessment task or may have just handed one in, so this comment may not be indicative of academic progress.

As this year progresses the Year 11 students will have quite an increase in workload which includes revision / study, classroom activities, content note taking and assessment work. During periods 3 and 4 when the junior school is doing sport, the library becomes a supervised "study hall" for students, where they can work on tasks, get advice from teachers and their Year Adviser and do general revision of their course work. Mr Russ, Miss Walsh, Mrs Simms and Mrs Tipper are working on an Enrichment Day for Year 11 based on their needs for the Preliminary Course. This will develop their skills in study, time management, exam technique, coping strategies and relaxation techniques.

### Year 7

I would urge parents to be mindful of their children using social media platforms like: Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. I am seeing a lot of conflict and inappropriate behaviour occurring, mainly from incidents over the weekend or holidays that is then continued at school. Students under the age of 13 years should not be using Facebook. Monitoring conversations and being their "Facebook Friend" can be a great idea where you have concerns about what is being viewed on Facebook. As Mrs Edwards has said, a change in school policy will start next term.

Year 7 have been wearing their uniform with pride this term and they look great. As the weather gets cooler students should be wearing the appropriate jumper or cardigan from the uniform shop or a black pull over.

**Mr Damien Brownsmith**  
Deputy Principal Yr 7,9,11



### Year 7 Camp Information

The Year 7 Camp will be held on **Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 April 2016**. This will be the first two days back to school in Term Two. The camp is an excellent opportunity for year 7 students to interact with their peers and build positive relationships. A number of activities will be undertaken at the camp including a Flying Fox and Giant Swing.

The cost of the camp is **\$176.00** per student which includes transport by bus, food and activities over the two days.

If any additional information is required in regards to the camp, please contact the Year Adviser Ms Murphy via phone or email [rowena.murphy1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:rowena.murphy1@det.nsw.edu.au).

## TEACHING AND LEARNING

Year 12 Enrichment Day took place on March 16 and proved to be a huge success for all involved. The staff who delivered workshops, Danielle Walsh, Claire Tipper and Kaye Middleton, worked tirelessly to put together a valuable experience for each student to gain a better understanding about studying, understanding themselves as learners and equipping each student with a set of tools to be successful in the Higher School Certificate. The feedback from students was both positive and constructive and we are using that feedback to design an Enrichment Day for our Year 11 students in Term Two.

### STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

Amazing things with STEM are happening around FGHS this year as we work toward strengthening our involvement in STEM to offer an ISTEM elective in 2017.

A group of year 9 students were identified and have been working enthusiastically on the Quebrider – create for space STEM program. This involves 30 hours of work and these students have committed to 6 full days over Term 1 and 2 to achieve their goal, which is to design and create an electronics board that will be sent into space via NASA on the next Qubrider launch in June/July. They are guided by Mark Whitton and Lezette Cowan who have the expertise in this program.

RoboCUP junior competition is being undertaken by the Year 9 Robotics elective class at the direction of Stephen Abel. This group are working diligently toward the schools obligation in receiving the STEM grant to compete in August at the University of Newcastle this year. We look forward to giving you updates and photos on their progress.

Our ME3D printer has arrived in the school finally and will be hosted in the TAS Faculty and coordinated through Craig Jackson. Students who have an interest in the software and hardware involved in 3D printing will be targeted to work toward an entry submission into a SEED3D printed design competition. Some very exciting opportunities are ahead for identified GATS/STEM students.

### GATS

There will be a GATS program running this year in Year 8. Each Key Learning Area has been asked to identify their GATS students. There will be an opportunity for these identified students to engage in a workshop across a range of KLA's on a Thursday morning for two hours during Terms Two and Three. If your child is identified you will receive a note home early next term.

The E-program for our primary students will be happening in Term Two and Three. These students that are identified by the primary school will be picked up by the new FGHS bus and spend the day involved in some very interesting and rigorous workshops delivered by the amazing teachers we have at FGHS across the areas of STEAM, Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics.

**Amanda Usher**

**HT Teaching and Learning**

## CAREERS AND VET

### Careers Update – Mrs Dempsey

Year 10 Work Experience paperwork was given out in class before Easter. Any student absent from careers lessons can call in at the Careers Office in the Library to pick it up. All completed paperwork must be handed to me and not left at the office or with other staff members, as I need to make sure it has been completed correctly.

The Hunter Valley Career Expo is on Friday May 20 at Maitland Basketball Stadium. Years 10, 11 and 12 are invited, with the expectation that all Year 10 will attend.

Go to [www.huntervalleycareerexpo.com.au](http://www.huntervalleycareerexpo.com.au) to find out more about the event.

Congratulations to the students who successfully completed their White Card Training. Another course will be run on Wednesday April 27. Students need to see me for a note containing information. This course costs \$80 and is compulsory for all work experience in the building industry.

I have purchased a new Career tool, Job Jump, an online career website. Here is the information from Job Jump below. We hope that students, their parents and the staff gain a great deal of benefit from the many services and features of the website:

[www.jobjump.com.au](http://www.jobjump.com.au)

To use the website, we are also encouraging students and their parents, and staff, to have the Careers News they wish sent to them on the careers that interest them. Remember, they can select as many careers as they want from the over 100 choices. In particular, for students and parents, they will keep receiving their Careers News all the way through till the end of Year 13.

Type the first couple of letters of your school's name in the first white box on the left hand side and when the name of your school appears on the screen, simply click on it and it will enter into the first box. Then enter your email address (preferably home email address for students, as often their school email is lost at the end of Year 12) and click Login. Students will then need to put in their school password: francis and then answer a couple of brief questions to register.

### Did you know?

The BOSTES provides replacement statements for lost or mislaid certificates issued by the Board of Studies, past Boards or the New South Wales Department of Education. [Replacement statements](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au) can be provided for Intermediate Certificate, Leaving Certificate, School Certificate, RoSA, Year 11 Preliminary Certificate, Higher School Certificate, TER/TES and Year 10,11 or 12 Statement of Attainments/Result Notice. [www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au)

**Mrs Jennifer Dempsey**  
Careers Adviser

**Mrs Kate Taylor**  
Career and Transition Coordinator

## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT



### FGHS and Thornton Primary School: Productive Partnerships

As part of FGHS School Plan 2015 – 2017, this year four Mathematics teachers, Mr Abel, Mr Bush, Mr Quilty and Mrs Waller, have been visiting Thornton Primary School on a weekly basis to engage with Stage 3 students and their teachers during their mathematics sessions. The intended outcome for these visits is to enhance productive partnerships with community by building mutual understanding, respect and communication through collaboration. Our purpose is to build inclusive collaborative teams and school networks through quality community partnerships which contribute to placing students at the core of what we do. The goal for Term 1 is to promote and introduce some of our Maths teachers to our future students, but also to build an educational partnership with Thornton PS which



encourages the development of students' confidence with Mathematics. This program will continue for the entire year, leading into some "team teaching" lessons in the future. The sharing of educational resources and strategies will be beneficial for both Stage 3 and Stage 4 teachers.



#### Year 9/10/11 Gifted and Talented Students:

We are pleased to announce that the **University of Newcastle Young Mathematicians Program (UoNYMP)** will again be running in 2016. This program is a series of mathematics enrichment activities run by The University of Newcastle. This year the program has been expanded, with one set of activities aimed at Year 9/10 students and another set of activities aimed at Year 11 students. There is NO COST to participants in the program. The first set of activities is for the Year 9/10 students and will be run across Term 2 of the school year. Students are welcome to attend one, some, or all of the activities across the year. They do not have to commit to the whole program. Any students interested in this program need to reserve a place by Friday April 2, 2016 by contacting Dr Malcolm Roberts from

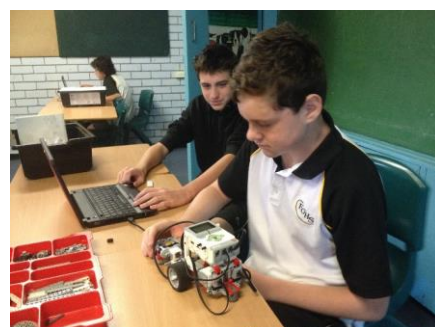
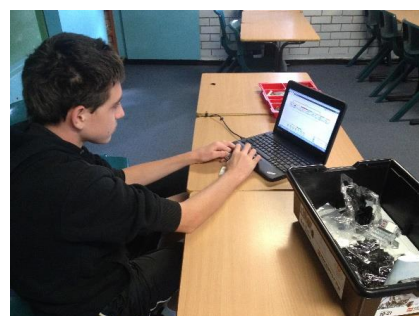
the School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences at the University of Newcastle via:

Telephone: 49216720 during work hours.

Email: [malcolm.roberts@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:malcolm.roberts@newcastle.edu.au)

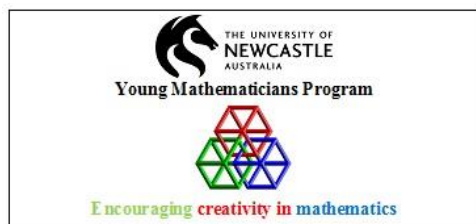
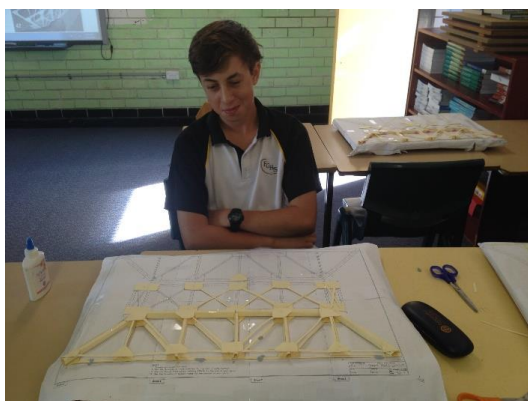
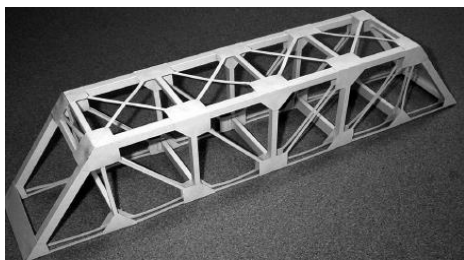
#### Year 9 Robotics Elective:

This month in Robotics the students have been diving deeper into the intricacies of using the Lego EV3's. They have been working together and developing their problem solving skills to solve a variety of problems involving both the design and coding of robots. The students have learnt more about colour and infrared sensors and how they can be used to make robots more autonomous. The students' knowledge base has been increased to the point that they are preparing themselves for the RoboCup competition next term. For this competition, they will be developing a fully autonomous robot which will need to be able to navigate through obstacles to rescue an object from a chemical spill. This competition will utilize all the skills the students have learnt this term and will be a fun and challenging exercise for the class.



## Year 10 Engineering Elective:

During Term 1, Year 10 Engineering students have been studying the different types of bridges and have applied their knowledge to construct a scale model of a truss bridge. Students have worked in teams to produce all the required components and have accurately laid them out over a design template. Made only from cardboard, sticky tape and glue, each bridge is designed to carry 5 kilograms of weight. The students are looking forward to load testing their completed bridges at the end of the term.



## University - Mathematics course prerequisites:

To apply for some courses, students are required to complete mathematics through their high school studies. Sydney University is introducing mathematics course prerequisites for some courses from 2019 to help students thrive in their science, technology, engineering and mathematics related degrees and prepare them to tackle future career challenges. Students will need to achieve Band 4 in the NSW Higher School Certificate (HSC) Mathematics (not General Mathematics) to enrol in a range of courses, including economics, commerce, engineering and IT, psychology, pharmacy, veterinary science and science.

Please note, students who defer their offer to study at the University in 2018 are not required to meet the mathematics course prerequisites. These students will be assessed on current requirements for their chosen course. Since Sydney University is regarded as one of the country's most prestigious tertiary educators, it is anticipated that most, if not all other Universities will soon follow suit.

At Sydney University, courses with mathematics as a course prerequisite for entry in 2019 will be:

Arts and Social Sciences	B Arts / B Economics, B Economics, B Economics / B Laws, B Economics/ D Medicine
Business	B Commerce, B Commerce (Liberal Studies), B Commerce / B Arts, B Commerce / B Laws, B Commerce / B Science, B Commerce / D Medicine
Education & Social Work	B Education (Secondary: Mathematics) / B Science, B Education (Secondary: Science) / B Science
Engineering and Information Technologies	B Computer Science and Technology, B Computer Science and Technology (Advanced), B Engineering Honours – Advanced Engineering Program, B Engineering Honours – Flexible First Year Program, B Engineering Honours – Space Engineering Major, B Engineering Honours (Aeronautical), B Engineering Honours (Biomedical), B Engineering Honours (Chemical and Biomolecular), B Engineering Honours (Civil), B Engineering Honours (Electrical), B Engineering Honours (Mechanical), B Engineering Honours (Mechatronic), B Engineering Honours (Software), B Engineering Honours / B Arts, B Engineering Honours / B Commerce, B Engineering Honours (Civil) / B Design in Architecture, B Engineering Honours / B Laws, B Engineering Honours / B Laws, B Engineering Honours / B Medical Science, B Engineering Honours / B Music Studies, B Engineering Honours B Project Management, B Engineering Honours / B Science, B Information Technology, B Information Technology / B Arts, B Information Technology / B Commerce, B Information Technology / B Laws, B Information Technology / B



	Medical Science, B Information Technology / B Science, B Project Management, B Project Management / B Arts
Law	B Commerce / B Laws, B Economics / B Laws, B Engineering Honours / B Laws, B Information Technology / B Laws, B Science / B Laws, B Science (Advanced) / B Laws, B Science (Advanced Mathematics) / B Laws
Music	B Music Studies / D Medicine
Pharmacy	B Pharmacy, B Pharmacy and Management (new course in 2017)
	Science B Medical Science (first year entry), B Medical Science / D Medicine, B Medical Science / D Medicine (for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants only), B Psychology, B Science, B Science (Advanced), B Science (Advanced Mathematics), B Science / B Arts, B Science / B Laws, B Science (Advanced) / D Dental Medicine, B Science / M Nursing, B Science / M Nutrition and Dietetics, B Science (Advanced) / B Laws, B Science (Advanced) / D Medicine, B Science (Advanced) / D Medicine (for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants only), B Science (Advanced Mathematics) / B Laws
Veterinary Science	B Animal and Veterinary Bioscience, B Veterinary Biology / D Veterinary Medicine

### Term 1 Assessment Tests:

Following on from the above information, it is quite concerning that FGHS students do not prepare themselves well for exams. A random survey of Yr10 students found that only **8%** of students had spent time revising or studying for their first Term 1 Assessment Task. Unbelievably, all other students in the survey admitted to not even opening their books to look over notes or examples before the test! This lack of commitment and preparation for their assessment tests is then reflected in their marks and the inability to attempt the higher levels of Mathematics in Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12) that are now needed to pursue many careers paths. The Board of Studies recommends a regular pattern of study/revision to ensure success in all subjects at high school. Bringing all required equipment, especially calculators, to every lesson will maximise a student's achievement in their Mathematics course.

**Mrs Kylie Burnett**  
(Head Teacher Mathematics)

## TAS NEWS

As the end of the term approaches, our Technology Mandatory students are busy completing projects and folios before a change to a new technology area occurs in Term 2. Some Year 12 subjects will have completed a Mid-Year Examination and students should be reflecting on how they have achieved in these to prepare for their Trial Examinations. Year 11's should be preparing for Mid-Year Examinations that will take place when we arrive back from holidays.

## TECHNOLOGY MANDATORY



Year 8 have been busy designing cup-cakes to match a theme. As you can imagine lots of fun was had, along with a lot of stained hands from food colouring. Year 7 have been investigating all the different things you can do with a piece of puff pastry and then creating their own design to prepare within a lesson.

### STAGE 5 FOOD TECHNOLOGY

**A challenging environment with 24 students all sharing benches and working as a team to wash all of the dishes and prepare a dish within 55 minutes.**



A reminder that Year 10 Food Technology should be revising their past topics in preparation for a course examination at the end of the year. Some tips for revising include: summarising notes onto palm cards; reading, covering and then writing what they remember and mind mapping of notes. Year 10 have just completed their first assessment task and should also be completing an 'Authentic Assessment Reflection Sheet' to accompany it.

## VET HOSPITALITY

Year 11 continue to wow me with their enthusiasm to prepare amazing food. A part of being a great chef is the ability to work as a team member and this years' Hospitality cohort certainly put into practise the schools core value cooperation. A recent success for the Hospitality team was with the FGHS Business Brunch, where food was prepared and served to our wonderful P&C members. It was the first time some of our students got to experience how a real restaurant functions and the smiles on their faces during the morning expressed just how much fun they were having. Poaching eggs is always a real challenge, let alone poaching 34 of them, and an empty plate on collection is always a good sign that the food was great.



## CAFÉ

A big thankyou to the students who worked in the Café this term: Natasha Loosemore, Kyle Logvyn, Tayla Deville, Sally Gillies, Megan Gillies, Mia Ball, Shaileh Williams, Nicola Cole, Makayla Newton, Shayla Do, Jessie Fitzpatrick and Lara Anderson. I hope it was a valuable experience for them. I've seen them grow in confidence and

develop skills in customer service, organisation and use in a variety of cookery methods. Not only have I been impressed by the café helpers but also the senior students who visit the café. They have impeccable manners and are very supportive of the students who prepare and deliver the food. Thank you for your continued support The Café will re-open in Week 2 of Term 2.

## FEES, SAFETY & EQUIPMENT

Just a reminder that fees help us provide your child/ren with the resources they need to complete their practical projects. It would be appreciated if you could start paying your technology fees as soon as possible even if it is a little each week.

**Mrs Donna Smithson**  
TAS Relieving Head Teacher

## BOYS KNOCKOUT BASKETBALL

The boys basketball team played Dungog High in the Hunter CHS Knockout Competition. The game was well fought with good defence from both teams. There were lots of shots on goal from both teams but a low success rate.

Our top scorers were Josh Blenkiron, who was a late addition to the team and came back from injury to bolster the talent of the team, Clay Ritchie, who also added height to the team and Liam Cook, who without a doubt ran further than any other player on the court.

The other team members were, Daniel Swan, Ky Harlow, Jordan King, Elijah Hadfield, Michael Gabriel, Nic Hollway, Jack Martin with the Michael Penner from year 8 rounding out the team. The team showed improvement from last year and kept in the game until the final 4 minutes. The final score was 21 to 25 to Dungog.

A special thank you goes to Ms Taylor for refereeing, Jack Fitzsimmons for scoring and Joshua Dyett for coaching the team.



**Mrs Talei Leeson**  
PDHPE



## WELLBEING TEAM

**Wellbeing Team**  
**Student Centred – Learning Focused – Wellbeing Driven**

**Smile and Win!**  
**School Oral Health**  
**And Dental Care Program**



A reminder that the Australian Dental Bus will be visiting our school in **Term 2 Weeks 3 and 4** to provide **free assessments** and one-on-one education to every student; they will also provide fully bulk-billed services, including a scale and clean, fissure sealants, fluoride applications and further treatment as required. We also offer prevention packages to students in private health funds who do not qualify for the Medicare CDBS scheme with NO GAP payable. Parents should read and return the information and **parental consent forms** as soon as possible to Student Services. If you have any questions regarding eligibility and what the program offers, please contact the school or AMDC directly on 02 9761 4700.

### Stewart House

Stewart House is a charity organisation that has cared for children in need since 1931. Each year 1,800 public school children in need go to Stewart House from many parts of NSW and ACT. During their stay children are provided with medical treatment and emotional support. This is balanced with health and educational programs and out of school activities to boost self-esteem and promote a healthier lifestyle. Our school will be participating in the Stewart House Donation Drive in 2016 to support this fabulous charity. Early in Term 2 students will bring home an envelope. We request that you fill in your details, insert a donation of at least \$2, seal it and return the envelope to Student Services. We thank you for your support.

### H2O Contemporary Youth Church

H2O is a contemporary church full of light hearted believers who do not take themselves too seriously. Services run every Sunday at Beresfield Bowling Club at 10am. H2O has a Youth Group and regularly hold church camps and bonfire nights. Find out more at [www.h2o.org.au](http://www.h2o.org.au)

### Maitland Relay For Life 2016

Maitland Relay for Life will be held at Marcellin Park Lorn, from 10am-10pm on September 10. This event is about fundraising for cancer, with a focus on community and fun, so the more the merrier. Registration information is available at [www.relayforlife.org.au](http://www.relayforlife.org.au) Francis Greenway High School will be entering a team for 2016 in support of this fantastic cause.

### The Smith Family Saver Plus Program

This program is Australia's first matched savings program that helps families to establish long term saving habits, building their money management skills and knowledge while saving for education costs. Participants can get dollar for dollar matched up to \$500 for education costs as a 'one off' incentive for their school aged children's education, eg. school uniforms, text books, laptops, excursions, camps and tuition.

Who is eligible?? People over 18 years old who have a current Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, who live, work, study or have a child studying in the local area, must commit to attending 4 money minded workshops, have some income from paid employment

and have not received matched savings from Saver Plus before. For more information contact Cynthia Culhane (02) 40324703 / 0418 699646

### Youth Week at Headspace Maitland Silent Disco with Playground Sounds

Come along for a night of dancing, activities, pool comps and a BBQ on Friday April 15, 5pm-7pm. Headspace Maitland, 73 Elgin Street, Maitland. Cost free, this is a drug and alcohol event. For enquiries contact 49 311000.



### Sun Street Festival

Sun Street Festival will be rocking Maitland's socks off on April 8 from 4-10pm at Sun Street Studios. There will be three stages with bands and DJs, market stalls, loads of fun activities, local art makers and a free BBQ. All ages welcome.

**Natalie Conway**  
**Head Teacher Wellbeing**

### Language Other Than English (LOTE) – JAPANESE (日本語)



*Konnichi wa!* Learning a language other than English has been a new experience for the majority of students in Year 7. I have been impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment of the majority of our students who have embraced this opportunity. Over the course of Term 1, our Year 7 students have been developing their listening, speaking, reading and writing language skills to prepare a self introduction. Students can talk about their age, their family and pets and where they live. The photograph below shows 7S students working on their *manga* artwork. Once they have completed their drawing they will write an introduction of their character in Japanese. Many have challenged themselves to write in Japanese script.



Japanese cultural studies are integrated into lessons. Students have learnt about *setsubun*, a festival to welcome the arrival of Spring, made origami dolls for *hinamatsuri*, the Doll Festival, had competitions using Japanese toys, and have begun their study of the Japanese script, *kanji*.

In Term 2, we will once again welcome our Japanese Assistant, Miss Eri Takeuchi. Eri sensei will visit classes once a fortnight, giving Year 7 the opportunity to practise their new language skills with a native Japanese speaker. The May Gazette will bring you more on Eri sensei.





**Mrs S. Waller,  
Japanese Teacher**



### Japanese Cultural Garden Project

The Japanese Garden is almost complete! Students from the Support Unit, Years 8 and 9 and Year 12 Construction have been working together on this project during Term 1. The Japanese maple and plum blossom trees take pride of place and will, in years to come, provide both shade and beauty.



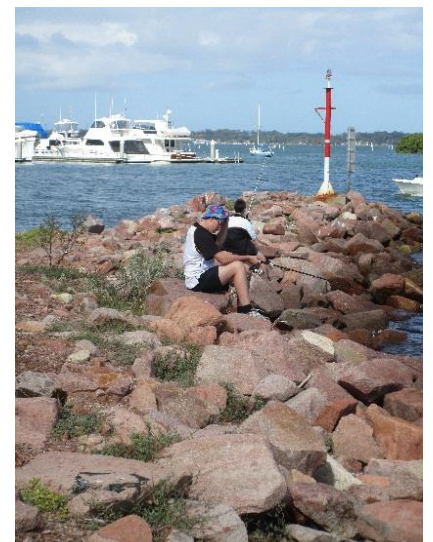
### **WRITE IT RIGHT**

Over the past few weeks Years 7, 8 and 9 Aboriginal students have participated in cultural activities as part of the Write it Right Program. This takes place at Murrook Cultural Centre every second Wednesday. We went fishing at Soldiers Point last week.

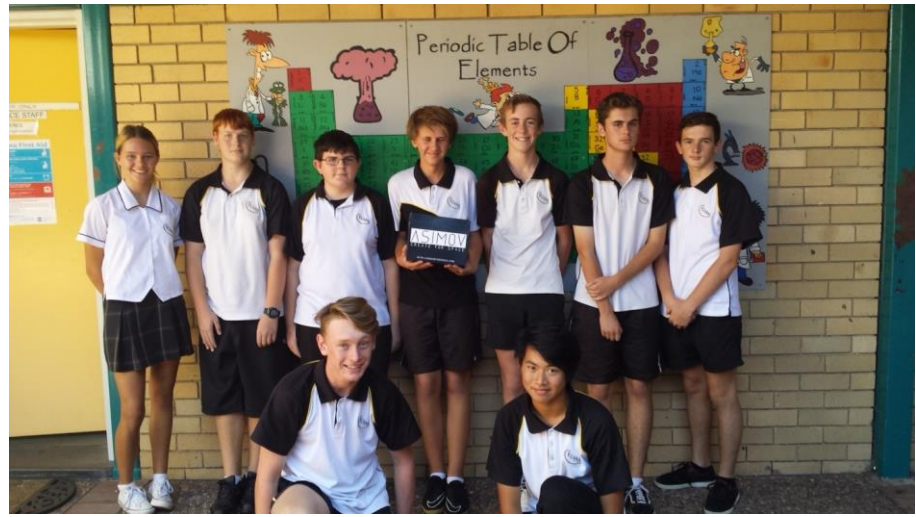
We were so excited to be going fishing and were very hopeful about catching lots of fish. These fish would be used in cooking our catch in the traditional way next visit. We remained hopeful even after two whole hours of unsuccessful fishing. Then, all of a sudden, there was a cry to break the silent, determined fishing, "I've got something!" Occy had caught a fish! He caught...wait for it...a 7 cm Bream. Not long after that he caught another one of about the same size. It really was a rollercoaster of emotions each time there was a cry of "I've got something", from anticipation to disappointment. Then to top it all off, the next fish caught (again by Occy) was a puffer fish! Other honourable mentions include catching Nicola a big stick, Temeeeka a clump of sea weed and Kyra a Kyra. Yes, she caught herself (and it took a long time to untangle her arm...and then later, her leg).

In all the fun and laughter, there is serious business going on. As with all activities we participate in during the program, there is cultural significance connected to every activity. Our fishing expedition taught us about the tides, the significance of the place to Worimi people and about living off the land. The memory of not catching our feed will remain with us always.

Written by Temeeeka Beattie, Kyra Milne, Natalie Wells, Tayla Silva, Shay-Lee Lawrence, Katalina Bailey, Nicola Walk, Memphis Smith, Cody Walker, Bailey Winner and Liam McKenzie.



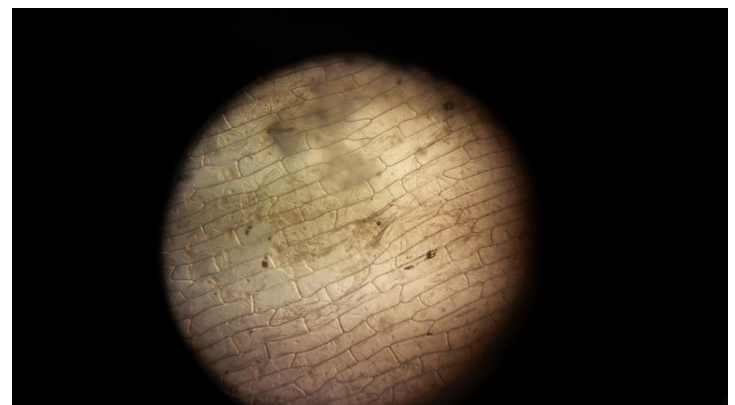




## SCIENCE

Francis Greenway High School has been looking at ways in which we can promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) in engaging and positive way. As part of our focus on GATS (Gifted and Talented Students) the Science faculty has become involved in **Quberider – Create for Space** (pronounced cuberider). Mr Whitton and Ms Cowan have jumped on board with this fantastic program designed to extend the knowledge base of students and develop skills in creativity and problem solving. The program will involve a group of Year 9 students who will code an electronics board and create experiments that will be flown to space on the next NASA Quberider launch in July 2016! A very exciting program that we are proud to be a part of. Pictured above right are the Y9 students with the computer hardware that will be sent into space.

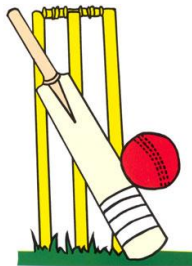
Year 7 have been at high school for nearly a term now and are settling in nicely. They are enjoying the hands-on practical activities that Science provides them. Just recently, they have been learning about cells and seeing what cells look like through a microscope. Pictured on this page are some students from Mr Latta's 7K class using the microscope and an image of what they were looking at. Try and guess what the cells are from (hint at end of page)!



Mr Michael Latta  
SCIENCE

(Hint: cells are from a vegetable that makes you cry).





## UNDER 14 BOYS CRICKET

On Friday April 1, our Under 14 boys cricket team played two matches on the same day down at Barton Oval, Belmont.

We have changed to a 20/20 format in the Baker Shield cricket competition so, Round 1 and 2 were played on the same day between 4 schools.

After losing the toss, we were sent into bat in our first game against West Wallsend. Opening batsmen Ben Crebert and Dylan Bartlett opened with a brilliant combined total of 121 off 20 overs. Our bowling attack led by Lewis Bell had West Wallsend all out for 98.

Round 2 saw us win the toss so, we sent Toronto into bat. Josh Logvyn, Lewis, Ben and Lachlan Scott led our pace attack to get Toronto all out for 83, with 3 overs still remaining. A fine fielding effort was displayed to keep the runs to a minimum. Ben got his eye in early in the second innings to knock a total of 70 not out with 12, 4's and 3, 6's.

As coach, I am extremely proud of our boys efforts. They represented our school with great respect and dignity. Thank you to all the parents who came, supported and helped get our team to and from the game. We all had fun together and I look forward to helping develop the boys in the future.

**Lezette Cowan**  
**Cricket Coach**

## SUPPORT

As part of our Unit on Australian animals the IO students of the support unit visited the Australian Reptile Park. The students enjoyed the opportunity of seeing up close various reptiles and animals including dingoes, crocodiles, tortoises and snakes. The Reptile Show was a highlight of the day as well as learning about the importance of protecting the Tasmanian Devil from extinction.

Individual education meetings have taken place this term ensuring all parents have input into their child's education plan. We have also offered through these meetings for parents to meet with our support teacher transition to get information regarding the National Disability Insurance Scheme. These meetings are an essential tool in developing programs of value for every child in the support classes.

**Mrs Virginia Smart**  
**Support Teacher**





CAPA



Music  
Visual Arts

Drama  
Photography

Current staff:

Ms M. Marshall - HT CAPA - Drama,

Ms J. Grout - Music, Visual Arts and Band

Mr I. McDonald – Visual Arts, Photography

Mrs M. Ayres – Music and Band

Mrs T. Wallace – Visual Art, Photography

### CAPA ACHIEVEMENTS.

CAPAs talented Drama students were on show at Thornton Primary earlier this term performing an impressive anti-bullying work to help educate the next generation of students.

Rehearsals for the upcoming musical '**Pop Stars the 90s Musical**' is well underway with our very talented CAPA students working hard to produce some exciting performances. The musical will be held over two nights June 22 & 23. Come and relive the 90s through music and support our very talented FGHS students.

There is an upcoming skateboard design competition so watch out for upcoming notices for more details.

### BAND

Francis Greenway High School Band is in full swing this year every Thursday during sport. The band is currently in the process of learning songs for the schools up and coming musical.

If you are interested in learning an instrument or singing it's never too late to join band!

### MUSIC

Year 7 Music students have successfully completed their Rhythm and Rap assessments with some very impressive results. Year 7 are now working towards their end of term listening test and will be shortly receiving their next assessment task 'Make Your Own Instrument' where students will be required to use their knowledge of musical instruments to create an instrument of their very own.

Year 8 Music is continuing their musical journey through Rock Music with 'Buddy Holly and the Crickets'. Year 8 have successfully finished their African performances to a high standard and are now in the process of reviewing each performance through the creative writing process.

Year 9 Music students are moving onto Australian Art Music. Students will be looking at Australian performers and composers to research for their up and coming Viva Voce presentation. Year 9 are also in the process of practicing for their mid-term practical in class performances.

Year 10 Music students are studying the elements of Jazz music and are working towards their Jazz performances.

Year 11 & 12 Music students have successfully completed their half yearly performances and are continuing to develop their performance skills in preparation for their HSC.

- *Music plays a significant role in every culture. It provides a medium of personal expression and contributes to the total development of the individual. It is therefore important that all students be given an opportunity to participate in musical activities and to develop an awareness and appreciation for music from different styles and cultures.*
- *Students are made aware of the many vocations in music and are given the opportunity to develop the necessary skills to follow a career path of their choice.*
- *Allows a positive outlet for students to express themselves and to increase self-discipline and self-esteem.*
- *Show an improvement in a sense of belonging to the school and a group.*
- *Develop and improve positive student-teacher relationships.*

### DRAMA

Our Drama classes continue to go from strength to strength. Year 12 are well underway with their HSC performances. Year 11 are about to tackle Ruby Moon in all its absurdist glory and junior classes will have works on display next term. It's exciting to see students embrace the many performance opportunities on offer.

A reminder to keep watching this space for news about our exciting musical!

### VISUAL ARTS & PHOTOGRAPHY

Preliminary students are completing their *Still Life* paintings on prepared canvas boards.

Impressive results are being consolidated and extra features such as collage and impasto, patterning and decorating, texturing, stenciling, stamping and masking are ready to be incorporated.

Assessment Task Two involves submission of the Process Diaries; this occurred recently with robust and energetic results. Half Yearly Exam is set down for Monday morning, 2<sup>nd</sup> May of 90 minutes duration. This has been brought forward several weeks and forms a springboard for the next assessment task (#3), which involves a critical analysis in an essay format.

Year 7 and 8 Visual Arts students are continuing on with their new units, 'Masquerade' and 'Crazy Creatures' respectively. Year 7 students this coming term will look at using clay for the first time and are very excited to begin using this new art form. Year 8 students will continue looking at the 'Crazy Creatures' unit and create some unique large scale hybrid animals featuring multiple designs in one. This term Year 7 and 8 Visual art students have shown great ability for drawing and creative design and I look forward to seeing this flourish over the next term. Special mention for exceptional work this term goes to Zoe Macbeath and Maddison Jobson (both Year 7) and Benjamin Jongerden and Natalie Wells (both Year 8).

Year 10 students have begun looking into the history and theory behind Graffiti and Street Art. Students have been looking at the socio-political works of UK artist Banksy and King Robbo and how both of these artists reference cultural, historical and political events throughout history.



Year 12 Visual Arts students have just completed their second assessment task for the year and are working on developing their critical and historical writing in time for Half Yearly Examinations. Whilst students are focusing on this element, their Bodies of Work for the HSC are developing weekly and transforming into very personal statements about themselves and those around them.

Year 11 Photography students have expressed an interest this term of attending an exhibition of local Photographic artists and to go on an excursion to Newcastle if given the opportunity. During the last few weeks, students have completed the 'Seeing through Photographs' unit where students learnt how to analyze photographs using photographic techniques and visual interpretation. Students who excelled in this task were Brooke Hamilton, Jessie Fitzpatrick and Hayden Gillies.

Our CAPA staff looks forward to '**Enriching student's self-esteem and confidence in building performance skills and developing their creative talents**'

**Morag Ayres**  
**CAPA**

### P & C Update

Our meeting for March was well attended with many points discussed.

We are eagerly awaiting the delivery of our new school bus. The new school logo has been placed on it so we can proudly take our students on excursions.

Mrs Edwards has been sending pamphlets to our feeder primary schools to let them know what has been happening in our school to promote our positive outlook at Francis Greenway High School.

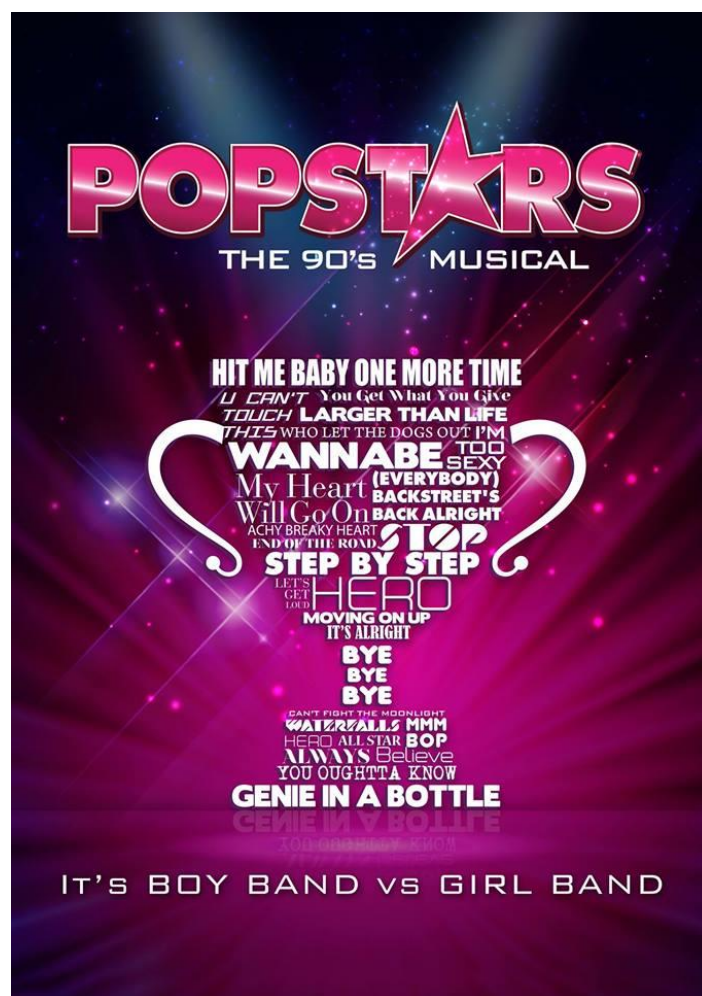
There was much discussion around the canteen. The canteen is where all the P&C funds come from so it is very important that it does well. It is a Healthy Eating Canteen and sometimes coming up with different menu ideas is challenging. A survey is going to be given to the students to see what they might like to see available.


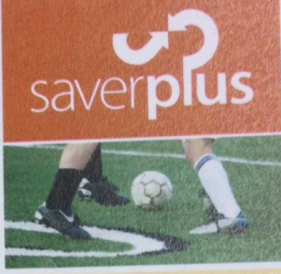
Around Term 3 the canteen will be trialing having an EFTPOS machine. Details will be provided when that gets closer.

We would like to invite you all to attend a meeting throughout the year. It is a great way to keep informed and up to date with all that is happening in our school.

Our next meeting will be on May 17 at 6pm in the Cultural Room. We look forward to seeing some new faces.

**Bernadette Norman**  
**P & C Secretary**



## Can Saver Plus assist you with high school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for educational costs including:

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- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

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or [cynthia.culhane@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:cynthia.culhane@thesmithfamily.com.au)

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered throughout Newcastle by The Smith Family.  
The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.



# if your child is **away** !!! for more than 10 school days

Parents and carers are encouraged not to withdraw their children from school for family holidays. If your child needs to be away from school for a period greater than two weeks (ten school days) you will need to contact the school and apply for an **Exemption from Attendance at School** form. This form needs to be completed, initially by the parent / carer and then by the Principal at school.

It is important that the exemption form is completed **before** the period that the child is to be away from school. Exemptions **cannot** be issued retrospectively.

The school attendance roll will

then be updated to ensure that your child's absence is legitimate and explained.

A certificate of exemption will then be issued. If the Principal feels that the extended absence is not in the student's best interest they may decline the application for exemption. Depending on the circumstances and how long the leave will be you may ask the school to provide tasks that can be completed while your child is absent.

For periods **under** ten days, you will contact the school as per the normal school procedure: note, email or phone

Contact the school for further details

# it's **not** ok !!! to miss a part of the day

Lateness to school is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained to the school the same way as other forms of absence.

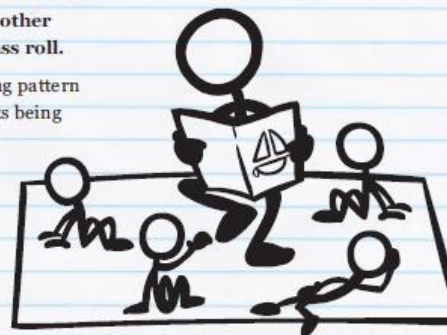
Leaving school early or for part of the day, on a regular basis, is also disruptive to learning.

**Partial absences are recorded in the same way as other absences on the class roll.**

If there is a continuing pattern of lateness or students being required to leave school early, this can become an issue that the school may look into. The Principal has the right to question parents or

carers requests for their child to be absent from school if they feel the reasons are unsatisfactory.

It is a requirement that students attend school for the full day as per the advertised school hours.



Contact the school for further details



## If you were in charge, How would you make Maitland more on point?

#mymaitland for your chance to win one of our weekly \$20 Stockland vouchers.

Get creative with photos or video and get your voice heard!

Winners announced each week @mymaitland

# write a **note** ! when your child is away

Parents and carers are responsible for explaining to the school the absences of their children promptly and **within seven school days**.



If your child has to be absent from school, it is important to tell the school and provide a reason for your child's absence.

To explain an absence parents and carers may:

- Send a note, fax or email
- Telephone the school
- Visit the school

After your child returns to school it is important this is done promptly and within seven school days. After this period the absence will be recorded as unexplained and this will appear as such on the school report.

Contact the school for further details





# Francis Greenway High School

## Notification of Student Absence

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> Day Absent: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Day Absent/Possible Duration: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Notifier's Name: Mr / Mrs / Ms / Dr \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student: Mother / Father / Nan / Pop \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Francis Greenway High School

## Notification of Student Absence

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> Day Absent: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Day Absent/Possible Duration: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Notifier's Name: Mr / Mrs / Ms / Dr \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student: Mother / Father / Nan / Pop \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Francis Greenway High School Homework Policy

Homework is a valuable part of schooling. In keeping with the policy of the New South Wales Department of Education & Training, Francis Greenway High School has consulted its community and revised its homework policy.

Homework allows for the practising, extending and consolidating of work done in the classroom. It establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline. Further, it provides an avenue to extend gifted and talented students.

The school cannot stress strongly enough the role of parents and caregivers in the homework process. Parents and caregivers will be alerted to any developing problems concerning their child's homework. They are asked to encourage and support their children in its completion. To assist parents, faculties publish explicit homework policies that explain requirements for that subject. Cross faculty coordination of set tasks does occur, but there are times when a high homework load, particularly prior to examinations and assessment tasks is unavoidable.

Homework will be set on a regular basis by each faculty. Homework will vary according to the ability and maturity of the student. As students progress from Year 7 to Year 12 it is expected that home study will increase: Junior students can expect to be asked to complete class work and to submit assignments. Senior and Stage Five students are expected to develop an efficient private study regime to prepare for internal assessments and external examinations. Regular revision of daily lessons is required in every subject by every student.

Students will have the benefit and purpose of set homework explained. Sufficient time will be given for tasks to be completed. Homework will be marked promptly and returned with meaningful feedback. Homework records will be kept.

Students are expected to seek assistance from teachers and caregivers, and organise their time to ensure that quality homework is produced within the set guidelines.

The school is mindful of the commitments students have to extra-curricular activities and is aware of the student in the context of the whole person. Provision will be made for students to negotiate the time frame, type and amount of homework when appropriate.

Francis Greenway High School recognises the equity issues involved when setting homework. Resources available within the home will be considered, particularly the availability of computer technology, when marks are assigned. No student will be disadvantaged with regard to the scoring of assessment tasks because of lack of home resources.

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### CHANGE OF DETAILS SLIP – FGHS

Student's Surname: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Year Group: \_\_\_\_\_ Date today: \_\_\_\_\_  
New Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

New Carer information: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Carer changes that may need to be made to current records)

New Carer Phone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

New Home Phone Number: **Mother:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Father:** \_\_\_\_\_

New Mobile Number: **Mother:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Father:** \_\_\_\_\_

New Work Number: **Mother:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Father:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### New Emergency Contacts:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_

New medical conditions/ allergies etc:

Name of person making changes \_\_\_\_\_ relationship to student \_\_\_\_\_

Best phone/ email if contact is required today \_\_\_\_\_



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