Hi Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to welcome back our students for the 2014 school year. As usual they came off the buses with beaming smiles and plenty of stories to tell about their adventures over the summer break. We welcomed three new prep students who will begin their educational journey with us this year. We also have a further 16 students who have transferred from other settings over the summer to be with us this year. Our school aged enrolment at the beginning of 2014 is 122 almost identical to this time last year.

At the end of last year we farewelled three legends of Frankston SDS: Judy Lonza, Judy House and Cathy Campbell. All three ladies have made incredible contributions to our school in their respective roles. Combined they have given more than forty years of service. We look forward to seeing them when they can find time away from their grandchildren to visit our school this year.

Donna Davidson, our esteemed occupational therapist, has accepted a 12 month position at another specialist setting; however we are most fortunate that Donna is able to still work one day a week at Frankston SDS. She will be the perfect mentor for the new OT taking up the position.

Rudi Geppert and Mandy Clowes are taking extended sick leave as they continue on their road to recovery and Cathie Koelewyn has taken extended leave to care for a family member. We are hoping to welcome back these invaluable team members in term three.

This year we are happy to welcome a number of new staff members to our team. As their positions are finalised in the upcoming weeks I will introduce them to you.

We have set a date of February 27 for our Meet & Greet social evening this year. This is an informal opportunity for our school community to get together and for families to meet the teaching staff of their child. Siblings are most welcome to this event and once again we are fortunate enough to have the Lions Club assisting us with a sausage sizzle. Please fill in the attached form in the newsletter to assist us with catering for this evening.

This year’s Meet and Greet will be a particularly memorable occasion because we are also having the official opening of our newly installed outdoor exercise equipment. We are extremely grateful to the Sunrise rotary club for organising this project, as well as the Frankston City Council and Frankston Bunnings, who have also made significant contributions. It is a great addition to our playground and is already being widely used.

2014 looks set to be a great year of learning. We are working hard at developing a new specialised curriculum to assist our staff to meet their targets. Our priorities remain to improve our students’ communication and interpersonal skills and to best prepare them for their lives when they graduate from school. We look forward to sharing this journey with you.

Have a great weekend!

Scott Tucker
Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18th February</td>
<td>Uniform Giveaway 10am–12pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 27th February</td>
<td>Meet and Greet night (BBQ provided)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 10th March</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 4th April</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1 Early Dismissal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd April</td>
<td>First Day Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 25th April</td>
<td>Anzac Day Public Holiday</td>
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS:

1st February    Stephanie Renfrey
5th February    Phoebe Hayes-Brown
5th February    Ryan Gosling
7th February    Kane Roberts
18th February   Tahlia Beardsworth
18th February   Casey Heyward Blyth
19th February   Dylan McGinty

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

The Principal’s Awards are awarded to students according to Our School Values. These awards are given out at the fortnightly assemblies throughout the year.

CARING— for others in our classroom, school and the wider community.

RESPECT— for yourself and others, being kind, and learning our school rules.

SHARING— with others, taking turns and working with others.

INDIVIDUALITY— being the best you can and doing the best you can.

Mundy Blow          Perry Lewis
Oscar Houghton

WELLBEING WORKER

Welcome to 2014! It is great to see lots of new faces around, I have enjoyed introducing myself to the new students and meeting some of the new parents/carers to the school. The majority of my work is with parents, touching base at school drop off/pick-up time, making appointments, organising parent/carer afternoons with guest speakers, assisting with funding applications and making referrals to other agencies. I also work closely with the staff and the welfare/therapy team. I drop in to classes including the Brekkie Club and Art Classes to assist when needed and organise volunteers to come into the school to support class programs and excursions. I provide pastoral care and support in emergencies or times of crisis to the whole school community; staff, parents/carers and students.

I look forward to meeting you and assisting where I can. Please contact me anytime and leave a message if I am not available and I will get back to you:

Bonnie Tyas
Phone: (03) 9789 6844 Email: tyas.bonnie.m@edumail.vic.gov.au
Monday and Wednesday 8:45am-4:30pm

DADS 'N' LADS

Dads and lads, now’s your chance to give mum a break and disappear on a boys’ weekend away in the great outdoors! From February 22 to 23 Phillip Island Nature Parks is hosting a ‘Dads ‘n' Lads' weekend at Churchill Island Heritage Farm. Activities include camping, excursions to the Koala Conservation Centre and the Penguin Parade and ranger-led activities across the Nature Parks. Pack the bags and get set for a weekend of quality father and son time. Bookings essential.

What: Dads ‘n’ Lads camping weekend
When: 22-23 February, 2013
Where: Phillip Island Nature Parks – only 90 minutes from Melbourne
Cost: $170 for father and son, meals included
Bookings: Ph: 03 5951 2802 Email: schoolbookings@penguins.org.au

E.M.A.

To be eligible for the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) your child must be under 16 years of age and must hold a valid Health Care Card or Pension Concession Card. Payment of the EMA can be paid by Direct Deposit into your nominated account, Direct Deposit to the school to use towards the fees and expenses or by cheque to be collected by you. EMA is paid in 2 installments, one in March and the second from August. In 2014, the amount paid will be $200 for Prep students and $150 for years 1-6. Year 7 students will receive $300 and from Year 8 onwards will be $250 (except for students turning 16 during the year in which case a monthly pro-rata amount is paid).

Installment One is 70% and from August the remaining 30%.
A copy of your eligible card is required to process all applications.
EMA forms are available from the office and must be returned by February 28th.
CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME

We would like to introduce our school leaders for 2014.

Congratulations to School Captains, Mark Webster and Hayden Birrell and also to our Vice Captains, Crystal Hill and Matthew Barbour. We know they will do a fabulous job this year.

At our first assembly we also welcomed our new students and staff. Welcome to Frankston SDS and we hope your time here is rewarding.

Second Hand Uniform Give Away

On Tuesday 18th February there will be a second hand uniform give away held in the Senior BER building. This will be held between 10am – 12 midday. There will be a large range of sizes available at no cost to yourself. Please come to the office to sign in to the school before proceeding to the Senior building.

MEET AND GREET NIGHT
THURSDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 5pm—7pm
To assist with catering please remove this slip and return to school ASAP
We look forward to seeing you there.

Childs name....................................................

No of people attending...........................................
Room 1

Term 1 will be very exciting as we get to know each other and settle into room 1 routine.

Minibeasts will provide the stimulus for the first inquiry topic of the year.

We are looking forward to having lots of fun.

Aspasia and Marianne