From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We are officially at the half-way mark for the term and I am beginning to wish it would slow down so I can get through everything that needs to be done. I am sure that won’t happen!

Last night we had our final P&C Meeting for the year. The school was given a $5000 donation to go towards the cost of the school camp, swimming lessons, school kitchen and funding to go towards the cost of improving the oval ahead of Tanny Sports, which we will be hosting next year. The AGM will be held on Wednesday 10 February 2016 at 7:30pm in the library.

I would like to thank the P&C for all their support and hard work. A special “thank-you” to Jenny Ramsey for taking on the Treasurer’s position and book club. She has done a great job and finding a replacement will not be easy. A reminder the P&C dinner is next Wednesday, 18 November at Warwick Hotel, with pre-dinner drinks at 6:30pm. Please let Majella know ASAP, if you are able to come as we would like to book a table in advance. Hope to see you there!

Next week we hope to send a menu home for the Year 6 dinner which is on the 26 November at BelleVue Café. Students and families will pre-order their meals. Most students have requested chicken parmigiana however other options will be available as well as a selection of desserts.

The P&C has one last fundraiser for the year. We will be catering for a farewell on Sunday the 29 November at St Mary’s Church Hall. We need volunteers to assist with making sandwiches on the day. We understand some families may not be able to assist on the day so if you could make a small donation this will be used to cover the cost of bread and fillings for sandwiches. We will also be making cheese and fruit platters. Your support would be much appreciated! A note will be sent home next week.

Please let us know via the diaries if you need more absentee notes.

Kind Regards
Laura Watson Principal
Remembrance Day at Freestone Hall

I hope you all bought a copy of Wednesday’s paper! We made the front page and page three. The school was invited to join the community for the Freestone Hall Remembrance Day ceremony on Tuesday. We watched as the new flagpole and plaque were unveiled before heading inside for a very interesting speech by John Skinner (vice-president of the Warwick RSL sub-branch) about some of the local men who fought in the First World War.

Our students sang “Lest We Forget”, three of our seniors – Tom Ramsey, Joy DeCourcy and Dean Mauch – read “In Flanders Fields” and all the students led the audience in singing the National Anthem. Maddy Kane and Abbi Mauch laid the wreath during the ceremony. They all did a lovely job.

The Hall Committee provided the students with a beaut morning tea so we returned to school feeling very pleased with ourselves. Thank you to Helena for making our beautiful wreath.

Melbourne Cup

Last Tuesday was, of course, Melbourne Cup day. For the first time in ages we were able to watch the race itself using our new set top box!

Some very swish outfits arrived at school but sadly we had PE first up and we missed our chance for a fashion parade. Later in the day some of the children changed back into their race day attire for photographs.

Winners are grinners – our sweep winners were Georgia and Dean (1st), Bianca and Mr Baldwin (2nd) and Joseph (3rd). Tom Ramsey and Shaniqua were our Wooden Spooners.

Prep Morning

This morning saw the first of our 2 prep mornings. Some of our 2016 prep students joined in the mornings activities with the more experienced P-3 students.

Fun was had by all.

Our next morning is on the 25 November 9 to 11am. All welcome.
In and Around our school Community.

New Resources
We have recently purchased new reading books for the P-3 room. These will greatly assist with our guided reading programme. Further books will be purchased for the upper school.

Virginia State School Band
No sooner had we had lunch and completed a little school work on Tuesday than two large buses arrived and disgorged Virginia State School’s band – all 110 students and their instruments!!! We didn’t have enough chairs for them all!

They had performed at Aratula and Maryvale earlier in the day and we were their final performance for the day. Their organisation and setting up skills were really something to behold. Their musical skills were exceptional – our students were treated to a great range of musical styles as well as being introduced to the different instruments in the orchestra.

Virginia School left us with a certificate to display and a CD of their music. What a great experience for us all.

Random Acts of Kindness
Thank you to these students for their efforts in making our school a great place to be. They say there’s no such thing as a free lunch but obviously Joe knows differently!

Mrs Wintour
Our prac teacher, Mrs Wintour, has finished her four week stay with us. Mrs Wintour thoroughly enjoyed her stay at Freestone and was very impressed with our school. We wish her well for her teaching career.

Final P&C Meeting
Last night the P&C held its final meeting for 2015. Our P&C raises valuable funds for our school as well as discussing those things important to the parent body. The meetings are friendly and well catered! Please consider coming along and learning more about your school and how you can contribute to its smooth running. Your children will benefit, of course.

The meeting discussed the success of the year’s activities so far and arrangements for the end of year events as well as providing for a good start to the new year.

The recent Bunnings sausage sizzle was successful. Thank you to all the helpers on the day.

P&C Dinner
The P&C Dinner is being held at The Warwick Hotel on Wednesday the 18th of November. Please arrive at 6.30 and have a drink, before dinner at 7 pm. Please phone or text Majella to let her know if you will be coming along so she can book on Monday. Her number is 0040 991 772.
What's happening in P-3?

Have you tried a pumpkin yet? Perhaps a zucchini has made its way home. Our vege patch has really come along over the last few weeks and has provided some great nibbling at afternoon tea for those students who take the time to search for snow peas, radishes and beans. The tomatoes have set and one of the cabbages is ready for harvest! We have plans for coleslaw production this week – a great way to share a cabbage.

We are also measuring our sunflower plants each week. We started off using our 30cm rulers and last week we had to use the metre ruler AND a 30cm ruler for some plants. This week will see us taking out the high jump measuring stick I think.