Commemorative Newsletter

100 years of Anzac Spirit

LITHGOW HIGH SCHOOL SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER
Welcome back to Term 2

This newsletter commemorates the Centenary of the Gallipoli landings in April 25th. At this time we remember the thousands of young men who lost their lives in the terrible conflict of World War I. We also remember all those who have died or suffered in the conflicts of the modern Era.

I was fortunate enough to attend the fabulous theatrical experience of ‘1915’ in the Union Theatre. This was a brilliant collaboration of so many in the Lithgow community. It very effectively represented the very real connection between the Lithgow City Band in 1915 and that of 2015. Don White of the Lithgow City Band was the driving force behind the project and must be proud of its realisation. The Director, Mr Brett Jeffers, our Head Teacher English and Drama, created some moments of true drama and pathos. I congratulate the many students who were performers, tech crew and front of house. A fantastic experience!

On Saturday the 25th April. Lithgow High School led the schools in the ANZAC March down Main Street. I thank the large contingent of staff and students who stepped out to commemorate the Anzac Centenary. Our Captains Benjamin Cox and Emily Thompson performed admirably at the Anzac service in Queen Elizabeth Park.

On Tuesday 28th April, Lithgow High School held the Anzac Assembly for the whole school in the hall. I take the opportunity to thank Mr Tim Lloyd Head teacher HSIE and his faculty for the successful organisation of this important assembly. Of particular note was; the premiere of the film “From Bullets to Buttons” - thanks to Mr O’Keeffe, and the staff and student choir led so ably by Mr Watchorn.

I congratulate the students and staff who have worked to create this newsletter, doing such a fantastic job.

Ann Caro
On the corner of Lithgow Public School stands a set of war memorial gates. These are of great significance and are an important belonging to the community of Lithgow. The gates were built around 1928 and it was something the whole community pitched in to do.

Since then, every year the people of Lithgow come together to decorate these gates ready for Anzac Day. These gates are a very significant feature in the towns Anzac Day commemorations.

Each year in the 25th of April at 10am schools around Lithgow gather at the gates to participate in the annual Anzac Day March which goes the out Main Street down to Queen Elizabeth Park where a ceremony takes place.

These gates are something the citizens can look at any time and remember the soldiers that fought for us and keep their memory alive. It truly is something that brings Lithgow together and the community is lucky to have.

Alannah Stoneley & Brooklyn Mackie - Press Club
As part of an initiative to connect our students with the wider community, Lithgow High School Film Making has produced two exciting short documentaries. Involving senior members of the community in Lithgow and surrounds, the documentaries document the amazing stories and experiences of our senior locals.

Most recently they have been working on a short-film project in conjunction with Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre and local Blackheath resident Sheelagh Gillis. "Bullets to Buttons" tells the story of Sheelagh’s Great Uncle, JB Holmes who as a teenager was a member of the North Irish Horse Calvary Unit who participated in the Christmas Day Truce on 1914, in Belgium. After losing the buttons on his clothing during an artillery bombardment he was gifted some new ones from a German soldier, which had been fashioned from some bullet casings – hence the name of the film.

Students additionally re-enacted the events of the story on location on 15th November at Millionth Acre Recreation Ground, with participants from Lithgow High School Film Makers and the 18th Battalion Re-enactment Group.

This project has been worked on for the past several months and has also had collaborative input from Blackheath and Mt Victoria Public Schools.

Ian Rufus and Lithgow Living History Group provided invaluable support with costumes and props resulting in an exciting and educational experience for all involved.

Sean O’Keeffe – CAPA Teacher
Anzac Day

As the 100 Year Anniversary of Anzac Day is here I thought I’d write a piece outlining just how important Anzac Day is to Australians.

Anzac Day (25th April) marks the day soldiers from Australia and New Zealand first arrived in Gallipoli. This was to undertake their first major military operation in order to capture the Gallipoli peninsula so they could open the Dardanelles to their allies in the Navy.

The word ‘ANZAC’ stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps and these people considered this name a grand title to be named. These people were the first soldiers to fight in a war for their country as Australia had only been a federated nation for 13 Years. The nation was eager to establish a reputation amongst the Commonwealth.

The Anzac’s first arrived on Gallipoli on 25th April, 1915. They were met with strong resistance from the Ottoman Turkish defenders and their numbers declined. The campaign carried on for eight months but the soldiers were evacuated as their military objectives were failing. Despite their efforts the men were proud to be fighting for their country.

Gabbi Knight – Press Club
Wallerawang Service

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April, people right across Australia and New Zealand assemble together to commemorate not only the anniversary of the landing on Gallipoli in 1915, but also to remember the Australians who have served and died in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations for hope of a better life for future generations.

Every year students from Lithgow High School participate in marches and ceremonies in Lithgow and surrounding regions, including my hometown of Wallerawang.

This year marking 100 Years since the young men of Australia landed on the shores of Gallipoli on that immortal day, Wallerawang showed strong community support as the Main Street filled with an impressive crowd to pay their respects and watch the annual march to the memorial near the railway station where a commemoration conducted by **Rev. Mark Smith** took place. My family and I, among other members of the area, proudly participated in the march and I was privileged to experience a ride in the old Bren Gun Carrier.

Wallerawang’s service begin with the opening speech from Rev. Mark Smith, as he spoke about the sacrifices these men made for our country, then moving on to “THE RECESSIONAL” led by Ben Fairbairn, Mayor **Maree Statham** presented us with the “prayer of thanksgiving”, then we were mesmerised with the song “Marching Feet”, **Mr John Cobb’s** representative presented us with the “Prayer for the Queen”, followed by **Mr Paul Toole** MP saying the “Prayer of Nation”, then another lovely song “LEAD KINDLY LIGHT” which was also lead by **Ben Fairbairn**, “An oration on the theme of ANZAC” by Rev. Mark Smith, Wallerawang Public School’s leaders presented a poem entitled “Not A Hero” then the students from Wallerawang Public sang “Spirit of Anzac **Mr Danny Whitty** from the ANZAC committee read “Let Us Make Commemoration of The Fallen” while the service was coming to an end the Bugle was sounded for “The Last Post” and the flag ceremony by Wallerawang Public School students then followed by one minute of silence, community members laid down wreaths and showed their respect then sang “Abide With Me” and closing the ceremony with “Advance Australia Fair”

This Anzac Day has been one to remember with the anniversary of the 100<sup>th</sup> Year since the landing in Gallipoli along with the wonderful marches and services held across Australia and New Zealand.

*Matilda Cafe – Press Club*
Adelaide Maud Kellett

Adelaide Maud Kellett was born in Raglan, near Bathurst, in 1873. After her education she joined the Australasian Trained Nurses’ Association in 1903 and became a member of its council from 1920. In 1929 to 1930, she became the first nurse to be elected President and was re-elected several times after. She then joined the Australian Army Nursing Service in 1907.

In October 1914 she became a part of the Australian Imperial Force and became Theatre Sister with the 2nd Australian General Hospital, Cairo for ten months. She served on the Hospital Ship Gascon during the Gallipoli evacuation, and on return to Egypt became temporary Matron of Choubra Military Infectious Hospital.

Adelaide’s memory was astounding as she knew all of the patients and who was responsible for them when she was in Sydney Hospital. Her brilliance as an Administrator was acknowledged.

After serving overseas, she returned to Sydney in October having been twice mentioned in dispatches (1916, 1919), awarded the Royal Red Cross, 1st class (1917) and appointed C.B.E. (1919).

Adelaide Maud Kellett is a great example of inspiring Australian Women during World War 1. Many nurses died in their efforts to save the wounded and dying soldiers that were fighting for our country. Many died overseas but back in Australia their sacrifice has not been forgotten.

Amy Muir, Kaitlyn Trounce and Ayla Shaw – Press Club
The Anzac Biscuit

During World War One, the friends and families of soldiers and community groups sent food to the fighting men. Due to the time delays in getting food items to the front lines, they had to send food that would remain edible, without refrigeration, for long periods of time that retained high nutritional value; the Anzac biscuit met this need.

Although there are variations, the basic ingredients are: rolled oats, sugar, plain flour, coconut, butter, golden syrup or treacle, bi-carbonate of soda, and boiling water.

The biscuit was first known as the Soldiers' Biscuit. The current name, Anzac Biscuit, has as much to do with Australia’s desire to recognise the Anzac tradition and the Anzac biscuit as part of the staple diet at Gallipoli.

The Anzac biscuit is one of the few commodities that are able to be legally marketed in Australia using the word ‘Anzac’, which is protected by Federal Legislation.

Ingredients
- 1x rolled oats
- 1x cup plain flour
- 1x sugar
- ¾ cup coconut
- 125g butter
- 1x tablespoon golden syrup
- 1x teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- 2x tablespoons boiling water

Method
1. Combine oats, sifted flour, sugar and coconut in a large bowl
2. Combine butter and golden syrup in a small saucepan, stir over a low heat until butter has melted. Remove from heat and immediately add soda and water to the butter mixture
3. Add into dry and mix whilst warm
4. Roll the mixture into tablespoon amounts and place them on a tray covered with baking paper
5. Flatten the mixture and bake on 150°C for 20mins
6. Loosen biscuits while warm and when hard place on a cooling rack

Makenzie Denley and Miranda Swift
This being the centenary of the ANZAC troops landing at Gallipoli, The Lithgow City Band wanted to commemorate the event with something a little different. Drawing on local history, band President Don White conceived of a production to reimagine some of the local lads who enlisted in the First World War, young men who were members of the Band and became Stretcher Bearers.

With a combination of music and stage, and the haunting melodies of Australian Composer Ian Munro’s ‘Lads of Lithgow’ written specifically for the event, the production brought much acclamation form the Lithgow Community. It was noted by many in the audience that the production managed to capture the horrors of war while maintaining the utmost respect toward the men that fought for their country.

The evening started out with a performance of pieces that were played 100 Years ago in a farewell concert for the newly enlisted men. It also included a sing along section, and a Tuba/Didgeridoo duet featuring local musician Bob Sutor to acknowledge the contribution of the Indigenous men who fought.

The production drew heavily on the community, and Lithgow High students Courtney Clarke, Jessica Lawson, Isaac Christofis, Alain Roberts, Eli George and Daniel Roberts all made up part of the ensemble. Brayden Coleman, Silas Burbank, Angus Capaldi and Brett Prestbury gave up their time to work on the lighting crew. The play was directed by Lithgow High School’s Brett Jeffers.

This production was incredibly important not simply for the honour it showed to the fallen, but for its strong and specific ties to the Lithgow Community and the way it highlighted the consequences of war, both for the men who served and the families they left behind.

Brett Jeffers – Head Teacher English/Drama
Red poppies were the first signs of life
In the fields of northern France and Belgium
after World War 1.

Arising from the bold drenched ground, bright red poppies grew where
where four years of war led to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of
soldiers, including 45,000 Australians.

The poppy has enabled Australians to show they have
not forgotten the 102,826 Australian serviceman and women who have
given their lives in wars and conflicts during the past 100 years.

How does Red Poppies resemble ANZAC Day?
The Red Poppies show significance to Anzac Day
due to the cause in World War 1, where they first
discovered this magnificent flower’s story. This
flower was the first flower to grow and bloom in
the mud and soil of Flanders Fields. The
connection was made between the first World
War battlefield and the flower... The Red flower
now resembles Anzac Day, and is a
remembrance to the people who died in the war.

Kiah Walsh and Lauren Trounce - Press Club
DAWN SERVICE

The Dawn Service, observed on Anzac Day, has its origins in an operational routine which is still observed by the Australian Army today.

The half-light of dawn can play tricks on one’s eyes. The half hour before dawn, with its grey and misty shadows, became one of the most favoured times for an attack. Soldiers in defensive positions were therefore woken before dawn, so by the time the first light crept across the battlefield they were awake, alert, and manning their weapons. This was and is still known as ‘stand-to’. The operation was also repeated at sunset.

After World War 1, returned soldiers sought the comradeship they felt in those quiet, peaceful moments before dawn.

With symbolic links to the dawn landing at Gallipoli, a dawn stand to or ceremony became a common form of Anzac Day remembrance during the 1920’s. The first official dawn service was held at the Sydney Cenotaph in 1927.

ROSEMARY

ANZAC biscuits and dawn services aren't the only tradition surrounding April 25. Have you ever wondered why rosemary is worn?

Rosemary has long featured in Anzac Day ceremonies, pinned to the lapels and collars of servicemen and school children alike. While it's unclear when rosemary was first worn, Anzac Day was first observed on 25th April 1916, and the aromatic herb has since become synonymous with the day.

The reason for wearing rosemary is two-fold: firstly, the smell of rosemary is thought to improve the memory, with reports of Greek scholars wearing rosemary in their hair to help them while they studied.

Secondly, rosemary has a direct link with Gallipoli, where our troops fought in 1915 - rosemary can be found growing wild all over the peninsula.

So now you know, tell your mates and pin a sprig to your jackets
Silence for one or two minutes is included in ANZAC and Remembrance Day ceremonies as a sign of respect and a time for reflection.

The idea for the two minute silence is said to have originated with Edward George Honey, a Melbourne journalist and First World War veteran who was living in London in 1919. He wrote a letter to the London Evening News in which he appealed for five minutes silence, to honour the sacrifice of those who had died during the war.

In October 1919, Sir Percy Fitzpatrick, a South African, suggested a period of silence on Armistice Day (now commonly known as Remembrance Day) in all the countries of the empire. Throughout the war, whenever South African troops suffered heavy losses on the Western Front, a period of silence had been observed at noon in Cape Town.

Fitzpatrick's suggestion was presented to King George V, who readily agreed to the proposal. But after a trial with the Grenadier guards at Buckingham Palace, at which both Honey and Fitzpatrick were present, the period of silence was shortened to two minutes. It is unclear whether Honey and Fitzpatrick ever met or discussed ideas about the silence.

On 6 November 1919, the King sent a special message to the people of the Commonwealth:

*I believe that my people in every part of the Empire fervently wish to perpetuate the memory of that Great Deliverance, and of those who laid down their lives to achieve it.*

The King requested that "a complete suspension of all our normal activities" be observed for two minutes at "the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" so that "in perfect stillness the thoughts of everyone may be concentrated on reverent remembrance of the Glorious Dead".

Two minutes silence was first observed in Australia on the first anniversary of the Armistice and continues to be observed on Remembrance Day, 11th November. Over the years, the two minute silence has also been incorporated into ANZAC Day and other commemorative ceremonies.

At league clubs around Australia, the remembrance silence has become part of the now nightly six o'clock (previously nine o'clock) ritual, when any light other than a memorial flame is dimmed, members stand in silence and then recite the Ode.
In recent times, one minute of silence has been observed at Australian commemorative events, such as ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies. The reason behind this change is largely unknown.

Press Club

The Last Post is one of a number of bugle calls in military tradition that mark the phases of the day.


In military tradition, the Last Post is the bugle call that signifies the end of the day's activities. It is also sounded at military funerals to indicate that the soldier has gone to his final rest, it is also blown at commemorative services such as Anzac Day and Remembrance Day.

The Last Post is one of a number of bugle calls in military tradition that mark the phases of the day. While “Reveille” signals the start of a soldier's day, “The Last Post” signals its end.

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School Fees
School fees may now be paid on line direct debit to:
Westpac, Lithgow High School, BSB No: 032-001
Account No: 15-3857.
It is imperative that you put your student’s full name, Student ID number or both when paying fees in this manner.
Local Aboriginal Hero

Imagine not being counted as a person, not being able to fight for the country you were born in. That feeling was all too real for an Aboriginal Soldier, Douglas Grant. In 1887 his parents and mob were killed, apparently in a tribal fight. He was rescued as a baby by two members of a collecting expedition from the Australian Museum. The former sent the infant to the Lithgow home of his soon to be parents. This Aboriginal hero enlisted in the army but was denied his right to fight because the Aboriginals were not counted as citizens, let alone humans, as they were considered flora and fauna. Not being deterred by this he enlisted again and he was accepted.

On 11th April 1917, during the 1st battle of Bullecourt in France, he was wounded and captured by German soldiers. He became an object of curiosity to German Doctors, Scientists and Anthropologists because of his ebony skin. Grant was repatriated to England in December 1918. In April 1919 he embarked for Australia. Several years after his return, he moved to Lithgow; where he was employed as a labourer at a paper products factory and a small-arms factory.

Some years later he then moved to Sydney after the death of his foster-parents and his foster-brother. He died of a subarachnoid haemorrhage in Prince Henry Hospital, Little Bay, on 4th December 1951 and was buried in Botany Cemetery. Douglas Grant was a true Australian hero and it goes to show that Aboriginal people even when facing tough times can achieve great things.

Sarah Dawson Year 10, Gamillaroi Woman
Anzac Day at Blackheath

The sun shone brightly as the Blackheath crowd assembled for one of the largest Anzac Day gatherings in many years. There were children from the local schools accompanied by parents and grandparents; Representatives from local organisations; the Parish Priest; a mixed mountains choir; a contingent from the Richmond Air Base; and members of the local RSL Branch, which had organised the service.

The main speaker, a Vietnam veteran and the son of a World War II soldier, spoke eloquently about the different kinds of service offered by men and women at both Gallipoli and other theatres of war. He told the story of the nurses who established the Army Nursing Service and the WWI Nurses who had refused to evacuate from dangerous positions, if it meant leaving their patients behind. Some Nurses died in the line of duty. He also reminded the listeners of the Australian Warship the HMAS Sydney, which in 1914 sank the German Warship the Emden in the Indian Ocean northwest of Australia.

The service ended with the Last Post, followed by the Ode to the Fallen, and finally Reveille played under a darkening sky. None moved as they remembered the fallen, even when raindrops started to fall.

Lyndell Fairleigh - HSIE Teacher

Next P & C Meeting is at 6.00pm next Monday, 4th May in the Hall Foyer. You are all very welcome to attend.
The Anzac Choir

The Anzac Choir was formed especially to help commemorate Anzac Day 2015 at Lithgow High School. Mr Mark Watchorn, well known for his musical talents, called for volunteers from students and staff. I think I speak for everyone in the choir when I say what a joyful and uplifting experience singing with my school fellows proved to be. After early morning practice I often found myself singing on the way to the class. The choir hopes to reform later in the year and perform again.

_Lyndell Fairleigh - HSIE Teacher_

Gallipoli – Book Review

by Alessandra Lachman

This is a story about a boy called William who arrives with his fellow ANZACs at the beaches of Gallipoli. It is a great example of the struggle and the terrors that the ANZAC’s faced at Gallipoli 100 years ago. Although it may be short the story is filled with many emotions of anger and sadness and offers a real snapshot into the minds of the ANZACs. This is an online story from write for fun. Net. Here is a link to the story, if you want to read.

_http://www.write4fun.net/view-entry/77586_

_Maia Michelle – Press Club_
Australians on the Western Front

Following the Gallipoli Campaign, Australian military personnel were posted to the Western Front. It was here that many thousands of Australians died, were badly wounded or psychologically traumatised in the muddied and bloodied fields of France. The poppies which grew in those fields after the war became the symbol of those lost and damaged lives and commemorated the peace for which so many had longed.

The Western Front was composed of a series of trenches which extended from the North East of France to Belgium on one side and southern Germany on the other. The trenches were originally dug as a line of defence against German invasion but they quickly became established as a stalemate position, as neither side could press for victory. Charles Bean, Australia’s official WWI historian, said of the village of Fromelles on the front: “We found the ...land simply full of our dead.” One of the most successful battles, in which Australians were involved, in occurred later in the war. The Battle of Hamel was planned and commanded by the brilliant tactician, Australian general John Monash, who was instrumental in breaking the stalemate. Around 295,000 Australians fought on the Western Front and approximately 46,000 died, while the number of casualties is estimated to be 132,000. An Anzac Day Memorial Service now takes place at Villers Bretonneux in France each year, to commemorate the Australians who fought and died on the Western Front.

Zach Palmer – Press Club
Preparing for Senior Studies

It is never too late to reflect on your approach to school as a learner. What do you need to do or change or do differently to help you achieve your personal academic best in the senior years?

Our school subscribes to the online study skills handbook site: www.studyskillshandbook.com.au which is a resource to help you develop the skills you will need to make your learning as efficient and effective as possible. The senior years are not about how clever you are. EVERYONE has the chance to succeed as it is all about knowing what to do and then being able to make yourself do it. This site ensures you have the knowledge you need to do your best in your learning. The nice thing is that each term is a clean slate!

Follow these easy steps to help yourself achieve your personal best:

Step One: See Mrs Cross for the Username and Password

Log into the site using our school’s details.

Step Two: CLICK ON the ‘USING THIS SITE’ link AND WATCH THE TOURS AND INTRO VIDEO
This will give you a rough idea of what it is all about.

Step 3: Refer back to the online study skills handbook on a regular basis to improve your areas of weakness.

If you would like more information please see Mrs Cross in the school library

Please Note:
Tutoring is also available in the school library. Please see Kylie Willis or Ann Beutel to book a timeslot. They are based in the school library, please turn over for more information.

Tutoring

Specific sessions are available for all Year 11 and 12 students.

- Wednesday P5/P6 - English (focusing on interpreting questions, essay structure and creative writing)
- Thursday P6 - Mathematics (help with advanced and general)

Teachers and tutors will be present during these sessions to help students improve their results.

One on one tutoring can also be arranged with Ann Beutel or Kylie Willis in the school library.
# Lithgow High School Calendar - Year 2014 TERM 2

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<th>Month/Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tr>
<td>May Week 2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4 P&amp;C Meeting 6.00pm Hall foyer</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6 School Musical Rehearsal 3.30pm</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>May Week 1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11 Year 11 Mid-Course Exams</td>
<td>12 Year 11 Mid-Course Exams Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN TESTING (Writing) - Hall</td>
<td>13 Year 11 Mid Course Exams School Musical Rehearsal 3.30pm Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN TESTING-Reading - Hall</td>
<td>14 Year 11 Mid-Course Exams Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN TESTING-Reading - Hall</td>
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<td>May Week 2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18 Stage 5 Mid-Course Exams</td>
<td>19 Stage 5 Mid-Course Exams</td>
<td>20 Stage 5 Mid-Course Exams School Musical Rehearsal 3.30pm</td>
<td>21 Stage 5 Mid-Course Exams</td>
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<td>June Week 1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26 Prefect Meeting Library – Recess Year 6-7 Information Evening – 6.00pm</td>
<td>27 School Musical Rehearsal 3.30pm Vaccinations</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>June Week 2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1 P&amp;C Meeting 6.00pm Hall Foyer</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 School Musical Rehearsal 3.30pm Science Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>June Week 1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8 Queen’s Birthday Long weekend</td>
<td>9 Prefect Meeting - Recess</td>
<td>10 School Musical Rehearsal 3.30pm</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>June Week 2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15 Year 6 Parent Tour - 9.15am</td>
<td>16 Prefect Speeches</td>
<td>17 Prefect Election – Roll Call</td>
<td>18 SRC Advertisement</td>
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<tr>
<td>June Week 1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>22 School Musical 7.30pm</td>
<td>23 Year 7-12 Parent teacher Evening 4.00-8.00pm</td>
<td>24 School Musical Matinee Year 7 2016 Enrichment Applications close</td>
<td>25 School Musical Performance 7.30pm</td>
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Please note –

Dates and times may be changed without notice, the dates below are only a **guide** to planned school activities.