Pozieres School Project 2016

Nearly 100 years ago Australian school students helped rebuild a school at Villers-Bretonneux in France. In the early 1920s, school children donated pennies to rebuild the village school in Villers-Bretonneux after it was decimated during World War 1. The Villers-Bretonneux School remains famous to battlefield visitors and proudly displays a notable sign across the playground which reads *Do not forget Australia*.

At Hay War Memorial High School we are asking both current and former students of the school to donate coins towards this significant project. There are two reasons for this. Firstly, We have been lucky enough to have parts of our school rebuilt, and secondly, some of those casualties and some of those deaths at Pozieres included soldiers from Hay. The school’s involvement in the project was officially launched on Remembrance Day. There are two coin collection areas in the school - one at the front office and one at the canteen. Please be generous with your loose change. The Hay appeal will be open for the rest of the year.

Bob White Scholarship

Year 12 students have been given Bob White scholarship application forms. There are two $2,500 scholarships available. The applications are to be handed back to Ms McNally by Monday November 30 at the latest.

School Social tonight
Themed: Something that used to be cool!
Time: 7pm til 10 pm
Where: Spirit of ANZAC Centre

P & C meeting
Thursday Dec 3
@ 5.30pm
Staff Common room
All are welcome to attend

For so much what shall we repay?
until the end of April 2016 (11 November 2015 - Anzac Day, 25 April 2016). More substantial donations can be made by contacting the school.

*Picture on page one are Year 10 students Lauren Mijok and Brooke Higgins with one of the donation tins.*

**Parent involvement**

The hope of every parent is to have children who are responsible, concerned members of society. At school we want them to do well, enjoy learning, experience success and be happy. However, as much as schools would like to believe that they are the most important element in a child’s learning, the fact of the matter is that parents count for more than 50% of a child’s learning – some researchers say up to 85%.

Whatever the percentage, all researchers agree that when parents are actively involved in their children’s education, the children do better at school.

The research shows that in every year level of schooling both students and schools benefit when parents become involved:

- Grades and test results are higher;
- Students’ attitudes and behaviour are more positive;
- Attendance is better;
- More homework is completed;
- Enrolment in higher education is greater;
- Academic programs are more successful; and
- The school, as a whole, is more effective.

Given the widespread acceptance that both students and schools benefit from parental involvement, what can parents do to become more involved in their schools?

There are at least four types of involvement, and I am sure you can think of more, that parents can have in schools and these are the basis for what I hope will be a strong partnership between our parents and the school.

- Parents can assist by communicating honestly with the school. This involves making sure the school has any necessary family information that may effect how their child is performing or behaving, but also communicating when something is going wrong at school. Teachers cannot help if they are unaware there is a problem, and parents cannot assist their children, with homework for example, if there is not two way communication between parents and school. Children spend something like 12,000 hours at school, from Kindergarten to the Higher School Certificate – we surely cannot be considered to be serious about learning, if their parents and their teachers do not communicate meaningfully about what they are doing.

- Parents can assist by volunteering and encouraging other parents to volunteer. This might be assisting in the canteen. The type of volunteering is not as important as the act itself. When your children see you at school they see that you value their education, and value their school and thus, by example, they pick up the same values.

- Parents can assist by being actively involved in their children’s school work and homework. This does not mean completing assignments for them; it does mean, talking about their work, encouraging them to research, listening to them read, or encouraging them to read (and reading yourself). It means spending time with your children in ‘educational’ activities such as visiting art galleries or museums. It means asking the teacher to show you the curriculum and giving advice on how you can assist your child.

- Parents can assist by involving themselves in the school’s decision making processes when the opportunity arises. This might mean advocating for the school with government officials, becoming actively involved in the P&C.

Consider this: if parent and school partnerships gave parents the confidence to become more involved in education to the extent that every parent of a child from aged 1 to 9 spent one hour reading or working on schoolwork with his or her child five days a week, each child would receive approximately 40 extra days per year of teaching.

This is why I ask you to see yourselves in partnership with the school and urge you not just to become involved, but to communicate with us about what we can do to help you feel confident and comfortable in approaching the school.

Enjoy the rest of the week

*Mr Y Chambers, Principal.*
Pozieres School Project 2016

Two Hay soldiers who fought in the battle at Pozieres on 23 July 1916 paid dearly. Lester Crossley was killed in action and George Turner was badly wounded. These young men were mates from Booligal. They were together in the advance on Pozieres and Lester was killed instantly by shrapnel. To read more of their war experiences visit the HWMHS Museum and find them featured in the After Anzac exhibition banners.

Linking Hay’s particular sacrifice to the Australian school project at Pozieres would be a worthy project for Hay students, parents and community.

In January 2016 the Hay Commemorative Tour Group will be visiting the tiny village of Pozieres and its famous windmill site memorial which marks that battleground so poignantly described by CEW Bean as “more densely sown with Australian sacrifice than any other place on earth”.

The group will also be visiting Villers-Bretonneux where the names of all the soldiers lost in this battle but never recovered, including Lester Crossley, are recorded on the Australian Memorial. They will also pay a special visit to the Franco-Australian Museum which is housed under the roof of the Villers-Bretonneux village school. These are amongst many Somme Valley and Ypres sites the group will be visiting in January.

Careers with Ms Schiller

SRS Early Entry – Year 12 2015
It is exciting for many of our students to be receiving ‘Pre-offer advice letters’ regarding their eligibility for SRS (early entry scheme administered by UAC). However we urge students to carefully read all communications and instructions from the universities. Students must have their preferred course listed as their first preference through UAC by 30 November to be eligible for the early round offer on 3 December.

Board of Studies Information Session
Yesterday all our students attended an information session run by a representative of BOSTES. Students have been given the document 2016 HSC - Rules and Procedure and the contents of the booklet were explained during the presentation. It was also emphasised that students should activate their account in Schools on Line to be able to access HSC results and future credentials. This is also a site with valuable study resources. We will be doing this in careers classes this term.

Proposed sport shirt change

The Hay War Memorial High School P & C are proposing to update the sports shirts for students. This is to make the shirt more modern in design. It is made from a polycotton fabric. As part of our consultation process we would appreciate any feedback from the community.

A choice will be made of which shirt to proceed with after due consultation process involving the executive bodies, students, staff and the wider community. The culmination of information will be discussed at the P & C meeting on Thursday Dec 3, 5.30pm, Staff Common Room. All are welcome. Alternatively comments may be emailed to: haywarmem-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Please see below the two design options. The Hay War Memorial High School logo would appear on the left upper chest.
Canteen News

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**Breakfast 8.30am-8.55am**
Toasted cheese sandwich $1.00

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<th>Next Week's Menu</th>
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Senior Ancient History excursion to Bushy Bend yesterday.

**Term 4, 2015**

**Week 9**

| Thursday 3 | Yr 6 Orientation Day |

**Week 10**

| Thursday 10 | Open girls cricket - Corowa |
| Friday 11   | Boys and girls cricket - Deni |

**Cricket news**

Congratulations to Lily Tassell, Hannah Stewart and Ellie Hicks who were all selected in the Riverina Girls Open Cricket team after attending the trials in Wagga last week. They will play in Bathurst early next year.

Lily is currently away playing Cricket in Tasmania at the Under 15’s National Championships representing NSW/ACT.