Welcome back

Welcome to the beginning of another academic year at Hay War Memorial High School.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new students and to the parents of our new Year 7 students and the parents of any new students in our other years. I hope you and your child enjoy engaging with our magnificent school community.

Welcome to Mr Rose who has been permanently appointed to our school and joins the Maths Faculty.

ANZAC projects
The school through the guidance of Miss Lee Chin (HWMHS Visual Arts Teacher) has been very busy creating a ceramic mural illustrating our diggers and nurses on the battlefields, through to today’s main school building and current students embracing sport, and education with visual elements of the Hay Plains.

The mural is being constructed by our students, staff and the wider school and Hay community in collaboration with the team from Ceramics in Schools (Sydney). The mural is taking shape and will be a tribute to the community of Hay for many years to come.

A wonderful team of staff and community members have been developing a series of banners featuring photographs, letters and objects associated with over twenty individual World War One soldiers in the Hay district.

These banners will be exhibited in April and significantly add to the Hay communities understanding and appreciation of our local exceptional contribution to the Australian effort in the First World War. The underlying theme of the exhibition will be juxtaposing the youth of 1914 who volunteered so courageously with the youth and families of 2014 who honour them still.

Swimming Carnival
The school carnival will be held today from 3.30pm. All students need to have returned swimming permission notes prior to the carnival.

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected as 2015 House Captains.

Bidgee
Senior Captains – Georgia Booth, Lachlan Oatway
Junior Captains – Belle Barnes, Monte Barnes

Darling
Senior Captains – Chloe Deacon, Zac McLaren
Junior Captains – Jessie Carter, Rory Deacon

Lachlan
Senior Captains – Sara Aldred, Cody Arduino
Junior Captains – Sophie Cox, Jack Miller

Murray
Senior Captains – Sophie Stephens, Luke Arandt
Junior Captains – Ebony Crighton, Jock Crighton

For so much what shall we repay?
Madison Dowling
Congratulations to Madison Dowling of Hay War Memorial High School who is the first recipient from the Murrumbidgee Valley to be awarded the Auscott Limited Education Programme Scholarship. Madison joins other Auscott Scholarship winners from the Namoi, Gwydir and Macquarie Valleys.

The scholarship will assist to meet expenses such as tuition, books, living expenses, as well as other compulsory and course fees, totalling up to $11,500 per year over the life of the scholarship.

Madison plans to attend Charles Sturt University in Albury, where she will study for a Bachelor of Business (Management) degree.

Ruby Barnes
Congratulations to our former school captain Ruby Barnes for being accepted into a Bachelor of Agricultural Science at Charles Sturt University (Wagga). Well done Ruby.

Aaron McDougall
Congratulations to our former vice school captain Aaron McDougall who has started an apprenticeship at Yoogali Engineering in Griffith in metal fabrication. Aaron applied for the apprenticeship that was advertised in the school newsletter and he started two days after completing the HSC exams. Well done Aaron.

Hannah Slattery
Congratulations to our former school captain Hannah Slattery for being accepted into a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary) at Charles Sturt University (Albury-Wodonga).

Hannah also has received a "Teach Rural Scholarship" from the NSW Department of Education and Communities. This scholarship provides Hannah with financial assistance whilst completing her education degree and also guarantees her a teaching position when she finishes. Well done Hannah.

Sporting achievements during the break
Ruby Stewart and Jodie Hicks
Congratulations to Ruby Stewart (Yr 10) and Jodie Hicks (Yr 12) who have been selected to attend the next AFL training camp to be held in Albury.

Ruby and Jodie have already undertaken one AFL training camp during the school holidays, the Narrabeen camp, to be selected for the Albury camp. The training squad is now down to 35 players. The Albury camp will determine the final NSW/ACT U18 AFL Youth Girls Squad.

Jodie Hicks
Jodie Hicks has been selected in the Cricket Australia U18 honours squad. Congratulations.

Reminder
Please remember that Friday 13th February is a non-operational school day (students not require to attend school) due to the twilight swimming carnival on Thursday 12th February.

Changes to the School Attendance Policy and Procedures
There have been significant changes to how the school records absences with regard to students being away from school for long periods during school time. The Education Act holds parents responsible for ensuring their child attends school every day the school is open for classes. Parents are encouraged to take family holidays during the very generous school holiday periods to avoid serious disruption to the child’s educational program. Long absences, particularly if they are taken each year, also impact on the quality of peer relations and continuity of learning. Students also potentially miss out on other important educational opportunities and programs if they are absent.

As part of the new procedures, holidays taken outside of school vacation periods will now be included as absences, where previously, they were marked as exemptions. A certificate of exemption will no longer be granted for this purpose.

There is a new form, Application for Extended Leave – Travel which now needs to be completed at least 4 weeks prior to date of intended travel. If the Principal accepts the reason for the absence, this is now marked as Leave (L) and a Certificate of Extended Leave – Travel will be issued.

If the Principal does not believe the absence is in the student’s best interests and does not accept the reason, the absence will be recorded as A (unjustified absence). A Certificate of Extended Leave – Travel will not be issued.

If you have any questions relating to your child’s attendance at school, please make an appointment to see me.

Mr Chambers, Principal.

Parents and guardians: If you have changed any of your address, telephone contact details or emergency contacts, please advise the front office staff as soon as possible.
My Days @ CSU
Charles Sturt University once again has an event filled calendar planned for MyDay events in 2015. Senior students, please find enclosed, the calendar of these events for 2015.
MyDay events are interactive days targeting Year 11 & 12 students who have expressed an interest in an area of study. These days aim to give students a taste of living and learning on campus at CSU and the opportunity to find out more about their chosen course and career. Students will also receive key information about opportunities and support available to make their goals achievable.
We would like to make you aware of the first 3 MyDay events for 2015:
• MyDay Exercise & Sport Sciences in Bathurst on 27 February
• MyDay Biomedical Sciences, Medical Radiation Sciences & Nursing Wagga Wagga on 27 February
• MyDay Teaching, Nursing & Social Work in Dubbo on 27 February
If students wish to attend one of these days they should go to the CSU website and register. Parents/carers must be willing to transport and supervise their students for these days. Please advise Ms Schiller if you have registered and plan to attend and that it does not clash with assessment tasks, work placement or other school commitments.

Parents and guardians: When completing a permission note for your child could you please ensure the student’s name is written clearly on the note.

Skoolbag
Install the Skoolbag App and you will have heaps of information about the upcoming events for 2015. Our School uses the Skoolbag App to help us communicate more effectively with our Parent/Student community.
We are asking parents/students to install our Skoolbag App. How to install it:

For iPhone and iPad users:
1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

For Android users:
You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.
1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

For so much what shall we repay?
**Canteen News**

**Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Gayl Munn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Jan Zambon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Breakfast 8.30am-8.55am**
Toasted cheese sandwich  80c

**Next Week’s Menu**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Chicken burger</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Caesar salad</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Ham &amp; cheese croissant</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Chicken wrap</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Chicken crackles</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Term 1, 2015**

**Week 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19</td>
<td>Senior parent night 6pm-8pm</td>
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</tbody>
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**Week 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24</td>
<td>Zone trials—Deniliquin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25</td>
<td>RYDA for Yr 11 students—Leeton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 26</td>
<td>Referee’s training course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 27</td>
<td>Formal assembly</td>
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</tbody>
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**Students are reminded that bucket hats are available from Sportfirst.**

**P & C News**

Welcome to the 2015 school year and a special welcome to the Year 7 and new families of our school community.

**Have you ever thought about becoming part of the HWMHS P & C?**

P & C meetings are a great place to find out information about what is happening at our school, to have an input in decisions that affect your children, to put forward any suggestions or ideas you have and be a positive link with the school.

We do not have cake stalls. Our main form of fund raising is the High School Canteen where we offer the school community good value nutritional food. P & C this year is also working with Hay Services Club to present the 2015 Debutante Ball, a gala evening involving our students and ex students whilst also being a fundraiser for the P & C. Dance practice commenced February 2nd and we are thrilled with the commitment and enthusiasm of this year’s 11 debutantes and partners.

P & C Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the staff common room. The meetings are not a place for personal grievances, but are a place to make our school be the best place it can be for all the students. So please think about it, you won’t regret it.

Everyone is welcome to come along and join in. For any enquiries please contact:

Vice President, Rhonda Slattery: 0427 932 140  
Secretary, Serena Wall: 0437 391 808  
Treasurer, Helen Jacka: 0428931972

**Next meeting: AGM, Thursday 5th March 2014, 7.30pm. Staff Common Room.**