ANZAC Commemoration Assembly
by Ms Andrea Aleksic, Junior Secondary Deputy Principal

The assembly was compered by School Captains, Hollie Grant and Shane Kennedy, assisted by Vice Captains, Hannah McIntosh and Jai Blakey. The welcome to country was made by Dajanee Lampton, while Savanah Lee, Liam De Wit, Meggan Loring and Daniel McConnachie performed supporting duties. Special guest Lt Martin Birrell, currently posted to the 4th Regiment Royal Australian Artillery, spoke about the meaning of ANZAC day and why Australia pauses to remember those who have served in wars and other conflicts for nearly 100 years. Other invited guests were Cr Bill Lowis, Mrs Rosemary Menkens, Mr George Christensen, Mr Doug Sockhill, Mrs Anne Sockhill and Mr Bill Christie. This year the address commemorated the anniversary of the construction of the Hellfire Pass on the notorious Burma-Thailand Railway in the Second World War. Wreaths were laid by our guests and by Indigenous students, Jemima Sutherland, Rullington Zaro, Diamond Heron, representing the Aboriginal, Torres Strait and South Sea Islander people of Australia. Once again the Air Force Cadets were a prominent feature of the assembly, under the command of Cadet Under Officer Harry Miller, fourteen cadets took part as the guard. Amber Barba and Ashly Parker performed a heartfelt rendition of Mariah Carey’s song “Hero”, while our choir led the assembly in singing the national anthem. The significance of the sprig of rosemary was explained by Tayla Heiur and Liam Shannon. The most solemn part of the service, The Last Post and Rouse, was played by Mr Leon Stucas followed by The Lament, on bagpipes, by Mr Bill Christie. I would like to acknowledge Mr Christie for providing a very moving moment for the assembled when he revealed the fact his father was a prisoner of war caught up in the construction of the Burma-Thailand Railway. Thank you to all those who contributed to our Commemoration service and especially to the students of Ayr State High School who were respectful and considerate as members of the assembly.

On ANZAC day Ayr State High School, was well represented at the services held at dawn, Brandon and Giru and by 100 students and staff at the march at 9 am. Thank you to all who marched and to their families who enabled them to be present.
From the Principal
by Mr Craig Whittred, Principal
Editorial - Newsletter No. 4 03/05/13

Welcome to Ayr State High School
Our school acknowledges the Juru community as the first owners of this country. Today, they are still the custodians of the cultural heritage of this land. Further to this, our school acknowledges there are other Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and South Sea Island people who have lived, worked and contributed to the cultural heritage of our community.

School Oral Health Service
The School Oral Health Service is available to provide basic dental treatment for all students in Years 8-10. A parent or guardian must be present for treatment and appointments can be made by phoning the following numbers 4783 3223 and 0407674696.

Wanted
A second hand Fridge and a second hand Freezer.
These two items would be used by Chappy’s Brekkie Club to store and keep food.
If you have a Fridge and/or a Freezer in good condition that you would be prepared to donate to the school please contact the Brekkie Club coordinator Rod Williams through the school.

P&C Meeting
Monday 6 May 2013
7.30 pm, Resource Centre

How Many Hawk Points Do You Have?
by Mrs Claire Brock, SWPBS

Welcome to Ayr State High School

From the Principal

by Mr Craig Whittred, Principal

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erm 2 started in a flurry of activity which saw the Minister of Education visit our school, our ANZAC day assembly, ANZAC Day community events and our Cross Country all run in the same week! All events were completed at the high standard which we are used to at Ayr State High School.

The Minister was impressed, not only with our grounds and our recent results but he was equally complimentary of our new programs. The year six and seven Gifted and Talented Program and the Indigenous Mentor Program which showcase outstanding community engagement particularity impressed.

This week Year 11 industry placement occurs with students participating at supporting employers right across the Burdekin and Townsville regions. This is a great opportunity for students to experience the workplace in their chosen career areas.

As the year progresses we will be moving into a very important transition for Year 10 students into the Senior School.

All Year 10 students are actively working towards completing their Student Education and Training Plan or SET Plan. In this plan students with the support of parents and teachers should be choosing prospective career pathways. It is very important that parents support their children in this process to make decisions in a realistic manner. Once a career is chosen the students will then be guided into pathways needed to achieve that career.

Pathways include things like University or TAFE, VET studies during Year 11 and 12, School based Apprenticeships/Traineeships. This in turn will inform subject selection focusing on chosen career pathways.

Congratulations to the U15 Rugby League team which won the final against Bowen this week. It was an exciting game. The game was in the balance with tied scores with 5 minutes to go but a little bit of Campbell magic "snatched" the victory! Unfortunately the Opens could not bring home the double in a fast paced game where defence was optional from both sides.

Bowen’s much larger side prevailed. The boys played with great spirit and flair. Well done you did us proud! Our Netball Girls narrowly missed out on a finals berth but as I saw the week earlier the girls play at a high level with great sportswomanship, we always have next year!

Yours in education

Craig Whittred
Principal

How Many Hawk Points Do You Have?

by Mrs Claire Brock, SWPBS

Hawk Points are part of our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) framework. This framework has been adopted by ASHS to focus on the positive things our students do during their school activities.

Earlier in Term 1 the school had their first prize draw where those with 100% attendance were given the chance to be rewarded. During the second half of first term students were awarded Hawk Points for their attendance and for doing their Personal Best. Towards the end of Term 1 the SWPBS team had a second draw where all the students with Hawk Points could nominate what prize draw they would like to participate in. Prizes included Pizza Vouchers, Tuckshop Vouchers, iTune Cards and the TOP prize being an Android Tablet!

Congratulations to the hundreds of great Ayr High Learners who received points for doing their Personal Best, particularly congratulations to the prize winners and Amber Barba for having the lucky Hawk Point that gained her the Tablet.

100% Attendance: Michael Trevilyan, Hayden Menso, Alix Leckenby, Anna Hurse, Kelsey Heiur, Tiana De Zolt
Other Draws: Emma Oakes, Batya Doyle, Bradley Wood, Shawn Johnson, Emma Lawson, Caleb Davies, Justin Stonehouse
Tablet: Amber Barba
On Wednesday 24 April students participated in the annual Interhouse Cross Country and adidas School Fun Run. Students fought for positions and points in an impressive field of 110 runners in the Cross Country. While students were competing in the Cross Country the rest of the student body competed in the Fun Run with points also contributing to the overall Cross Country House Champion. Although it was a blisteringly hot afternoon students were keen to complete as many laps as possible to gain maximum points and enjoyed the supporters gear (clappy hands, thunder sticks and giant foam hands) and refreshing icy cups at the end of both events.

Cook took out the honours in the combined event, fielding a large team and continuing their enthusiasm and level of participation in the Fun Run to post a points victory of 689 over Phillip on 564. Macquarie finished in third place on 553 points and Banks in fourth place on 438 points.

Congratulations must go to House Captains for their organisation and for the enthusiastic participation of their respective Houses.

Outstanding performances in the Cross Country were achieved by Sharni Lennox (Year 11) and Daniel McConnachie (Year 12) who won the Senior Division and Kyla Pringle (Year 10) and René Le Feuvre (Year 10) who won the Junior Division. The list of individual age-group champions appears below.

Outstanding Fun Run - Fundraising

Sport News

Interschool Rugby League 23/04/13
U15 Boys: vs HHSHS  Forfeit  Win
Open Boys: vs HHSHS  Forfeit  Loss

Interschool Rugby League 30/04/13
Grand Final
U15 Boys: vs Bowen  Win
Open Boys: vs Bowen  Loss

Interschool Netball 26/03/13
U15 Girls vs BCHS  Loss
Open Girls vs BCHS  Win 21 - 7

Interschool Netball 16/04/13
U15 Girls vs Bowen  Loss 12 - 14
Open Girls vs Bowen  Loss

Interschool Netball 23/04/13
U15 Girls vs HHSHS  Loss 25 - 28
Open Girls vs HHSHS  Loss 15 - 23

Congratulations to the U15 Rugby League team on their Grand Final win.
**Year 9 HPE ‘Expert Panel’**

*by Ms Courtney Carrigan, HPE Teacher*

During Term 1 and continuing into Term 2, Year 9 HPE has studied the unit ‘Let’s Get The Party Started’, focussing on adolescents and drug use, in particular alcohol. The focus of the unit was to make students aware of the various types of drugs and their effects. The unit was designed specifically for this age group to inform good decision making regarding this issue. On Wednesday 17 April, all year 9 students were greeted with an ‘Expert Panel’. This panel included ambulance officers and police officer, Andrew Sherrington. The panelists spent the lesson talking and answering questions about their experiences in the community relating to youth drug and alcohol abuse. It was a successful event and helped the students in understanding more about the effects of drug and alcohol abuse. As part of their assessment, the students then presented their own ‘expert’ presentation on drugs or a particular type of drug to other classes in the school.

**The National Assessment Program**

*by Ms Andrea Aleksic, Junior Secondary Deputy Principal*

Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008. On Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 May, Year 9 students will take the 2013 NAPLAN tests. NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australia children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.

All students are expected to participate in the tests. Students with disability may qualify for reasonable adjustments that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom. Some students with very specific circumstances may be exempted from participating in the tests. For information about participation in NAPLAN, you can go to: http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html

NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study or drill. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers. More information is available at www.nap.edu.au.

Further information will be sent home early next week to parents and caregivers of Year 9 students.