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Issue No 9

Newsletter of Ayr State High School

Friday 3 September 2021

Stomp Out the Gap

by Mrs Bernice Zaro, Youth Support Co-ordinator

For the past few years, Ayr High has been participating in an annual fundraising event for the Cathy Freeman Foundation called *Stomp Out the Gap*. Funds are donated to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Educational Engagement and Positive Outcomes for families and communities across Australia.

On Wednesday 18 August, the Support Services team held a Cup Cake Stall for students and staff. All funds raised were donated to the Burdekin branch of Centacare North Queensland. Centacare provides information and referrals to strengthen families, relationships, educational outcomes and life skills through programs like *HIPPY*, *School Savvy* and many more.

Burdekin Centacare staff members Rebecca Aldridge and Julie Dumaresq (former student of Ayr SHS), attended our school assembly on Wednesday 25 August, to receive a donation of \$200 from The Ayr High Family. Ms Aldridge said these funds will go towards the *School Savvy Program* which provides schooling supplies such as stationery, water bottles, uniforms, socks and more, for families to start the school year.



"Education is the passport to the future"



RAVENSWOOD DAY TRIP

Get your friends together and jump onboard our Ravenswood day trip. Step back in time as we explore heritage listed buildings, natural wonders and hear tales from the past.

SUNDAY, 10TH OCTOBER 2021

\$90 Per person

INCLUDES

RETURN COACH FROM AYR + LUNCH AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL + HELLOWORLD AYR HOST + TOWN TOUR + GARDEN MARKETS

Helloworld Travel Ayr
131 Queen St, Ayr
4783 2122 | ayr@helloworld.com.au

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TRAVEL
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From the Principal

by Mr Craig Whittred, Principal
Editorial - Newsletter No. 9 03/09/2021



It's finally arrived!! Next week is Musical week!! After a three year wait, we get to see our students take to the stage and blow our socks off with their talent and enthusiasm. Friday 10 September is opening night and I can't wait to see everyone pack the theatre. There are still tickets available for Friday and the two shows on Saturday, but you would want to get in quick as they are selling fast!!

This term, we were lucky enough to receive funding for a Homework Centre. At Ayr High we have always offered free English and Mathematics tutoring in the afternoons which has been staffed by teachers to offer support to students. This will continue, but in addition, we have our Homework Centre.

The Homework Centre's purpose is to provide a quiet supervised space where students can complete their homework tasks. The Homework Centre is staffed by teacher aides, and students that attend are supplied with a small after-school snack. The Homework Centre runs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 3.10 pm to 4.00 pm. There is a limit of 24 spaces available each afternoon. If you are interested in having your child become involved in

the Homework Centre you can collect a registration form from the school office. We have spaces available now and into Term 4.

As we come to the end of Term 3, we will begin our awards evenings with Sports Awards in week 10. It is always a great night to acknowledge the sporting talent our students possess. We will then be entering Term 4 which is a very important and busy term. Year 12 students have external examinations and the completion of their formal schooling all within seven weeks. Year 11 students will attend their camp and complete final assessment pieces. Year 10 students will be preparing to enter senior schooling and our Years 7-9 all are working to achieve their Personal Best. It is a very busy time and it is easy to be distracted so I encourage all students to remain focused on their studies, maintain high attendance, complete homework and plan out study time. These are the best ways that they can set themselves up to achieve their Personal Best.

Yours in education

Craig Whittred
Principal

Welcome to Ayr State High School

Our school acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land. 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.



SUCCESS
Every Student,
Every Day



Awards Evenings
Abound in
Term 3/4

Sports Awards

Thursday 16 September 2021

Ayr Showgrounds Hall

6.30 pm

Cultural Awards

Thursday 7 October 2021

Gardens between A & B Blocks

5.30 pm

Academic Awards

Thursday 21 October 2021

Burdekin Theatre

7.30 pm

A wonderful showcase of the
depth and breadth of talent at
Ayr State High School.

Congratulations

Mrs Brock

by Mr Rob Scalia, HOD - Maths & Science

Ayr State High School would like to acknowledge Mrs Claire Brock for being a finalist in the prestigious Australian Education Awards 2021. Mrs Brock is one of eight finalists from over 500 teacher nominees across the nation to receive a Teacher of the Year (Government Schools) Excellence Award. Claire has been a dedicated and enthusiastic teacher and member of the Ayr High Family since 1993. As an outstanding Science/Maths teacher, Mrs Brock says it's her love of people, the support of colleagues and especially the daily, sometimes entertaining and often challenging, rewarding interactions with her students that makes the teaching profession so fulfilling. The Excellence Awards were to be presented at Darling Harbour, Sydney on the 27 August, however has been postponed due to COVID-19. Congratulations Mrs Brock, on this outstanding achievement.

Mrs Brock is such an amazing and dedicated teacher. Her lessons are insightful and she makes Science so interesting.

(Yr 8 student)

Mrs Brock has given me inspiration and direction and the push I needed to go to uni.

(Yr 12 student)

Mrs Brock is so kind and cares about every student's learning.

(Yr 10 student)



NAPLAN Online 2022

by Ms Anna D'Ilario, Deputy Principal, Junior Secondary

In 2022, Queensland students will transition from the current paper-based tests to computer-based assessments by undertaking NAPLAN Online. In preparation for this, our Year 8 students will be participating in the School Readiness Test which is a practice run whereby no student data is entered, stored or analysed. NAPLAN Online will provide better assessment, more precise results and faster turnaround of information. The tests are tailored to adapt to student responses, presenting questions that may be more, or less difficult, according to the individual needs of each participant. The online tests also have the added functionality of being able to read questions aloud to students (each student will be provided with a headset). Trials have also revealed that the online environment is more engaging for students.

Parents, carers and community members are welcome to view a range of NAPLAN Online resources:

Watch the short clip: "Understanding NAPLAN Online" at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIba0PCcSHY>

Watch the "Tailored testing video" at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGFseJAM3Ew>

Have a go at some of the online tests via the Public Demonstration Site:

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

How we are preparing our students for NAPLAN Online 2022:

- In preparation for this event, schools across Queensland are participating in a School Readiness Test. The purpose of this is to simulate the real environment students will experience in 2022 when they undertake the NAPLAN tests online.
- On Monday 12 September, Year 8 students will explore the online environment during sessions 1 and 2.
Year 8 students will undertake the School Readiness Test during Sessions 1 and 2 on Tuesday, 13 September.
- During the School Readiness Test, no student data will be inputted, recorded or maintained. Students who participate in the test will not be identifiable and will be given names such as "Blue Sky".
- Next year, Year 7 and Year 9 students will have to also undertake a school readiness test as well.

If you have any queries about NAPLAN Online or the School Readiness Test, please contact Ms Anna D'Ilario, Deputy Principal, at the school.

Secondary School Surf League

by Ms Courtney Carrigan, HOD - HPE, The Arts, LOTE & Sport

Earlier this term, Bailey Parker (Year 10) and Liyah Priddle (Year 8) competed at the Secondary School Surf League in Townsville. Bailey participated in the 16+ boys category winning the ocean swim and flag events, and came second in the ironperson, board and beach sprints. He was awarded age-champion for his division.

Liyah participated in the 13 years division placing third in beach sprints, fifth in flags, sixth in the ocean swim and competed in the ironperson. Congratulations to both students and representing Ayr High with pride!!!



Sports Awards

Thursday 16 September
(week 10, Term 3)

6.30 pm

Ayr Showgrounds Hall

Students will be recognised and awarded for their sporting achievements in the following categories:



- Age Champions (Interhouse and Interschool)
- Northern and Queensland Representation
- Best and Fairest awards from all interschool sports
- Major Awards - Junior and Senior Swimmer of the Year; Junior and Senior Athlete of the Year; Junior and Senior Encouragement Award, Junior and Senior Sportsman and Sportsman of the Year.

Nominations have closed for students wishing to apply for major awards. Invitations for students who will be acknowledged or who are nominated will be sent out early next week.



Like our Ayr
State High
School page

facebook.com/ayrshs

QParents

Download the
free QParents
App to follow
your student's
progress.

Absentee
Hotline
4790 4353

If your child is away either:

- phone the hotline - if unanswered please leave a message with reason for child's absence,
- respond to school text message or
- hand in a note, on return, to Ms Land at the office.

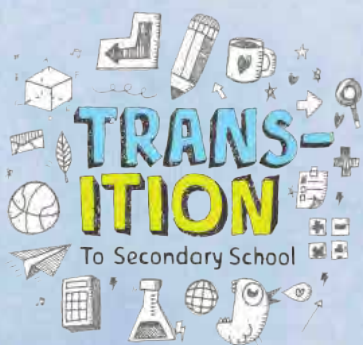
Year 6 Transition

by Ms Anna D'Illario, Deputy Principal, Junior Secondary

Last week, we hosted wonderful Year 6 students on our final Year 6 Transition Day. Close to 90 students joined us for a day of Science, Japanese, Manual Arts and Physical Education. They experimented, learned another language, got on the tools and ran themselves ragged during this action-packed day. In doing so, the Year 6 students met some of our teachers (including our multi-skilled Principal!), familiarised themselves with our school grounds and interacted with our Year 7 peer mentors, who did a fantastic job. Well done to Kelsey, Titus, Erin, Ava, Angus, Brayden and Tiana! Special thanks to Mr Prideaux, Miss Caspanello, Mrs Boland, Ms Dolan, Miss Scott and Mr Whittred and all the Year 6 EASS teachers for making this day possible.

Parents/carers, please note that Year 6 into 7 Enrolment interviews are occurring in the last week of this term. Enrolment packs are available from our feeder state schools and our school office. Parents/carers are welcome to contact the school and make an appointment.

Currently, Mrs Kastner and our Year 7 team are busily organising our Year 6 into 7 Orientation Days scheduled for week 9 in Term 4 (second last week of school). We are so excited about meeting the next cohort of Ayr High Hawks!



Positive Behaviour System Update - Acknowledgement Box

by Ms Courtney Carrigan, HOD - HPE, The Arts, LOTE & Sport

Last term we announced some changes to our Positive Behaviour System. One of these changes was the introduction of an Acknowledgement Box that aligned with our school values of inclusiveness and belonging. We finally revealed the box on assembly in week 6 and it is now in full use. The box is wheeled out to whole school assembly each week and students place their Hawks Points in the box. The Acknowledgement Box is a whole school approach to meet targets that will be actioned and celebrated by the entire student body (aligning to our values of 'Ayr High Family'). Students completed a survey last term and expressed their ideas for the targets on the box. The selected targets are music in class for a day, lazy afternoon, free dress day and our Grand Celebrations are Big Day Out for Years 7-9 and Burdekin Bowl/Swimming (or similar) for Years 10-11 (our Year 12 students will most likely have left school when this celebration occurs - this will be something we look to revise, if possible, next year so we include all our students). A big thank you to Jd Wilkins (Yr 12), Kaydee Jordan (Yr 12), Mr Ballin, Mr Whittred and Mr Prideaux who were instrumental in the design and construction of the Acknowledgement Box.



Burdekin Brass Live

by Cecillia Cason and Chloe Hook, Concert Band Members

Playing an instrument can be one of the most rewarding tasks to do in life. Although it may be hard to begin, with hard work and dedication it becomes easy. It's also the response from others which makes playing an instrument so rewarding.

Our school concert band were busy preparing for the Burdekin Festival of Arts when they were given the opportunity to perform at the first ever Burdekin Brass Live event. On Saturday 14 August, the band played some of their newest songs including *The Dragon*, *Man in the Mirror*, *Abide with Me* and *Lord of the Dance*. We have only been rehearsing these pieces for a few months. There were also a few additions from other Burdekin High Schools and despite limited rehearsal time, our band was able to pull off a stunning performance for the members of Thuringowa Brass Band, Burdekin Brass Band and of course, our community. There were also incredible performances from our very own Burdekin Brass Band and from Thuringowa Brass Band, including a brass quartet from some of our students. It surely was a spectacular night for music. A big well done to everyone who participated in the event.



Yr 10 Maths Camp

by Xavier Wood, Year 10 Student

On 9 August, five students attended the Year 10 Maths Camp. The camp was held at Apex Camp on Magnetic Island and ended on 11 August. During the camp, the students worked with new people to solve a variety of math related problems. Through the application of simple area and estimation, the number of bricks within a mall was calculated. Another activity consisted of a hike up to Sail Rock to collect measurements later used to estimate the mass of the rock. Overall, the students had an enjoyable time.



Interschool Athletics Carnival

by Ms Courtney Carrigan, HOD - HPE, The Arts, LOTE & Sport

On Friday 20 August, Ayr High competed at the Interschool Athletics Carnival with over 100 students participating in various track and field events. Ayr High finished second overall with a total of 1204.5 points. Congratulations to our age champions and record breakers:

Age Champions:

U14 Female - Lacy Horan
U15 Male - Matthew Kolb
U16 Male - Bailey Parker
U19 Male - Jared Poletti

Records:

U16 Boys High Jump - Bailey Parker 1.90 m (1.89 m)
U19 Boys Javelin - Jd Wilkins 49.78 m (49.62 m)

Our squad was amazing and demonstrated plenty of Ayr High spirit by filling events and supporting our competitors - super proud of their efforts!

A squad has been selected from this carnival and represented the Burdekin district at the North Queensland 13-19 Years Track and Field Trials on Thursday 2 September. Five members of this squad are from Ayr High - Jd Wilkins, Brent Barnett, Jared Poletti, Jack Gimson and Bailey Parker. Also, Hogan Smith and Landyon Chatfield (12 year old students) were selected to represent Burdekin at the 9-12 Years NQ Track & Field Trials, which was held on Tuesday 31 August. Congratulations to all students.



Townsville Hospital Work Experience Days

by Lauren Raitelli, Cultural Vice Captain



On 11 and 17 August the Townsville Hospital held work experience days for senior students interested in the health industry. The days offered students information on the jobs within the hospitals jurisdiction and provided us with some basic life training. The day started with discussions with nurses and doctors who



took us through interactive scenarios, CPR skills and a day in the life of a trauma patient of the hospital. We were then given the opportunity to talk with some of the allied health professionals who gave us information on the work they do around the hospital and the university. One of the highlights of this part of the day was the tour around the pathology lab where we got to look at some of the interesting equipment they have at the Townsville Hospital. The day ended with a chance for us to learn some of the necessary skills used by doctors and nurses including intubation, canula management and the use of a birthing dummy which allowed us to feel what it was like for a midwife to deliver a baby. All in all, the day was a great experience and one I would definitely recommend to anyone considering a career in the health services.

Academic Awards 2021

by Mr Kerry Flynn, Deputy Principal
- Senior Secondary

Staff are currently finalising assessment and reporting for the end of Term 3. The report cards that will be issued in week 1 of Term 4 are called our 'Academic Awards' Report Cards. We will use the data from these report cards to determine awards at our annual Academic Awards in week 3 of Term 4.

The criteria for the awards are listed in student planners.

Please note that the last Friday of this term is the due date for students to submit their applications for the many Junior and Senior Special Awards that will also be awarded at our Academic Awards evening. Students can still pick up application packages from the school office.



Burdekin Festival of Arts

by Mr James Phillips,
Music Teacher

Ayr High's Concert Band, Choir, Year 12 vocal ensemble and some individual students performed at the Burdekin Festival of Arts recently.

The Concert Band led in the first two sections of the night with *The Dragon* and *Lord of the Dance*, both of which



the adjudicator was greatly impressed by and commented that she would love to hear more of the band outside of having to adjudicate them. The band was awarded 1st position for both of their sections. The next Ayr High performance was the Year 12 vocal ensemble which gave an outstanding interpretation of *Count on Me* by Bruno Mars and was awarded 1st position for their performance. After a bit of a long wait, the choir finally gave a haunting rendition of *I See Fire*, after which the adjudicator commented on the lovely performance uniforms that the students were wearing. The choir also performed *Anyway You Want It*, to a loud and energetic audience response to the two "guitar" solos by Zylon Dallecort and Sam Vaevae Pare on the ukulele. The choir was awarded 1st place for *I See Fire* and 2nd place for *Anyway You Want It*.

Among the many individual performances, the two stand out members of the Ayr High family were Lauren Raitelli (Yr 12 Cultural Captain) who was placed first in multiple sections and Josh Mann (Yr 11) who was placed first in his piano solo section. The adjudicator commented that his skills are so advanced that she's sure he would be employed as a professional musician on the spot.

Congratulations to all students involved and to Mr Phillips and Ms Hueber for preparing our students.

Master Chefs at Work!!

by Mrs Vicky Bromham, Hospitality Teacher

Year 9 DAT students excelled in their recent menu planning, cooking, service and clean-up of their group design project - 'World of Food'. Staff sampled delicious cuisine from a variety of countries. Outstanding dishes were made with the two favourites being the American cheese burger bites and the South African peppermint crisp tart.



Hospitality students - quality food and service at THE DECK, Burdekin Theatre

by Mrs Vicky Bromham, Hospitality Teacher

On Friday 27 August, a small group of Year 11 and 12 Hospitality students catered for the Burdekin Art Society Inc 50th Anniversary. The girls excelled in producing quality dishes and a high standard of service was provided ensuring that the guests enjoyed a memorable occasion. This industry shift aligns with the requirements for students achieving their Certificate II in Hospitality (Blueprint - RTO).



Band Tour

by Ms Elaine Hueber,
Instrumental Music Teacher

Last week, the Concert Band students participated in the inaugural Band Tour which saw students performing at East Ayr SS, Brandon SS and Ayr SS over the course of a day. The band were welcomed at each school as they played hits such as *Sweet Caroline* and *Man in the Mirror* to more unknown pieces like *The Dragon*.

The band were a hit at each school with many requests that they return in the future.



East Ayr SS



Brandon SS



Ayr SS

Friday 17 September
Funtivities, S4

From the Deputy Principal

by Ms Anna D'Illario, Deputy Principal - Junior Secondary

Hurrah! We have arrived at the best part of the term - Musical week!! All our months of preparation will finally come to fruition when our cast and crew put on a show to remember! Many thanks to our wonderful community (including businesses, parents/carers, staff, students, organisations, etc) whose contributions have made the show possible. Be sure to keep an eye out for the local paper!

After Musical week, our Year 8 students will be participating in the NAPLAN 2022 School Readiness Test. The purpose of this "test" is to familiarise students with the online NAPLAN environment as, in 2022, NAPLAN will be conducted online. Please see the NAPLAN article in this newsletter for more information.

Over the past couple of weeks, we have had the pleasure of both hosting the Year 6 students for their Transition Day and meeting the parents/carers of prospective students at the "Come Meet the Ayr High Family" afternoon. Transition Day was, as usual, a blast! Whilst students were undecided on which sessions they enjoyed the most, Mr Whittred's presence in the Manual Arts workshop throughout the day was certainly a highlight!

Parents/carers are reminded that Year 6 into 7 interviews are happening in the last week of this term. The reason we hold these interviews in Term 3 is so that we can be confident everything is in place for our Year 6 into 7 Orientation Days at the end of the year, ensuring a seamless transition into 2022. Enrolment packs are available from each of our feeder primary schools, or the office. Please call the school on 4790 4333 to make an appointment.

And last, but not least, plaudits also go to our concert band and choir who participated admirably in the Burdekin Festival of Arts. Our ensembles and bands took out several placings under the tutelage of Ms Hueber and Mr Phillips. Well done, team! Students will begin rehearsing for Academic and Cultural Awards. Our choir and band rely on the support offered by our Music Support Group. Parents/carers are reminded that the Music Support Group is always looking for volunteers. Parents/carers need only commit to a few bingo afternoons a year. If interested, please contact the school and leave your details.

Musical Update

Theatre week is here!!!

by Ms Courtney Carrigan, Musical Publicity Officer

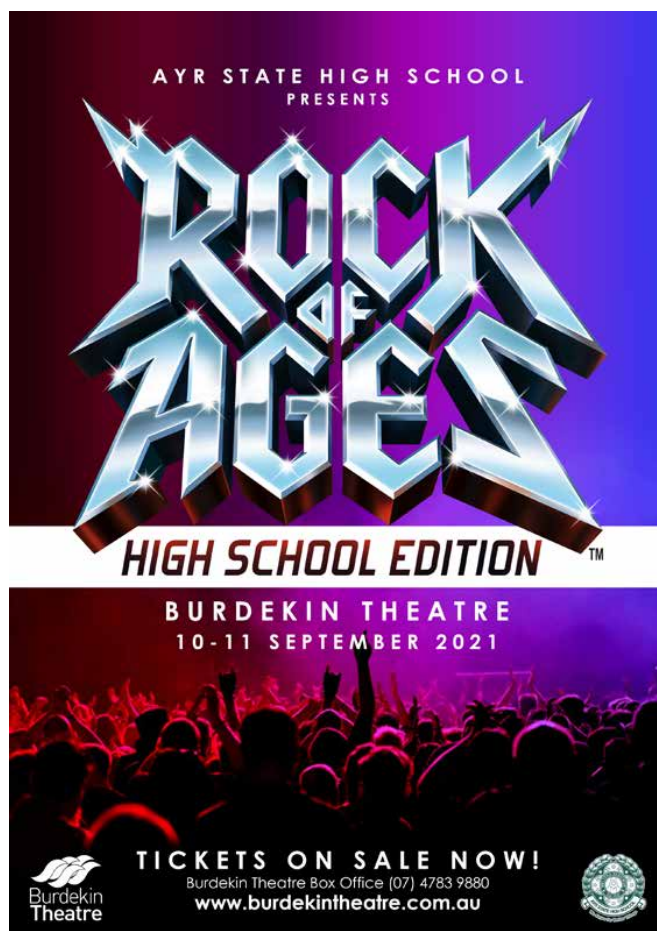
One week to go until showtime...students and staff are ready to rock with theatre week upon us. Musical Update #5 (parent/carer info letter) went out last Sunday and includes information and the rehearsal schedule for theatre week (week 9) - if you have not received this update please see Ms Land or our Facebook page.

Important Notes:

- **Saturday 4 September, 9.00 am at the Lighthouse - Bump-in** - we are seeking parents/carers who can assist - the set at The Lighthouse will be dismantled, transported to the Theatre and then reconstructed. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
- **Sunday 5 September and week 9 - Theatre week** - all rehearsals will now be held at the Burdekin Theatre. Please refer to Musical Update #5 for specific times.
- **Sunday 12 September, 9.00 am - Bump-out** - we are seeking parents/carers who can assist - the set will be dismantled at the Burdekin Theatre and moved back to The Lighthouse. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Make sure you don't miss out on this fantastic show and get your tickets now from the Burdekin Theatre!!!

CHOOKAS to our cast and crew!!!



Musical RAFFLE

7 prizes to be won

1st prize – Jewellery Gift Pack (worth \$200)

(proudly donated by Campbells Jewellery)

2nd prize – Scooter & Alfie's Gift Voucher

(proudly donated by Toyworld Mac's & Alfie's Bakery)

5 x Gift Packs

(proudly donated by Amcal Chemist Ayr)

\$1 ticket; \$2 for 3

On sale Thursday 2 to Tuesday 14 September - will be drawn on assembly in

week 10 (Wednesday 15 September)

Show your support and buy a ticket today!



Upcoming Events

5-11 Sep	Musical Week
4 Sep	Musical Bump In
6 Sep	Yr 8 ECB - 2 weeks of business trading commences NQ Trials - 12 Yrs Girls Cricket Choir Rehearsal (1st Break, A14) Concert Band Rehearsal (3.15-4.30 pm, A13)
8 Sep	RU OK Day Interschool Sport - 13/15/18 Yrs Touch Finals
9 Sep	Musical Performance for Ayr SHS students (12 noon, Burdekin Theatre)
10 Sep	Choir Rehearsal (1st Break, A14) Musical Performance for Primary School students (11.00 am, Burdekin Theatre) Musical Performance - Opening Night (8.00 pm, Burdekin Theatre)
11 Sep	Musical Matinee Performance (12 noon, Burdekin Theatre) Musical Performance (8.00 pm, Burdekin Theatre)
12 Sep	Musical Bump Out
13 Sep	NQ Trials - 13-15 Yrs Cricket Choir Rehearsal (1st Break, A14) Yr 9 History ANZAC 'in-class' Excursion this week Concert Band Rehearsal (3.15-4.30 pm, A13)
14 Sep	Yr 11 RAAP - AWP Yr 7 & 8 NAPLAN Preparation - SRT Interact Meeting (2nd Break, I Block) Yr 12 Hospitality Presentation (5.00-8.00 pm)

Ayr State High School Presents

ROCK AGES

HIGH SCHOOL EDITION™

Book by Chris D'Arienzo
Arrangements and Orchestrations by Ethan Popp

Artwork designed by AKA NYC

By Arrangement with ORIGIN™ Theatrical
on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

Big dreams, big hair, and big rock classics combine in this high energy production. A small-town girl and a city boy meet on Sunset Strip whilst pursuing Hollywood stardom. Featuring hits from the biggest bands of the 80s, *Rock of Ages* will have audiences singing, dancing and rockin' in the aisles!

SHOW TIMES

Friday 10 September - 8.00 pm

Saturday 11 September - 12.00 pm (noon) & 8.00 pm

TICKET PRICES

Adult - \$38.00

High School Student - \$28.00

Child Under 12 - \$28.00

Concession - \$28.00

Friends of the Burdekin Theatre - \$27.00
(must be booked in person at the Burdekin Theatre Box Office)

Family Pass (2 Adults, 2 Children) - \$120.00

Group 10+ - \$35.00 per person