Our senior students will be receiving their end of Preliminary Course Reports later this week. They have now commenced their HSC studies in preparation for the external exams in Term 4.

There are a range of staff available at the school if parents have any issues/concerns about their child’s progress at school. These staff members include: Year Advisers, School Counsellor, Learning and Support Teacher (Mrs Morgan), Individual Subject teachers. Ms Bowen and myself are always available to discuss any issues that maybe of concern as well.

I would like to remind everyone that we are putting an increasing amount of information on our website and our Facebook page has an increasing number of followers. This certainly is a good way to follow the many activities that are taking place at school.

A reminder that the colder weather is approaching and students will need to ensure that they have the correct school uniform including jumpers and jackets.
ANZAC DAY SERVICE

On Friday 24th April Billabong High School commemorated the 100th Anniversary of the ANZACs landing at Gallipoli. It was a service for students to reflect on the Gallipoli campaign and remember Australians who have served and died in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations. The service highlighted the spirit of ANZAC including the qualities of courage, mateship, sacrifice and the formation of Australian national identity.

Years 9/10 Elective History students - Georgia Nicholls, James Pitson, Hayley Wilkinson, Caitlin Browne, Ellen Liston, Cooper Mills and Phoebe Crilly provided the historical context for the Commemoration of 100 years since World War I. They also read letters and diary excerpts from Gallipoli soldiers and nurses experiences. These students provided insight into the landing at ANZAC Cove and the hardships and endurance faced on a daily basis at Gallipoli. Year 8 student Rebecca Brennan read a moving poem that she had composed about the experiences of ANZAC soldiers. This was followed by Mikaela Webster and Emily Jones singing ‘I Was Only 19’ by Australian group Redgum. The audience experienced video interviews and wartime footage in Powerpoint presentations compiled by Hayden Walker and Alyce Parker.

We were fortunate to have Mr Dade bring artefacts from a relative involved in the Gallipoli campaign and items from his travels to Gallipoli. Mr Carroll also brought to the assembly artefacts and memorabilia from two relatives who served in World War I and he discussed their role and experiences with the audience.

A special thank you is extended to Phil Smith, Warrant Officer Class 1, who is posted to the Army Logistics Training Centre, Bandiana for attending the morning service and sharing his feelings and the meaning of ANZAC Day. We were also privileged to have Culcairn RSL Branch members join us for this significant ceremony.

In the afternoon a former Billabong High School student, Dallas Sharp, presented a detailed session to staff and students where he reflected on his 20 year experience in the army. Dallas is a Warrant Officer Class 2, Intelligence Officer within the Australian Intelligence Corps. He spoke with passion about his role, tours overseas including Iraq and Afghanistan and the opportunities his career has provided.

Congratulations to all students involved in this significant service and a special thank you to the Elective History and English Studies students who assisted in preparations with the assembly.

Kirsty Phillips
Relieving Head Teacher English
Calendar

28 April
Senior girls AFL gala day

29 April
Senior Reports to be handed out
BHS Cross Country – during sport

30 April
Whole school assembly

5 May
Henty Community Centre catering with Ms Dengate

6 May
School Athletics Carnival
Sports Day in Wagga-C Abood

7 May
Assessment Week 7—10

SPORT REPORT

Cross Country Carnival
Due to the early date of this year’s zone cross country carnival May 8th, the Billabong Cross Country Carnival will be held during sport this Wednesday. A bell will sound at 2.00 pm and following a quick assembly in the COLA the races will begin at approximately 2.20 pm. The junior race for the 12, 13 and 14 year olds will start on Monroe Street, while the longer senior race for 15, 16 and 17 year olds will start on the school oval. Runners will score house points for participation and points awarded according to time recorded. This means the faster you run the more points you will score for your house.

Billabong Athletics Carnival
The Billabong Athletics Carnival will be held on the Wednesday of next week. Notes will go out this week and will need to be back on Friday to assist in organising bus numbers. The 1500m races will be held during sport time in week four. All other events will take place at the carnival in Albury. The Zone Athletics Carnival will be held on Tuesday the 19th of May.

AFL Umpires Academy
The AFL umpiring academy will commence next Monday and will run during REAL and period 5 each Monday of this term. Those taking part will need to bring their sports uniform.

Riverina Football Team
Congratulations to AJ Bender and Jaxon Neagle who gained selection in the Riverina Under 15 Boys Football Team.
Nick Bowler was selected from local show events to compete at the Sydney Royal Easter Show in the Merino Judging and Grain Judging competitions.

There were about 25 participants in each section and Nick did extremely well to finish mid-field in each competition. Some students were competing for the 3rd or 4th time and come from backgrounds where they have gained much broader experience.

Congratulations Nick on a great effort.