ANZAC Day Reflection by Max Noakes

How Can Freedom Survive?

In the darkness of a cold autumn morning each year, we gather across the country, in cities, in regional towns and at grand memorial sites and small community meeting places.

We gather to hear the stories of bravery and sacrifice; to honour the fallen for the greatest of all sacrifices to one’s country; to acknowledge the spirit of the ANZAC soldier, a spirit which was enterprising and independent, loyal, bold, egalitarian, cheerfully undisciplined and most of all contemptuous of class. Maybe we gather because we believe Australians owe much of what we have to these men so that by turning up we can show how forever grateful we really are.

ANZAC day is all of these things and more but this ANZAC day had particular significance as it marked the 100-year anniversary of Gallipoli. It was 100 years, since an all-volunteer Australian army embarked to Palestine full of pride, courage and determination. Eight months later we would emerge deeply wounded having lost 8,141 lives. But the young nation that was Australia soon sent more Australian troops to Western Front, to places whose names The Somme, Ypres and Passchendaele became synonymous with death.

At the end of it all 60,284 young Australians died an untimely death and another 568,581 suffered injuries as a direct consequence of the Great War. I find it difficult to relate to the abhorrent circumstances that these young Australians faced. It’s a harrowing thought that these men, many of them just boys, would throw themselves over the front line to oncoming gunfire, not a soldier refusing to go to his death for his country, for his values, for his mates.

Charles Bean who was Australia’s official War correspondent during WWI I think says it perfectly. “Many a man lying out there at Pozieres and in the low scrub of Gallipoli with his poor, tired senses barely working through the fever of his brain, has thought in his last moments, well…. well, it’s over. But in Australia, they will be proud of this.”

We as Australians are proud of our WWI veterans but are equally as appreciative to the men and women who fought after them. It is no wonder then, that traits such as courage, endurance, selflessness and of course mateship have been associated with the Australian soldier throughout history. And so this hallmark of the Australian calendar has evolved not just to remember the sacrifices and services of the original ANZACs but of all men and women that have served our nation. This is a day that we can reflect on the high price that Australian’s had to pay to ensure the freedom of all future generations. This is a day that we shall not let the sacrifices of past and present servicemen and women go without recognition. So I thank these men and women who possessed a willingness to defend the values that we cherish so much in this country…

… because freedom only survives as long as people are willing to defend it.
On Friday 24 April, a small number of students attended Camp Gallipoli at the Entertainment Quarter of Moore Park. Camp Gallipoli was a once in a lifetime opportunity for Australians and New Zealanders to come together on the 100th anniversary of the landings at Gallipoli to sleep out under the stars as the original ANZACs did 100 years ago. 7000 people attended this sleep out. There were five other events held simultaneously in other cities. The sleep out was followed by a dawn service on ANZAC morning.

It was a great experience and one that the students and teachers appreciated being able to attend.

Camp Gallipoli
This year the Camden RSL club held a Poetry Competition to mark the 100 Year Commemoration of ANZAC. Some students from our College entered this competition and I am pleased to announce that Hermione Kiley from Year 7 won 1st place with a fantastic poem titled ‘Red Poppies’. Hermione then read her three page poem confidently on ANZAC day to a crowd of around 6,000 during the Camden ANZAC Ceremony. I would like to commend Hermione on her outstanding work and express our congratulations on behalf of the College.

‘Red Poppies’ by Hermione Kiley

I chose to go to war,
To serve my country well,
My life, my life, has changed for good,
Nothing will be the same,
Red poppies, red poppies, all about my feet

The rocking of the boat,
The warmth of my home country behind,
Goodbye, Australia, goodbye my friends,
I shall see you all again in time,
Red poppies, red poppies, all about my feet

I wake to the sound of bullets,
Men running like spooked rabbits,
No sense to be found,
I jump to a start, to help them I shall,
Red poppies, red poppies, all about my feet

As I fall to the ground,
My chest clutched in my hand,
Red blood cascading to the ground,
My breathing heavy,
Red poppies, red poppies, all about my feet

Careers Corner

Year 10 Work Experience Program

A reminder to all Year 10 students and their Carers that Work Experience forms are due back by Week 6 Friday, 29 May 2015.

Please ensure you make contact with a host employer as soon as possible. If you are having difficulties finding a host there is a list of participating employers on your child’s Moodle page under Careers.

Mr Michael Cassidy
Careers Advisor
Community Service
It was a great encouragement to see the College community come out in force to be involved in a range of ANZAC day services in the local area and beyond. The students represented the College in an outstanding manner and looked amazing in their winter uniforms as part of the various marches. All students involved will receive both a Community Service merit and a point for their House toward the Overall House Shield. The College had a T-12 Service on Monday to recognise ANZAC day as part of the College day.

This weekend Saturday 2 May I would encourage students and parents to come along to our Term 2 College Working Bee. This is a great opportunity for active service within the College and a time for continued building of community. I would encourage students to set aside a small period of time to attend this event and make a contribution. As above all students who attend will receive a Community Service award and a point toward the Overall House Shield. Students in T-2 are especially encouraged to be involved as Community Service Awards and early involvement in Community Service helps build a culture that we feel is important and value. The issue of Community Service awards in T-2 is also a way that our younger students can feel like they are contributing to their House group through the Overall House Shield. All student leaders at the College and SRC representatives are encouraged as part of their roles to attend Working Bees.

Foundation Day
On Friday 5 June the College will celebrate Foundation Day and will be involved in a Mission Fundraising Activity as well as a House based competition. Students are encouraged to make a $5.00 donation to support the various Mission groups supported by the College or $10.00 per family. If students wish to give more to support these very worthwhile organisations then this generosity would be greatly appreciated. The Pastoral Program in Term 2 has a focus on service learning and in our first session we have had a look at the various ways in which students can serve in the home, College, community and beyond. The College will be supporting a range of missions including but not limited to Arnhem Land Mission, Vietnam Service Trip, African AIDS Foundation and the Hope Street Mission. The money for Foundation Day will be collected on Wednesday to Friday, 3-5 June.

ESmart
In 2015 the College is beginning a journey through three phases to become an Esmart recognised College. This process involves three stages, these include planning, implementing and sustaining. We have commenced this process which will take place over the next couple of years. This will involve looking at many practices that are already in place at the College and seeing how these will look as part of movement toward the Esmart accreditation status. This is an exciting initiative and one in which the College requires actions across a number of frameworks. In an area that provides a rapidly changing landscape initiatives such as this and the continued best practice that they promote are a wonderful thing for our College community as we endeavour to create responsible digital citizens. As always we continue to encourage parents to engage with their children in the area of technology and model responsible use and practice of this wonderful tool.

SRC
The following students from Years 3-5 are our new Term 2 representatives for 2015:
Sarah Jore and Joshua Phillips
Rose Wenman and Benn Griffiths
Laura Russell and Toby Randall
Charli Day and Jack Fiataroni
Harrison Forbes and Ella Nance
Nait Benson and Hayley Wilson

Mr Liam Toland
Acting Deputy Headmaster
Director of Pastoral Care T-12
Primary Matters

Year 1 & Year 2 Excursion
Stage 1 students are excited to be going on excursion this term to investigate the ‘Past in the Present’ and ‘Changes in Technology’ at The Wollondilly Heritage Centre. Year 1 will be going on Thursday, 7 May and Year 2 on Thursday, 11 June. We look forward to this exciting event!

Ms Jacqui Huxtable
Director of Teaching and Learning T-6

Secondary Matters

Parent-Teacher Interviews
Thank you to those parents who have responded to the office with their missing email details. Details for booking Year 11 and Year 12 Parent-Teacher Interviews will be sent out next week by email. Please save the date: Tuesday 19 May.

Homework and Assessment Survey – “Red Zones”
At the end of last term, the College surveyed many students and parents about homework and assessment. The aim was to identify any areas of homework and assessment that the College could perhaps improve upon. Across all quarters of the education sector, there is much debate about the value of homework and how much is appropriate. We value homework at this College as a way of reinforcing and enhancing learning. We are mindful of the volume of homework students of all ages get, which is why the expected amount of homework is different across the different age groups of the College.

One issue identified in the Homework and Assessment Survey was that some students occasionally find themselves with both homework and assessment tasks due at approximately the same time, leading to extra stress. We are currently working to identify peak times for assessments – “Red Zones”, particularly for Years 7 to 10. The hope would be that staff might be mindful of these Red Zones and adjust the volume of homework accordingly. Students may still be given homework, but across all subjects, it is hoped that students would receive less homework in total during these Red Zone periods.

Sometimes students can struggle to complete homework within a reasonable length of time on any particular night. As has been the usual practice, a parent can write a note in the diary explaining to class teachers that some homework was unable to be completed that night. It is generally expected that any missed homework will be finished at the first available opportunity.

Years 7, 11 & 12 Vaccinations - Friday, 1 May
All Year 7 students will have three school immunisation visits this year and will be offered three vaccines: Human Papillomavirus vaccine (HPV), Varicella Zoster Vaccine (chicken pox) and Diptheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (dTpa) vaccine. Their first Vaccination is Term 2, on Friday, 1 May. Years 11 and 12 are offered one dose of MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) and scheduled for 22 July. Forms for students in these all these years have been handed out and need to be completed, signed, students Medicare Number recorded and returned to the College Office, prior to the Year 7 Vaccination date on Friday, 1 May.

Dr Andrew Eaton
Acting Director of Studies

NAPLAN 2015
NAPLAN will be held in Week 4 of Term 2.
The dates for NAPLAN are below.
12 May - Language Conventions and Writing test.
13 May - Reading test
14 May - Numeracy test

All students are encourage to sit the NAPLAN assessments as it is one of the few external assessments the students are involved in. However, if there is a reason why parents do not want their child to sit NAPLAN you will need to contact Ms Huxtable.

If your child happens to be absent for some of the assessments, there is a catch up day on the Friday of NAPLAN week.

Mr Michael Matthews
Assistant Director of Teaching and Learning T-6
Property Update

Working Bee—Saturday 2 May
As mentioned last week, our Term 2 Working Bee will be held on Saturday, 2 May from 8.00 am till 3.00 pm and there are a number of jobs which need doing. We are hosting the Wheels @ WAC Car Show on the following Saturday so it will be nice to have the College shining ready for this important event on our calendar.

The College carpark gutters can be swept to rid them of leaves which can then be put on the gardens as compost. Due to lots of rain and humidity the College gardens have weeds which can be removed and we have some wood chip which can be placed on them.

A good job for our students is the picking up of rubbish around the field and College areas using our rubbish tongs and bucket. We had our College sprayed for spiders last holidays but the cobwebs are still there which can be removed. If you own your own cobweb broom, please bring it along. We need to top up a garden with soil at the rear of the Flynn building, after which we will plant some new plants and add some mulch.

As always a scrumptious Morning Tea will be provided by the Wollondilly Anglican Community Church and lunch will be provided by the P&F so come along with your smiles with the intention of enjoying yourselves.

Between now and then, there may be more jobs to add to this list so don’t forget to bring your gardening tools, utes, trailers, protective clothing and anything else you think might help on the day and enjoy the company of others while we work together.

Mr Fred Schroder
Property Manager

Primary Sport

NASSA Primary Cross Country 2015
The top seven students from each age group will be representing WAC at Macarthur Anglican School on Friday, 29 May 2015. Arrival is at 10.00 am with a walk through of the track at 10.15 a.m. 8/9 Years Boys start at 10.55 a.m and 8/9 Girls at 11 a.m. Age groups follow throughout the day. Buses from the College are provided however parents may take students to and from the event. You will indicate your preferences on the permission note which will be handed out soon. Please contact me at d.wayne@wac.nsw.edu.au if you require any further information.

Primary Athletics Training 2015
Training will start again tomorrow at lunchtime. This will be the second week of Long Jump. We are very fortunate to have Year 7 student, Kirra Bennett-Smith, who competes at State level, kindly offer to help the program. We will be looking at measuring our run up and take off this week. Girls, please remember to bring your shorts. Please meet Mr. Wayne in front of Elizabeth at the start of Lunch One with your lunch. This program is for anyone in Years 3-6.

NSWCIS Girls’ Hockey Trials 2015
Congratulations to Isabelle Robertson who attended the NSWCIS Girls’ Hockey trials in Sydney last Monday. We hear she had a fantastic time and was a wonderful representative of the College. Well done Isabelle!!

WAC T-2 Cross Country 2015
It’s that time to grab your joggers and get ready for the annual carnival. This will be held at the College front oval area tomorrow, Friday, 1 May, 2015, starting after lunch at 1.35 pm. Parents and friends are very welcome to come and cheer on this special day.

Mr Darren Wayne
Primary Sports Coordinator 2015
Music News

The various ensembles in the College have been very busy already two weeks into Term 2. Not only are they back into the swing of regular rehearsals but there have already been two community events that the College has sent an ensemble to represent the College and demonstrate their skills.

The College Choir travelled to Queen Victoria Nursing Home last Tuesday, 21 April to participate in the Nursing Home’s ANZAC Service, which was held inside during the wild weather. The students sang God Bless Australia (to the tune of Waltzing Matilda) which many of the residents enjoyed singing along to. They also led the National Anthem. The students performed well and represented the College with distinction.

Alongside the 200+ students who attended the Picton ANZAC March and Service, the College Band debuted in the march, playing while marching. The students had been rehearsing for the march since the Thirlmere Steam Festival and learnt some marching techniques from Dr Bearlin, who I have to acknowledge and thank for his assistance. Congratulations to the College Band … ‘another string to your bow’.

Mr Lloyd Grant
College Meistro

Secondary Sport

MISA

MISA team trials were finally completed this week after the wet weather last week. All teams have been posted on the Sports’ Noticeboard with Round 1 starting next week. Students selected in any of the soccer teams need to ensure they have purchased the College football socks from the Canteen ($10.00) prior to next Tuesday. They also need to bring shin pads. Any student not in full College uniform will not be permitted to play.

NASSA Cross Country

The new date for the Secondary Cross Country Carnival is Monday, 18 May. It will also be held at a new location due to the wet weather. The new location is the Sydney International Equestrian Centre at Horsley Park. Students should have collected a new note which outlines all of these changes. These notes must be returned by Friday, 1 May to ensure transport can be booked.

MISA Golf Championships

Congratulations to three students (Tim Ryan, Dane Arnold and Aaron Whittingham) who competed in the Inaugural MISA Golf Championships. They were great representatives for the College. Specific mention goes to Tim Ryan who placed 2nd overall.

NASSA Netball

Two teams (U15s and Opens) represented the College in the NASSA Netball Gala Day at Minto on Wednesday, 22 April. Once again the competition was of a high standard and it was encouraging for both teams to finish the day with a couple of wins. Despite no successful selections for the NASSA Representative Team four players were nominated to trial and did so to the best of their ability. Congratulations to Bree Ellul, Emilee Purnell, Ellie Purnell and Hannah Purnell.

Karate

Congratulations to Tara Boyd, Dane Clark and Elyse Wood who represented the College at the recent Australian Schools Championships.

Upcoming events:

- Under 15’s CIS Rugby League Trials – 6 May
- Under 18’s CIS Rugby League Trials – 13 May
- NASSA X Country – 18 May
- AICES Touch Football – 21 May

Mr Mark Goldsbrugh
Secondary Sports Coordinator
We Are So Appreciative

I am grateful for the support of the College community for my family following the death of my husband Ken. He was always very proud of the College and took a great interest in watching it grow. As an 81 year old he took great delight in gently teasing people who asked why he had a Wollondilly Anglican College car sticker on the back window of the car by saying with a shocked look, "my son attends the College". Through one man, if a little more love and goodness, a little more light and truth, comes into the world, then that man’s life has had meaning.

Mrs Joan Quarmby

News from the Information Resource Centres

Premier's Reading Challenge 2015
We have begun the reading challenge for this year with the students up to Year 4. Students from Years K-2 are completing the challenge in their library classes. The students are reading a total of 30 picture books from the recommended list to complete the challenge. Students from Year 3 onwards must choose and read their own books - 15 from the recommended list and five free choice. Students from Year 3 onwards need to log their own books onto the system. Years 3 and 4 they are learning how to do this in library class. Students from Year 5 onwards need to get their username and password from Mrs Saint-John and log on to the PRC site. The PRC can be completed up to and including Year 9. All students who participate in the challenge receive a participation certificate. Four years of participation equals a gold certificate and seven years of participation equals a platinum certificate. Students who complete the challenge from Years 3 to 9 receive a medallion recognising their achievement.

This year is the 10th year the PRC has been run through the Library and there will be a surprise celebration event for qualifying students in August - more details to come.

Working Bee
We have many books which need covering and would welcome parents to come and cover books. No experience is necessary and the contact is very forgiving. If it is too hot or too cold, the weather is just right in Flynn 2. Join us from 9.00 am.

Scholastic Bookclub
Orders for the bookclub issue 3 are due back to the office by next Thursday, 7 May.
Live a life well read.

Mrs Louise Saint-John
Teacher Librarian

Musical Rehearsals
Rehearsals are progressing well. For the remaining weeks this term, all students will be rehearsing in the Auditorium until 5.30 pm (including Primary cast members). Primary cast members are not permitted to leave the Auditorium gates until they are collected by a parent for safety reasons.

Parents are also reminded about the upcoming holiday rehearsals which all cast members are expected to attend. They will be run Monday, 6 July - Friday, 10 July.

Mrs Sarah Talbot
Musical Director
Parents & Friends News

Car Show
Save the date! Wheels @ Wollondilly is back Saturday 9th May from 10.00 am - 2.00 pm. The event attracted over 200 vehicles in 2014, so we have organised even more trophies for entrants, more free kids’ activities, and more car show parking as this year is shaping to be even bigger.

- Rocker cover races will start at 11.30am, with heats until a winner is declared. Make sure you come along and cheer for your friends, even if you don’t have a rocker cover for racing.
- The Council Outreach Trailer will also be at the Show to provide free kids’ activities like plaster painting and colouring in.
- Drive an electric go-kart or bike! They are sure to be a hit.
- We have an amazing face painter, providing not only little kids with decorations, but stuff for the older ones too. Her artwork includes wolverine scars and metal man faces which are absolutely amazing in detail.
- Wollondilly Anglican Church will be helping the kids make lolly biscuit cars… sounds yummy!
- Glencore Xstrata will once again have their wonderful BBQ & team with very reasonably priced food.
- The Wollondilly Anglican College band, along with the famous Margaret Urlich, will be playing a few favorites for everyone to enjoy.
- The local scouts will be helping kids complete the ropes challenge as well.

See http://www.bosskraft.com/wheels--wollondilly.html for full details, pictures from last years event, or call Bernice on 4677 2282. We are also in need of volunteers on the day, if you have some free time that you could help out, it would be much appreciated.

Helpers Needed
Helpers are needed to man the food stalls at the Car Show, which runs from 10.00 am - 2.00 pm. Anytime that you can give us is truly appreciated, from half an hour to the full day. If you can help with setting up or the clean up at the end of the day. Please see the flyer enclosed with this newsletter or email us pandfvice@wac.nsw.edu.au

Cake and Coffee Stall
We need the assistance of all parents and friends to help stock the cake and coffee stall for the Car Show. Biscuits, slices, cupcakes, muffins (sweet and savoury), and brownies of all description please. We especially welcome gluten free and dairy free options. Please remember we are a nut aware College, so please label your items clearly.

Mothers Day Stall Friday 8 May
Next Friday, 8 May, students from Transition to Year 6 will have the opportunity to buy a gift for mum from the P&F Mother’s Day Stall. Your child can choose from a range of $5.00 presents, that will be wrapped and tagged ready for mum on Sunday 10 May. The P&F provides this stall as a service to the College.

Wrapping Day—Mother’s Day Gifts this Friday, 1 May
Come one, Come all. Have some fun, make new friends and have a sneak peak at the gifts for this year. Anytime that you can spare would be greatly appreciated. We will be wrapping the gifts in Fred’s Shed on Friday, 1 May between 8.00 am - 2.30 pm. Please sign in at the office before coming down to the shed. Hope to see you there.

P&F Committee
Community

Please note that this page is a service to the Community and items advertised do not necessarily carry the endorsement of the College. The College tries to be selective with what is advertised but cannot take responsibility. Please look into events advertised carefully.

- From time to time, families undergo trauma such as severe or terminal illness. There are short term support structures in place at the College to assist families during these times. Parents have kindly offered practical support such as meals for other families. Please continue to contact Mrs Hay at the College, to assist. Confidentiality will be respected when requested.

- Wellness Retreat: Tahmoor Anglican Church is holding a Wellness Retreat (small group counselling course conducted by Joy Kennedy, independent Christian counsellor). Commencing on Thursday, 14 May for five consecutive Thursday afternoons from 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm. For more information please contact Mrs Karen Flanagan 0435 517 454.

- Wollondilly Mayoral Charity Golf Day, to be held at Antill Park Country Golf Club in Picton on Friday 26 June 2015. Please contact Kym Buck, Events Officer on 4677 1105 or kym.buck@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au.

- Wollondilly Talent Factor Fundraising Competition. Are you talented? Can you sing, dance, play an instrument, perform magic or are in a band? If you think you have what it takes, send an email to wollondillytalentfactor@gmail.com or call 0412457662.

F.L.O.W.E.R.S Canteen and Cafeteria

Scarves and gloves are available for purchase from the Canteen.

Canteen roster:

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 1/5</td>
<td>Judy Scholes</td>
<td>Susan Kellert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 4/5</td>
<td>Helen Russell</td>
<td>Help needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 5/5</td>
<td>Michelle Clark</td>
<td>Help needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 6/5</td>
<td>Helen Russell</td>
<td>Cindy Morris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 7/5</td>
<td>Helen Russell</td>
<td>Help needed</td>
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<td>Friday 8/5</td>
<td>Judy Scholes</td>
<td>Liz Hayes</td>
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If anyone is available to help out on the days noted “Help Needed” please let me know.

Orchy 350ml juices have been replaced with Orchy 250ml. These are priced at $1.80 Please adjust your menu accordingly.

Think healthy, Eat healthy, Live healthy!

Mrs Carolyn Richards
Canteen Supervisor
Wollondilly Anglican Community Church (WACC)

WACC meets in the Clifford Warne Auditorium every Sunday at 9.00 am.
Rev Rob Meischke 0437 533 106

He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Colossians 1:17

If we think of Jesus as just another wise or famous or influential human, like the Dalai Lama or the Queen, we can get away with dismissing him or ignoring him. But, if he really is what the Bible says of him - the creator and sustainer of everything, it’s harder to look away unaffected, which should make for some interesting conversation, don’t you think?
Prayer Points

Thank God
For the sacrifice of our Diggers and the legacy of freedom that they have left for us.
That we live in a country and teach at a College where we are free to proclaim the good news of salvation.
For the sense of fellowship and comradery amongst staff at Wollondilly.
For the 300+ students who remembered our fallen soldiers in nine ANZAC events and for the 30+ staff who supported them.

Ask God
That we may never take for granted, the sacrifice of the few for the many.
To guard us against those voices who seek to tear down His influence in Christian schools, Community Celebrations and Remembrance Events.
That we may better know Him and His purpose for our lives.

Psalm 127:1 Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain.

Excellence, Endurance, Eternity.

With the Trades Skills Centre and new Administration building almost done, Laura Carruthers from KS has GRAND plans for turning the olive grove into a giant water theme park.