Bombala and Monaro High School Combine to Visit Significant Ancient and Modern History Sites

Four Bombala and twenty five Monaro High School HSC students participated in a Pompeii, Ancient Rome and the Western Front 16 day tour during the Easter holidays. This tour was specifically designed to give students first hand experiences of significant sites studied in HSC Ancient History and Modern History.

The tour itinerary was jam packed with visits to important sites and experiences. After a good night’s rest to recover from the long flights which constituted day one and two of the tour, the group visited the archaeological site of Pompeii, a core study for all Ancient History students. The group was able to explore the site gaining valuable firsthand knowledge of all aspects of the site, giving them an edge over other students in the HSC examinations. Renowned Australian archaeologist Dr Estelle Lazer escorted students during the day, sharing her knowledge and experiences investigating the site as well as taking the group to parts of the site that are not normally explored by the average tourist. That evening Dr Estelle Lazer joined the group for dinner after giving a lecture detailing many of the topics students need to know for their examinations at the end of the year.
The following day the group visited the Archaeological Museum of Naples which houses the artefacts discovered at Pompeii and Herculaneum. Again students were able to see firsthand much of the evidence and features of these ancient sites that they have studied in class. That afternoon the group visited the archaeological site of Herculaneum. Again students were accompanied by an expert who engaged in a range of academic discussions regarding the condition and maintenance of the site, possible interpretations of the site and implications for the future of the site providing a rich experience that students can draw from during their HSC preparations.

On the sixth day of the tour the group was able to inspect Mt Vesuvius and the bay of Naples from the distance as well as explore the island of Capri. The following day, despite the cloud cover the group climbed Mt Vesuvius. This allowed students to inspect the crater of the volcano, look closely at the nature of the pumice and material that contributed to the destruction of Pompeii and Herculaneum, as well as appreciate the extent to which Mt Vesuvius dominates the Bay of Naples. From Vesuvius, the group travelled by coach to Rome. That evening Roman historian Agnes Crawford delivered a lecture on the founding of Rome and an overview of the course of its history, identifying the buildings and sites we would visit the next day. Day 7 and 8 were very busy days for the group with walking tours of classical Rome and the Vatican Museum and St Pete’s. Highlights included visits to the Colosseum, The Arch of Titus, Basilica of Maxentius, House of the Temple of the Vestal Virgins, Regia, Alter and Temple of Julius Caesar, Comitium, Curia and Rostra along with visits to the Ara Pacis, Castel Sant Angelo, the Sistine Chapel and St Peter’s Basilica. Between visiting each of these significant sites students were also able to visit other beautiful features of Rome including the Pantheon, Piazza Navona, Campo de’Fiori and the Trevi fountain. Day 9 was a more leisurely day with an exploration of Hadrian’s Villa.

The following day the group left the ancient world for the modern with a quick flight to Brussels and then onto Ypres. Students were given the opportunity to explore this quiet Belgian town which has a unique love for Australians. Students were able to sample the local cuisine of waffles and chocolate. Many of the chocolatiers had special deals for visiting Australians. Many may know that Ypres saw concentrated fighting during WW1, in which many Australians gave their lives on the battlefields of the western front. That evening the group participated in the Last Post ceremony at Menin Gate. Another Australian group, a student choral group from Tasmania performed “I still call Australia home” and the national Anthem. This, along with a laying of a wreath, and the poignancy of the way in which Australian soldiers are remembered on foreign soil touched the hearts of all and brought a tear to the eye of many.

Days 11 through 13 saw the group explore the many cemeteries and battle fields of the Western Front. The students were privileged to be accompanied by Australian History
expert Brad Manera who shared his extensive expertise of Australian troop movements, battles and tactics providing firsthand knowledge and experiences for the Core Study for Modern History students. Again, access to these experiences and experts will give students an edge in the HSC examinations at the end of the year. The group visited a number of significant sites along the western front including Bayernwald, Polygon Wood, Passendale museum and trenches, Hill 60, Beaumont-Hamel, Villers-Brettoneux, Le hamel and Poziers.

As the group explored these battlefields Brad detailed the nature of the battles, the movements of troops, positions and tactics as well as the personal tales of a number of Australian soldiers. As we visited the many Commonwealth cemeteries of the area, a number of students were able to pay respects to ancestors who had fought and died on the western front. Again, each of these visits touched the hearts of all. As day 13 drew to a close the group travelled to Paris for the last experiences of the tour.

On Day 14 a walking tour of Paris was to be the last leg of the tour. In the morning we visited the Les Invalides Military Museum and the Tomb of Napoleon. Students were able to explore aspects of the world’s military history with Modern History students gaining valuable knowledge in the World War 1 and II sections. This was followed by a visit to the top of the Eiffel Tower. After lunch we visited the bridge of the Locks before heading back to the hotel to head off to the airport for our departing flight.

This one in a lifetime experience was thoroughly enjoyed by all, with students able to engage in many of the significant sites they study in class. This along with the experts who led us throughout the tour will not only give these students an edge over other HSC students but has also given them an enriching experience that many from remote country towns such as our may never get. Bombala students Sarah Marion, Jacob Litchfield, Russell Devine and Lydia Yelds were fantastic ambassadors for Bombala High School and Australia. Bombala High School intends to offer similar tours in the future and the success of this tour is just another example of how our little school is providing big opportunities for local students.
Important Dates

5 May  Crutching School
6/7 May  Presidents to Sydney
7 May  TAFE
9 May  Zone Cross Country Wolumla
9 May  SERAS Visit Year 11/12 PDHPE

BOMBALA DISTRICT SWIMMING ASSOCIATION
Notice of Annual General Meeting
Saturday 31 May 2014
10.00 am
High School Library
All Swimming Club parents are welcome to attend

Bombala High School Cross Country

Last Wednesday afternoon saw the students and staff of Bombala High School, brave the chilly conditions to complete their Annual Cross Country Championship. The local golf course has been the venue for this event for a number of years and it provides a very challenging course for the participants.

The age champions for the day were -

12 years  Felicity Boreham  Not applicable
13 years  Faith Cocker  Tim McMahon
14 years  Molly Badewitz  Blake Stevenson
15 years  Kayla Hall  Jacob Rebecchi
16 years  Loretta Hines  Kurt Pajuczok
17 and over  Katherine Pajuczok  Bailey Jones

A very tightly contested house points race saw Nalbaugh just pip Rockton by 10 points.

A huge congratulations to all of our cross country participants and to the staff of Bombala High School for making it happen. Also a big thankyou to the Bombala Golf club Committee for allowing us to use their wonderful facility.

The Zone competition will be held this Friday at Wolumla in which the top two place getters in each of our age groups are allowed to attend. We will be asking for parental assistance with transport. Please advise if your child would like to attend and if you can assist with transport.

Emma Sullivan

Anzac day Speech
by Keiren Rodwell

Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. Every step toward the goal of Justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle and the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals.
These words by Martin Luther King Jnr strike me in particular today as we remember those dedicated Australian individuals whose tireless exertions and passionate concern protected our way of life.

As a young boy Anzac day was of great importance to me. It was a day to pay our respects to people who have fought in wars particularly those who served valiantly at Gallipoli. But being of a young age I didn’t completely understand the significance of this day. As I would pin my Rosemary to my school shirt and march behind the returned soldiers I would reflect upon the stories that I had heard about war. Some of these were glorious tales of courage whilst others were wrought with terror. It wasn’t until I became the same age as these soldiers that were travelling to a foreign country to fight in a war that the true extent of their sacrifice hit me. I, like many other young Australians today, believe Anzac day is a day that many consider the emotional birth of Australia. The day we stood up for ourselves and the initiation of the words ‘ANZAC’ and ‘digger.’ These words are solidified within all Australians. They resonate with power and created the hardworking image of what we are today.

For we are mates, due to the Anzacs that fought almost one hundred years ago, because as mates they banded together in the face of adversity. Their heads were bloody but not bowed. For Anzacs showed an example, created a reputation and developed a code that we as Australian’s pride ourselves on to this day.

One of the most revered symbols of Gallipoli was the Lone Pine. The lone pine was a single tree in the battlefield. This tree observed one of the greatest battles between the Turks and the Anzacs. The Battle of Lone Pine raged for three days and accounted for a total of two thousand Australian casualties and six to seven thousand Turks. The pines surrounding our cenotaph are a representation of this Lone Pine. Many seeds from the Lone Pine in Gallipoli were taken and transported back to Australia. These seeds were planted in parks, gardens, schools and memorials all around Australia. These pines are a representation of our soldiers. They remind us of the sacrifice that the Anzacs made and continue to watch over us as a symbol of strength and courage that was displayed upon those three days. The lone Pine can be likened to that of an Anzac soldier. Strong in the face of terror, silent in the face of adversity and never willing to fray away from the protection of future generations.

Veronica Roth once said that “There are many ways to be brave in this world. Sometime bravery involves laying down your life for something bigger than yourself, or for someone else. Sometimes it involves giving up on everything you have ever known, or everyone that you ever loved, for the sake of something greater.” I believe that this quote exemplifies the qualities of two young men that I would like to introduce to you today.

The first is, Private Arthur George Davis, who fought in the 1st battalion of the AIF. He was 24 years old when he enlisted. He Enlisted on the 18th October 1914, and was killed in action at Lone Pine, Gallipoli on the 20th of November 1915 when he was killed instantly by shell shrapnel which struck his head. He was buried at Shell Green Cemetery. On his circular (a form the family filled out when a soldier died), his parents described him as someone who was always active and took an interest in sport, and was a noted footballer in the district- much like the young men of Bombala today.

The second young man is Private James Lawrence Way. Born in Cragie, James Lawrance Way was almost 23 when he enlisted in 1916. He attended St Joseph Primary School as a child and was a labourer before the war. He joined up as part of the 6th Field Ambulance Australian Army Medical Corps. During his service, he saw active duty in both the French and Belgian battlefields of the Western Front. During his time he was awarded the Military Medal for Bravery under fire. He was killed in action in Belgium on the 5th November 1917, and is now buried at Whooge Crater Cemetery.

Both of these men were born, raised and lived in or around the community of Bombala. As a student at Bombala High School and recently turning 18, these men were not much older than my friends and I are today. Ahead of them were future opportunities fraught full of life experiences. However as 23 year old young men they made a choice, a choice to respond to the call of duty and protect our country.
I have the greatest admiration and respect for this. For when evaluating my own life and contemplating if I
could make this choice, could I have done it?
Thankfully due to people such as these two men, the people of Australia don’t have to make this decision
and face the terrors and trauma of war.
We are able to live in freedom built upon the back of these men and women as they defended not only our
country but future generations. So that now, almost one hundred years since the beginning of World War 1
we pay our respects to our forefathers and foremothers. For we owe them everything. For these men’s
sacrifice in 1915 and the men and women that have died in conflict protecting Australia since its first days, I
thank you.
We all thank you. As the old pass and the young grow old, may we remember the fallen in conflict and
never forget the sacrifice they have made.
We will remember them.
Lest we forget.

NEWS FROM THE TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT OFFICER

2014 Stocktake of DER Laptops Completed

Thank you to all staff and students for logging on to their laptops last term for
the electronic stocktake of all DER devices (years 10 to 12 and teacher
devices). Bombala High School recorded a 100 % completion rate on all
these devices within the required time frame. Well Done.

Laptop Sleeves for Sale

I now have a new supply of padded laptop sleeves for sale if anyone needs a replacement. They are ideal
for all model Lenovo ThinkPad laptops and are well suited to protecting your laptop whilst at school, on the
bus and travelling home in your bag. The price on these is only $15 each as this quality brand can retail up
to $30 in stores. Please pay at the front office then see me to pick one up.

Replacement Laptop Chargers for Sale

I will be submitting an order shortly for some replacement laptop chargers to suit all Lenovo ThinkPad
laptops. Please let me know if you need a new charger. The price on these has increased so the cost to
you is $37.00. If you have lost or misplaced or charger you can loan one from myself or the Library but
they are a daily loan only.

Thank you

Kathleen Platts
Technology Support Officer
Attention Year 12 -

NEW 2015 INFORMATION FROM:
University of Technology Sydney
Charles Sturt University
University of NSW
University of Canberra
Australian Catholic University
La Trobe University

Please see Donna if you need any more information on any University or Course. I will update brochures when more arrive from other institutions.
Fire & Rescue NSW is hosting its annual Open Day on Saturday 17 May 2014 between 10:00am and 2:00pm.
You are invited to watch fire safety demonstrations, extrication techniques for road crashes (cutting up vehicles) hop aboard a fire truck, learn about becoming a fire fighter and get an information bag while chatting with fire fighters about fire safety and what they do.
Winter is just around the corner and it’s the worst time of the year for house fires, so come along and learn as much as you can.
This is a fantastic opportunity for young people and their parents to meet their local fire fighters and learn as much as you can about home fire safety.
Don’t leave fire safety to chance this winter – click on this link - 2014 Open Day Participating Stations to find your local Fire Station and join us on Saturday 17 May 2014.