

# BOURKE HIGH SCHOOL



## Term 3, Week 9 Newsletter



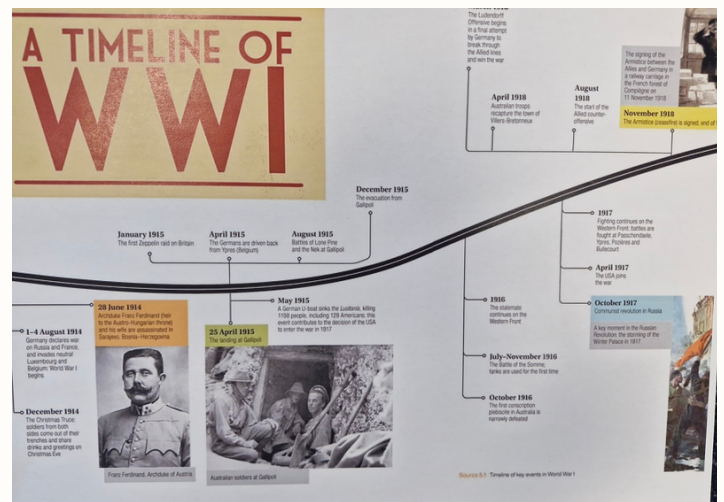
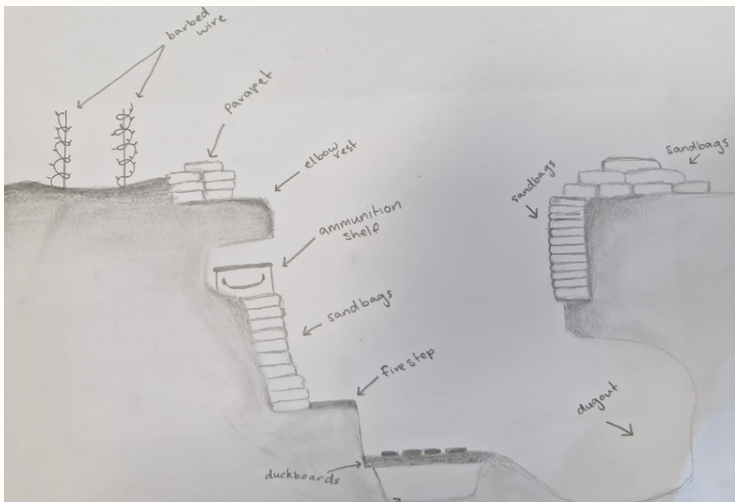
### *Year 9 History*



In our recent study of the First World War, Year 9 students engaged in a comprehensive three-part assessment designed to enhance their understanding of the Western Front Campaign. This assessment involved a combination of research, critical thinking, and creativity, structured as follows:

#### 1. Timeline of Key Dates

Students created a detailed timeline that outlined the major events and battles of the Western Front Campaign. This timeline included significant moments such as the Battle of the Somme, the Battle of Verdun, and the use of new military technology like tanks and gas warfare. The timeline helped students understand the chronological sequence of events and the prolonged nature of trench warfare. Students were encouraged to include dates, brief descriptions, and the impact of each event on the course of the war.

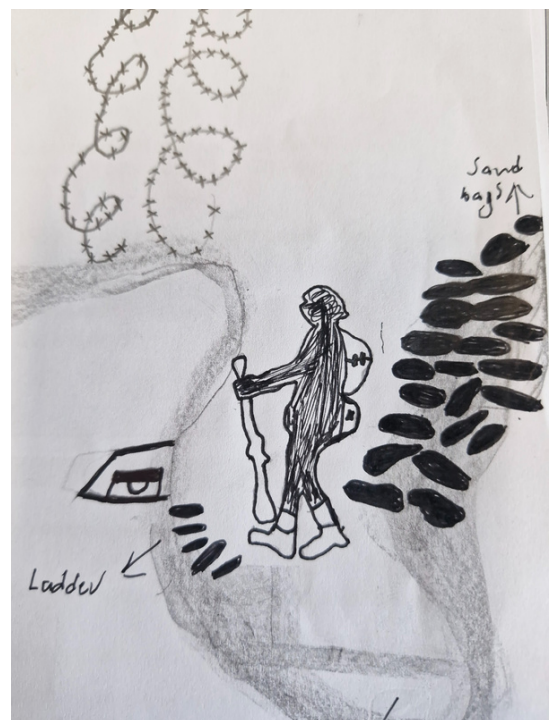


## 2. Detailed Description of One Event

For this part, students selected a single event from the Western Front to explore in depth. They researched the causes, main actions, and consequences of their chosen event, providing a comprehensive written description. For example, a student might focus on the Battle of Passchendaele, discussing the harsh conditions, the strategic objectives, and the human cost. This task developed students' skills in historical inquiry, evidence evaluation, and written communication.

## 3. Model or Visual Representation of a Trench

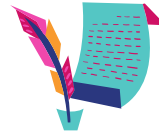
To bring the realities of trench warfare to life, students designed and constructed a model or created a visual representation of a trench system. This could be a physical model using materials like cardboard and clay or a detailed drawing or digital design. The models illustrated key features such as dugouts, barbed wire, firing steps, and communication trenches. This hands-on project provided insight into the daily challenges faced by soldiers, including living conditions, defensive strategies, and the impact of geography on warfare.



# Bourke High School Sparks Creativity with Author Visit.



## Thanks to WestWords



Thanks to the generous support of WestWords, Bourke High School had the exciting opportunity to work closely with acclaimed children's author and documentary maker Lisa Nicol. This unique experience not only enriched our students' love for writing but also allowed us to facilitate workshops for other local schools including Bourke Public School; St Ignatius Parish School; Enngonia Public School; Louth Public School; Wanaaring Public School; Girilambone Public School; and Hermidale Public School, spreading the joy of storytelling throughout our community.

During her visit, Lisa engaged Bourke High School students in a series of imaginative and thought-provoking activities. Students crafted "I Am" poems, invented mysterious cryptids, imagined conversations between inanimate objects, and tackled a seven-minute automatic writing challenge inspired by the prompt "cloud detective." These creative exercises sparked enthusiasm and inspired students to experiment boldly with their writing.

It was truly wonderful to see students fully engaged, and producing remarkable work under Lisa's guidance.

The impact of the visit was reflected in the heartfelt feedback from our students:

- "I really enjoyed the author visit. Lisa was really nice and I learnt a lot from having her come out to see us. I hope she can come back next time."
- "Lisa was amazing; I learnt a lot from her. I hope she can come back. She's so nice to us and it felt welcoming from her."
- "Working with the author was nice. I hope we could do more like this."
- "I'm grateful for the author who came out and it was a wonderful experience. So thank you Lisa for coming out to Bourke and for the wonderful time."

We extend our sincere thanks to WestWords for making this inspiring experience possible and to Lisa Nicol for her time, warmth, and creativity. We look forward to more opportunities like this to ignite our students' imaginations and nurture their writing skills.

Miss McGuigan  
Librarian



# Year 7 & 8 Cultural Excursion to Toorale

Our Years 7 and 8 students recently had the wonderful opportunity to take part in an Aboriginal Cultural Excursion at Toorale National Park. This special day gave students the chance to connect with First Nations Country and culture in an engaging and meaningful way.

Guided by our Aboriginal cultural educators Bruce Turnbull and Missie Prince, students explored the park's rich environment and learned about traditional land management practices, flora and fauna, and the deep spiritual connection Aboriginal peoples have with the land. They were able to see how cultural knowledge has been passed down through generations, and how these traditions continue to play an important role today.

Highlights of the excursion included a guided walk through the Toorale old Homestead and the riverbank, storytelling and identifying and collecting bush tucker plants. Students were shown traditional fishing techniques and had a chance to try yabbying in the river. Students were also encouraged to reflect on the importance of respecting and caring for Country, and how Aboriginal cultural practices provide valuable lessons for sustainability.

We would like to thank Bruce Turnbull, Missie Prince, Patto and Keenan, our cultural educators, who generously shared their knowledge, and the teachers Mr O'Connor, Mr Phillips who supported the day.

Ms Matthews  
LOTE Teacher







# Year 10 - Celebrations

Year 10 Food Technology students have been exploring the theme of Celebrations this term.

To conclude their studies, they created celebration cakes inspired by various themes. The cakes look absolutely fabulous—well done, Year 10!

Mr Enright  
Hospitality Teacher





# FROGS



Our Year 10 Science students recently participated in a hands-on biology lesson, dissecting frogs to explore anatomy and body systems.

This activity gave students an up-close look at how organs such as the heart, lungs, and digestive system work together to sustain life.

Working in small groups, students carefully followed lab procedures and applied the skills they have developed throughout the term.

Many found it fascinating to observe the structures they had previously only read about.





# Principal's Report

Dear Parent and Caregivers,

The end of the term is getting very close and we are thrilled to congratulate all Year 12 students on reaching the significant milestone of completing their education journey. The hard work, dedication, and resilience have truly paid off, and we couldn't be prouder of your achievements. To celebrate this momentous occasion, we warmly invite the community of Bourke to join us for the Year 12 Graduation Assembly at the school's MPC on Thursday 25 September at 10.00am. This special event will be a wonderful opportunity to honour our graduates, reflect on their accomplishments, and share in the joy of their success. We look forward to seeing you there to support and celebrate our amazing Year 12 cohort. We will also be welcoming our incoming 2026 School Captains during this assembly.

We would like to extend our appreciation to all the parents, students, and staff who participated in our recent Subject Selection Evening for Stages 5 and 6. Your engagement and support are invaluable in helping our students make informed choices about their academic pathways. We appreciate the time and effort everyone invested to ensure a smooth and successful event. Together, we continue to foster a positive and collaborative environment that empowers our students to achieve their best. Thank you for being part of this important step in our students and your child's educational journey. A big thank you to Mrs. McCorkle for all of her hard work in readiness for this event.

We would like to recognise Bruco, Missie, and Ms. Matthews for their efforts during the recent cultural excursions to Toorale National Park. Their knowledge, guidance, and dedication greatly enriched the experience for all students, providing a deeper understanding and appreciation of the cultural significance of the land. This excursion was a meaningful opportunity to connect with our shared heritage, and we are grateful to Bruco, Missie, and Ms. Matthews for making it such a memorable and educational experience for our Year 7 and 8 students.

We are excited to announce that at next Thursday's regular morning assembly, we will be holding a special iPad draw to celebrate students who have achieved 100% attendance this term. Every student who has attended 100% this term will be eligible to go into the draw. This is our way of recognising and rewarding the dedication and commitment of our students to their learning. Make sure to keep up the great work and attend school every day for your chance to win this fantastic prize. We look forward to celebrating your achievements at the assembly!

It would be remiss of me if I did not recognise the work of Miss Amanda Smith who has had an exceptionally busy last few weeks. As the Year 12 Advisor, working with students, external stakeholders and school staff to ensure the current year 12 students are organised for their graduation and formal along with everything else incorporated with finishing high school, has been a monumental task. Add to this supporting the Year 12 Visual Arts students to complete their Body of Works final practical HSC assessment as well as wrap and have them sent off to Sydney for marking. I know the students and their families appreciate your passion and dedication.

I'd also like to congratulate Bourke Public School on their fantastic Performance Evening on Tuesday night. It was a great show of talent from students (and of course staff) and it was a pleasure to be able to support Mrs. Wade and her team to run such a wonderful community event. I am already looking forward to the 2026 event!

As we come to the end of another successful term, I would like to sincerely thank our students, staff, and families for their hard work, dedication, and support. Your collective efforts have contributed to a positive and thriving school community, and we are proud of all that we have achieved. We wish everyone a safe, restful, and enjoyable holiday period, and we look forward to welcoming you back refreshed and ready for the exciting opportunities ahead in the new term. The school term starts on Tuesday 14 October for students.

Trent Graham  
Executive Principal



**Family and friends of Year 12, and members of  
the Bourke Community are invited to attend  
Year 12's Farewell Assembly**

*Year 12 2025*  
**GRADUATION**

**ASSEMBLY**

**Thursday 25th September 2025**

**10am**

**Bourke High School MPC**

*Year 12 would appreciate your support  
to help celebrate this milestone*

# 2025

## Bourke Spring School Holiday Calendar



**SAT  
27  
SEP**

### Wanaaring Gymkhana, Bikekhana, Mini Bull Ride and Family Fun Day

Wanaaring  
Contact: Snow Payne 0477 041 320

**MON  
29  
SEP**

### StormCo Kids Club

Bourke Pool  
2pm to 4:30pm

**TUE  
30  
SEP**

### StormCo Kids Club

Bourke Pool  
2pm to 4:30pm

**WED  
01  
OCT**

### StormCo Kids Club

Bourke Pool  
2pm to 4:30pm

**THU  
02  
OCT**

### Lego Fun

Bourke Library  
From 10am  
Contact Jodi Hatch 6872 2751

### StormCo Kids Club

Bourke Pool  
2pm to 4:30pm

### Unites At PCYC

Bourke PCYC  
5pm to 9pm



**FRI  
03  
OCT**

### Unites At PCYC

Bourke PCYC  
5pm to 9pm

### Hungerford Sports Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana

Hungerford  
Whole weekend event - starts at 6pm Friday  
Contact: Stacey Keane 07 4655 4828

**SAT  
04  
OCT**

### Hungerford Sports Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana

Hungerford  
Contact: Stacey Keane 07 4655 4828

**SUN  
05  
OCT**

### Hungerford Sports Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana

Hungerford  
Contact: Stacey Keane 07 4655 4828

**TUE  
07  
OCT**

### Family Fun Day

Bourke Pool  
From 12pm  
Free pool entry for children aged 3-16.  
Any child under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult over the age of 18.  
Contact: Nadine Mc Nulty from Thiyamali 6872 2440

**WED  
08  
OCT**

### Sacred Sports

Bourke High School Multipurpose Centre  
9am to 3pm

**THU  
09  
OCT**

### Sacred Sports

Bourke High School Multipurpose Centre  
9am to 3pm

### Craft at Bourke Library

From 10am  
Contact: Jodi Hatch 6872 2751

### Welcome Baby to Bourke

Darling Park  
From 11am  
Contact: Pat Canty 0409 246 712

### Unites At PCYC

Bourke PCYC  
5pm to 9pm

**FRI  
10  
OCT**

### Sacred Sports

Bourke High School Multipurpose Centre  
9am to 3pm

### Unites At PCYC

Bourke PCYC  
5pm to 9pm

**SAT  
11  
OCT**

### Back o' Bourke Stampede

Bourke Showground From 3pm  
'Cow Kids Hour' @ Rodeo TBC





**The Bourke Local AECG  
Annual General Meeting  
Will be held at St Ignatius on  
Wednesday, 15th October 2025  
at 3:30pm - Please Join Us!**



**New South Wales  
Aboriginal Education  
Consultative Group Inc.**

## Upcoming Events

- **25<sup>th</sup> Sept** – Year 12 Graduation Assembly @ 10:00am
- **26<sup>th</sup> Sept** – Last day for Year 12
- **29<sup>th</sup> Sept to 10<sup>th</sup> Oct** – School Holidays
- **13<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Staff Development
- **14<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Students Return

## After School Homework Club

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday  
in library until 4:30pm

# BOURKE HIGH SCHOOL

