



# DONNYBROOK DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

An Independent Public School

PRINCIPAL – James Milne

Dear Parent/Carer

## YEAR 10 ENGLISH: 9/10 class

Students will be reading 'The Happiest Refugee'. We will discuss the novel at times in class; Mrs Kidd will complete the novel tasks on a Thursday afternoon. It is important that your child reads ahead of the chapters set each week so they can complete the workbook activities independently. Mrs Kidd will continue to take students for one other period a week in Library, which will enable students to read either their English class novel or their chosen novel. All students should be able to read two novels within a term. **The major assessment for Reading will be completion of the booklet and a major written piece in Week 9 based on the class novel.**

Writing and Creating assessments will include a Famous Australian Biography, to be delivered as a speech, and a characterisation based on viewing the mockumentary "We Can Be Heroes". Students will upgrade their Resumes and complete another letter of Work Application.

For **Viewing**, we will watch a number of short YouTube clips, segments of documentaries, news clips and advertisements relating to the Australian theme.

The homework and assignment information will also be placed fortnightly on the school's website for parents to access. All major assessments have an assessment rubric, based on the Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline. It is a student's responsibility to ensure they have correctly followed the criteria. This is a process of self-reflection for improvement.

Students are asked to share their assessment rubrics with their parent/carer after they have been marked by me. Parents can then see where their son/daughter needs to improve and contact me by email if necessary. The homework is usually consistent: research where necessary, home reading and completion of assessment pieces to polish a final draft completed at school. It is hoped that all students will recognise their own responsibility for learning and time management. It is important for students to gain fluency in skills taught explicitly within class time; homework revision enables me to see whether students have gained concepts and internalized the skills needed for them to make progress. Please support your son or daughter with organising homework and assessments to be completed. I cannot stress enough the importance of achieving C grades or above for successful future schooling.

I am available each morning before school to help students and on a lunchtime break by arrangement. The library is open most days for your child to access computers. **There is little excuse for late homework or assignments.** If there *is* a valid excuse, can you please send a letter to me outlining the reason/s. I am always willing to grant an occasional extension to a student who is normally a very hard worker. Be reminded that 10% mark is lost for everyday an assessment is late.

Students should continue utilising the computer programme '**Wordflyers**' which it is a comprehensive, high-interest reading comprehension, spelling, grammar, punctuation and writing programme set at each student's level of ability.

Please don't hesitate to contact me by phone or email (Anthea.Horton@education.wa.edu.au) with any information or concerns about your son or daughter. Could you please sign the permission slip below for your son to view the mockumentary "We Can Be Heroes".

Senior Campus - 10 Bentley Street, Donnybrook WA 6239 Phone: 9731 1060

Junior Campus - 58 Mead Street, Donnybrook WA 6239 Phone: 9731 1557

**WEB ADDRESS:** [www.donnybrook.wa.edu.au](http://www.donnybrook.wa.edu.au)

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Regards,

Anthea Horton  
Donnybrook District High School  
English teacher

Wednesday, 10 May 2017

I give permission for my son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_ to view the mockumentary,  
(STUDENT NAME)  
‘We Can Be Heroes’, rated M for English in Term 2, 2017

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(PARENT SIGNATURE)

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