



# DONNYBROOK DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

An Independent Public School

PRINCIPAL – James Milne

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to inform you of your child's work program for Term 2. The NAPLAN Language and Conventions and Writing tests will be held on Tuesday, May 9th, and the Reading test will be on Wednesday, 10th May. The first two weeks of term will be spent revising and practising skills for these tests.

**READING:** Students will be given the novel *Lion* in week one, which is an adaptation of Saroo Brierley's memoirs: *A Long Way Home*. This is in accordance with the Western Australian Curriculum focus on Asian literature. Once again, students may choose to read this during Mrs Kidd's library period or at home, or a combination of both, as well as being given a small amount of time in my class. It is imperative that all students read regularly at home, in order to improve their skills. The novel must be completed by the end of Week 7 so that students can complete their booklets to hand in for assessment for Semester 1 reports. We will also read selected short stories and poetry relating to the novel's themes.

**VIEWING:** After viewing the movie *Gallipoli*, we will be watching youtube clips and current events relevant to the novel's content and themes. Towards the end of term, we will view the movie *Lion* in order to discuss the similarities and differences between the two genres.

**WRITING:** We will be revising both narrative and persuasive techniques used in writing a Persuasive Essay and a Narrative in order to practise for NAPLAN. We will be using the NAPLAN marking criteria for each of these so that students are very aware how they are assessed. Students will continually be completing short and extended responses based on their novel reading throughout this term. They will complete class tasks using 'Talk to the Photo' technique and also analyse some print visuals using ADAMANT.

**SPEAKING & LISTENING:** We will negotiate a topic for students to prepare their speech this term. This may be presented in front of the class, or may be a video completed at home. Students will listen to this year's Harmony Day National Debate on whether Australia is the most successful multi-cultural country in the world in order to discuss their own views.

**All students should fill out all homework and assessment task dates as shown on their rubric or on my whiteboard. Homework and assignment information will be placed on the school's website fortnightly 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 set criteria.** The homework continues to be completion of the Spelling/Vocabulary & Grammar homework each week, practising Wordflyers activities, research where necessary, home reading, and completion of assessment pieces to polish a final draft. It is hoped that all students will recognise their own responsibility for learning and gain the essential life skill of time management.

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, **so there is little excuse for late homework or assignments.** Students can also send me their assessment pieces at the email address below. If there *is* a valid excuse for your child's non-completion of work, can you please send a letter to me outlining the reason, I am always willing to grant an occasional extension to a student who is normally a very hard worker.

**The Year 9 Exam will be in Week 6; more details on the required revision will be in the homework sheet before this week.**

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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Could you please sign the permission slip below for your son/daughter to view the movie **Gallipoli** and **Lion** for this term. I also hope to involve some cultural activities within our class program this term. If you know of anyone of Indian heritage, I would appreciate an email or phone call to assist me to make this novel even more meaningful for students.

**Please don't hesitate to contact me by 'phone or email at [Anthea.Horton@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Anthea.Horton@education.wa.edu.au) with any information or concerns about your son or daughter.**

Kind regards,

Anthea Horton  
English

Wednesday, 10 May 2017

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I give permission for my son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_ to view "Gallipoli" and "Lion",  
(STUDENT NAME)  
rated PG for English in Term 2, 2017.

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

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