Dear Parents and Students

Camp Gallipoli is a not-for-profit organisation, which has planned an international event that will be a once in a lifetime experience, focusing on the Centenary Commemoration of the 25 April, 1915 landings at ANZAC Cove.

This event will feature at least nine campsites around Australia and New Zealand, with each site having a historical link to Gallipoli, WW1 and other theatres of war. Camp Gallipoli is a big overnight camp that will be educational, informative and respectfully entertaining. It will consist of documentaries, live concerts, a special ceremony involving the Waler Horse Society and the Anzac Flame. The following morning the RSL will be holding a dawn service at the venue. All of these aspects will be exposing students to a unique commemoration that has not been previously experienced in Australia. The venues will allow families, schools and community groups to camp out under the stars, just as the original Anzacs did 100 years ago. In Victoria, the event will be held at the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds.

For all Australians and New Zealanders, Camp Gallipoli will be a respectful, unforgettable and moving tribute to all soldiers who have fought in the war. Camp Gallipoli is driven by the 11,000 voices of the Australian and New Zealand soldiers lost in battle at ANZAC cove in 1915.

The Camp Gallipoli experience will provide our students with a deeper understanding of what it means to serve one’s country and to build a deep and lasting respect for all that our forefathers did to allow us to live in freedom and prosperity.

We have been able to secure 100 tickets at the special price of $115 per person (inc GST and return bus travel) for students to attend this special event on 24 and 25 April, 2015. The 100 students who take up this opportunity will camp together as a group at the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds under direct teacher supervision. The Camp Gallipoli experience will run from 4.00pm on Friday 24 April, with the event to conclude at 8.00am on Saturday 25 April.

We believe this will be a popular event for people to attend around the country. Ten thousand individuals will be able to attend this unique event in our state. A majority of these places have already been allocated but as stated we have reserved 100 places to ensure interested Williamstown High School students can attend.

To reserve your place please make full payment to either the Bayview or Pasco Campus office. The tickets will be allocated on a first in basis with equal representation from both campuses. Respectfully, it will be a case of those who book first will secure the 100 tickets our school has reserved. Detailed permission forms will be sent to participants and will need to be returned fully completed prior to the event. Further details regarding bus departure and return will also be provided to participants and families once the places have been finalised.

Please find attached advice on school group procedures and posters promoting the event.

Further information can be found on the website: www.campgallipoli.com.au
Families may also wish to purchase a limited edition Camp Gallipoli swag, details about this can be accessed on the Camp Gallipoli website.

THE EVENT
Camp Gallipoli Event program is designed to engage our youth, educate and entertain. The event schedule is:

24th April
• 3.00pm Campground opens
• 4.00pm Support Artist
• 5.00pm Documentaries
• 6.00pm Light Horse (the Waler) Procession
• 6.30pm ANZAC Flame
• 6.40pm Dinner
• 8.00pm Main Artist
• 9.00pm Movie Screening

25th April
• 5.30am (approx) Dawn Service
• 6.30am Breakfast
• 8.00am Campground closed

ENDORSEMENT
Camp Gallipoli has been endorsed by:
• The head of the ANZAC committee, Air Chief Marshall Angus Houston
• Minister for Education the Hon Christopher Pyne MP
• Senator The Hon Michael Ronaldson Minister for Veteran Affairs
• RSL
• Legacy

Please click on the link below for an ambassador’s clip

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bz_0m5vyDMU
Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further details. We forward to supporting interested Williamstown High School students in this special initiative.

Yours sincerely,

Gino Catalano
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Cathy Freeman OAM
Champion Olympic Gold Medalist

My Great Great (Grand) Father is an ANZAC, and I’m proud of him and of the other ANZACs and the current service men and women, who are a source of tremendous pride for us all. I encourage people to be a part of Camp Gallipoli and celebrate the centenary of the birth of the ANZAC spirit.

Shane Warne
Cricket Legend

ANZAC day - 25 April - Is probably Australia & New Zealand’s most important occasion. The ANZAC spirit that was born at Gallipoli will forever have a legacy in us all. The mateship and bond that our troops formed in horrific circumstances is something I highly respect. Camp Gallipoli provides the platform for all mates to come together and pay tribute to all men and women who have served and currently serving.

Sir Richard Hadlee MBE
New Zealand Sporting Great

During my five years at Christchurch Boy’s High School, commemorating the ANZAC Day Service was a special and somber moment. Listening to the names of those who had attended the school and lost their lives during a war made me reflect on the sacrifices they made so we could all be free of oppression.

Johnathan Thurston
Rugby League champion, co-captain North QLD Cowboys

I’ve learned there were 30 brave Indigenous men who fought at Gallipoli and they helped make Australia what it is today, with the freedoms that we all take for granted. It’s incredibly important that we never forget those sacrifices and that we continue to honour those who served in the past and our current service personnel who are continuing such an outstanding tradition.
Leisel Jones OAM
Australian Olympic gold medalist swimmer
Australia really is the lucky country thanks to our fallen heroes. I am a very proud Australian and I am grateful for our freedom.

Maggie Beer AM
Senior Australian of the Year 2010. Culinary icon
Every year the dawn service was something that Dad attended and then we were allowed to go and watch the march in the city. I remember always having a vantage point up high and my dad with his wooden leg marching proudly with the others. It always brought tears to my eyes the sheer emotion of it; the pride and the comradeship of friends.

Darren Lehmann
Australian Cricket Coach
Camp Gallipoli is a wonderful organisation that provides an opportunity for all Australian and New Zealand Families to bond together, learn, pay respect, have fun whilst commemorating one of the most significant days in our history.

Mitchell Johnson
Australian Cricketer, 2014 Allan Border medalist
As mates and as teammates, we understand that we are only as strong as we are united. With the support of our family and friends the ANZAC spirit will continue to be a part of us all. Camp Gallipoli is all about mateship, family, courage and respect.

Ryan Harris
Australian Cricketer
The ANZAC spirit is what bonds Aussies and Kiwis, and makes us unique. This spirit needs to be celebrated with families and mates coming together at one of the great Camp Gallipoli venues. It is the most important commemoration that will happen in your lifetime. Let’s get together and create history!

Natalie Von Bertouch
Champion Australian Netballer, Diamonds former captain
I think it is important that all Australians take the time to remember the ANZAC spirit, & for young people to learn & understand our country’s past. The 100 years of ANZAC celebration is a great opportunity to encourage all Australians to remember our service men & women & to celebrate the ANZAC spirit that lives on in our country.

Shannon Noll
Aussie music icon
Being a parent, I understand the importance of teaching our children about ‘mateship’, the true spirit of Anzac Day. Camp Gallipoli is a wonderful opportunity to experience ANZAC Day in a way that our children will understand and hopefully find real heroes to respect and admire and most of all remember.

Jobe Watson
AFL Champion, Brownlow Medalist, Essendon captain
Anzac Day to me. A chance to honor and remember those people who have served and are serving to protect the freedoms that we as Australians cherish. To be a part of a day the we remember people who have made the ultimate sacrifice and given their lives for us is incredibly humbling.