Dear Colleagues,

As I am writing this most of you are on your break between terms 3 & 4. The coming term is traditionally quieter as Year 12 has left and the HSC is about to commence. However, it is a bit deceptive. In reality we are all working hard with the incoming Year 12 and doing timetables, allocations and setting ourselves up for next year. It is a time for programming and reflecting on the great work that has taken place in your faculties in 2014. However, it is good to remember that the Christmas holidays are not far off and that 2015 is just around the corner with new classes and new challenges to be faced.

I am really pleased to welcome Peter Wilson to the HSIE team. He will be starting in Term 4 taking on the role of Australian Curriculum History Advisor, 7-10. He is coming to us from Homebush Boys High School and I am sure he will be a great asset to the team.

The discussion about the direction of the Senior History syllabuses is still ongoing. There have been some really positive suggestions as to the future direction of these documents, but this is a long term initiative and so no decisions have been made.

Please remember if you come across any good web sites that you think another teacher might be able to use, email them to me and I will add them to our Pinterest boards.

Have a great month.

Alana Ellis
News Update

ClassMovies

The Department’s partnership with ClassMovies allows NSW public schools to create short videos of innovative teaching practices and school programs. Raw footage captured by the schools will be professionally edited in order to bring your story to life in the best possible way. We are looking for schools who are delivering curriculum in exciting and innovative ways, resulting in rich learning experiences for students. We are particularly interested in best practice examples of integrated learning and differentiated learning that engage our diverse student population in authentic learning experiences.

If this sounds like your school, please contact Amanda Lee (Amanda.Lee18@det.nsw.edu.au or 9244 5484) to discuss a possible focus area for a documentary. If you fit the bill, there will be no cost involved for your school, just the opportunity to show NSW Public Schools how you are inspiring your students every day.

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Literacy and Numeracy

I would like to thank the Educational Service Teams and educators that I have had the privilege to work with over the last month. Being part of the Literacy Team from State Office, we have had the opportunity to visit Coffs Harbour and Bathurst as well as the teams here in Sydney to establish secondary leaders across the state and discuss incorporating the literacy continuum into classroom practice. It was amazing seeing the enthusiasm and good work that is currently in schools. The groups we worked with made us feel welcomed and were willing to become active participants in networking with other schools to ensure that all students have access to high literacy standards. Why don’t you get together with your colleagues and map out the literacy skills that are needed in your subjects? Start the professional discussion on strategies that may help your students succeed.

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BOSTES

HSC examination

The 2014 Higher School Certificate timetable has been released. The exams start on 13 October and go to 5 November. For some of the exams in the HSIE area students are entitled to bring equipment into the exam and it is important that our students are aware of these.
The dates for HSIE exams are:

- 15 October – Ancient History
- 21 October – Modern History and Aboriginal Studies
- 23 October – Business Studies
- 24 October – Economics
- 28 October – Studies of Religion
- 29 October – Legal Studies
- 31 October – Society and Culture
- 4 November – Geography and History Extension

For further information about the exams go to BOSTES.

Work Studies Stage 6 Additional Support Materials

Additional support materials for the Work Studies Stage 6 Board Endorsed Course are now available. The support materials include sample student activities, worksheets, work placement logbook and assessment tasks as well as teacher resource lists and sample teaching programs.

For more information, contact:
Jennifer Lawless
Inspector, HSIE
jennifer.lawless@bostes.nsw.edu.au
(02) 9367 8151

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Professional Development Opportunities

Through this newsletter, we hope to let colleagues know about professional teachers’ association conferences as they come to hand.

- **HTAA National Conference** - Brisbane on 30 September – 2 October. Please find more details at their site.

- **Save the Date – History Extension Seminar**
  
  **DATE:** Thursday 6 November  
  **VENUE:** Museum of Sydney and State Library  
  **CLOSING DATE:** 28 August

- **The Graduate Certificate Asia scholarship** (funded by NALSSP) will be offered again in 2015 through the ANU and we need to inform as many eligible teachers about this opportunity as possible. The scholarship will fund course fees to complete the Graduate Certificate in Teaching Asia Program through the Australian National University (delivered via video conference) and relief days to attend intensive seminars. Applications close at 5:00pm on Friday, 14 November 2014. This program provides teachers with a broad introduction to the study of Asia. Through this program students will gain an understanding of cultural, political, linguistic, historical and societal issues that pertain to Asia, as well as an understanding of how to teach these issues to their primary and high-school pupils. It is expected that teaching and learning units of work will be developed as a result of completing the graduate certificate. On successful completion of the Scholarship program, teachers will graduate with the award of Graduate Certificate in Teaching Asia. This may qualify for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) toward a Masters of Education (Studies of Asia). All primary
teachers and secondary teachers of Creative Arts, English, Languages or HSIE who have been permanently employed by the DEC for 2 years or more are eligible to apply.

- **Geography Teachers Professional Development Conference** is being held in Rotorua, New Zealand, 11-16 January 2015. For further information go to the Australian Geography Teachers Association and follow the prompts.

- **Secondary History Teachers Summer School Canberra** 18-23 January 2015. UNSW Canberra is hosting a Secondary History Teachers Summer School in January 2015 as part of its Australian Centre for the Study of Armed Conflict and Society outreach activities in the Centenary of WW1. Successful applicants will spend the week working with Australia’s most senior, active and productive military historians to develop knowledge, pedagogy and resources relevant to the national curriculum.

Teaching associations are vital in providing professional development for teachers and study days for students. I recommend that, if your school is not already a member, you join the professional associations available and become active in the roles they play to enhance the teaching and learning taking place in NSW schools.

**Useful Links/Resources**

If you wish to get in contact with your local Educational Services Team for assistance, but you are not sure who the right person would be, I have included a link which will allow you to search for your local team and to find the appropriate person for your school and your issue.

If you are teaching the migrant experience, I encourage you to have a look at the Italian migrant community in the Illawarra region. Their site is a virtual tour around their lives and contribution to Australian society and can be found at [http://www.vmiii.com.au/](http://www.vmiii.com.au/)

If you wish to investigate the teaching of financial literacy in your school, please get in contact with Colleen Blancato or have a look at the website for resources. The teaching package together with all online resources is available at: [https://www.moneysmart.gov.au/teaching](https://www.moneysmart.gov.au/teaching)

For further information colleen.blancato@det.nsw.edu.au (Ph: 02 9266 8963).

The University of Newcastle has produced a new site to help students with understanding the Higher School Certificate exam specifications. Take a look at the site and if you think your students can benefit from it, please feel free to share it with them.

Another site to visit is the Migration Heritage Centre. This site takes you on an evocative journey of the movement of people to Australia from the 1700s. Personal reflections are the key to this site as well as the government attitude and approach to the issue.

If you are planning an excursion centred on the environment, sustainability and even preservation and conservation of the environment, have a look at what the
Environmental Education Centres have to offer. There are centres across NSW which offer an alternative view of how to look at the environment and the way we use it. For a full list of the centres go to Environmental Education & Zoo locations.

To assist with the commemoration of the First World War there are several new websites available to schools to help students to come to an understanding of the conflict and its legacy. Some of these do come with a cost and so it is up to individual schools to decide which, if any, of the sites are suited to the learning needs of your students. Dynamic Learning Online has a good site where there are interviews with returned servicemen. There is also a photo gallery and video footage. Another site is called Honouring Anzacs. On this site there are lessons for students to complete and it allows the teacher to monitor the progress of their class. The students get to adopt an Anzac and then investigate his story and life. It is an interactive site and one I think students will enjoy, so have a look.

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Food for thought

For the teachers who are looking for accreditation, or if you just want to improve your own practice, at any level, have a look at the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership site. They provide teaching ideas on how to improve your teaching practice. I encourage all teachers to engage with the standards as a way of ensuring that you are holding yourself accountable for your practice. Even if you are not going to gain accreditation it is the language of the future and it provides good checks and balances for all teachers.

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Life skills support

In dealing with students who are pursuing Life Skills outcomes, think about how you can differentiate the learning to achieve success for these students. You also need to think about the style and method of assessment and to ensure that outcomes are being addressed, whilst catering for the learning needs of all students.

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Competitions

The Simpson Prize

A competition for Year 9 and 10 Students. This is an essay writing competition and the question this year is “To what extent did Australians enlist in 1914 to defend the ‘Mother Country’?” For further details go to the Simpson Prize. Entries close 17 October.

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Past editions of this newsletter

If you wish to receive any past copies of this newsletter please go to https://drive.google.com/#folders/0B5Yd-knKXeaLYndzeHdMOTFzeUU.

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If you do not wish to receive further eNewsletters or information from the HSIE
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Abode Syllabus PLUS: Australian Curriculum 7-10

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Professional Associations

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