Galen’s whole-school 2014 production *Hairspray* on the 24th, 25th and 26th of April has once again left everyone involved on a high with yet another success under the school’s belt. From the excellent sets to the extravagant wigs and costumes, some of which were specifically handmade for the show, *Hairspray* proved to be one of the most fun, fast-paced shows performed by the school. Students commenced work on *Hairspray* since the summer holidays. From learning lines, dance routines, and working on popular songs from the Broadway musical, students from Years 7 to 12 all played a part in the production. Included in this group of students are those who assist behind the scenes developing amazing sets, props and lighting to truly bring Baltimore 1962 to life. The production was once again directed by Mrs Julie Nolan who assisted in every aspect of the show and put in many hours to give us the opportunity to experience a successful production, as did Mr Paul Walker, Mr David Ashfield and Ms Beth Code.

Mrs Nolan also extended her thanks to, “Ms Christine Duff, Mrs Helen Faithfull, Mr Jeff Faithfull, Mr Mal Webster and Mrs Kylie Quin for their continued support.”

“I’m also very grateful for the support of the wonderful Galen teachers who continually enable us to provide our students with such a great opportunity.”

“Again the talent of the cast was exceptional and they were a delight to direct. With over 160 students involved either on the stage, behind the scenes or in the orchestra pit we have reached a new record and I am thrilled that the performing arts are so alive at Galen.”

*Hairspray* showcased various talents from students who delighted audiences for three evening performances and one matinee show. “One of the most rewarding elements of directing school musicals is watching the students grow and develop in both ability and confidence,” said Mrs Nolan.

The production was a blast to watch and even more enjoyable to perform in. As always, the whole school production will be a memorable highlight for a large number of Galen students and the broader school community.

Written by Mindi Suter
From the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We had an excellent Information Night for next year’s Year 7 students last Wednesday evening with around 400 people in attendance. Scheduled school tours started the following day, with four tours across Thursday and Friday, with another four to come on Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th.

Our current Year 7 & 8 students did a terrific job leading the tours, before bringing the parents and Grade 6 stents back for a one-on-one discussion with senior members of the staff.

Galen Board AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Glen Board took place last Thursday evening. At the AGM, we fare-welled and thanked parent representatives Angie Semmens and John Byrne (apology) after completing their terms of service. Long serving parent and community representative and Chair of the Galen Board, Tony Lane, also completed his term as a Board member. Tony will continue his connection with Galen through a number of different forums.

Parent representative, Mark Williams, has been appointed as Interim Chair of the Board.

I urge any parents who are interested in contributing to the life and development of Galen by serving on the Board to contact me at the school to discuss what is involved as a Board member and the process for appointment.

Year 8 Camp

Good luck to all those Year 8 classes who will be attending the Anglesea camp this week. The other half of the Year 8 classes will have their experience in a fortnight’s time.

NAPLAN testing

Along with thousands across the country, our Year 7 & 9 students will sit their NAPLAN tests on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Staff babies

It has been a great pleasure to congratulate two staff members on recently becoming first time parents. Mr James Bourke and his wife Meg are proud new parents of a son, William; and Mrs Kate Howard and her husband, Eddie, are equally proud of their new daughter, Iris. I am sure I speak for the whole Galen community in wishing both families every joy and blessing.

Best wishes,
Bernard Neal
Principal

Timor Leste Immersion 2015 Info Night
Wednesday May 14th - 7.00pm

If your child is interested in applying for the 2015 Timor-Leste Immersion there is an application form on Simon for students to access. There is an information night on Wednesday 14 May at 7.00 pm in the Galen Staff Room. Students from this years group will be making a presentation on the 2014 experience. If you would like to find out more, come along to the information night and collect an information booklet that outlines the details of the group.

Galen Parents’ Association

The next Parents’ Association meeting will be on Tuesday June 17th at 6.30pm.

The Parents’ Association is still looking for a new President. If you’d like to be directly involved with what’s going on at Galen, we’d love to have you on-board. Parents’ Association meets twice a Term, the 2nd Tuesday of each Term and the 2nd last Tuesday of each Term. It’s very rewarding being able to have a say on where Parents’ Association money is spent throughout the school. This year we will be looking at providing some shade shelters for the Year 9s... But we can only do this with your assistance. We would love to see you there!
Thank-you to the senior students who attended the Anzac Day March in Wangaratta. Your presence at this important event was appreciated by the Galen community.

• Senior students studying Italian enjoyed a wonderful Opera performance in Melbourne recently.

• Students who are interested in applying for the Macpherson Smith Rural Foundation (MSRF) please visit the following website: http://msrf.org.au/scholarship-and-programs/foundation-scholarship

The scholarships provide financial support of $15,000 per annum for three years, and also participation in mentoring and leadership development programs. The main selection criterion for the scholarship is “demonstrated leadership capacity or potential”. A maximum of 2 applications may be endorsed by any single school in any given year. DO NOT ACTUALLY FILL OUT THE APPLICATION just read the details. If you think you possess the credentials for this scholarship please forward your name to Mr. Grogan by May 15.

• Mid-year exams for Year 11 VCE classes are fast approaching. The Exam timetable currently in draft form is included in this Newsletter and has been forwarded to students. Students are encouraged to start their revision program (if they haven’t already begun) in preparation for these assessment tasks. VCAL classes and associated work placements will operate as normal. Year 12 VCE classes will operate as normal except for the day of the GAT when there are no Year 12 classes.

• Year 11 VCE Exams: June 6 – 13,
• GAT Exam for students doing a Unit 3 subject: June 11

Junior Bands Concert

Junior Bands Concert featuring Year 7 and Year 8 Bands.
• Date & Time: Monday June 2nd at 7pm
• Venue: Galen Auditorium
• Supper provided

The recent immersion trip to Timor Leste is the second time that we have taken students to Timor. This year the group departed at the end of Term One and returned at the end of the first week of the Term holidays. Those who attended were: Annie Brien, Amy Cook, Mehret Hill, Caitlin O’Callaghan, Clare Hogan, Hayley Stibilj who were accompanied by Beth Code, Lyndel Petersen and Jim Samon.

During our stay in Dili we visited the Santa Cruz Cemetery where many young East Timorese were massacred, the Chega Museum, the Resistance Museum and the Christo Rei Monument. The history of the Timorese peoples’ struggle for independence and the trauma and suffering that they have experienced over recent decades was moving and unsettling. The group learnt much about the Timorese history and politics that was very real when hearing stories of families still discovering the remains of missing relatives.

Seeing the sites of Dili and then travelling to Baucau where we settled in for the next 10 days was certainly eye opening in terms of taking in both beauty of the natural environment and the people and in contrast the harsh reality of peoples’ living conditions and the lack of infrastructure in Timor Leste.

The people of Baucau and Abafala are warm, genuine and very welcoming and we have made many friends. We were made to feel very special and the East Timorese were grateful for any time we spent with them. Overall, our Timor experience has been an extraordinary and significant one in which we feel honoured to have been able to take part. We also learnt to appreciate what we have and take for granted as well as seeing our faithful, hopeful and keen the Timor Leste people were.

Many thanks to those who supported our fundraising efforts. We know that the money raised will go a long way to providing resources at the school.

See page 8 of this edition of the newsletter for more photos and a special mention of our generous sponsors.
Hello everyone!

My name is Michela and I’m the new Italian Language Assistant at Galen College. I will stay here with you for the rest of the year, and I hope to have the chance to meet each of you.

I’m from Rome in Italy, a big city located in the centre of Italy, and where I have lived since I was born. I’m 27 years old, I have a Master’s Degree in Oriental Languages (Chinese), and I graduated last year at University ‘La Sapienza’ of Rome. I consider myself as a very versatile person since I have a lot of interests, for instance I like listening to and composing music, reading books, drawing and painting, and walking in nature.

I didn’t like attending school very much when I was a child, so I feel a little bit strange now being on the ‘other side’, but I really like and enjoy educational environments, so I’m definitely going to have a great time here. Thank you for reading and for giving me such a warm welcome!

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Engineers Without Borders

On Wednesday 23rd April Galen had a visit from a group of Melbourne University students working with the humanitarian group, Engineers Without Borders. The group took workshops with 45 of our Year 8 students building a functioning water filter out of common household materials.

The Engineers Without Borders aim to educate high school students about humanitarian engineering as a profession, and important global challenges such as water and sanitation, construction and climate change. The students enjoyed the day learning new skills and learning about the activities of Humanitarian Engineers.

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CEBU, PHILIPPINES
APPROX. DEC 1-14, 2014

Join other Year 12 students from across Sandhurst Diocese on a journey of discovery to the Philippines.

Information Evenings - 5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM
(Light Supper Provided)
3rd June: CEO, 71 Ryley Street, WANGARATTA
5th June: Monsignor Jeffrey Parish Centre, Knight Street, Shepparton
10th June: Marian Theatre, Catholic College, BENDIGO

Those interested in attending must register. Please copy this url into your browser: http://tinyurl.com/mqax46o

Enquiries to:
MICHAEL CROWE 0417 217059 - mcrowe@ceosand.catholic.edu.au
or DAVID WALKER 0439 201307 - dwalker@ceosand.catholic.edu.au

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Think outside the square -
Alternative Schoolies......

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Rotary Murray Darling Freshwater Research

Year 11 student Peter Williams recently had the great pleasure of attending the Rotary Murray Darling School of Freshwater Research during the last school holidays. He was one of two students chosen for the program from Wangaratta schools, which involved five days of hands-on science experience. “We had students from La Trobe University to assist over these days giving us advice on the activities we did. We sampled water quality, macrophages, and the habitat of native birds and fish”, explained Peter. The Program also took students to Charles Sturt University and La Trobe University where current university science students spoke to high school students about how they got into the science area of study. “The Program, (funded by The Rotary Club) has greatly assisted me in my understanding of the science field, particularly career options and the importance of sustainability and protecting the environment.”
Welcome back to everyone for Term 2. Well done to all those students who participated in the production and did Galen so proud. This Term, similar to all Terms at Galen is a very busy one. One focus at the start of this Term has been on responsibility. It started for Year 10’s with the Keys Please session and has continued with Leading Senior Constable Leon Higgins presentation on responsible use of social media and technology. This will be followed up further for Year 9’s with the Reach Foundations regional Forum, ‘DOT COM’. Technology has some wonderful benefits however parents and students must be vigilant with its use. Good luck to Year 10’s with preparation for their first mid year exams and work experience. Make sure you mark the following in your diary or calendar.

Year 9
- May 20 DOT COM Reach Foundation Presentation WPAC 9.30am-2pm
- May 21 Upper Hume Athletics
- May 21 Upper Hume Athletics
- May 23 Correction Day STUDENT FREE DAY
- June 9 Queens Birthday STUDENT FREE DAY
- June 10 Badminton
- June 16 Report Writing Day STUDENT FREE DAY
- June 18 Hume Cross county

Year 10
- May 6/7 Outdoor Education Bushwalk
- May 6 Girls Football
- May 15/16 Outdoor Education Bushwalk
- May 21 Extended homeroom Exam preparation
- May 21 Upper Hume Athletics
- May 21 Upper Hume Athletics
- May 23 Correction Day STUDENT FREE DAY
- May 28 Extended homeroom CPR testing
- June 4-6 Year 10 Exams
- June 9 Queens Birthday STUDENT FREE DAY
- June 10-13 Year 10 Work Experience
- June 10 Badminton
- June 16 Report Writing Day STUDENT FREE DAY
- June 18 Hume Cross county
- June 26 Bike Ed Outdoor Education

Vinnies Winter Sleepout
The Vinnies Winter Sleepout is being held at Galen on Friday 30th May. The sleepout provides participants with an opportunity to experience what it is like to be homeless by ‘sleeping rough’ for one night and encourages them to learn more about the problem they’re helping to solve. The group dynamic also creates a sense of solidarity and community commitment. Students wishing to participate can join our team via the link below and collect a permission form from Mrs Petersen or Mrs Doyle. Anyone wishing to donate to this fundraising can do so via the following link: http://vinniesschoolsleepout.gofundraise.com.au/page/galenvinniesschoolsleepout

Format for the evening:
- 6.30pm: Participants arrive – sign in and find a spot to sleep in the school stadium.
- 7pm: Dinner – soup, bread roll, tea and coffee.
- 8pm: Talk about homelessness from a guest speaker.
- 9.30pm: Movie, games, lights out!
- 6 – 7am: Basic Breakfast
- 7.30am: Breakfast Departure and event concludes.
Hume Tennis - 9/10 Boys

On Thursday 1st May, the Galen College Boys Team in the Year 9/10 Intermediate Division competed in the Hume region finals and were successful on the day. Some of the previous players from last year were not available, but this did not seem to have any impact on the players that were asked to step up for this event. All players showed great determination on the day and sportsmanship.

Sam Harvey was ranked number 1 for the day and played solidly in all games, having a very tough match against his opponent from Yarrawonga. Yarrawonga pushed Galen to the wire, but the boys dug deep to overcome the challenge in what would be the pivotal match that saw them hang on to make the state finals.

Henry Beck (Henri LeBeck) played some very powerful tennis to easily win each of his matches. Looks like Henri has put on plenty of muscle since last year and he served very consistently and powerfully all day to easily account for all opponents, only dropping a few games along the way.

Harry Condon was consistent throughout the day at number 3 and his sense of humour is always appreciated amongst the team. Harry has not played much tennis in the last twelve months but it did not take him long to get his touch back when on court.

Daniel Lloyd played number 4 and could have easily played much higher in the rankings. Daniel's consistency, despite not playing much tennis due to football commitments, was again his major strength as well as his determination to chase down every ball possible.

James Pasztor slotted in for the doubles and showed he is a very promising player indeed. He could very easily have filled any of the singles positions and never lost a doubles match he contested.

I would like to congratulate the boys on the sportsmanship they displayed during the day and we wish them all the best for the state finals later this month.

Written by Stephen Rosicka

Upper Hume Senior Girls Footy

On Wednesday 8th May the Galen girls senior football side competed in the Upper Hume Division competition at Martin Park in Wodonga.

There were 5 schools competing all up and Galen’s first match was against Marian College and the girls convincingly won 4-7-31 to 1-2-8.

The second match against rivals Wangaratta High School was much tougher and our girls were defeated 7-7-49 to 0-2-2.

Congratulations to Olivia Storer who won the Best on Ground Medalion. Other valuable players on the day were Kate Brown and Shivonne Watson.

Thanks to Jacqui Pengelly, Tess Rowland and Cody Schutt who provided students with expert coaching on the day.
Senior Boys
Upper Hume Soccer

On Wednesday 30th April, the senior boys ventured to Wodonga to play in the Upper Hume soccer competition. The boys started off well against Wodonga Senior Secondary College by winning 2 goals to 1 in a tight match. The second match against Catholic College Wodonga was also close, with Galen winning 1 goal to 0 to ensure their place in the Hume region soccer competition in Term 3.

The boys played very well defensively throughout the day, ensuring their opponents were always on the counter attack. Standout players on the day were the formidable backline of Daniel Banister and Alex McIntosh. Captain James McClounan and Alex Reid also played well in the midfield. Thanks to Pat Arcuri and Isaac Smith who coached and helped out with the team on the day.

State Swimming

Congratulations to the six girls who competed at the School Sport Victoria State Swimming Championships on the 29th April in Melbourne. The team of Kate Brown, Bridget Cole, Madison Pease, Jessie Gerrish, Shayla Leavett-Brown and Paige Cooper had an early start leaving Wangaratta at 7.00 am.

Year 12 student Kate Brown had an excellent day in the pool to end her swimming career, placing 2nd in the 50m butterfly, 3rd in the 50m breaststroke and 5th in the 200 individual medley. Bridget Cole was consistent throughout the day, placing 5th in the 50m freestyle backstroke and butterfly, as well as placing 7th in the 50m breaststroke. Madi Pease also did a great job by finishing 6th in the 50m backstroke and 7th in the 100m backstroke.

Our 14 year old girls freestyle relay team and medley relay team placed 6th against some tough competition in both of their events. Well done to team members Jessie Gerrish, Shayla Leavett-Brown, Bridget Cole and Paige Cooper. Due to these outstanding results, Galen placed 33 out of the 144 schools who entered, a fantastic effort!

Thanks to Fiona Harmer who drove the girls down and managed the team on the day, and also to Tess Rowland who provided great assistance to Fiona and the students throughout the day.

State Swimming

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Upper Hume Soccer

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VET Sport & Recreation assist students at St Patrick’s & Our Lady’s Athletics Day

On Tuesday 6th May the VET Sport & Recreation class consisting of Allana Young, Ethan Carey, Tamarah Chambevrou, Elysha Colombara, Gemma Enever, Cameron Fendyk, Jake Leavette-Brown, Alex Reid, Jack Ryan, Fletcher Stewart, Jack Taylor and Tom Wales volunteered their time to assist in the St. Patrick’s and Our Lady’s Primary Schools Athletics Carnival.

Much fun was had by all, and it provided a fantastic opportunity for Galen College students to assist not only Primary School teachers with recording results and placing’s but also the primary students with their track and field technique.

It was great to witness another opportunity for CREW (Catholic Regional Education Wangaratta) relationships to take place between Galen students and our local Catholic Primary schools.

Mansfield Motorcycle Club presents Grass Track Tri Series

Round 2 - Sunday
18th May 2014
Fridays Property
1963 Long Lane Barwite
Breakfast & Lunch catered for

SIGN IN Between 7.30 A.M.and 8:30AM
COSTS
Entry for day
(Includes $11 MV Levy)
Member - $20
Non - Member $30
(Incl day membership)
Extra Class - $10
One Day Licence
Competitive Class - $65
Recreational One Day Licence - $30
(Licences can be purchased on the day)
Classes set at discretion of the steward:

Junior non competitive separate track
will also be operating on the day

Enquiries: www.mansfieldmc.com
or call 0438 575 300

Proof ofAmbulance
Cover Required
Children under 18 years will need a
parent/guardian to sign

No Tear Offs Allowed
Round 3—Sunday 8th June 2014
Mansfield Paintball Park
64 Soldiers Road Barwite
Presentation

Round 1 result are on website
www.mansfieldmc.com
Thank you to the generous sponsors who supported Team Timor 2014

The students and staff involved in the Timor Leste 2014 Immersion would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support of the Timor Trivia Night. We were able to raise $10,500 from our fundraising activities and we could not have done so without the strong support from families, Galen staff, local businesses and sponsors.

A1 Tyerpower
Amcal Chemist
Aroma Deli
Australian Country Spinners
Burgan Bros
Collins Booksellers
Dennis Clarke Wines
Donna Bella Lingerie
Finer Food Pantry
Flynn's Inland and Surf
Healing Arts Centre
Keith Sutherland
Monroes Hairdressing
Nolan Media
Pitari's Café
Regional Organics Produce
SP Brown Electrical
Tafe Hair and Beauty
The Occasion Studios
Wangaratta Picture Framing
WB Hunter
WPAC Intermezzo Cafe
YMCA

Allisons Hairdressing
Auldstone Wines
Bella Donna
Carlton AFL
Curtain Affair
Deraileur Café
Economic Pest Control
Fleur D Lis Accomodation
Franks Footwear
Healing Arts Yoga
Milawa Cheese Factory
North East Life Clinical Pilates
Reality Clothing
Silent Range Estate
Sportsman Warehouse
Telstra Shop
Travelscene
Wangaratta Kebab Shop
Websters Electrical
WPAC Performing Arts

Who’s Who at Galen

Leadership Team
• Bernard Neal: Principal
• Patrick Arcuri: Deputy Principal—Staff & Students
• Shaun Mason: Deputy Principal – Teaching & Learning
• Gerard Sullivan: Deputy Principal – Catholic Identity
• Geoff Welch: Deputy Principal (presently on leave)
• Dom Giannone: Business Manager
• Bern Albertson: Professional Development Co-ordinator
• Anthony Batters: Daily Organiser
• Mick Grogan: Senior School Director
• Lauren Lee: Junior School Director

School Board
• Father Mike Pullar: Parish Priest
• Tony Lane: Board Chair
• Bernard Neal: Principal
• Phil Bretherton: CEO Representative
• Patrick Arcuri: DP - Staff Representative
• Anthony Batters: Staff Representative
• John Byrne: Parent
• Suellen Loki: Parent
• Angie Semmens: Parent
• Mark Williams: Parent
• Liz Nelson: Parent

Parents Association Executive
• President: Vacant
• Angie Semmens / Karyn Howard: Secretary
• Karen Archer: Treasurer
• Angie Semmens: Board Liaison

The best way to contact Galen staff members direct is by email. All staff have email addresses which follow the formula:
firstname.surname@galen.vic.edu.au

Members of the Board and Parents Association can be contacted via the office on 035721 6322 or email: admin-enquiry@galen.vic.edu.au

Working together in Faith to Inspire, Educate and Empower

CREW Catholic Education Week: 23-30th May 2014

Newsletter enquiries can be emailed directly to the Publications & Promotions Officer: malcolm.webster@galen.vic.edu.au
## VCE/VCAL MID YEAR EXAM ARRANGEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>YEAR 11 VCE</th>
<th>YEAR 12 VCE</th>
<th>YEAR 11 &amp; 12 VCAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 6</td>
<td>Year 11 Exams commence</td>
<td><strong>Homeroom and Classes</strong></td>
<td>Normal Workplace or VET commitments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 9</td>
<td>Queen's Birthday – Public holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 10</td>
<td>Year 11 Exams</td>
<td><strong>Homeroom and Classes</strong></td>
<td>***Special Homeroom Normal Classes</td>
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<td>June 11</td>
<td><strong>GAT Exam 10am-1.15pm</strong>* for students doing a Unit 3/4 subject. Year 11 Exams in the afternoon.</td>
<td><strong>GAT Exam 10am-1.15pm</strong>*</td>
<td>***Special Homeroom Normal Classes</td>
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<td>No classes in the afternoon</td>
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<td>June 12</td>
<td>Year 11 Exams</td>
<td><strong>Homeroom and Classes</strong></td>
<td>Normal Workplace or VET commitments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 13</td>
<td>Year 11 Exams</td>
<td><strong>Homeroom and Classes</strong></td>
<td>Normal Workplace or VET commitments</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 16</td>
<td>Report Writing Day – No formal classes</td>
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**Note:**
- Exam timetables have been emailed to teachers, students and parents.
- * GAT timetables with student numbers will be distributed in homeroom. Please retain this important document.
- **There will be room changes for Year 12 VCE homeroom & classes**
- ***Year 11 & 12 VCAL students will gather in two groups for homeroom. There will be room changes for Year 11 & 12 VCAL homeroom and classes.**
YEAR 10 EXAMS
JUNE 4 – 6 Week 7
STUDENT INFORMATION

Students of Year 10 are required to carefully read the following information in relation to the upcoming Year 10 exams.

It is important that you complete all revision sheets prepared by your subject teacher.

The following exam guidelines must be strictly adhered to by all students sitting exams.

Students

• are only permitted to bring authorised equipment into the examination room. Check with each of your subject teachers to determine what you are allowed to take into each exam.
• enter the examination room under the direction of the exam supervisors.
• please ensure that mobile phones, ipods, etc. brought into the exam room are placed on a table for collection at the completion of the examination.
• need to seek permission for toilet breaks.
• may bring a clear drink container of water into the examination room.
• must not communicate with anyone once they have entered the examination room.
• not complying with the above expectations will be asked to leave the examination room and will forfeit the right to complete their examination paper.
• may not leave the exam early.

(Exam Duration: 95 minutes – Exam: 90 minutes, Reading Time: 5 minutes)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY / DATE</th>
<th>Period</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
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<td>TIMETABBLED CLASSES</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>EXAM REVISION/STUDY</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</td>
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<td>THURSDAY</td>
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<td>3-4</td>
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<td>MATHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
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<td>HUMANITIES</td>
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<td>June 6th</td>
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<td>3-4</td>
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<td>SCIENCE</td>
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Here are just 10 facts surrounding homelessness...some of them will surprise you.

1. There are officially more than 105,000 Australians who are homeless, including 7,500 families. However, these figures are widely regarded as having increased significantly since they were gathered in the 2006 Census, as a result of the global financial crisis.

2. More than 12,000 Australian children under the age of 12 have no home.

3. A further 22,000 young people aged 12 to 18 are homeless, and most of them are estranged from their families.

4. Most families who are homeless are women and children escaping domestic and family violence. Two thirds of children accommodated in homeless assistance services in Australia have witnessed, or been victims of, domestic or family violence. Children who have been homeless are more likely to become homeless adults.

5. 44% of homeless Australians stay temporarily with family and friends; 20% are living in boarding houses and other temporary accommodation; 18% are sleeping rough on the streets; and just 18% will find a bed in the homeless service system.

6. A common misconception is that the homeless are mainly middle-aged or older men. In fact, most homeless people are under 35 (58%). 44% are women.

7. The homeless have a higher prevalence of severe mental disorders than the rest of the population. Estimates of how many people experience mental illness is hard to determine accurately but reports indicate that up to 85% of homeless people have a mental illness.

8. Homelessness can trigger or exacerbate mental illness.

9. A lack of affordable housing is a key contributor to homelessness. There are simply not enough accommodation options for the disadvantaged and poor.

10. Homeless services have to turn away more people than they can accommodate.

*Australian Bureau of Statistics*