

Katy Gallagher – Chief Minister
31 July 2014

ACT STUDENTS TO MARK ANZAC CENTENARY

ACT Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher, today called on years 9 and 10 ACT students to enter the ACT Chief Minister's ANZAC Spirit Prize 2015 competition, which will see up to four students experience the trip of a lifetime.

"2015 marks the centenary of the ANZAC landing and the ACT Chief Minister's ANZAC Spirit Prize 2015 will give students an opportunity to take part in the historic commemoration in Turkey," the Chief Minister said.

"Up to four students, accompanied by two teachers, will take part in a funded 14 day Study Tour of Turkey, including Istanbul, Troy and the Gallipoli Peninsula, where they will learn about the spirit of the ANZACs first-hand through visiting key battlefield sites and places of interest to the Gallipoli Campaign.

"On ANZAC Day 2015, the students will attend the Dawn Service at ANZAC Cove and then lay a wreath, on behalf of the ACT, at the Australian Lone Pine Service."

"To enter, students need to creatively show how qualities displayed during wartime such as loyalty, comradeship, endurance and devotion are still present in our community today."

Students can write a poem, script, short story piece or musical composition, or they can create a video/digital presentation, photographic piece, craft or artwork. The Prize is open to all ACT public and non-government students who will be in years 9 or 10 in 2014.

"The actions and spirit of the ANZACs helped shape our nation and it is through involving our young people in the commemorations that we can ensure their legacy lives on," the Chief Minister said.

"This year, the centenary year of the ANZAC landing, will be a special one for our nation in remembering not only those who served and were part of the landing at ANZAC Cove, but also those who have served in conflicts around the world in the following decades."

"This prize is a unique opportunity which will give four students in the ACT the chance to build on their studies about World War I and to better understand the sacrifice that thousands of soldiers made in 1915.

An information session on the prize will be held for teachers, parents and students at the Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning, 51 Fremantle Drive, Stirling at 5.00 pm on Tuesday 19 August 2014.

The competition closes on Thursday 13 November 2014, with the winners to be announced in December. For more information, go to www.det.act.gov.au.

- Statement ends -

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