Welcome back!

The Federal Government’s Apology to members of the Stolen Generation on February 13th meant that we started the school year with Indigenous issues well and truly on the minds of nearly everyone.

I wonder if in future years people will remember where they were when Kevin Rudd made the apology, in the same way that people remember where they were when Kennedy was shot - or taking the day off school to watch the moon landing in 1969.

Chris Graham, editor of the National Indigenous Times wrote “For Indigenous Australia, the talk over the next generation will be of a treaty, or a national settlement.

Whatever you choose to call it, Australia has an opportunity, not to mention a mood, for change.

The challenge that confronts us all now is whether or not we, as a nation, are mature enough to face this now, or whether we condemn future generations of our children to deal with this issue, and all the tragedy and misery that will inevitably ensue if we fail to act.

Given the sincerity of Rudd’s speech, and the genuine support of many of his colleagues, there's some reason for optimism. Let's hope Rudd's right, that we are at a new beginning."

Chris Harvey

State Coordinator, Dare To Lead
Kaurna Warraarra Wonbawonbandi
by Kalaya Children’s Centre

Kalaya Children’s Centre is an Aboriginal focus centre located at 50 Webb Street, Queenstown, in the western suburbs of Adelaide. Kalaya evolved from the Alberton Aboriginal Extended Hours Program, which began in 1975. It was the dream of Aunty Mary Williams-Cooper and the original management Committee members to set up an early childhood centre which was Aboriginal orientated, developing pride and dignity in being Aboriginal and preparing the children for entry into the school system without loss of identity.

Kalaya aims to promote Aboriginal culture and reflect the values, diversity, cultural identity and systems of knowledge of Aboriginal communities. The book is available from the centre for $15 and includes a CD to help with correct pronunciation.

A fantastic resource for all preschools and Junior Primary Schools.

Idjhil
by Helen Bell

From earliest childhood Idjhil knew that he was destined to be a leader of his people. As his father and grandfather taught him traditional hunting skills, he savoured the joys and challenges of living Nyungar way of life in the bush that was his home. Secure and content, Idjhil was unaware that his life was to change forever .... Idjhil is the moving story of a Western Australian Aboriginal boy who, at the age of nine, is taken away from his family in accordance with the official government policy.

Although written as fiction, it is based on the memories and experiences of people still alive today. Author Helen Bell lives in Western Australia. A trained teacher, she spent several years working as a primary art specialist, before moving on to administer an art gallery.

Published by Cygnet Books
Price: about $15

Connecting Spirits
A Journey of Reconciliation and Commemoration

Compiled by Julie Reece & Chloe Oborn

Birdwood High teacher Julie Reece has conducted a number of trips to the battlefields in Europe to visit the sites of WW1 battles and grave sites. Students from both Birdwood High and Ngarrindjeri students from Meningie accompanied the tour and this book outlines the staff and students experiences.

Ceremonies were conducted at the gravesite of Private Rufus Gordon Rigney, in Europe and back in his country along the Coorong.

It’s a very emotional story, but a great read! It also contains some very useful links for teachers wanting to research war veterans with their students.

Purchase details accompany this newsletter (or see the Dare To Lead (SA) website. Cost $25.
Yarnup is an Education and Outreach Program which takes the award winning Australian documentary film 'Kanyini' into Australian Schools that one step further. The overall aim of the program is to connect Australian students with their local Indigenous community through friendship.

Once a school signs up to become part of the Yarnup program, the following steps take place:

**Step One:** Each school nominates a team of student leaders (to be supported by a teacher) to run the Yarnup Program within their school.

The students are then supported by the Yarnup Operating Team to:

**Step Two:** Co-ordinate a film screening of 'Kanyini' at their school (the "Talk the Story" part of the program).

**Step Three:** Initiate contact with their local Indigenous community and invite them to the screening.

**Step Four:** Where possible, raise funds via the screening to support a cultural experience with their local Indigenous people (the "Walk the Story" part of the program) either at the school or outside of school grounds, at a local sacred site for example.

**Step Five:** Document the 'growing relationship' between the school and the local Indigenous community in a visual form, either through film, art or photography. These will then be posted on the Yarnup website. The most heartfelt expression will win a school visit from the star of the film 'Kanyini', Bob Randall.

This program is currently being trialed in 30 schools in NSW this year and not available to schools in South Australia. However there are many good ideas on the website that could be adapted to your school.

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Dare To Lead Schools get 20% off the listed price for products purchased from the ACTF. Their website contains a number of downloadable lesson plans for many of their resources.
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south american
events

Indigenous ANZACS
19 February - Two Wells Primary
28 February - Gawler East Primary
6 March - Birdwood High School
Dare to Lead Excellence Awards
14 March - Canberra
National AA Contacts Conference
16-17 March - Adelaide
Tristate Remote Schools Conference
29 March - 2 April - Alice Springs
SA Dare to Lead Early Years Conference
2 May - Adelaide (EDC)