



INFORMATION AND SPEAKING POINTS

BEARS TO SCHOOL INITIATIVE

- On 11 November 2018 we will mark 100 years since the guns fell silent on the Western Front, marking the end of the Great War of 1914-1918. Australians and people across the world will join in commemorating this event which comes once in a generation.
- Sharing Australia's role in this pivotal period in history with our youngest needs an approach that respects their ages and their learning needs, as well as stories being told. As much as war is not fun – education needs to be engaging.
- These uniformed teddy bears will add life to kids' lessons when used as teaching aids and will make the events of a century ago more personally relatable and understandable.
- There are 10 bear characters and each one shares a story about service – either a campaign, or the service the particular uniform the bear is wearing.
- It is a rare occasion that a single initiative is supported by both major Federal political parties, the National RSL and the National Servicemen's Association. This fact alone speaks to the importance of the Bears to School message and the history it aims to keep alive.
- Proceeds from Bears to School will support ex-service organisations and their members. These military men and women are also a part of our country's proud history, which was often forged during times of conflict. If we don't share the stories of our soldiers through the generations, who will?
- Donating is easy. You just visit AnzacBears.com.au and select the school; click on the bear you want to donate; and add your details. The bear and personalised donor card is sent to the school directly.
- Bears to School has the rare privilege of being allowed to use "Anzac" in our web address and the rarer privilege of having Keith Payne, our oldest living Victoria Cross recipient, as the National Ambassador.
- Parents can get involved too. Just by going online and reading the bear stories they are sharing history and just perhaps learning a little more about our Anzac history.

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