**Essay Competition for schools**

“*1914 – 2014: the greatest greats and grands of the last 100 years*”

1 October is United Nations International Day of Older Persons. To celebrate this, the Office for Senior Citizens is holding a competition to encourage primary school children (up to year 8) to think and write about an older person who they think is special to them.

The subject for this competition is *“1914 – 2014: the greatest greats and grands of the last 100 years”* to coincide with the 100 year commemorations of World War One. The purpose is to help young people find out more about the experiences older people have built up over their life.

Examples of topics or questions for your students could be:

* Did anyone from our family serve in a war, and what was their story?
* Where were you when man landed on the moon, and what was it like?
* What was life like for you when you were growing up, how is it different to now?

Your student could choose someone who they know, such as a grandparent or other family member, or they could choose someone famous from the past 100 years.

Entries should be 600-800 words in length and can be decorated any way your student would like, the more creative the better.

The prize will be a book voucher for the school, as well as a voucher for the student.

Entries should include the students: name, age, school and email contact details. We will acknowledge all entries and contact the school directly regarding the winning entry.

**Entries close on Friday the 7th of November.**

**Your students can send their entries to:**

Email: osc@msd.govt.nz

Or, post to

Office for Senior Citizens

Ministry of Social Development

PO Box 1556, Wellington 6140

You can also contact the Office for Senior Citizens on the email above for any questions you might have.