Minister for Education Visit to Alstonville High School
It is always good to be a Principal when you can announce to your school community that funds have been allocated above what is the normal budget. It was a pleasure to welcome the Minister for Education, Mr Adrian Piccoli, into the school on Tuesday 3rd March. Mr Piccoli announced that $1.5 million dollars had been allocated to Alstonville High School, which was not dependent upon the outcome of the upcoming State elections. I am requesting that if any school community member has an idea of how some or all of this money could be allocated, then please make contact to the school or through the P&C.

SRC Induction Assembly
Prior to the visit of Mr Piccoli, a formal school assembly was held for the induction of SRC (Student Representative Council) representatives for 2015. The school captains more than capably ran the assembly and I was honoured to shake the hand and present a badge to each SRC member for 2015. The SRC have already begun planning events for the student body including community events, fund raising and activities.

Parents & Citizens Meeting
The first P&C meeting for 2015 was held last week and I thank all parents present for their welcome. May I encourage all parents to be part of the P&C, for they are a major voice and
Principals report continued ………………………………

active group for the school. I support the P&C in its activities and the policies and procedures that they have put into place for the functioning and wellbeing of all students at the school. One of these areas is that of school uniform is a policy of the P&C that all students attending Alstonville High School are to be in the school uniform. It is asked that no variation to the uniform be made; this includes the skirts for female students. Each part of the uniform has the school emblem embroidered upon it. The wearing of school uniform encourages school pride and unity.

Student Sports Representatives
Congratulations must be made to all sporting teams who have and are currently representing the school. The feedback from sporting convenors have always been positive. Special recognition needs to be made to those students who are going onto higher levels of sporting achievement in Zone and State representation.

Alstonville Wollongbar Fun Run
Finally I would like to remind and encourage as many members of the school community to involve themselves in the Wollongbar/Alstonville Fun Run. The organisation for the day has been intricate from a very hard working group of parents. Be involved and enjoy the day.

Year 7 Welcome BBQ – Tuesday 10th March
Families of students currently in year 7 at Alstonville are invited to a welcome BBQ, starting from 5:30 pm on Tuesday 10th March.

Come along and enjoy a free BBQ. Families of students in year 7 will have a chance to meet teachers as you help your child(ren) complete a teacher ‘dance’ card on the night.

Students will also collect their interim reports and enter a lucky draw to win a mystery prize.

Year 5 – 6 Information Evening – Wednesday 11th March
Alstonville High School invites parents/carers of students who wish to enrol in Year 7 in 2016 or 2017 and their families to our information evening on Wednesday 11th March from 6:00pm.

The night will include a combined welcome and demonstration of student work in the school hall followed by tours of the school and demonstrations in classrooms.

There will be information sessions for year 6 parents repeated throughout the night by members of the school executive team ensuring that interested families can find out about what we can offer, as well as having a chance to ask questions in smaller group settings.

John Douglas Principal

School Photos – Friday 6th March 2015
Whole school photos will be taken this Friday 6th March. Costs will be similar to last year, ranging from $15 to $40 packs. Envelopes have been sent home. For security please consider using credit card or on line payments rather than cash. Alternatively correct money can be sealed within the envelope. These envelopes are to be returned to the photographers on the day.

If you have any enquiries contact Mr Hill in the Maths Department

Parent Teacher Night All Years – Tuesday 31st March
Our first Parent Teacher night for all years will be held on Tuesday 31st March. The SOB’s (Schools On Line Booking System) will be open this Friday 6th March for you to make bookings. To make a booking you will need to know the names of your child’s teacher(s). If you would like more information please contact the school.

Year 10 Snow Excursion – Sunday 2nd August to Saturday 8th August
The annual Snow Excursion for Year 10 students is going to take place during Week 4 of Term 3. We leave the school at approximately 7pm on Sunday 2nd August and arrive home at approximately 8am on Saturday 8th August.

Last week students received a payment schedule. The total cost of the excursion is $860. This cost covers coach hire, accommodation, meals at accommodations, entry into Sydney Aquatic Centre, lift pass, ski/board hire, goggles/gloves/jacket/ski pants hire, entry into Questacon,
entry into the AIS and entry into a Friday night football game in Sydney. The only costs not covered are meals in transit (breakfast and lunch on the Monday), lunches on the ski slopes on the days we ski/board and snacks during the trip.

At this stage there are 105 students who are interested in attending. We can still accommodate more if anyone is still interested. It must be noted that students who are not attending the excursion, will be expected to complete Work Experience for the week we are at the snow.

We would also welcome parents who would like to accompany us on the trip. There will be no cost for the supervising parents (apart from meals not covered in the excursion). Accompanying parents will be given responsibilities on the excursion to assist in the effective management of the trip.

More detailed information on what to bring will be provided at a date closer to the excursion, however I must stress there is no real need to buy anything in terms of warm clothing or snow gear as this is all provided in the ski hire.

If anyone has issues with the payment schedule provided or any further questions regarding the excursion, please contact me at school.

Doug North /Head Teacher PDHPE

Year 12 Hospitality Industry Work Placement

During Week 3, students from Year 11 Hospitality went out on their first week of industry Work Placement. Once again we were lucky to have Jacqui Brenton from Connect, organise some excellent cafes and restaurants for the students to gain valuable skills and experience.

Alstonville High would like to thank the following businesses for their participation: Options in Alstonville, Pioneer Tavern, Quattro Country, Alstonville Plateau Bowls and Sports Club, Café 29 Restaurant, Fire in the Belly and The Blue shop.

Students assisted with general kitchen duties, preparing food items and service depending on the type of establishment. Alstonville High received a number of very pleasing reviews from the various head chefs and restaurant managers regarding the students’ manners, punctuality and eagerness to help and learn while on Work Placement. It is pleasing to note that three of our students secured offers of employment.

We congratulate the students on a job well done!

Rob Walker / Hospitality Teacher

Mock Hygiene inspection of School Canteen

Ballina Shire Council Environmental Health Officer Sue Anderson conducted a lesson with Year 11 Hospitality last week. The students got an insight into hygiene standards in the restaurant catering industry. Sue’s first hand experiences and her collection of evidence was very well received by the students.

Later, escorted by Sue, the students in small groups analysed how the canteen complied with food safety regulations. Sue then conducted a thorough lesson in correct hand washing technique. Students washed their hands with a special soap and then using a UV light were able to identify areas of weakness in their technique. This was a most revealing exercise.

Oh and by the way, the canteen passed the inspection easily!
Sport News

Northern Rivers Zone Swimming Championships

On Tuesday 24th February a team of twenty nine very keen and competitive swimmers travelled to the Lismore Memorial Baths for the Northern Rivers Zone Swimming Championships. This team was very successful, finishing second to Maclean High School in the overall points score. We also had five age champions; 12yrs boys Samuel Van Zuylen Year 7, 13yrs girls Chiara Wenban Year 7, 14yrs girls Alyssa Iles Year 9, 15yrs girls Sarah Bransgrove Year 9 and 17+yrs boys Julian Aenishaenslin Year 12.

Alstonville High Schools 17+yrs Boys Relay Team of Julian Aenishaenslin, Tom Fleming, Liam Hair and Felix Margraf set a new zone record of 1:46.73 (the only record to be broken on the day). This team also had 10 Relay teams qualify for the North Coast Regional Swimming Championships to be held at Lismore Memorial Baths on Thursday 5th March. Thanks to all the parents who transported and supported their children on the day. Congratulations to the following students who will represent The Northern Rivers Zone tomorrow 5th March. Well done to all students who competed on the day for their outstanding success and excellent behaviour!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aenishaenslin, Julian yr12</th>
<th>Bransgrove, Emma yr7</th>
<th>Bransgrove, Sarah yr9</th>
<th>Fleming, James yr8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fleming, Tom yr12</td>
<td>Gilmour, Tess yr7</td>
<td>Hair, Liam yr12</td>
<td>Halpin, Owen yr7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iles, Alyssa yr9</td>
<td>Johns, Claire yr9</td>
<td>Jones, Scarlett yr8</td>
<td>Leslie, Nathan yr7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margraf, Anna yr8</td>
<td>Margraf, Felix yr12</td>
<td>Margraf, Moritz yr10</td>
<td>Moosberger, Elly yr10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moosberger, Will yr8</td>
<td>Mulcahy, Jasper yr10</td>
<td>Mulcahy, Max yr7</td>
<td>Peiti, Giaan yr8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polak, Joel yr10</td>
<td>Rawson, Thomas yr8</td>
<td>23. Van Zuylen, Samuel yr7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wenban, Chiara yr7</td>
<td>Wenban, Domenica yr9</td>
<td>24. Ware, Aolani yr7</td>
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Basketball

Congratulations to two of our talented Basketball players: Zoe Hurley yr10 and Charlotte Yager yr9 have been selected as members of the North Coast Open Girls Basketball team. Both Zoe and Charlotte were selected into the North Coast Open Girls Basketball Team in 2014. They will again be doing plenty of training before they head off to the NSWCHS Girls Basketball State Carnival held at Penrith Valley Regional Sports Center 5th to 7th May. Congratulations to Zoe and Charlotte.

Triathlon

Alstonville High School had two students travel down to Sydney’s International Regatta Centre at Penrith Lakes for the NSW All-Schools Triathlon Championships on Thursday 26th February. Both students from Year 10, Gabrielle Stanek and Zachariah Maxwell competed in the Intermediate Individual Division for students 15 and 16 years.

This intermediate division had two hundred and ten athletes finish the race with Gabrielle Stanek finishing 2nd overall. Gabrielle cycled a lot faster than in 2014 and recorded the fastest bike split for the girls, with an average speed over 35km/hr on a technical course. Gabrielle was selected into the NSW All-School Triathlon team to compete at the 2015 School Sport Australia Boys and Girls National Triathlon Championships to be held at Penrith from the 27th to 30th April, 2015. This is the third year in a row that Gabrielle has been selected into the NSW All-Schools team. Well done!

Gabrielle Stanek – Swim 600m – 9:42mts, Cycle 15 km - 25:24mts, Run 4km – 15:36mts. Total 50:43mts. Place 2nd and 2nd (107 finishers)

Zac Maxwell – Swim 600m – 10:30mts, Cycle 15 km – 28:17mts, Run - 4km – 17:46mts. Total 56.33mts. Place 14th and 39th (103 finishers)
Football
Congratulations to students who were selected into the Northern Rivers Zone Football (Soccer) team. The Girls Football Trials were held at Maclean on Friday 27th February with Anna Margraf yr8 and Britney Webster yr10 selected into the team. The Boys Football Trials were held at Thistles Park, Lismore on Friday 27th February with Michael Blackler yr12, Zakale Iliffe yr12, Jason Campbell yr12 and Zamin Tselep yr12 selected into the team. All six students will travel to Thistles Park in Lismore for the North Coast Regional Football Trials to be held on Friday 20th March.

15yrs and Under Touch Football
On Tuesday 17th February Alstonville sent eight girls and four boys to Woodenbong to the Zone Trials. The girls’ team were too good for the opposition winning all of their five games easily, only conceding one try all day. The boys were put into a combined team with three Kyogle boys and played well, winning three of their four games. Congratulations to Tarni, Lucy, Brooke, Mikayla, Max and Tait who were all selected into the Northern Rivers team, and Maya, Austin and Lleyton who were named as shadow (reserve) players. The next round will be at Coffs Harbour on 18th March.

Water Polo CHS Opens Knockout
Both the boys and girls teams are through to the finals in Grafton after the recent gala day.

Paul Francis / Sports Organiser

Year 7 Peer Support Camp – 19th – 20th March

The Year 7 Peer Support Camp will be held on 19th and 20th March. This is a highlight for Year 7 and 2015 will be the first time in years that we will be taking all of Year 7 on the same night. This required extensive organisation back at school with 10 teachers’ classes needing to be covered by colleagues, but such is the value held by staff on the benefits that Year 7 students achieve on camp through personal growth that they were willing to take extras in order for the camp to proceed.

The Year 11 Peer Support Leaders are keenly waiting to enjoy two days of fun, adventure and friendship building with their Year 7 groups.

All Year 7 students are expected to attend. If you have any difficulties meeting this expectation, please contact the school and ask for Ms Bramley-O’Connor, the Camp organiser.

All permission notes and payments are to be returned by this Friday 6th March so that we can give the camp an indication of numbers attending.

Year 7 students will be given a final packing list for the camp this week.

Stephanie O’Brien / HT Welfare

School Zone Parking Enforcement Program – “No Apologies, No Excuses”
The Ballina Shire Council would like to remind parents/carers and children of parking restrictions in place around our school. The Council’s School Zone Parking and Enforcement Program has now commenced for the 2015 school year.

The program is in response to a NSW Government directive following a number of recent accidents and severe injuries, even death involving children and that have occurred in school zones.

For more information on school zone safety go to Council’s website at www.ballina.nsw.gov.au.

SRC Report
It’s a new month and we are pleased to welcome in three new faces, Jessica Chate, Lara Porter and Chiara Wenban who will be representing year seven in 2015.

The Worlds Greatest Shave is happening this month and we encourage everyone to donate. You can donate to any SRC member, the box at the canteen and also Gabby Stanek who will be participating in the shave on the 17th of March. All money raised will be going to the Leukaemia Foundation.

Georgia Anderson – Publicity Officer
Due to continued support from the school community for the canteen and uniform shop, and the hard work of Robynne, Helen, Shirley and our volunteers, the P&C has money in the bank! This money is destined to go back into capital works and/or resources for the school. The P&C is seeking suggestions from the school community – a ‘wishlist’ if you like. If you would like to submit a proposal, or just have a comment you would like to make, please direct them to Annette McGrath, P&C President at mcgrathx4@westnet.com.au. All suggestions and comments will be considered and the viability of proposals assessed by a committee created for this purpose. If you would like to sit on this committee include this in your email, or attend the next P&C meeting on Wednesday 25th March.

A big reminder about the Alstonville-Wollongbar Fun Run that is happening on Saturday 14 March at Alstonville High School. If you are a runner or walker check the website www.alstonvillewollongbarfunrun.com.au. There will be 5 and 10km runs, a 5km walk and a junior dash, so there is something for everyone.

If you are not quite that athletic but would like to be involved, please let me know. There will be plenty to do on the day and we will definitely be able to find a role for you! You can contact me at mcgrathx4@westnet.com.au.

A reminder that we are a part of the Athlete’s Foot Rewards Program. If you purchase a pair of shoes at either Athlete’s Foot in Ballina or Lismore, please mention that you are from Alstonville High School so that we receive $5 towards our rewards. These rewards can be redeemed by the school every 6 months in the form of sporting equipment of our choice. This offer includes the purchase of any shoes, whether for school or not. When I was last in the store I noticed another school has over $800 worth of rewards points!

We are not suggesting that you have to purchase your shoes at these stores, however, if you do we are encouraging you to have the rewards added to our total. The $5 comes from the store and is not added to the cost of your purchase!

With thanks
Annette McGrath
P&C President

The uniform shop has a good stock of senior and junior girls’ skirts and senior boys’ shirts, which display the school logo. We encourage all parents to ensure their children are correctly uniformed. The uniform skirts are of a good length, and fit a variety of shapes and sizes. They also look fabulous!

It was noted at a recent P&C meeting that some of the girls are wearing a short, tight, style of maroon skirt which has been purchased elsewhere. These are not our school uniform and are unsuitable for school wear. They can be very revealing and create an embarrassing situation for people following these girls up the stairs or standing at the front of classrooms!

Profits from sales in our uniform shop, as in our canteen, are directed back into the school – it is the ultimate form of ‘shop locally’.

If you have any questions about the uniform, please contact Shirley at the uniform shop on 6628 1797. The uniform shop is located on the southern end of the canteen and is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 8.00am to
10.00am. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or EFTPOS and lay-by is available. Shirley also stocks quality second-hand uniforms.

We are in need of volunteers on a Friday to help in the canteen. Please call Robynne if you are able to help 66281797

UNIFORM SHOP
OPENING HOURS
8am - 10am
Monday, Wednesday, Friday

VIEWPOINT Security Services and ROTARY Alstonville are sponsoring another youth dance night at the Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre. Viewpoint Security are donating their services to manage a safe drug and alcohol free event for young people. There will be prizes for best dance crews and fluoro outfits. Fluoro merchandise, food and drinks will be available for purchase on the night. Rotary Alstonville have assisted with initial costs and are excited about the Rotary International youth club, Interact, which will be starting up at Alstonville High School this year under the supervision of Ms Pett and Mr. Fleming. Here is the important stuff.

DATE: Thursday 26th March 2015, second last week of term
LOCATION: Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre
TIME: 6.30 to 10.30 pm
COST: $20.00 entry with ID and proof of age required.
FUNCTION HOTLINE: 0498667188

Viewpoint Dance and Rotary are seeking to support youth welfare initiatives in Alstonville and will be donating proceeds towards the Youth Worker and Chaplaincy program at Alstonville High School.

Northern Star $5,000 Classroom Makeover

Imagine what your school could do with a $5,000 classroom makeover from Staples™. The school with the most tokens wins, so help your children and their school by collecting as many tokens as you can. A token will be published daily in paper from Saturday 14 February to Monday 16 March 2015.

Please bring your coupons into the box in the front office at school.
St Andrew’s College is again reaching out to schools to advise that we have up to $1 million available in scholarships, bursaries and prizes for students for 2016.

We’d like to ensure that your senior students are aware of these opportunities, should they be considering tertiary study in Sydney.

Our Scholarships information can be found here: standrewscollege.edu.au/current-students/scholarships-and-prizes/

Our Bursary Assistance information can be found here: standrewscollege.edu.au/current-students/bursary-assistance/

Our means-tested Bursary Assistance include packages up to full fee relief, depending on need.

Applications are now open for the 2016 St Andrew’s Scholars intake.

More information is available here: standrewscollege.edu.au/st-andrews-scholars/ and we ask that you pass this on to your high-achieving students.

Applications close 30 June, so we encourage any interested students to apply as soon as possible.