Principal’s Report

Year 12 Half Yearly Exams
It always surprises me how quickly a term can pass. This is the last newsletter for Term 1. Year 12 are completing their half yearly exams and with only having two terms remaining until their final Higher School Certificate examinations the time is quickly disappearing. I ask that you keep encouraging your child especially in a balanced diet, sleep pattern, part time work commitments and other areas that place demands on their time when their focus needs to be with school and their studies. To help minimise stress and anxiety within Year 12 a student needs to have a regular (daily) revision schedule.

Congratulations on Sporting Achievements
Once again students at Alstonville High School have represented the school and participated and achieved beyond expectation. Congratulations go to both the boys and girls Water Polo teams, both finishing in the top five in the State. Also to the senior boys’ 4X50m relay team gaining the gold medal for the State and a silver in the 50m relay medley. All students are to be proud of the representation. A big thank you goes to all parents and staff who have continually supported these students in training, travelling costs and never ending enthusiasm.

Parent Teacher Evening
Our first Parent Teacher evening for the year was last night. The evening allows parents and teachers to talk over the progress of your son/daughter and areas of further development. The discussion in each interview should be around the learning of your son/daughter within each subject area. Please remember that these interviews should not be only at these times but need to happen if and when you have a concern over the learning of your son/daughter. I thank you for your support in taking the time to meet with the teachers of your children.

Term 2: Students Start on Tuesday 21st April
The first teaching day for next term is Tuesday 21st April. This week will be very busy with ANZAC day on the following Saturday. With this in mind I encourage as many students as possible to participate in the Alstonville Village Commemoration of this day of remembrance. To march as a school is an honour and shows respect to all within our community. On Thursday 23rd April the school will be holding its own ANZAC assembly. This is a formal assembly with a number of guests within the community being invited. The assembly is run by students as we all remember the 100 years since the landing of troops at Gallipoli.
End of Teaching Careers
This term sees the end of the teaching careers of two outstanding teaching members of Alstonville High School. Mr Ian Roberts and Mr Michael Sheehan will be taking leave pending retirement. Mr Roberts has been the Head Teacher of the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty and has inspired many students within the fields of visual arts, music and drama. Mr Robert's classroom is alive in colour, texture, form and music and is always an area to be motivated. Mr Sheehan has guided and taught students through the intricacies of Mathematics. Mr Sheehan has given maths a purpose and a desire for those students to be extended and entwined within the problem solving techniques within Maths. Mr Sheehan has shared his passion and talent for drama and musical production. I thank both of these teachers for their many years of teaching and their creative love of learning. May they both have a long and fulfilling next stage of their life.

P&C Committee Changes
I would like to thank the outgoing P&C Committee for all their support and work and also welcome the new committee for 2015 whose names are below:

President: Andrew Philippzig-Mann
Vice President: Sharleen Maxwell
Secretary: Alison Chessells
Treasurer: Anna Vecchiet

John Douglas
Principal

AIME Day Southern Cross University 25th March
ATSI (Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander) students from Years 9 and 10 visited Southern Cross University Campus to participate in the AIME programme. Mentors from the university campus assisted the students under the direction of the AIME co-ordinators. The program is designed to develop relationships and increase student expectations of achievement between students at Alstonville High School and the wider community.

The students as a group were a pleasure to supervise and represented the school at the highest level. It was a fantastic learning opportunity for all involved and I look forward to seeing a higher level of participation from the other ATSI students in our school community.

Ben Holmes/ Supervising Teacher

Year 11 Ancient History Dig
DIG DATE: 26/2/15
DIG LOCATION: Sand Pit at Oval
DIG DETAILS:
The Year 11 Ancient History class participated in an archaeological dig as a part of our first unit of work. Each class member was given a role in the dig, each responsible for a different part of the process of the dig. As director, I (Regan Vidler) was responsible for making sure everybody was fulfilling their duties. Other roles included diggers, sifters, brushers, artists, recorders, runners, and one ‘slave’. The diggers, sifters, and brushers were responsible for unearthing the artefacts; the artists and recorders were in charge of detailing every process of the dig; and the runners and slave were charged with moving artefacts from one place to another. The dig began by Mrs Gordon marking out the dig area, with wooden stakes and string. After that, each layer, or strata, was uncovered one at a time. Artefacts found were removed and cleaned, and placed with other items found in the same strata. Once all strata were excavated and all artefacts were exhumed, the dating process began and hypotheses were developed on each culture that had inhabited the area.

STRATA 1: Strata 1 is the topmost layer of the dig. In strata 1 we discovered; two metal dishes: one bronze and one silver, a
ceramic tea cup and a silver spoon. From this, we hypothesised that the culture was rather advanced, most likely lived during the mid-17th century to the early 20th century. We concluded that there was a gap in the society, due to the difference in quality of the bowls and the teacup and spoon.

STRATA 2: Strata 2 is directly beneath strata 1. In strata 2 we discovered multiple baked clay items, some of which appeared to have a practical use, while others appeared to be purely decorative. The clay items were crudely made, and many appeared to have been baked in multiple stages. From this, we hypothesised that this culture had discovered the knowledge of how to bake clay, and were still quite primitive. However, it is very likely that this society valued decoration, and perhaps even religious sculptures.

STRATA 3: Strata 3 is the deepest strata. In strata 3 we discovered a wooden arrow sheath, an animal skull and a group of seashells. From this we drew the conclusion that this society was a hunter group that either lived by the ocean, travelled to the ocean at some point, or had trade with a seaside clan. It was concluded that the skull found was the skull of an animal killed by the tribe, and kept as a trophy of sorts.

The archaeological dig was a rewarding educational experience for all class members, and a great way to fully understand the roles of archaeologists in history.

School Program – Climate change

Climate Change and Me Program: Empowering Children and Young People (CC AND ME)

In 2014 a number of our students from year 7 and 8 embarked on a program offered by Southern Cross University called Climate Change and Me. This is where the students were exploring the idea of climate change and making decisions for themselves about this phenomenon and what they think it might be about.

CC and ME has continued this year and currently few year 8 and year 7 students are working on developing their own ideas to contribute to the program. Any documentation, videos, photographs, stories, articles and so on need to be handed in to Mrs John by the end of this week so that they can be uploaded to the CC and ME website.

On Monday March 30 we had a workshop at school to view and finalise student contributions and to prepare for the next stage of the program, which is an exhibition of their work and also the contributions from other schools. Thank you to those students who have contributed to this project.

Mrs John and Mr David Rousell - (Researcher and Project Manager- ‘Climate Change and Me: Empowering Children and Young People - Southern Cross University)

Peer Support Camp 2015

2015 was the year of a few major changes to the Peer Support Program. Firstly Ms Bramley O’Connor took the role of Peer Support Co-ordinator and made good efforts to set the tone for the program. Unfortunately due to illness the planning and programming was taken over by Mrs Stephanie O’Brien who spent countless hours making sure the program was organised to the finest detail.

The two day event that now becomes our school’s model for the program was a huge success. Students achieved a range of outcomes including independence, resilience, speaking up for themselves, asking for help, developing friendships and building strong relationships with leaders and teachers.

I myself was privileged to have the support on the camp of a wonderful team of teachers and teacher’s aides as well as the efforts of the year 11 leaders. I thank the managers of the camp, teachers, aides and finally all students for their behaviour, participation and attitude during the camp.
Team Sweden and Team Mexico at MUNA 2015

On Saturday 21st March, two teams from Alstonville High School participated in the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) hosted by the Alstonville Rotary Club at the Tweed Heads Civic Centre. The representatives from Year 11 were: Reegan Vidler, Bodhi Scott-Jones and Kate Mitchell as Team Sweden and the Year 10 representatives were: Steven Davenport-Waite, Patrick Bundock and Andrew Entwistle as Team Mexico. A special thank you to the Alstonville Rotary Club for their support for the teams and for the professional and engaging learning experience.

Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) is a Rotary District project designed to create an awareness of the role of the United Nations in mediating international issues. Teams of three students select a country; research its history, politics, economics, peoples, international alignment and policies in current world affairs. They then debate selected resolutions from each country’s point of view in a mock United Nations Assembly. Topics this year included climate change, Ebola and the death penalty with a resolution to effectively ban the death penalty worldwide being narrowly defeated.

The debate was fast-paced and intelligent throughout the day as the many teams from government and independent schools across South East Queensland and Northern New South Wales engaged in real global issues from various countries perspectives.

First place went to Team South Africa from Murwillumbah; however, Alstonville High School’s own Team Mexico wowed the judges with their table display and costumes.

One highlight was when Team Sweden announced a surprise resolution, well done Kate and a special comment from the judges to commend Bodhi on his presentation. Much of the diplomacy was conducted via diplomatic notes, and students clearly understood who their allies were. Congratulations to all the students for their excellent individual and team work and for their willingness to participate in MUNA.

Serena Rose /HSIE

Sport News

15 years and under Touch Football
Six of our students were selected into The Northern Rivers Zone 15 years and under Touch Football team to compete at the North Coast 15yrs and Under Touch Football Trials held at Geoff King Oval, Coffs Harbour on Wednesday 18th March. In the girls team we had Brooke Hofmeyer yr8, Mikayla Hofmeyer yr10, Lucy Turner yr9 and Tarni Fay yr9 and in the boys team we had Max Meury yr9 and Austin Fay yr8. The Northern Rivers Girls team had a great day winning all their games and the boys team won a number of their games as well. At these trials Lucy Turner of Year 9 was selected in the North Coast 15 years and under Touch Football team. Lucy will now compete at NSWCHS 15 years Touch Championships held at Glen Willow playing fields in Mudgee on 2nd and 3rd May. Congratulations Lucy!

Northern Rivers Zone Open Girls Netball Gala Day
Alstonville High Schools Open Girls Netball team competed at the Northern Rivers Zone Gala Day on Thursday 19th March at Colley Park in Casino. The Gala Day enables the first 3 Rounds of the State Knockout to be played and the Northern Rivers Zone Open Girls Netball team to be selected.

The Alstonville team played very well and won all their games, defeating Richmond River High School, Casino High School and Maclean High School to finish as the Northern Rivers Zone Champions. Our school also had 3 girls selected into the Northern Rivers Zone Open Girls Netball team. Congratulations to Sarah Bransgrove Year 9, Molly Hughes Year 10 and Charlotte Yager Year 9. These three girls will now contest the North Coast Open Girls Netball Carnival at Goonellabah Sports and Aquatic Centre on Thursday 23rd April.
The Alstonville High School Open Girls Netball team will play their next game against the winning team from the Far North Coast Zone to be played late in Term 2. Thanks to Mrs Hofmeyer, Mrs Rohwedder and Mr Bransgrove from driving, coaching and supporting the team. The girls played very well on a very hot day and they should be proud of their success.

Congratulations to all the girls in the Alstonville High School Open Girls Netball team:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bransgrove Sarah</td>
<td>Year 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hofmeyer, Mikayla</td>
<td>Year 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hughes, Molly</td>
<td>Year 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rohweder, Leilani</td>
<td>Year 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yager, Charlotte</td>
<td>Year 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thanks for Billeting Athletes
The Alstonville High School PDHPE Department would like to express their appreciation to all the families who provided accommodation for students from Port Macquarie and Kempsey High Schools who participated in the North Coast Open Girls and Boys Football (Soccer) Championships held at Lismore on Friday 20\textsuperscript{th} March. Accommodating a billeted student in your home has given an equitable opportunity for all students to compete with their peers. The billeted students all expressed gratitude to the families and benefited from this experience. We would like to thank all the families for opening their homes, providing a safe and comfortable environment for the visiting students. Thank you to Mr John Douglas (Relieving Principal) for billeting 4 students and to Mrs Fifi Margraf for billeting 2 students.

North Coast Football Trials
Five of our students were selected into The Northern Rivers Zone Football (Soccer) team to compete at the North Coast Open Girls and Boys Football Championships held at Lismore on Friday 20\textsuperscript{th} March. Representing the girls team was Anna Margraf yr8, who played very well and was selected as a shadow in the North Coast Open Girls Football team. Representing the boys team was Michael Blackler yr12, Zakale Iliffe yr12, Jason Campbell yr12 and Zamin Tselepy yr12. All four boys were selected into the North Coast Open Boys Football team and they will now compete at the NSWCHS Secondary Boys Football State Carnival to be held at Cromer Park in Dee Why from 19\textsuperscript{th} to the 21\textsuperscript{st} of May.

New South Wales Combined High Schools Swimming Championships 2015
Congratulations to the Alstonville High School Swim team that competed at the 2015 NSWCHS Swimming Championships held at the Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre from Thursday 26\textsuperscript{th} to Saturday 28\textsuperscript{th} March. The team swam very well with Liam Hair and Alyssa Iles making finals for individual events. The highlight result for Alstonville High School was a win in 17+ Year 4 x 50 Freestyle Relay. The students Julian Aenishaenslin yr12, Tom Fleming yr12, Liam Hair yr12 and Felix Margraf yr12 had qualified 2\textsuperscript{nd} behind Narrabeen Sports High School, however, they beat them easily in the final with an outstanding time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Preliminary (time)</th>
<th>Finals (time)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Alstonville High</td>
<td>1:44.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Narrabeen Sport</td>
<td>1:43.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>The Hills Sports</td>
<td>1:46.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These boys also finished 2\textsuperscript{nd} in the Finals of the Open 200m Medley Relay. These boys have also competed at State in the 4x50 Freestyle Relay every year since year 7 and have finished 2\textsuperscript{nd} at State every year, except in 2014 when they finished 3\textsuperscript{rd}. Congratulations to all our swimmers that competed at the NSWCHS Swimming Championships:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age &amp; Gender</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aenishaenslin,</td>
<td>17+yrs Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleming, Tom</td>
<td>17+yrs Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair, Liam</td>
<td>17+yrs Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iles, Alyssa</td>
<td>14yrs Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jones, Scarlett</td>
<td>14yrs Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margraf, Anna</td>
<td>14yrs Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margraf, Felix</td>
<td>17+yrs Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulcahy, Jasper</td>
<td>15yrs Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulcahy, Max</td>
<td>13yrs Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peiti, Giaan</td>
<td>14yrs Girls</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

North Coast Open Girls Touch Football Trials
Four of our students represented the Northern Rivers Zone at the North Coast Open Girls Touch Football Trials held at Saunders Oval, Ballina on Tuesday 31st March. These girls: Mikayla Hofmeyer Year10, Shana Povey-Hyatt Year 11, Tarni Fay Year 9 and Lucy Turner Year 9 competed against girls from over 40 high schools in the North Coast Region that stretches from Camden Haven High School in the South to Tweed River High School in the North. At these trials Mikayla Hofmeyer of Year 10 was selected in the North Coast Open Girls Touch Football team. Mikayla will now compete at The NSWCHS Secondary Girls Touch State Carnival held at Inverell Touch Fields, Inverell from 2\textsuperscript{nd} to 4\textsuperscript{th} June. Congratulations Mikayla!
TAS (Industrial Arts/Home Economics) Elective Fees

Parents are reminded that students who have not shown that they have fulfilled their Elective fee obligations will not be able to access the consumables from school until they have paid, or they will need to bring all materials from home. Families have had all Term 1 to contact the school with respect to their child’s elective fees to arrange methods of payment and we are left with no alternative except theory work for those who have not fulfilled their obligations. I thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Craig Groves/ Head Teacher TAS
At the P&C AGM on Wednesday 25th March, a new P&C executive was voted in.

President: Andrew Philippzig-Mann
Vice President: Sharleen Maxwell
Secretary: Alison Chessells
Treasurer: Anna Vecchiet

I would like to congratulate these people on their appointments.
I would also like to thank the outgoing P&C executives who have been a wonderful team to work with and have ensured the continued operation of the canteen through a period of staff and operational changes.

Although the P&C oversees the school canteen and uniform shop, this business is very capably run by our Business Manager, Robynne assisted by our dedicated staff of Helen & Shirley, and a wonderful group of volunteers. The school makes a substantial amount of money from the canteen and uniform shop and the P&C is currently investigating options for the acquisition of resources for the school with these funds. I encourage the whole school community to show an active interest in this and work closely with the P&C at this exciting time. P&C meetings are always advertised in the newsletter, run over a defined time period and involve interesting discussion and insight into the inner workings of the school. They are also a great place to meet and talk with other parents and community members.

Finally, I would like to wish the incoming P&C executive all the best as they find their feet in their new roles.
Annette McGrath
Outgoing President

Canteen and Uniform News

Orders taken daily for lunch, so as not to miss out on some of our limited specials
Canteen debit card available at the canteen
Minimal withdrawal $10 **before** school only
Surcharges apply
See Robynne in canteen

UNIFORM SHOP
OPENING HOURS
8am - 10am
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Basketball Holiday Clinic
Lismore Basketball Stadium
342 Keen Street
Thursday 16th April
9am – 1pm
$10 per child
(5-14 Years)
Please bring your own lunch, drinks
Contact Tanya on 0410 777 572 for more info

Summer sport is finishing!
Looking for a WINTER DANCE SPORT for girls?
Physie has changed from many years ago. It is a dance sport that fuses jazz, ballet, hip hop and is performed to upbeat, fun music.

If you’ve ever tried physie before, NOW is the time to try it again! No dance experience is required. Come along and have some fun with our friendly club.

Classes are every Tuesday @ the Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre and every Thursday @ the Rous Mill Hall. Classes for ages 5 and up are from 4pm onwards. Classes are only $7 each.

If you have any questions, Contact Jenna on 0406774992 and check out www.physicalculture.com.au
Lennox Head Skatepark
Thursday, 9th of April, Pott Lane
Workshop: 1:30pm - 4pm

Ballina Skatepark
Friday, 17th of April, Kingsford Smith Drive
Workshop: 1:30pm - 12:30pm
Competition Afternoon: 1:30pm - 4pm
Including Final Jam Games of Skate2, and Best Trick Jam with plenty of prizes up for grabs. Enter with Stacy Standlee

Death or Alcohol

Lennox Head Skatepark
Thursday, 9th of April, Pott Lane
Workshop: 1:30pm - 4pm

Ballina Skatepark
Friday, 17th of April, Kingsford Smith Drive
Workshop: 1:30pm - 12:30pm
Competition Afternoon: 1:30pm - 4pm
Including Final Jam Games of Skate2, and Best Trick Jam with plenty of prizes up for grabs. Enter with Stacy Standlee

HOLIDAY TENNIS CLINIC

Venue: Alstonville Tennis Club, Kays Lane, Russelton Industrial Estate.
Date: Tuesday 7th – Friday 10th April (4 days)
Time: 8:30am-3pm
Cost: 4 days $100 or $35 per day

0419 146 190
Bookings Essential