Welcome Back to Term 3
I would like to welcome back all students, staff and families to Term 3. The term has started off as busy as it ended. The Staff Development Day was of great importance as it allowed for a refresher for staff in the Positive Behaviour for Learning Program, an introduction into the Student Wellbeing Program of Sentral, a deeper understanding of being safe on social media and finally information on data collection.

Cyber Safety – Interview Sessions
The school has contracted the advice and consultancy of a company specialising in cyber safety. This company is examining how Alstonville High School is exposed to social media and how this exposure can be a positive for the school.

For a comprehensive report to be developed it has been requested that three interview sessions occur, one each for students, staff and parents. The interview session will occur in early August and will run for approximately an hour. I am therefore requesting the support of parents who could be part of this interview process to contact the school. For all of us our exposure to social media is becoming a greater issue as to who may or may not have access to us and our family members. It is important that we are aware and take actions to maximise our online safety.

Year 12 Trial HSC Exams
Year 12 are now completing their second week of Trial HSC examinations. All students to this point appear to be handling the challenge of these assessment tasks. It is most important that as these tasks are completed in their marking that the feedback is listened to and acted upon. If the feedback given is not clear or not fully understood then I ask that any Year 12 student approach teachers or Head Teacher and gain clarity.

May I remind everyone that the trial may not be the last examination. All students to this point appear to be handling the challenge of these assessment tasks. It is most important that as these tasks are completed in their marking that the feedback is listened to and acted upon. If the feedback given is not clear or not fully understood then I ask that any Year 12 student approach teachers or Head Teacher and gain clarity.

Chinese Student and Teacher Visit
As has been mentioned previously, a group of fourteen Chinese students accompanied by two teachers will be hosted and attend Alstonville High School from the start of next week for two weeks. This has been a successful program in the past and I thank all involved and especially those families who are billeting a visiting student.

Year 10 Snow Trip
It is obvious that there are a group of very excited Year 10 students who will be participating in the annual Snow Excursion this year. All appear to be following the latest weather and
snow conditions. From previous experience I know that these students are going to have a wonderful time and hopefully return with many stories and photographs.

Semester 1 Academic Awards Assembly
I look forward to meeting students and parents at the upcoming Academic Awards Assembly next Tuesday 28th July at 11:00am.

Generous Donation to Our School
I would like to thank and recognise a family in the school who have very generously donated a significant sum of money for the implementation of a computer based learning program.

John Douglas
Principal

Snake Tails - visiting Alstonville High School
Monday the 24th of August
Snake Tails is a multi-award winning, interactive learning experience, proudly featuring only Australian reptiles. Bob Withey, owner and senior presenter, was five when he got his first Diamond Python.

Snake Tails aims to deliver an insight into our Australian reptiles through a safe, interactive and fun performance that will create a greater understanding of the role of our reptiles in the environment today.

This is the only chance for Year 7 and 8 students to attend this show ever! Every student is expected to attend the reptile show. They will be shown how to deal with a situation if they should encounter a snake or spider as well as information on identification, staying safe and seeking help. Essential advice on First Aid, with easy to understand information on how venom affects the body and how we can delay the poison spreading.

The Snake Tail show links in with the Year 7, 8 and 9 topic areas of “Classification”, “Habitats and Interactions” and “Ecosystems”. Year 8 will see the show in the hall Period 1 and 2, followed by year 7 Period 3 and 4 on Monday 24th August.

\[Image 34x105 to 154x266\]

Mr White/ Science teacher

NSW All-Schools Cross Country Championships
Congratulations to all our athletes who competed at the NSW All-Schools Cross Country Championships. The championships were held at Eastern Creek Raceway on Friday the 17th of July. Despite the very cold conditions our students ran well against the many talented competitors. Our best finisher, Jonathan King was awarded a silver medal for his 2nd place in the 13yrs race. This was an outstanding performance and a real personal best by Jonathan, who raced well in a very difficult age group. Other notable performances were by Gabrielle Stanek 6th in the 16yrs age group and Anna Margraf 8th in the 14yrs age group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Age Gender</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>NSW CHS Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ware, Aolani</td>
<td>13yrs Girls</td>
<td>3km</td>
<td>11th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wenban, Chiara</td>
<td>13yrs Girls</td>
<td>3km</td>
<td>34th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hofmeyer, Brooke</td>
<td>13yrs Girls</td>
<td>3km</td>
<td>53rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creed, Hayley</td>
<td>13yrs Girls</td>
<td>3km</td>
<td>79th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margraf, Anna</td>
<td>14yrs Girls</td>
<td>4km</td>
<td>8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hofmeyer, Mikayla</td>
<td>15yrs Girls</td>
<td>4km</td>
<td>15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainprize, Tani</td>
<td>15yrs Girls</td>
<td>4km</td>
<td>74th</td>
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<tr>
<td>King, Britney</td>
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<td>4km</td>
<td>66th</td>
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<td>Stanek, Gabrielle</td>
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<td>4km</td>
<td>6th</td>
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<td>King, Jonathon</td>
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<td>3km</td>
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<td>6km</td>
<td>49th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breugem, Henk</td>
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<td>6km</td>
<td>43rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Paul Francis / Sports Organiser

Careers News
1) Commencing next Monday 27th July, I will be completing post school informal Year 12 Careers Chats during Weeks 3 - 5. Two students per period will be scheduled to come to my office (mostly during study periods to minimise class disruptions). Griffith University will be here Period 7 on Monday in the TLS, so students need to place names on the list attached to the Careers Office door before Recess 2 (so teachers can be informed). A copy of the Year 12 Careers Chats timetable will be issued during English lessons on Monday. This term we will also have SCU, UNE and Griffith University visiting. So keep an eye out in the Daily Bulletin for dates and times.

2) FREE and informative resource for parents and students to access - a School Careers website for lots of Careers information - University, VET, Work Experience, Resumes, Finding a job, Youth Allowance and much more:

Visit www.alstonvillehighcareers.com

3) TAFE/TVET applications have arrived and will be due back to Ms Horne by Friday 4th September, Week 8, to allow time to be signed, collated and sent to TAFE. Forms can be handed in as soon as they are completed to avoid missing out on the end of
term deadline. I have a copy of all students’ Board of Studies numbers which I can add after they reach me. USI - numbers will be created at TAFE next year. Students need to complete/sign relevant sections. Parents should also sign the Parent section for government school students.

4) FREE-UAC (NSW/ACT) application guides have arrived, enough for all Year 12. I still have a limited number of FREE QTAC (QLD) Guides and when they go, students will need to purchase their own from a newsagent.

5) YEAR 12 need to check variety of closing dates, prerequisites, extra application requirements, scholarships, accommodation, update/prepare Resumes to apply for jobs THIS term. Parents and teachers are not able to do everything for you as you prepare for completing secondary education!

Karen Horne / Careers Adviser

Elective History – Year 9
A recent year 9 Elective History class were issued an assessment task that required them to imagine that they had been transported back in time to either ancient Sparta or Athens. Students (in pairs) were to create a history guide book which would enable them to belong to one of these societies. They reinforced skills such as note-taking, research, editing, design and collaboration. The unit of work culminated in a Greek festival which included music and a feast of Greek food. We all dressed in Greek clothing and adornments. During the festival, the students presented their history guide books to the class, with each group informing the class about a different aspect about their chosen society. The students produced excellent history guide books and thoroughly enjoyed the festival experience.

Mrs Gordon / History Teacher

Year 8 English
Our year 8ENG2 class has been exploring the rich tapestry of voices that Australian poets have to offer, from modern Asian poets to pastoral bush ballads. As they explore each form and the features and conventions common to them, they also are given an opportunity to create a poem or stanza in the style. The following is a lovely example of a ballad style poem thoughtfully crafted by Rennick Oakley, who explored the beauty of Australian fauna and flora utilising an unusual perspective. Please read the poem below from one of these students.

Mel Strawbridge / English Teacher

AUSTRALIA IS ALL I WANT, NOTHING MORE
To the blissful silence, the tree frog thought
There were no things harmful, no iron wrought
The mysterious forest, would have no downs
Complete with a stream, the kindling crown
There were trees and grass, no mining for brass
And flowers and fresh water, all threats had passed

But above all, all the beautiful features
The frog was still missing, the highest of preachers
This was not Australia, which was his home
He searched for years, he still couldn’t find it
But he still had faith, too much to describe it

He passed many countries, all lovely and kind
But none as good as his home place, soft and no rind
He travelled the world, not once would be cease
He had to find Australia, He wouldn’t be at ease

He’d gone through sweltering deserts, and frozen ones alike
There were many threats, most tried to strike

He could swim the seas, and tried his best to please
He finally found the east coast, pretty and glistening
He had many stories, all worth listening
But most of all, Australia in words
He treasured the landscape, the beautiful birds
This was Australia, his love and his pride
He’d found it again, as long as he had tried

By Rennick Oakley
P&C News

Fund Raiser/Dinner Meeting

Wednesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} July

An invitation is extended to all members of the Alstonville High School P&C and any other members of the school community interested to join us at our next meeting to enjoy some delicious ‘Winter Soups’ whilst having an opportunity to meet the new English Department Head Teacher, Mrs Jill Brigden.

\textbf{When:} Wednesday July 22\textsuperscript{nd}

\textbf{Where:} Alstonville High School Home Economics Department –

Ground floor, past the library.

Commencing: 6:00pm

P&C Meeting to follow commencing 7:00pm

The Fundraiser/Dinner meeting has also traditionally been an opportunity to raise some funds toward supporting Bruce Fleming and his role at the school as Religious Instruction teacher. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.
Our school is collecting for Woolworths Earn and Learn

Education Support

CHC30213 – Certificate III in Education Support
Course Description: This qualification reflects the role of workers in a range of education settings, including public and independent schools and community education settings, who provide assistance and support to teachers and students under broad-based supervision.

Entry Requirements: There are no entry requirements for this qualification.

Wollongbar Tafe:

Start date: anytime from 13/07/2015 (students are able to commence after the starting date)

- Two days per week 9.00 a.m. to 3.00pm for one semester
- Additional online study may also be required
- 100 hours work placement to be completed in an Education Environment