Principal’s Report

Congratulations to:

- **Jackson Whiley**, Year 7, claimed the Australian Title in the Men's 2000 metre Under 15 Steeplechase at the 2014 Australian Junior Championships in Sydney on the weekend

- **Aaron Breust** for his selection in a NSW CHS Tennis Team for the NSW All Schools Championships

During this week we celebrated Harmony Day which occurs on the 21st March. Our staff assisted students in organising an excellent assembly which featured student performances, guest speakers and student speeches, which recognised the contributions that we have all made in making Australia the great country it is. Our aim is to raise awareness of the value of diversity and to celebrate the contribution of all Australian’s, including those from diverse backgrounds, in enriching this nation. Our school proudly caters for all students regardless of background. After the assembly a soccer match was staged on the oval and a free BBQ was held. I urge you to read the speech delivered by Dom Brew, our boys vice captain, which is featured in this edition.

After the holidays NAPLAN tests will be conducted. At Albury High School we use these tests to inform our teaching staff of student progress and plan for student improvement. We are not interested in the League Tables or setting unrealistic expectations on student performances. I want all students sitting the test to simply do their best and be happy with their efforts. We can then use the data to better improve what we teach at Albury High School.

Prior to NAPLAN we have been instructed to take part in an equating test to help validate the NAPLAN tests. Several classes will be selected for this. The results are not made public and we do not get any feedback. The test will take around an hour to complete. I ask for your cooperation in allowing this if your son/daughter is asked to take part.

**WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY (WH&S)**

On the weekend all the trees at Albury High School were assessed from a safety view point. Four trees were condemned immediately and have been cordoned off and students are to stay away from these areas. This is especially important at the Griffith Street entry where traffic conditions will be changed. Can students please keep out of the staff car park area of a morning and afternoon and be aware of the changes to the driveway area.

**ALBURY GOLD CUP**

The Albury Gold Cup has been gazetted a half day holiday for Albury High School and the Albury CBD. School will close at 12noon on Friday 28th March. All buses will continue to operate as normal. Buses will depart Albury High School at their normal times, however there will be no supervision during this time.

Mr Darryl Ward
Principal

**INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE COMPETITION**

Entries are now open for the 2014 ICAS NSW Uni International Science Competition. The cost is $8.80 which goes towards the preparation of the test papers, certificates, etc. Entry forms can be provided by any science teacher. Each year we have many students demonstrate their ability by performing well in this competition and it give students an extra chance to show their ability above and beyond the normal curriculum.

Mr Bruce Jackson
Science
YEAR ADVISERS CORNER

Year 7

Year 7 are getting more excited as we draw closer to the annual year 7 camp at the Great Aussie Holiday Park at Bowna. The dates for the camp are Tuesday 25th to Thursday 27th March.

Recently Year 7 were educated on the Albury City Council’s ‘Half Waste’ Campaign. The aim of this seminar was to start a recycling program in the year 7 area at school. We hope to start this program Term 2.

Mr Paul Schupina
Year 7 Student Adviser

Year 9

Year 9 have begun their 2 year elective choices and while a few have changed courses, that process is now complete. At present the students are electing a ‘volunteering’ choice. This program runs during Terms 2 and 3 during guidance for 1 period a week and is being co-ordinated by Mr. Crowhurst. Some of the choices include painting murals to decorate the school walls, maintaining the aboriginal garden, sports coaching, Year 7 and 8 student mentoring and working in the school canteen or photocopying room. We encourage the students to also look at volunteering for organisations outside school hours. Certificates are awarded to students who gain a certain amount of hours, so it is important that a log is kept of the volunteering work. I applaud the enthusiasm of Year 9 as they look forward to this program and commend many students who are already undertaking community work. I also thank Mr Crowhurst for his organisation and many other staff who are involved in the program throughout the school.

Finally, can I remind parents to complete and return the administrative ‘Yellow Cards’ and Publication permission forms recently sent home.

Mrs Marita Harriss
Year 9 Student Adviser

Year 11

I’ve had several comments from both parents and students that “Year 11 doesn’t count, so there is no point doing homework or studying”. Whilst it is acknowledged that the course content from the Preliminary Studies are not examined during the Higher School Certificate exams, the underpinning knowledge and study habits developed during the Preliminary Course set students up to achieve at a high level during the HSC.

If the effort is not put in this year, then many are setting themselves up to fail when the demands of the HSC kick in, in term 4, as they will be unable to manage their time, the increase in their workload and their out of school activities. Now is the time to start sound practices that will continue to develop through the HSC course and beyond.

For this reason, a Study Day for all Year 11 students will take place early in Term 2 at Latrobe University to assist our students with skills such as Summarising, Time Management and Relaxation techniques.

I would also like to remind students to return their ‘Yellow Cards’ to the box outside the Home Ec staffroom at the bottom of F Block.

Mrs Melissa Albert
Year 11 Student Adviser

SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR HSC

The Board of Studies has a program to help students with practical support called provisions in their Higher School Certificate examinations. The use of any provision is not written on the student’s results.

Students may need provisions for:
- a permanent condition, such as diabetes, anxiety, depression or a reading and or writing difficulty
- a temporary condition, such as a broken arm, or
- an intermittent condition, such as back pain when sitting for long periods.

It is not embarrassing to apply for or use provisions. More than 5000 HSC students apply for provisions each year. Provisions help students to show the markers what they know and can do.

To apply for provisions, the school submits an online application to the Board of Studies. This application tells us which provisions the student is requesting and includes recent evidence. Evidence may include medical reports, reading results, spelling results, writing samples and teacher comments.

Much of the evidence can be collected by the school, but the parents’ role is welcome and needed. Parents help by talking with the school, describing the student’s needs, and providing the school with medical or other reports.

Applications for provisions should be submitted by the school to the Board of Studies by the end of Term 1. Late applications are accepted for an emergency, such as a broken arm, until the time of the examinations.

As the process can be lengthy, it is advisable to start the application process sooner rather than later. Students who are currently in Year 11 should start to consider applying for special provisions now, in preparation for their HSC next year.

If you think that you or your child may require support please discuss the matter with the Learning and Support Teacher, Year Adviser or School Counsellor.

Mr Andrew King
Deputy Principal - Senior School
UN YOUTH NSW CONFERENCE
The UN Youth NSW Conference was held at a large conference centre in Sydney over the past weekend, where more than 150 high school students ‘inflated their importance’ by each representing a country, as delegates in a series of debates and seminars, which culminated in a general assembly meeting of all UN nations. The issue discussed this year was ‘The changing nature of conflict in the 21st Century’.

I represented Portugal and as such I had to enter all debates with the perspective of a beach loving, manufacturing nation and input my country’s interests of the resolutions presented to us. The resolution related to disarmament of cyber warfare and the UN Security Council, meaning I received a proposed law, and had to add, amend or strike causes as to meet the demands of all the Portuguese peoples. We all sat in a room with country placards to identify each of us. We had to send notes and discuss between other nations how to win support for our amendments and strategically disadvantage conflicting amendments.

We also had a panel of intellectuals who gave their opinions on the idea of conflict, referring heavily to the issues in Syria, North Korea and Ukraine. These were: Dr Bates Gill (no typo), an Americanised capitalist who was far too good at diversion; Camilla Schippa, one of the leading pacifists in the UN organisation, who was remarkably interesting but horribly meek; Michael Gill, an Australian leftist that only wore a short sleeve shirt; and finally Richard Broinowski, who hid his right wing deviationism through a myriad of "friends who supported Russia’s right to Crimea".

Later there were more important speeches: Bob Carr, who spoke for thirty minutes and answered questions for an hour and a half; and Major General Simone Wilkie, who did the opposite and had no opinion, but the official military’s, on any issue.

Overall it was a stimulating and engaging weekend, involving completely alien opportunities. I would recommend the conference to all interested in politics and law. There are similar events for which all information can be gathered from the UN Youth website.

James Mitchelhill
Year 12 Student

HARMONY DAY SPEECH
Good Morning and welcome, Mr. Ward, distinguished guests, staff and the student body. Welcome to our Harmony Day Assembly.

Harmony Day is a day of acceptance, tolerance, peace and equality. People will come together this Friday, the 21st of March to celebrate each other’s unique qualities, whether these are in their backgrounds, race, sexuality or gender. Everyone has their own story and today we will hear a few of them. Not only will we commemorate each other’s individual differences but we will pay tribute to our own countries background and the evolution of multiculturalism in Australia.

Considering 45% of Australians were either born overseas or have at least one parent that was born overseas and more than 300 other languages are spoken in Australian homes, I believe that diversity is a major factor in everyday life and should be celebrated along with individual differences.

The story of our nation has, in reality, been one of many and varied nationalities and cultures. Unfortunately our past has not always been harmonious. The white British Settlers and the Aboriginal inhabitants came into conflict. There have been plenty of moments of discontent like the treatment of Chinese workers on the goldfields in the 1850’s, and the Cronulla riots of 2005 which were caused by 'True Blue Australians' protesting against a number of different races that were living in Cronulla. However, our history is also full of wonderful events; like the positive treatment of those who migrated to Australia post World War 2 which helped push the nation towards the 21st century. There are many other milestones of national multicultural acceptance.

Each of us have our own back story that has shaped us into who we are today, mine is having two younger siblings, both girls with one in year 10 and one in year 5. My family’s background originates in Ireland where my great grandfather immigrated from, to Australia, to brew beer and own pubs, a job which my grandfather is still doing. My personal belief of Harmony Day is the acceptance of all cultures with Australia and recognise the advantages of being one of the most culturally diverse nations in the world.

Harmony Day is a 24 hour time period in which we can, hear about other’s stories, share our own and accept variation. The definition from the official Harmony Day website is "The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. It is a day to celebrate Australia’s diversity. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world." This can be done in so many diverse ways, whether it be cooking a meal that relates to your culture or a dance to celebrate your elders, the activities which can be done are limitless, multiculturalism can be displayed through film, music, art, sport or storytelling. Within these exhibitions of ethnic variance we can see how all ‘Australians’ from different backgrounds belong within our land and make it a better place.

Dom Brew
Year 12, Vice Captain
RAW (READY, ARRIVE, WORK) PROGRAM
Some of our English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D) students recently had the opportunity to attend a week long RAW program focusing on employability skills, resume writing, considering future study and work pathways and experiencing different workplaces. The program was held at the Riverina TAFE and some of the students comments are listed below.

- The best part for me was learning about jobs and having lunch at the commercial club.  
  Sabitra
- I learned about how to get jobs, how to make a resume, how to make a cover letter and how to do an interview.
  Sita
- I enjoyed the teamwork and planning games and learned about new thing and other thing. The best part for me was thinking about my future what I will do after school finishes.
  Krishna
- I liked making business clothes with newspaper and bingo.
  Linda
- I liked learning about jobs and what to wear for an interview
  Subash
- The best part for me was when Mr Daniel was talking about how you join university and what to do in the future.
  Bien

Ms Megan Salter
ESL/D Teacher

RIVERINA SWIMMING
On Friday 7th March approximately 50 students made the early morning journey to Leeton for the Riverina swimming carnival.

Once again the students from Albury High School proved to be dominant. Nearly all students who attended qualified to compete at the State CHS championships. All but one of the relay teams made it through.

Some notable performances included Samara Jackson and Ben O’Brien, who made it through to state level for 7 individual events, Mikaela Clemson for 6 individual events, Austin Shepherd for 5 events, Matthew Riches and Harry Duck for 4 events and Kaitlin Ainsworth, Jasmina Ainsworth and Emily Evans for 3 events. The 12 x 50m all age relay consisting of 6 boys and 6 girls won this inaugural event and in doing so, set the record as well as winning from second place by the length of the pool. The girls 16yr relay thought they had the record, only to miss out on corrected time. Harry Duck lived up to his name and swam one of the fastest times in NSW this year for a boy in his age group. In doing so, he broke the record for 50m that had stood since 1991. It was great to hear his supporters provide their own unique style of cheering of “quack quack quack” as he powered through the water.

A special mention and thank you to all the parents who took the time and made the journey, transporting competitors across to Leeton. Without your help the students would never have this opportunity.

Bruce Jackson
Team Manager

RUTHERGLEN TRIATHLON
Chris Boydall, Erin McDonald and Maddi Shaw won the junior team event at the Rutherglen triathlon on Sunday 9th March. Spencer Hunter came third in junior boys division, while Jessie Nixon fourth in junior girls. Congratulations to all who competed in this event.

Mr Gavin Fletcher

OPENS WATERPOLO
Last week the boys and girls waterpolo teams played in the Riverina Opens CHS competition. Sporting our NEW caps, the girls hit the water first. In a tight match we lost to Wagga High School. The girls played well as a team. The boys had a convincing win over James Fallon High School (JFHS). The girls then lost to JFHS in another close game showing good team spirit and great attitude. The boys won against Murray High School in a very close game. This takes us to the State Finals in Lambton during week 10. Riverina Trials were on Tuesday and names of students selected into the Riverina teams, which play in term 4, will be listed next month. The new caps were provided by the P&C.

Mrs Dian Madden
CHS SOFTBALL

On the 25th of February Milla Reid and Meg Wheeler travelled to Tamworth to represent the Riverina at the NSW CHS Softball Carnival. The Riverina team started off well with a draw against the Hunter Region and then proceeded to dominate the Western Region with a 17-8 win. Milla excelled in the batting box, gaining much needed runs and finishing with a Home Run in a later game. Meg showed great skills when it came to fielding, taking several catches in the outfield which were vital for shut outs. Over the three day carnival the Riverina team finished in 7th position, they grew and developed, forming bonds that will flow into next year’s competition.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The AHS Athletics Carnival will be held on Tuesday 1st April (Week 10)

This is a whole school carnival - all students are expected to attend and are encouraged to participate to the best of their ability.

Venue: Alexandra Park Athletics Complex

Times:
Start - 9.00 am
(Rolls will be marked between 8.45am and 9.00am)
Finish - 3.00 pm (approx.)

Travel: Students make their own arrangements to get to Alexandra Park. Many students get dropped off directly at the ground by parents. There will also be a bus available from school to Alexandra Park at 8.50am (departing from the bus bay). Students MUST leave their name with PE Staff by the end of lunch on Thursday, March 27th and pay an additional $4.00 if they wish to catch this bus. This bus will return to school at the end of the day in plenty of time to catch other buses.

Cost: $4.00 (paid on entry to the ground)

Uniform: AHS Sports uniform + Hat (this is NOT a dress-up day, but a House - coloured shirt may be worn instead of the normal white polo top).

Hovell - Blue; Hume - Yellow; Mitchell - Green; Murray - Red

Lunch: Bring your own lunch & drink. Council also operates a kiosk on the day for students to purchase their lunch.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Mr Greg King
Head Teacher PDHPE

DIVING

The Albury High School Diving team has some fresh talent this year and it is pleasing to see them performing well in all levels of competition. Our team placed first in the Zone Diving Carnival which was held on the 19th February. From the Riverina Diving Trials held in Wagga on 13th March, we had five students qualify to represent the Riverina at the NSW CHS Diving Championships in Sydney on 7th and 8th April. We wish them all the best in this next level of competition.

OPEN GIRLS BASKETBALL

Congratulations to the Open Girls Basketball team who won the Albury Gala Day. The girls played very well in both games. Albury High was winning convincingly against James Fallon High School. This led to our captain Erin Macdonald demonstrating quality leadership and fair play by suggesting we play the second half with 4 players rather than 5 which the girls implemented. In the second game Murray High School gave us a run for our money. Both teams played well, we lead for the best part of the game but Murray didn’t give up and made our girls fight hard for the win.

Congratulations to Erin Macdonald, Kenna Watson and Sally Lynch for 3, 2 and 1 points respectively.

Open Girls Basketball Team 2014:
Captain: Erin Macdonald
Eloise Maddox
Sally Lynch
Kenna Watson
Annie Lefoe
Katelin Fletcher
Drew Junek-Gonzalez
Sienna Fuller
Scorer: Chloe Moses
Ref: Josh Edgar

Mr Greg King
Team Coach/Manager

Miss Tara McRae
Coach
VOCAL GROUP CONCERT AT ST MATTHEWS

Albury is lucky to have a fantastic show of amazing, original vocal music coming to town this month. As part of their tour of the east coast's major cities, Invenio Singers are performing in Albury at St Matthew's Church (Kiewa St) this Saturday the 22nd March @ 7.30pm. This is a rare opportunity for students to see this kind of quality, original vocal and choral music live in town.

We are the only regional stopover for this very impressive group's tour, so let's get out and support top quality performers travelling to our area. Have a listen to the kind of music you can expect by checking the link below:

https://soundcloud.com/gianslater/where-is-her-compass

This concert is open to the public and it is recommended to students, parents and friends alike; anyone who would appreciate/enjoy these amazing singers in the wonderful resonant acoustic of St Matthew's Church. Tickets are $20 adult/$15 conc. and are available at the door. Hope to see you there!

Mrs Helena Barber
Music

FARM SALES

Fresh seasonal fruit and vegetables along with free range eggs (subject to availability) are for sale from our school farm. Cash sales can be made between the hours of 8.30am and 12noon at the farm gate near the oval.

A variety of vegetable seedlings are also available.

Mrs Tracey Lee
Agriculture

HARMONY DAY CELEBRATIONS - FREE EVENTS

We are really going crazy with our Harmony Day celebrations with two events. Both are going to be great community events and really, you can never have too much of being at the Wood Fired Oven!

Taste Harmony @ Murray River Farmer’s Market
Hovell Tree Park, Hovell Tree Drive, Albury
Thursday 20th March, 5.00pm – 7.00pm
Enjoy the Farmer’s Market accompanied by delicious foods and live music with aromas from around the globe and an array of tantalising dishes from our food stall holders to sample and taste.

Celebrate Holi: Festival of Colours
At the Wood Fired Oven, Sunday 23rd March
The Indian Community will once again host this colourful, fun filled celebration of this Hindu Festival marking the triumph of good over evil.
We start the day with a Citizenship Ceremony at 2.00pm then the fun starts at 3.00pm – 5.00pm.
Come ready to join in the dancing and be splashed with the colours of the rainbow.

WESLEY LIFEFORCE SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING

Simple, effective interventions can make a real difference and save lives. Thanks to the generous donation received from the Commercial Club, Albury, Wesley LifeForce is able to deliver suicide prevention training to teachers and parents at your school.

Wesley LifeForce will be conducting this suicide prevention workshop at the Commercial Club, 618 Dean Street, Albury NSW 2640 on Thursday 5th June, 2014 and Tuesday 24th June, 2014 from 6:30pm - 8:30pm. Supper and registrations will begin at 6:00pm. There is no charge to attend this workshop.

The training is open to participants aged over 18 years.

Please forward this information on to others you feel may benefit from attending the workshop.

Each participant will receive a certificate of attendance as well as support materials.

For more information call 1800 100 024 or email: lifeforce@wesleymission.org.au

WEEKS 9 & 10 COMING EVENTS

Tuesday March 25th
Year 7 Camp departs

Thursday March 27th
Year 7 Camp returns

Friday March 28th
Half Day Public Holiday

Albury Gold Cup

Tuesday April 1st
AHS Athletics Carnival

Wednesday April 2nd
Year 7 Forum Night