Principal’s Report

Congratulations to:

- Mahnee Przibilla and Ashley Wurtz for selection in the Riverina Tennis team, also to Kiersti Martin and Anna Kolhagen who were selected as reserves

This has been a very busy and successful term with many events taking place. We will finish with our display of student work and performances on Thursday from 4:00pm to 9:00pm. This event known as ASTRA is a revamp of the previously successful Slice of Life event.

Many parents have attended parent teacher evenings and I thank you for this and for working in partnership with us to get the best possible outcomes for students.

At the end of this term the Digital Education Revolution (DER) program which funds our Technology Support Officer (TSO) Mr Gordon Mosinski, comes to an end. I would like to thank Gordon for his work in the school with students and staff in maintaining the student laptops and school DER network. As a consequence there will be no IT support for student laptops and I am waiting for direction from the DEC on how issues around warranty will be managed. Students should still bring laptops to school as requested. Early next term we will implement a BYO policy. More details will follow when processes are followed.

Mr Darryl Ward
Principal

GERMAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Albury High School has a number of exchange students in the school at various times. Currently there are four German nationals here and we thought it would be great to hear their first impressions of Albury High School.

On my first day at Albury High, I was impressed how big the school was. I was afraid I’d get lost all the time but as the systems with the blocks is very easy to understand this wasn’t a problem. Most of the teachers are very nice and open to students, and they were very helpful when it came to integrating into a new class. All in all, Albury high is a great school and I will definitely enjoy the rest of the year.

Christian Eberle

When I arrived in Albury from Amberg, I had completely different expectations about school. The only thing I knew was that the students have to wear a uniform. Because of this I thought school would be very strict and I would not enjoy it. But I was wrong! The teachers are very friendly and they are always willing to help me. I also was pleasantly surprised how open and welcoming the pupils are. In Germany we aren't allowed to choose our own lessons like in Australia. I like the way that everybody can choose some of the subjects that they enjoy doing. All in all I love the way teachers and students work together and there are a lot of good things, for example more modern equipment in classrooms, that I would like to have in my German school too.

David Grohu

The first time I came to Albury high I felt overwhelmed by the amount of students on the campus. All students were really kind to me and showed me around so I had no problems finding any classes. Wearing a school uniform is a very interesting experience for me because I have never worn one before. I am really happy to be able to attend Albury high and looking forward to the 3 months I am going to be in Australia.

Marius Arnold

I was very happy, that Miriam, a girl who volunteered to show me around the school, introduced me to her friends, so it was easier for me to get to know somebody. I was actually really confused at the beginning, because Albury High is such a big school compared to my school in Germany and it took me quite a while to orient myself. But I’m very happy to be at AHS. It is such a good school with nice students and nice teachers and everybody is so open-minded. I especially enjoyed the variety of subjects and activities that Albury High offers.

Helena Dahm

Mr Damian Toohey
Deputy Principal - Junior School
REFUGEE WEEK AT ALBURY HIGH SCHOOL

Refugee week began with an assembly acknowledging International Day of the African Child and refugees in Albury/Wodonga. The school captain Dillon Harris gave an excellent speech about the history of refugees in this region and the benefits which they bring to our community. Edwige Kirimani who works as an SLSO (Student Liaison Support Officer ethnic) at Albury High School gave a speech outlining her journey to Australia five years ago. The following is an excerpt from her speech.

I came to Australia in March 2009 while seven months pregnant. This for me and my husband was a miracle which I always remember every time I look at my son.

I was always praying to God to help me have my baby in Australia and not in the camp. Babies always died in that camp due to the inability to afford even good and effective drugs.

Now I have three kids all born in Australia. I thank God for letting this happen because I know that my children will have a better future here and be able to help themselves.

I still miss my country too as my parents and six of my siblings are still struggling in the Congo. I wish I could have my family in Australia.

I always pray for my two brothers who are still in the refugee camp in Kenya so that one day they could get out of there and go somewhere peaceful and safe like Australia.

I have been here for five years now and I have done so much that makes me feel proud of myself. I could not see myself achieving my goals if I was still back in my country where there is always war.

Australians should consider themselves lucky to be here, in a safe and peaceful country. Here you can make your dream comes true, achieve your goals and become whoever you want to become in the future without running around looking for a safe place to live.

On Friday 20th June, which was officially world refugee day, some of our students cooked traditional foods which were a real treat for the staff and students. The students prepared over 300 dumplings, 200 samosas, 300 vegetable fritters in addition to curries and chapattis. I think it was probably one of the best morning teas the staff have had and there was a long line of students waiting to purchase tasting plates. The EAL/D students worked all day on Thursday to prepare this food and they should be congratulated on their incredible efforts. It was a true showcase of their culinary abilities, just one example of the skills they bring to our community.

Ms Megan Salter
EAL/D Teacher

REFUGEE WEEK ASSEMBLY SPEECH

Last week we marked Refugee Week 2014 together as the Albury High School community. Multiculturalism and ethnic diversity is a strong component of what makes our school so dynamic and eclectic, and so it is only fitting that we acknowledge and celebrate the strong presence of a vast range of cultures that we have in our community.

The Albury-Wodonga area has a rich history with cultural diversity, stretching back to just after World War 2. From 1947, over 300,000 migrants from over 50 countries passed through the Bonegilla migrant camp after arriving in Australia. The first of these migrants came from refugee camps in Europe and about half of the displaced people who arrived in Australia between 1947 and 1951 lived locally at Bonegilla. Over the time of the camp’s operation, the population of Albury-Wodonga nearly doubled, and eight times the previous amount of overseas-born people lived in the area. Many of the migrants who passed through the camp chose to remain living here and as a result, the social, cultural and economic fabric of the local district has remained rich and boosted as a result of the camp.

More recently, a majority of culturally diverse people who come to Australia and call the Albury area home, have been coming from south and southeast Asian countries, including Laos, Bhutan and the Philippines. All together, the local population with a non-English speaking background comes to 11.2%, and this has made our area into a hub of multiculturalism. In coming into our community, these people from diverse locations around the world bring with them a taste of their own culture to ours. From food and cultural activities to language, by living in this area we all have the privilege to experience and share in a large range of cultures, and this is one of the defining features of Albury.

At Albury High School, our student population is enriched by including these students from diverse cultural backgrounds, giving us all a lesson on tolerance, acceptance and diversity that is valuable and important for us as we grow into adulthood. At Albury High School, we pride ourselves on being an accepting, welcoming community and we are grateful to have the opportunity to experience a little bit of culture from all around the world each day when we congregate within these gates. Refugee Week is a celebration of this diversity that we hold dear, and I hope that we can all take away from its celebration that we, not only in Australia but in Albury and at Albury High School, really are lucky, and that we can celebrate living as one varied and cultured community strengthened by our differences and united as one.

Dylan Harris
Year 12 Student
MEDALLION PRESENTATION
A large group of students were awarded bronze and silver medals in June. To qualify for a bronze medallion, 36 merit awards are required and for a silver, 72 merit awards are required. This is an enormous effort and the award recipients are to be commended for their fine efforts. The recipients were:

BRONZE AWARDS
Year 8: Jack Clarke, Rachel Habermann & Maya Salinger
Year 9: Sam Bruce, Lachlan Dowding, Nicholas Kolhagen, Jai McNamara-Lindner & Austinn Speed
Year 10: Nicholas Brown, Molly Burke, Isabella Claxton, Gabbie Copley, Georgina Edwards, Abigail Hughes, Maria Ivan, Nathan Lee, Georgia Maginnity, Cody Moncrieff, Liam Murtagh-Fraser, Brooke Phillips, Nigma Radwan & Annabel Taylor
Year 11: Jake Eisenhauer, Isabelle Gregory, Henry O’Shea, Claudia Grenfell-Uijland, Mica Torre & Nikki Barr
Year 12: Ebony Chapman, Ezra McNair, Joshua Stevenson & Isabella Stuart

SILVER AWARDS
Year 10: Meyah Ford, Tim Lutton, Emily McIntosh, Laura Roberts & Karina Sisouk
Year 12: Sally Lynch & Isaac Widdidon

Congratulations to all involved.

Ms Deb Quinn
Head Teacher Welfare

TREE PLANTING ACTIVITIES
Our school will be involved in tree planting in the community with Albury City Council again this year.

On the last day of this term, 27th June, Year 9 will be planting trees on Nail Can Hill behind Kalianna and Albury TAFE. This part of Nail Can Hill has significant soil erosion so the tree planting this Friday will go some way to address this environmental degradation.

Early next term, 23rd July, all of year 7 will be involved in tree planting at “The Pines” near Hume dam wall as part of Australia’s national tree planting efforts for the week. The day will also incorporate other conversation activities including water quality, weed identification and the study of the squirrel glider habitat.

At the end of term 3, 19th September, year 10 will continue their great efforts of last year, 2600 trees (the target to beat), and continue planting at the Wonga Wet Lands. This further tree planting will continue to improve the environment of this part of West Albury.

Mr Paul Schupina
Science

LAWN BOWLS
On Wednesday 11th June, Mitchell Roots, Max Barralough, Jessy Wilson and Will Heath headed to the Kemp's Creek Bowling Club in Western Sydney. During the previous two months they had defeated Riverina teams such as Billabong, James Fallon, Corowa and Barham to qualify for the CHS Final 16 Lawn Bowls Knockout competition. They were to compete against other Sydney and regional high school winners from around NSW. After arriving at the club, the boys met their fellow competitors who all looked very professional, however they remained confident and began to polish their bowls for the day of competition.

Their first game was against Duval High School from Armidale where the boys came from 10-3 down to draw 11-11 after picking up an amazing seven points in the 10th end. Duval went on to finish third in the state. Game two was against Forbes High School whom the boys brushed aside with a convincing 17-6 victory that got the attention of the professional teams in the competition. The boys went on to lose to Mitchell High School from Blacktown in their third match, going down 10-7. This result meant they finished 2nd in their group and would playoff for 5th position.

Day two of competition and the playoffs got underway with a matchup against Dungog High School from the Central Coast. The boys finished 10-10 after the final end before going into a playoff that saw them win 11-10 in a thrilling finish to a tight match. This win put them into a playoff for 5/6th position in which they played Merrylands High School, a highly organised team from South Western Sydney. The boys unfortunately went down 11-10 in a gallant effort that earned them 6th place in the state. The boys represented the school extremely well in their competitiveness and sportsmanship and are hoping to consolidate on this result next year.

Mr Simon Porter
Team Coach/Manager

A showcase of Albury High School student’s work will be held on the 26th June from 5:00pm to 9:00pm. The evening will include:

- Performances
- Competitions
- Static displays
- Digital displays
- Demonstrations
- Food and drinks for purchase

All faculties are involved in some way, so all students will be represented. Please come along and support your school!

The SRC is holding a Trivia Day in the hall on 27th June, the last day of term, for all students. This will be held during periods 5, 6, 7 and 8. There will be a cost of $5 to book a table with a maximum of 5 per table. This will be a fun day to test your general knowledge and to win great prizes. We look forward to everyone entering!
AUSTRALIAN ARMY CADETS

Parent and future Cadet Information Night: Thursday 17 July 2014

The Australian Army Cadets is a leading national youth development organisation with the character and values of the Australian Army. The Australian Army Cadets provides activities and experiences set in a military-like structure that develop skills and confidence in young people.

It teaches young Australians both male and female, aged between 12.5 and 19 years, the values of friendship, self discipline, respect and a spirit of adventure.

As a Cadet you will:
* Make new friends
* Be part of a team
* Learn to take responsibility
* Have fun
* Gain leadership skills
* Understand and apply self discipline
* Uphold values such as courtesy, respect and integrity when dealing with others.
* Learn skills like communications, field craft, orienteering, map reading, and cooking
* Undertake adventure training and go bush, use Defence firearms and attend annual camps and activities during school holidays and on weekends.

You can find out more about the Army Cadets by going to the Army Cadet website at http://www.armycadets.gov.au/Pages/home.aspx.

Local Unit Details for 37 ACU
Parade Times: Thursday Nights 6:00pm-9:00pm (during school terms)
South Bandiana Bldg 915
Telephone: (02) 6055 2628 (during parade times)
Mobile: 0448 881 670 (ah)
Email: 37ACU@cadetnet.gov.au

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, 519 Dean Street, Albury NSW 2640 on Wednesday 6th August, 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 16 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