**Principal's Message**

This week we have welcomed to Australia our Japanese visitors from Omiya Kita High School. It has been wonderful to see the teenagers interacting with our Albion Park High students and I know that our Japanese students are loving the English that they are learning, which is very important to them.

This week they have travelled to Katoomba where they enjoyed the chill of the Blue Mountains, luckily it has been unseasonably warm. On Thursday the teachers visited a milk farm thanks to the generosity of Mrs Patrice Joyson who also organised the BBQ which raised over $1500 for our trip. Thanks to the students, staff and parents who joined us for the Bunnings BBQ.

Our local Year 4 students enjoyed our visitors’ company enormously on Tuesday when they visited us for Education Week and particularly liked both the paper-folding and the calves. I would like to thank Ms Claire Phillips for her thorough organization and to my staff who generously gave their time to ensure that the primary school students enjoyed their High School experiences.

Students in the SRC on Friday 1 August ran the ‘Jeans for Genes’ day raising money for research into birth defects and diseases such as cancer, epilepsy, and a range of genetic disorders. I hope everyone was generous in their donations.

Many parents would know Mrs Dale-Myree Dal Santo who has been Head Teacher Welfare for seven years, overseeing the Suspension Centre and ED unit and also leading both the Positive Behaviour for Success and the Aboriginal Education Leadership Team. Dale-Myree was also very active on the P&C committee. Dale-Myree has gained another position in

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**Students of the Week**

Several SRC representatives really exemplified their dedication to our school by volunteering their own time to assist staff with the organisation of the parent-teacher interviews, that were held on Tuesday 22 July. Michael Fielder, Alicia Wheatley, Sophie Smith, Brittany Jolliffe, Murray Twist and Sophie Nicholson really must be commended on their participation in this event. These students were very helpful to parents and staff and truly embody the values of Albion Park High School.

**Reminder Next P&C Meeting**

Monday 18 August, 2014 at 6pm.

**PARK PRESS**

Our School Values are – RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY & COMMITMENT

Find us at: 120 Church Street Albion Park 2527 Email: Albionpk-h@det.nsw.edu.au Tel No: 4257 1744

Term 3  Week 4  4 August, 2014

**Coming events**

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**Don’t let your education slip away,**

**Come to school every day**
Wollongong where she will oversee a special education Unit (which is three classes) attached to Wollongong High School Performing Arts.

I wish to congratulate Dale-Myree on her position and wish her well; the school community has appreciated her warmth and welcoming disposition to students who need much support, and her ability to form wonderful relationships with young people. We will miss her creativity and deep understanding of young people.

I wish to remind parents that Albion Park High School has a policy on fundraising which is attached to this newsletter. All requests to raise funds need to go through the Principal.

Suzi Clapham
Principal

Senior and Junior Subject Information Session
On Tuesday 5 August, the Year 11 2015 Senior Subject Information Session will be held in the school gym. The session will commence at 3:30pm. At 5pm the Year 7 and 8 subject selection information session will commence.

All senior students will be provided with Information packages which contains subject information booklets, PINs and information on how to access the online selection website. Information from the Board of Studies will also be presented.

This is a very important information session and all current Year & 78 and 10 students and their parents are urged to attend. Any student who cannot attend the session is asked to see Mr Ryan (for Year 10) or Mr Ridgway (for Years 7 and 8) before the event.

SRC News
The SRC would like to welcome our new members who have joined us this term. Former CAPA committee members; Damien Meikle, Jack Twist, Emma Smylie, Noah Cegielski, Georgie Davey, Chloie El-Awar, Jaiyde Davies and Kayla Smylie. The SRC is very excited to work with all this new creative talent!

Term three is set to be another extremely busy time for the SRC. We will be continuing to hold ‘Milkshake Monday’ every fortnight, students will be attending round two of the ‘Elevate Leadership Conference’, we will be hosting ‘Jeans for Genes Day’ and we will be also holding our 2014 Captaincy Election. A very eventful term indeed!

News from Support
Every term the Albion Park High School Support Unit participates in a team building day to solidify the bond and friendships that have been built during their time at school. On Tuesday 17 June, we embarked on an adventure to the Sydney Aquarium and the Madame Tussaud’s wax museum.

The day started bright and early at Albion Park train station in what we could only describe as freezing conditions. From there we caught the train to Town Hall station in Sydney. Upon arrival, we made our way down to Darling Harbour and the Sydney Aquarium.

While we were at the aquarium the kids got to see some of the amazing creatures of the ocean including sharks, stingrays, manta rays, sea horses, sword fish, just to name a few. The students were in awe of the fantastic variety of sea life. After our stroll around the Aquarium we stopped for a much needed lunch break in preparation for the next part of our journey.

After lunch, we made our way around the corner to Madame Tussauds, where we were met by former Formula 1 driver Mark Webber. Not even Mr Bridges could hide his excitement to have a photo taken with an icon of Australian Racing. With the excitement of meeting their first celebrity, the students were very keen to get inside the museum and see who else they could meet.

Some of the favourite celebrities that students wanted photos with were Alf from “Home and Away”, Kylie Minogue and a singer that I’m not too familiar with that goes by the name of Justin Bieber.

Overall, it was a fabulous day enjoyed by both staff and students who were beautifully behaved throughout the day.

English and Library News
Congratulations Year 7 on completing your ‘Novel of Choice’ assessment task.
Students were required to read a novel they chose and complete two tasks. This was designed to implement a home reading program, where students read for fifteen minutes each night. This reading was part of students’ English homework each night.

Although the assessment task is now complete, the nightly reading of fifteen minutes continues to be a component of English Homework. Please encourage your children to do it.

A research study by Dalhousie University in Canada has revealed further proof that reading for pleasure is good for you. The study of youths aged 12-15 revealed that reading for pleasure enhanced three main functions:

- academic performance
- social engagement
- personal development

It confirmed that teens, like adults, use reading as a means of everyday life to gain insights into relationships, personal values, cultural identity, safety and security and understanding their world. All of these functions aid teenagers in their transition from childhood to adulthood.

Please encourage your children to read for 15-20 minutes each night. It relaxes them and helps to improve their spelling, vocabulary, writing skills and reading comprehension.

**Taste of TAFE Day**

Wow, what a day! Last week sixty Year 10 students attended the Taste of TAFE day held at Wollongong and Shellharbour TAFE campuses. The aim of the day was to introduce students to the variety of TAFE Vocational and Educational (TVET) courses they could undertake as part of their senior studies. TVET gives students the opportunity to complete their HSC and gain practical work skills and a TAFE NSW qualification.

Students had a guided tour of both campuses and were given information about courses from teaching staff. They were also able to watch TAFE students undertaking set tasks, treated to pizza cooked by the chefs in the kitchens and viewed the excellent work samples completed by TAFE students.

Areas visited included Bricklaying, Carpentry, Commercial Cookery, Child Studies, Vehicle trades-repair and refinish, Electrical, Digital Media, Painting and Decorating, Music, Fitting and Machining.

After a BBQ lunch we headed for Shellharbour TAFE to experience Automotive-mechanical, Health and Recreation, Nursing, Child Studies, Community Services.

The opportunities to meet TAFE staff and students and experience TAFE as a learning environment is valuable in assisting students select their senior subjects and develop their individual career action plans.

### Years 9 and 10 in the Regional Drama Festival

Congratulations to the students who were selected to perform at the Regional Drama Festival on 22 July at the Illawarra Performing Arts Centre. Albion Park High was represented at the festival by two performances, ‘Children of the Black Skirt’ and ‘Rumour Has It’. Congratulations to those who also performed under the banner of ‘The Southern Stars Drama Company’.

Special mention needs to be made of Jack Twist and Damien Meikle who were the hosts for the evening. Well done boys!

### NSW CHS Softball Tournament

On Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 June, ten girls from Albion Park High School competed in the NSW Combined High Schools Softball Tournament in Newcastle. The team members were Sienna Wagner, Kate Walton, Georgia Moore, Cristina Broncano, Bridie Lucas, Tahlia Hession, Lauren Hughes, Keelie Boehm, Natara Parsons and Amber Marden.

The girls played four games over the two day tournament. Their first game was against Coffs Harbour, which we won by forfeit. This put our team in the top eight division of the competition. The girls played some really talented softball teams from both Newcastle and Sydney and they improved with every game they played.

The girls won one game out of the four and came eighth out of sixteen teams. They showed good sportsmanship, enjoyment and gained a reputation for being the most supportive team in attendance. Well
done girls, you have helped to put Albion Park High School ‘on the map’!

Albion Park High School and the girls’ softball team would like to thank the South Coast Convener and the P & C Committee for generously providing funds to cover some costs associated with the trip. The team would also like to say a big thank you to the parents who volunteered to chaperone students to Newcastle and back and helped to coach and score.

**NSW All Schools Rugby League Carnival**

Our highly successful Under 14’s Rugby League team once again made their way through to the NSW All Schools Rugby League Carnival, which is held in Penrith each year.

The team were successful in winning the South Coast All Schools Rugby League Gala Day back in Term 2, which allowed them entry into the state wide carnival. Most of the boys came up last year as 13 year olds and knew that the quality of the opposition would be much stronger at this next level.

On the day we had fifteen boys who were fit and able to play, which was a bit disappointing as we had started with more than twenty players. We had a very young side and had several players playing out of position. The players on the day were: Ethan Quinn, Jay Weaver, Jay Henry, Jack Veenstra, Liam Pearson, Jack Walsh, Dylan Lucas, Lachlan Davies, Kade Lucas, Scott Franke, Kyle Mounfield, Bryce Moore, Dallas Harrison, Jack Oldfield and Cole Thompson.

We were drawn against Belmore Boys High School, Champagnat Catholic College, Pagewood (last year’s winners) and St Dominic’s College, Kingswood. We lost a very close 6-0 against Belmore Boys High School in our first game, which was a result we probably should have anticipated, considering they were much bigger than us. Champagnat College were far too good for us in the second game, winning 26-0. The boys played much better in their final game, but unfortunately St Dominic’s got the better of us scoring 3-0.

Although we didn’t win a game, the boys keep trying until the final whistle in all their games and I’m sure gained something from the experience. This is the standard we must aim to achieve in future years.

A big thankyou to all the mums and dads who helped with transport and supporting the team throughout the competition. Thanks to Declyn Brazulaitis, Riley Renehan, Paul Talbot and Mr Georgiou who also helped out on the day.

**Mr Blake**

**NAIDOC Touch Football Knockout 2014**

The NAIDOC Touch Football Knockout was held at Illawarra Sports High School on Tuesday 22 July. It was a beautiful, sunny day and the Albion Park High team had lots of fun representing their school. We had eight Indigenous students from Years 7-9, including boys and girls on the team.

They were: Jay Henry, Kade Lucas, Zac Gliddon, Dallas Harrison, Jordan Curties-Henry, Rideika Wright, Jemesha Curties-Henry and Tye West.

The Albion Park High School team worked really well together as a team and played brilliantly. We played three games against Dapto High School, Oak Flats High School and Warilla High School. We beat Dapto High School 6-1, lost to Oak Flats High School 9-4 and drew with Warilla High School 7-7. A big thanks to Mr Blake and Matt Hawkins who organised the team and took them on the day.

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. NAIDOC Week is used as a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise Indigenous Australians positive contributions to our country and our society.

**Be Prepared to Believe in Southern Stars 2014**

With the recent media launch of ‘Southern Stars for 2014’ we are happy to announce the theme for this year’s show is ‘We Believe 2014’.

The show’s theme is about a child’s journey through to adulthood – believing in magic and fantasy in the early years, believing in themselves and through education, believing in a better world.

The show is divided into three segments and each investigates a different aspect of believing, starting with childhood then working through the turbulent teenage years to adulthood.
Again almost 2,800 students will take part in the show which will be full of music, dancing, colour and emotion.

Community support of Southern Stars is vital to ensure its success and future and with that in mind we encourage everyone to support Southern Stars by going to see one of the shows.

It doesn't matter if you know anyone performing in the show or not – Southern Stars is a high energy arena style show which provides great entertainment for people of all ages.

Over 12,000 people are expected to attend the four performances at the WIN Entertainment Centre on Friday 29 August and Saturday 30 August - make sure you are one of them!

Get together a group of friends, or your family, and make sure you get to the show.

Tickets are on sale through Ticketmaster priced as follows: Adult $48, Pensioner and student over 12 $38, Student/Child under 12 $27 and Family pass $140.

Alert Notice!
Head Lice
We have been informed that some students are suffering from head lice. The following information is from the Department of Education and Training:

1. If your child has head lice here are some treatment tips:
2. Do not treat your child if their scalp is irritated or inflamed
3. Always read the head lice product label and directions before you apply it to your child’s head. Products can be found in local chemists
4. Apply the head lice product to every strand of your child’s hair and work through, leave for 20 minutes and comb out with a good quality lice comb
5. Check your child’s head and if dead lice are found, the product has worked. However make sure you re-treat your child’s head in seven days to catch nymphs that have emerged from unhatched eggs.
6. Reduce the risk of your child catching head lice by tying their hair back or braiding it.


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**HOMEWORK CENTRE**

Albion Park High School Library,
Wednesday afternoons until 4pm

Teachers are available to help students with homework and assignments and a light afternoon tea is provided.
YEAR 11 & 12 SCHOLARSHIP 2014

S.C.C.E. is offering a 2-month Program Scholarship

December 2014 - January 2015

to your choice of country:

France  Germany  Italy

Join thousands of S.C.C.E. returnees in their decision
to make a difference to their future!

Scholarship valued at $3,925 towards the full program fee

Scholarship is based on 50% off the full program fee. It includes:
- Return flights to destination country on Singapore Airlines
- Domestic transportation in host country and Australia
- Selected host family
- Attendance at overseas local school
- Full 24/7 support in host country
- S.C.C.E. professional support
- Fully comprehensive insurance cover
- Program departure date: 27 Nov 2014  Returning: 23 Jan 2015

How to apply:
Email your name, address, phone number and name of your school and year level to scceaust@scce.com.au
Ask for a scholarship application kit or enquire at www.scce.com.au
You will need to submit a 1,000 word essay (maximum length) on a particular topic by 1 September 2014.
Our School Values are – RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY & COMMITMENT