



ALPHA STATE SCHOOL WEEKLY WATCH 2014

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Website: www.alphass.eq.edu.au

25 November 2014

Issue 18

From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Parents/Caregivers

My last newsletter in my time at Alpha SS. I am grateful for my time at Alpha SS and the opportunity to be of service to the community.

Thanks to the P & C for the fantastic support from the executive and members that has been consistently positive and constructive. Our school's results are enabled by your strategic support. Thanks to our executive members:

Ben Standerwick	President
Stephen McGrath	Vice President
Heidi Howard	Treasurer
Cathy Goodwin	Secretary

There are many members and position holders, such as Ann McGuire who ran the tuckshop all year with committed volunteers, who I will hopefully be able to thank in person before I leave.

Thank you to my crew of teachers and support staff for working with me in achieving very successful results for our school. The professionalism, commitment and drive to provide all children at the school with the best education possible has been outstanding.

Thanks to our parent community. Without your support for the school we cannot deliver the best education to your child. How you feel about the school greatly influences how your child feels about the school and their preparedness to engage. It is great to have a parent group who value education and the work educators do with your child.

Thanks to our students. Repeatedly visitors to our school commented on the calibre and manners of our students. When a visitor comes to our school they see polite, engaged and helpful students each time. I am confident that our student group have the

academic and engagement skills to succeed after year 10 at Alpha SS.

Well done to Jordan Howard and Chloe Dixon our graduating year 10 students and school captains. You should be proud of your achievements in your time at Alpha SS. Our staff are sure you will succeed in all your endeavours going forward with the skills, attributes and knowledge you have at your disposal.

My three children have really enjoyed their time at Alpha SS. Thank you to the parents and students who made them feel welcome and a part of the community. Their teachers have been absolutely committed and it shows in their academic progress.

Congratulations to Dan Evans who has won the position of Principal at Oakenden SS. Thanks to Dan for all your work at the school and in the community. I will announce Dan's replacement as soon as possible. Alpha SS has been able to attract high quality applicants with our success.

Re-print of dates for the end of term:

Speech Night is on the 26th of November starting at 7 pm. This year the event will be held in the BER Building.

Graduation dinner is on the 27th of November at the Golf Club to celebrate our graduating year 10 students and school captains Jordan Howard and Chloe Dixon.

Prep transition day will be on Friday, 28th of November. The preps will spend the day with Alycce Wilson doing transition activities and getting to know the school. More information for our 2015 Prep parents will be coming through the Kindy.

On the same day students will be spending the day with their 2015 teachers. This will be an opportunity to get used to the new class dynamics.

Curriculum and the classroom

Learning will be happening up until the last day at 3 pm of term. However, students will be allocated time to help straighten up their classroom and prepare for 2015.

Computers will need to stay at school from Monday the last week of term. On Wednesday of the last week we will be re-imaging and servicing the computers ready for 2015. A \$50 invoice for repairs may be sent home for repairs that do not fit under the warranty if a computer has damage or issues. This is small fee of the fixed \$250 repair the school pays to repair computers. The laptop itself costs \$1300 that has been allocated to each child free of charge. I think a \$50 invoice for issues/damage outside of warranty is a reasonable contribution from parents.

Behaviour expectations

The students are behaving well in general and the effort students are putting into making sure the uniform is correct is excellent.

I have asked students to commit for the last two weeks to:

- ✦ Taking responsibility for their behaviour
- ✦ Engaging rules, routines and procedures properly
- ✦ Respecting staff as they do their parents

Thanks for taking the time to read our newsletter. Please see me for any issues or great news stories.

The school contact details are

Phone: 4987 0888
Pete Stansfield email: pstan24@eq.edu.au
Pete Stansfield mobile: 0418 982 413
School mobile: 0517 100 274

Kind regards

Pete Stansfield

A bite of Prep/1's Fortnight

Hi Everyone,

The countdown is on with only 8 days left of the school term. It is always around this time of year that I reflect on how quickly the year has flown by and of course how much our students have succeeded.

I can remember starting the year, never having taught Prep/One before and contemplating the best practices to teach students how to read and write and continually adjusting and fine-tuning until we had it right. How far we have come. Certainly the support of staff, parents, students and our Principal Pete Stansfield has enabled me to be at my best each and every day and I am most grateful for that. This year brings to a close a very special year for me, one of the best teaching years in my career and I sit here typing this a bit teary as I hand over my P/1 class (2015 1/2/3's) into the capable hands of Miss Courtney Hodge for 2015. As my maternity leave looms closer and Gabe and I bring our little boy into the world, I am very much looking forward to being a parent and also for my perspective on teaching and learning to change - I will finally be able to see things from a parent's perspective!

It is with sadness that we farewell Mr Stansfield and the lovely Stansfield family, Mr Evans and Miss Gray, who we will miss very much ☺ We will continue on with optimism knowing that we are the best school - a Top 20 school as a result of all the hard work and efforts that staff, students, parents and the community have contributed to over the past two years. There aren't really any words that can convey how much I appreciate all that you have done for our school Pete, and I wish you and your family all the very best at Alligator Creek ☺

Reminders:

- ✦ Speech night - starts at 7.00 pm. Students will be sent home with their costumes today, please make sure they arrive in their costumes ready for their performance. If students wish to wear something special for receiving their certificate/awards they may change afterwards, under parent supervision.
- ✦ Year 10 Graduation dinner Thursday night
- ✦ Transition day Friday 28th November
- ✦ Prep One Fun Day Friday 5th December (shared picnic lunch, Fire Brigade Visit, Arts & Crafts), a note will be sent home later this week.

I hope everyone has a wonderful week and you all enjoy the countdown to the last day of school and to

the Christmas holidays ☺

All the best from
Miss Priddle.

Year 2/3/4 Kapers

Hello parents,

It's time for an update from the 2/3/4 room.

We have currently finished all of the student's assessment tasks, and report cards are currently being written. This week in class, we have been focussing on: Place value, partitioning and expanded notation in Maths; sentence structure, reading comprehension strategies, and writing narratives in English. Over the next two weeks we will be looking at fractions (2 and 3) and turning these fractions into decimals (3 and 4), as well as calculating change.

Don't forget, homework club is still running on a Monday afternoon next week. This week is also a big week with Speech night, Grade 10 graduation, followed by transition day on Friday.

To get your child ready for Speech night, please check to see if you have the following available for your child's costume. Many students have already bought their costumes in, however if they haven't please check the following list. Your child knows which character they are. If you don't have part or all of the costume, please try and find something similar.

Driver - Singlet, shorts, thongs, sunnies

Passenger - Singlet, shorts/skirt, thongs, sunnies

Kelpie - Black/brown or grey clothes including socks

Uncle Bruce - Bright button up short (preferably short sleeved), black pants, either shoes or thongs.

Grandma - Already sorted out.

Grandpa - Button up shirt, black pants or black shorts, shoes.

Kids - singlet, board shorts, thongs, can wear sunnies (preferably bright)

Swaggie - working jeans, shirt, hat, boots, (flanny if possible)

Kangaroo - Brown/black or grey clothes including socks.

As speech night starts at 7:00 pm, please try and have your child here approximately 15 minutes early. We will be meeting in the classroom to go and get changed into costumes, as we will be performing near the beginning of speech night. After the performance, the students will be able to get changed into their formal clothes again.

Regards,
Miss Wilson

Year 5/6 Happenings

Greetings,

What an awesome year to reflect upon at Alpha SS. It has been an amazing journey. I am very grateful for all of the exciting activities I have had the opportunity to be a part of. Some of these include cross country, the swimming carnival, school camp, touch day and Mother's Day morning tea. It has also been a great year for the students in terms of their academic progress. Each student has shown significant improvements. Congratulations!

Thank you to the parents for your continual support and dedication. The success of this year would not be so grand without you all. I hope that you too can enjoy reflecting upon a fantastic year.

I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday. May Santa be kind and bring you a little something special.

If you have any questions with regard to the end of term, please come and see me, or email me.

Thank you!
Miss Gulliver.

SEVEN/EIGHTS

Another week down and only 8 days left of the school year for us. We still have our heads down and our tails up as there is still plenty of stuff to do before we close the doors for the Christmas holidays.

We have actually finished all of our assessment in English and Maths but will be concentrating on activities to build their literacy and numeracy levels up especially in areas where they may not be as strong. We will also be doing Lexia and Matholia.

Thank you to my class for the wonderful year. I wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year and I look forward to catching up in 2015.

To the parents of my students and everyone else, enjoy Christmas and the time with your children. I hope 2015 is a year filled with all good things for you.

To Pete thank you for everything and good luck for next year. To Dan and Kerryn all the best and good luck too.

Thank you for your support. Until next year

Keep smiling. ☺
Mrs Goodwin

Highschool Hi-Jinx

Well the year is nearly at an end.

It has been a very successful one with students behaviour and work ethic being worthy of praise.

In the week and a half remaining we will be concentrating on literacy and numeracy skills so it will be work as usual.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Jordan and Chloe all the best for their future educational pursuits. It has been a pleasure to have them as students.

Also I send good luck to the students who are leaving us at the end of the year, I hope that they settle in quickly to their new schools.

Have a Happy Christmas everyone and a safe holiday
Mrs Rogers ☺

Miss Gray's Jottings:

I can't believe it's the end of another year! The students have been working hard in the past few weeks, not only on their dance tasks in class but also preparing some fantastic acts for speech night. I would like to commend all students on an outstanding effort, particularly those in Choir and/or Guitar & Ukulele Ensemble who have given up much of their free time to attend extra rehearsals. I have no doubt students will be rewarded for all their efforts when they take to the stage and put on great performances.

In Manual Arts the senior students are charging along at a fast pace to get everything completed by the end of term. They took on a huge challenge with their design task this term, and I am super impressed by the ideas, the hard work, the problem solving and the

tenacity all students have displayed. I am so proud of what they have achieved, and they should be too! It's been an awesome learning experience for all of us and I couldn't have wished for a better group of students to join me for the ride!

As you all know, this is my final term in Alpha, and it is of course with mixed emotions that I say farewell. Thank you to all of the wonderful students who have been a part of my time here, it's been an incredible experience that I will never forget. Thank you also to those parents who have supported and encouraged me over the last few years as I found my feet in Alpha.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and enjoyable summer. ☺

Miss Gray

Parent/Highschool Dodgeball Fun Afternoon

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the high school parent's, student's and staff for a wonderful afternoon of dodgeball. Thank you to Chappy for putting on an excellent feed and for being so colourful for the staff/parent team. Well done the victorious Parent/Staff team who took out the honours once again.



Every child has a good day every day. | Every child matters every day.



Alpha Police Station

19 Milton Street

Alpha Q 4724

Ph. (07) 4985 1200

Farewells – Congratulations to Mr Stansfield on his promotion and transfer to Alligator Creek. Unfortunately their gain is our loss. Mr Stansfield's dedication and effort to improve the Alpha State School has been greatly appreciated and he will be sadly missed. I look forward to meeting his replacement who can hopefully continue the good work.

Also, S/C Jason Robertson leaves Alpha on transfer to Home Hill in December after 3 ½ years in Alpha. Jason has been an exceptional police officer during his time in Alpha and has displayed a lot of professionalism and integrity in policing a small country community. Jason will also be sadly missed. His replacement will also have big shoes to fill and will hopefully continue the good work.

Holidays – Enjoy the end of year holidays, travel safe and come back refreshed in the new year.

Contact Phone number for **Weapons Licencing Branch** – **3015 7777**.

Road condition reports – **13 19 40**.

The Police Station will not be performing Queensland Transport duties over the Christmas/New Year break. This is due to Qld Transport offices being closed throughout the state during this time.

The Alpha Police Station counter hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8.00 am and 12.00 pm when possible. **There will always be exceptions to this such as emergency callouts and other operational policing demands**, so it may be best to check in advance or phone before attending.

Take care

Mick Lingard & Jason Robertson

IF A CRIME'S HAPPENING
RIGHT NOW, CALL
TRIPLE ZERO (000).

IF NOT, THINK
POLICELINK.
CALL 131 444.

Alpha State School Values - Respect, Responsibility, Honesty