Coming Events

DECEMBER
- Wednesday 3 December—Musicorp Concert @ 2.00 pm in McCarthy Hall
- **Tuesday 9 December**—Proclaim follow up meeting @ 5.00 pm in the Staffroom
- **Tuesday 9 December**—Parish School Forum Dinner at Federal Hotel @ 6.30 pm
- Monday 15 December—School (2015) Swimming Carnival
- Wednesday 17 December—Whole School Mass @ 9.30 am in McCarthy Hall
- Wednesday 17 December—Year 6 last day & Farewell Dinner
- **Friday 19 December**—Last day of Term 4. School finishes at noon.

In Brief…

Playground Clean-up: S1
- Orientation Day for Alstonville High School is on Wednesday 3 December.
- Orientation Day for Trinity Catholic College is on Friday 5 December.
- Musicorp students will perform tomorrow, Wednesday at 2pm. All welcome. There will also be a short presentation to students inviting them to join Musicorp for 2015.
- Letter to Year 5 Families re Year 6 Shirt for 2015 accompanies this newsletter

Baskets are in each classroom for the St Vincent de Paul CHRISTMAS Hamper Appeal.
The hampers will be collected by members of the St Vincent de Paul Society at the assembly on Friday 12 December. Let’s give generously to those in need and local to us.

The Aproned Angels—Noel Stallard

Now Alstonville is where to go for something quite unique, St Joseph’s School does proudly boast a factory all complete.

Yes, Fr Mac’s rich puddings are the talk of all the nation, But no one knows, except St Joe’s, what are the combinations.

We know there’s eggs and flour and fruit, bicarbonate of soda, But the sixty gallons of rum each week gives it the heavenly flavour.

Mac’s merry band of volunteers sees cooking as no chore, These aproned angels sell to the rich, so they can feed the poor.

Darcy McCarthy was the priest with cooking skills supreme, And these he used when fools refused to fund his school, his dream.

No Bingo, Raffles, Fetes or Fairs he used to get his money, But night and day he worked his way through taste buds to the tummy.

His priestly mates heaped ridicule on this naïve approach, Until they saw and held in awe the dollars he evoked.

And these he spent on charities both here and overseas, He put a smile or wiped a tear, helped banish miseries.

Now Mac had little trust in banks these seemed like little Caesars, But opt to store his hard earned cash in pudd-cans in his freezers.

Bank tellers to this day recall frost-bite and frozen fingers, When flipping through the freezing notes Mac dragged out from his fridges.

In ’91 our Mac was told he had the cancer curse, But cooked right on to help provide for those he thought were worse.

Mac may be dead but he will live in every smiling face, Of volunteers and student who work there in his place.

Father Mac’s Heavenly Pudding supports St Joseph’s by assisting with the loan repayments on the school buildings, as well as providing a pudding to all of our visiting guests we have at the school. Please support the enterprise this Christmas that supports us.

Father Mac’s Heavenly Puddings make an ideal Christmas Gift

- 800 gms $18
- 1.6 KG $35
- Gluten Free 800 gms $25

Available from the School Office
Dear Parents & Carers,

 Everywhere we turn at present there are Christmas presents, decorations and celebrations. We anticipate the holiday season. People are gift buying to make the perfect choice for family and friends. We look to make that gift special or meaningful. Sometimes we spend far too much on the gift. The Church looks at the preparation for Christmas somewhat differently. It is called Advent. We see it as a time of preparing for the birth and the celebration of a very special gift: that of Jesus. We think of others through the giving to St Vincent de Paul appeals and hampers for the needy. We should also be reflecting on what this birth means for all of us. Or is the real meaning of Christmas being forgotten in your life? Maybe the gift we give this year might be forgiveness or beginning again; being civil to those from whom we are estranged; leaving hurts behind and being positive; acting towards others how we would like them to act towards us; giving a bit of joy to someone doing it tough; taking time to do something for others; sacrificing some time to support someone……

 Maybe throughout this season of Advent we might also picture the gift giving of Christmas differently and encourage others to join in.

 Congratulations to Samuel Chawalliwara and Harry Condon for being recognised for their Acts of Kindness, Sam and Harry were presented with their awards at last Friday’s assembly.

 Thank you to all involved in our End of Year Celebration last night. Events such as these require careful planning and co-ordination. The staff did a tremendous job in organising the students, helping them learn their parts and practised until they knew what was happening and in ensuring their rooms were on show. Thanks to the parents who helped out with the BBQ and the Tombola, raffles and glowstick sales. These all add to the night. Thanks to the Band for their dinner entertainment too.

 Judging by the response the jokes were a hit too!!

 Our final few events for 2014 include:

 The swimming carnival on Monday 15 December. We would be grateful for helpers on this day- to set up, time, assist staff etc. Please let the office know or email rcondon@lism.catholic.edu.au if you can assist us.

 Our final Mass for 2014 will be celebrated at 9.30am on Wednesday 17 December in the Hall. During the Mass the Awards for 2014 will be announced and we will say farewell to leaving staff and families. Then we will have the Year 6 Morning tea in the Hall. This is followed by the Year 6 students and staff heading to Ballina Pool and waterslide for a fun afternoon before returning for a Family organised Dinner at the Bowling Club.

 Stage 1 and 2 will enjoy a visit from some Titans players that afternoon.

 School for 2014 finishes on Friday 19 December at 12 noon.

 The 2015 school year begins on Tuesday 27 January- for staff Years 1-6 begin on Wednesday 28 January and Kinder begin on Tuesday 3 February. On Wednesday 28 January any interested parents are invited to gather for a back to school morning tea at the Garden House, Wardell Road Alstonville. Our Kinder parents are invited to morning tea on Tuesday 3 February in the staffroom after dropping your children off in the classroom.

 Reports will go home next Tuesday with the Newsletter. Just a couple of reminders:

 - If you would like an interview with one of the stage teachers these must be booked through schoolinterviews.com.au using the code: 3LJR2.
 - The Report is an indication of where your child sits in relation to their cohort eg Year 2 or Year 4. A “C” means they are performing at an average expectation.
 - There are no set number of A- Es given. These grades are achieved by students’ work rate in class time, assessments carried out by staff and their work standards across all key learning areas. In Kindergarten no A-E is given but this begins in Year 1. This is a national expectation under a reporting agreement called Plain English reporting.
 - It is worthwhile revisiting the common grade scale for A-E to assist your understanding. This is reprinted below.
 - There is nothing to stop a child in the first year of a stage eg Years 1, 3 or 5 gaining an A or B if they are working at that standard.
 - The report result should be read in conjunction with the first semester result to judge whether your child has made the changes they set out to mark. If this has occurred then please celebrate this achievement with them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Common Grade Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>The student has an extensive knowledge and understanding of the content and can readily apply this knowledge. In addition, the student has achieved a very high level of competence in the processes and skills and can apply these skills to new situations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>The student has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In addition, the student is able to apply this knowledge and these skills to most situations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>The student has a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>The student has a basic knowledge and understanding of the content and has achieved a limited level of competence in the processes and skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>The student has an elementary knowledge and understanding in few areas of the content and has achieved very limited competence in some of the processes and skills.</td>
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 Congratulations to the Murgha family (Vic and Eurica, Zarliia S1 and Ewan Kinder and their brother Jasiah) on the birth of a baby girl last Wednesday as yet un-named.

 Therese Seymour
How We Learn…

- 10% of what we read
- 20% of what we hear
- 30% of what we see
- 50% of what we see and hear
- 70% of what we discuss
- 80% of what we experience personally
- 95% of what we teach to others

William Glasser

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Thank you to all the seven families that participated in the Smiles 4 school project from Kate Nutt photography. These families will have beautiful photos to share and we in turn raised $350 for the school.

Thank you for your kind donations with Tombola stall last night we had a total of 131 prizes donated earning us $262. We now await the finally tally as we also sold raffle tickets and other glow items.

Congratulations to the Christmas raffle winners:

1st Prize: The Macadamia Castle family pass won by Bruce

2nd Prize: Kate Nutt Photography package won by the Pereira Family

3rd Prize: $20 voucher Alstonville Plaza Meats and Deli won by Lisa McCormack

The PSF Fundraising committee has only been formed in the latter half of the school year and I would personally like to thank Lisa McCormack and Suzanne Wright for helping form this committee and working tirelessly in raising the much needed funds to date. We hope with your help we will be able to have bigger and better fundraising activities throughout the coming years. After all the money raised is to help our most precious commodity, our kids.

So watch this space……………………

Thank you and Merry Christmas
Sarah Moore on behalf of THE PSF FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Reports

Reports will be coming home Tuesday.
If you require an interview please log on to:
www.schoolinterviews.com.au
and enter the following code

3LJR2

Stage 1 Ten Pin Bowling—Reminder
Tuesday 9 December, 4.00 pm—6.00 pm at Lismore Ten Pin Bowl. This is not a school event so parent supervision required. Siblings welcome.
Enquiries, please phone Beth Newton 0431 777 458
CANTEEN SPECIAL ~ WEDNESDAY ONLY

Fish with Oven Baked Fries
with lemon and tartare sauce

$4

CANTEEN ROSTER
Open Wednesday & Friday
Leanne Harris Coordinator Ph 66281990

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Duty Starts at 9.00am</th>
<th>Healthy Snack Donation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 3 December</td>
<td>Volunteer please!</td>
<td>Volunteer Please</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 5 December</td>
<td>Volunteer please!</td>
<td>Z Cluff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10 December</td>
<td>Jacinta Oates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 12 December</td>
<td>Kimberley Hourigan</td>
<td>G Jeffrey &amp; E Price</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17 December</td>
<td>Volunteer please!</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19 December</td>
<td>NO CANTEEN</td>
<td>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL—FINISHES AT 12 NOON</td>
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ASSEMBLY ROSTER
(Held @ 2.20pm in McCarthy Hall)
ALL WELCOME
Reminder: Boom gate closes at 3 pm.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date/Week</th>
<th>Host</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9: 5 December</td>
<td>Kinder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10: 12 December</td>
<td>Final Assembly</td>
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The following children have celebrated their birthday since our last Newsletter

Elsa Brown & Jye Davis,
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER
Saturday 6 December: Harry Leslie, Patrick Hart, Tom Leslie, Lara Leslie & Jack Leslie
Sunday 7 December: Brandon Quigley, Hannah MacRae, Matthew MEelligott, Molly MacRae & Charlotte Drew

Children's Sunday Liturgy
7 December: Karen & John Freebody & Tanya Pagotto

Final Youth Group for 2014

Date: Saturday 6 December
Place: Oates's: 98 Dills Lane Alstonville
Time: after 6pm Mass till 9pm
All youth from Yr 5 – Yr 12 are very welcome
No Cost
Sausage sizzle will be supplied with drinks & icypoles
Bring: Swimmers & a plate of something ‘Christmasy’ to share for dessert
***Parents are welcome to stay for a Christmas celebration drink (BYO)

Christmas Art for kids: $25 per class including all materials) booking essential. Saturday December 6 (10am-12 pm) or (2pm – 4pm) studio: ‘delstrongart’ at 88a Main St Alstonville, phone: 02.6628 1749, mobile: 0401447717, web: art@delstrong.com

January art classes for children
Bees, butterflies and bugs 12/13/14Jan (10am-12 noon)
All about horses encore 19/20/21 Jan (10am-12 noon)
Every day is different. All classes are conducted by Del Strong a national multi-award winning teacher, author and artist. $20 per class. Bookings are essential studio: ‘delstrongart’ at 88a Main Street Alstonville, phone: 02.6628 1749, mobile: 0401447717,

Congratulations to the following children who received Awards at last week’s assembly.

DID YOU KNOW?
The Australian Men’s Hockey Team (the Kookaburras) are the number one team in the world, winning the World Championship and the Commonwealth Games Gold Medal in 2014.
The Australian Women’s Hockey Team (the Kookaburras) are currently ranked second in the world.
HOCKEY IS A TEAM SPORT THAT PROMOTES FITNESS, EYE HAND COORDINATION AND TEAMWORK.
Check out our website or contact Club President Glen Hunter on 0402 674 525 or alstonvillehockeyclub@hotmail.com

Alstonville Scouts welcome new Members (2015)
Come and try FREE for up to 4 weeks before joining!
For Girls and Boys of all ages who love adventure and fun.
For Mums and Dads who want their Kids to learn important life skills in a safe environment.

Joeys Scouts: ages 6 to 8 years, Wednesdays: 5.30 to 6.30pm
Cub Scouts: ages 8 to 11 years, Wednesdays: 6.30 to 8.00pm
Scouts: ages 11 to 15 years, Thursdays: 6.30 to 8.30pm
The Alstonville Scout Hall is located at Gap Road, Alstonville.
To find out more, contact either:
Troy Davis (Group Leader) Mobile: 0428 582 973
Cindy Robinson (Joeys Leader), Mobile: 0413 454 177