As another year draws to an end there are several exciting and successful outcomes that our students and staff can be proud in accomplishing. This year the newly renamed LEC (Learning Enhancement Centre) has been involved in many school wide events these include the Swimming Carnival, Sports Carnival and the HPV event. Many students have also been involved in the performing arts presentations throughout the year.

We had several students represented at the student awards evening with Amy Hamerslag being our Senior student award recipient and Alexander Klein our Junior award recipient. This is a wonderful achievement for these two as they truly represent the values that we try and instil in all students at Aldridge SHS.

As we progress into 2014 our focus will remain on challenging students to do the best they can in an academic sense while concentrating with equal energy on the virtues that all people need to become confident, resilient, articulate well functioning members of society. In essence our sense of community and the development of students socially and emotionally will remain a key component of what students are exposed to at Aldridge SHS.

We will be reigniting our work experience program next year, initially identified students will go to Endeavour Industries for a session once a week. While this program is in place we will be pursuing other suitable avenues for work experience. The staff have redefined what some of our units of delivery will be with Senior Modified PE being introduced, Junior Art Classes and Alternate Agriculture being extended to Senior students, Social Skills will also be part of the curriculum for those students who find it difficult to interact with the wider school community.

In finishing I cannot express my gratitude to all the teachers and teacher aides who have worked tirelessly this year to achieve considerable outcomes. I need to thank all the parents and carers who we have worked with throughout the year, THANK YOU for your input and cooperation. It is only as a team working together that REAL outcomes will be achieved.

To everyone involved in the LEC have a safe and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. See you all next year.

Brett Martell
Acting Head of Special Education Services
In October, six year 11 and 12 students completed a two day course at Roadcraft in Gympie. The course has been specifically designed for students with disabilities and as a driver with more than 30 years of driving experience, I have to say it was brilliant.

Our students had varied levels of previous driving experience. One student had his licence, three had learner’s permits and had started their driving lessons and the final two students had never been behind the wheel of a car before. The students covered the theory of road safety as well as doing practical driving activities. On the learner’s track the students wove through witches hats, drove twisting roads and practiced emergency stopping in both dry and wet conditions. The two days were jam packed. All the students were impressed by what they learnt in the three days and I was more than a little impressed by their maturity and levels of engagement.

I am sure we will be offering this opportunity again next year and have to say if your students do nothing else in their school years this is a must do! It has certainly made me more aware of maintaining safe driving habits.

Safe holidays everyone

Ali Senior
IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 Jan 2014</td>
<td>Australia Day Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 Jan</td>
<td>First Day Term 1 2014 (Year 11 &amp; Year 8's only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Feb</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Mar</td>
<td>Yr8/10 Vaccinations</td>
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<td>11 Mar</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>31 Mar-4 Apr</td>
<td>Senior Exam Block</td>
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<td>4 Apr</td>
<td>Last day Term 1</td>
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<td>18/19/20/21 Apr</td>
<td>EASTER</td>
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<td>22 Apr</td>
<td>First day Term 2</td>
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ADMINISTERING PARACETAMOL TO STUDENTS

In August 2010, the procedure for administering over the counter medications ie. Panadol, to students has changed. School staff are no longer able to contact parents to obtain verbal permission to administer Panadol to students. The policy states “Staff are not to administer any over the counter medications (including paracetamol or similar medications) without the correct authorisation from a medical practitioner.

Therefore, all medications held at the school will require authorisation from a medical practitioner or a prescribing health professional (ie. A Pharmacist).

Parents are able to leave a supply of Paracetamol at the school for their student/s, provided that the packaging has a label from the Chemist, with their students name and the dosage that they require.

We thank you for your understanding.

(extracted from school newsletter)

MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR
2014

Congratulations
Class of 2013