COMPASSION

sympathetic consciousness of others' distress together with a desire to alleviate it

Like us on facebook for regular school information updates.
Search for Avondale School - Toronto Campus.
It is about 8:30 in the evening, the last of the children have headed off to bed. Mum and Dad are sitting down for the first time and Dad immediately gets his iPad out and starts reading an e-book. The wife suddenly says, ‘Honey, I want to talk with you for a few minutes.’

She begins to talk and after a few minutes’ looks at her husband who is busy reading and exclaims, ‘Are you listening?’

Her husband is tempted to reply ‘Of course I am!’ but actually his mind is still on what he has been reading. The e-book was really interesting. He really needs to show he cares by shutting the iPad and giving her his full attention. Many of us are poor listeners. Teenagers can get frustrated because their parents always have a quick answer, when actually they just want someone to listen to their struggles and accept them. One teenager said, ‘Sometimes I would just like to talk until I know what I want to say.’

Real friendship is built on acceptance, understanding and being a good listener. Listening may just be the most compassionate thing you do today.

Enjoy this week’s news.

Dr David J Faull
Principal

Great Campus
We are already starting to plan for 2017 and that means we need to get the word out that there are spaces for students in our great little school. We have a NEW brochure and we would love to get these out into the community. Our data shows that our best ambassadors for the school are our parents who can tell the story so well. Please drop in and see Mrs Allan in the Office and collect a brochure or two to share with families you know. If every family encouraged one student enrolment then just imagine our school with waiting lists.

To encourage you to be our best promoters, if a new student enrols and says your family recommended them we will give you a $250 discount off your fees for K-6 enrolments. Now that’s an offer worth considering!! Let’s build our great school for 2017!!

Fees
A GRAND effort! Thank you to the parents who are making a concerted effort in reducing their outstanding fee accounts. It is really appreciated. Just a little over a month of the school year left.

Gym Program
Starting in Week 6 the students will enjoy a unit on gymnastics. We have coaches and equipment arriving on campus for these weekly sessions for K-6 students each Tuesday. The students will learn new skills and build their ‘core’ fitness from the variety of challenges they will face each week.

Speech Night
It is hard to believe but Speech Night 2016 is only weeks away. It will be a Christmas theme and the students have already commenced their work on the music. It will be a highlight for the year. Save the date - Tuesday Dec 13, 7pm.

Sports Uniform
As from next week, K-6 students will be required to wear their sports uniform on Mondays and Tuesdays, please. Thank you for noting this change.

Swimming Program
Our Term 4 swimming program is to take place 21-25 November. Students will attend Morisset Pool for their lessons. Please refer to the letter that was sent home for further information about our swimming program.

Teachers on Duty
You may have noticed that when a teacher is on duty out in the playground they wear an orange vest. We ask that you kindly refrain from seeking an interview with a teacher at such a time. Please see Mrs Allan in the Office to leave a message for the teacher or make an appointment to see the teacher at a convenient time. When a teacher is on duty they have a duty of care to the students and they do need to stay focused on their responsibility. Thank you for your understanding!

Week of Worship
Next week is an extra special week here at Toronto Campus as it is Week of Worship. Pastor Brock has been working very hard to prepare lots of exciting things for this program. We are looking forward to finding out what this year's theme is and seeing the lovely props. Please keep this special program in your prayers.

Awards
Students of the Week
Pre-Kindy - Lien
K-2 - Tba
3-6 - Tamar

Values Award
Pre-Kindy - Beau
K-2 - Tba
3-6 - Kanayah
Cl a s s N e w s

Pre-Kindy

We had fun painting our hands as part of our Bible lesson this week. We thought about ways we can be a helpful hand for others, then we made a print of our hands. There were some lovely responses from the children as they thought of ways to be helpful.

On Tuesday, we finally reached the number 20 as part of our number studies. We learnt that to make 20 we need two filled up tens frames. We found that 10 and 10 make 20, and 5 and 5 and 5 and 5 make twenty as well! We found that it takes 2 people to make twenty fingers.

Please remember our Letterland Party coming up in November 30, and our Speech Night that you won't want to miss on December 13.

Have a great week everyone!

K-2

A BIG thank you to Mrs Bentley for teaching us while Mrs Woods has been away due to ill health. The students just loved the writing activity today which focused on learning how to write a procedure. You may want to ask your child what they made at school today!

Our thanks also go to Mrs Greensill for teaching us on Wednesday while Mrs Woods worked on all the testing that is to be done at this time of the year.

Miss Dias even got to teach K-2 for a while on Thursday and she was very impressed with how well the students know the routines in their classroom and how well they worked on their learning tasks. It was great to see the amazing progress students are making.

Our special time in the garden to harvest the potatoes was to take place this week however, this event has been postponed until next week. We would really like Mrs Woods to be present for this special occasion so we will wait a few days before we go on our ‘treasure’ hunt.

Please remember that our gymnastics program starts next week and the students will need to wear their sports uniform on Tuesdays for the remainder of the term.

The students are working very hard to prepare for Speech Night. We hope you are planning to attend this special event on 13 December starting at 7pm. We think you will really enjoy the program so please clear your diaries for this important date.

Congratulations to Isaac who featured in a special video clip that was shown in chapel this week about what to do when the bell goes after recess and lunch breaks. You did really well Isaac and thank you for setting a great example to the other students!
It was such a pleasure to see the enthusiasm for writing in the Years 3-6 classroom this week. On Wednesday when I announced that it was writing time I heard students say ‘Oh yes!’ and what a delight it was to see such a positive attitude for this learning area. The students wrote very interesting imaginative texts (narratives) and they could hardly wait to share their lovely work with the class. A fabulous effort!

At the moment we are studying a book called ‘My Place’ and it is helping us to learn all about important historical events and how our country has changed over time. The students wrote summaries on one of the sections in the book about 1988. We discovered that writing a summary is one way to help with comprehending text. We are looking forward to studying this book a bit more next week.

We have been focusing our learning in maths on fractions and decimals this week. The students have been working hard to learn all about equivalent fractions and much more. We had lots of fun working through activities on the screen to help us with our learning.

Our Speech Night preparations are well underway and we are working hard to learn our songs. The students have also been given a script to learn and it would be great if mums and dads could help with this at home. Please plan to attend Speech Night on Tuesday 13 December. It’s an event not to be missed!!

We are looking forward to a special time next week when it will be Week of Worship at our campus. We can’t wait to find out what the theme will be and we are really looking forward to seeing Pastor Brock again.

Our gymnastics program starts next week and we need to remember to wear our sports uniform on Tuesdays instead of Fridays from now on.

Well done to Years 3-6!

On Tuesday I met with a consultant from the Association of Independent Schools and we reviewed the school’s literacy and numeracy plan. I have met with Judy Huda on a regular basis for about three years now as part of the Schools Leading Learning grant we received. The support of the AIS has been invaluable and it has lead to so many benefits for the school. The data is clearly showing that the introduction of some new initiatives in these areas is working very well. We are seeing a lot of pleasing progress and some outstanding results from the students. Judy and I also worked on a plan for next year and this involves the introduction of further initiatives in numeracy. We are very excited about the direction our learning program is taking.

We continue to make our way through the school’s end-of-year English and Maths assessment schedule. This involves assessing the students’ abilities in specific areas of English and Maths and this week our focus has been on phonemic awareness, phonics and maths (all areas). We are very proud of the students for their efforts! We would be very happy to share your child’s progress profile with you once the assessments have been completed. Please feel free to make an appointment with your child’s teacher to discuss their progress.

Once again, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions about our academic program.
School Term Dates 2016

**Term 1**
Wednesday January 27 - Friday April 8

**Term 2**
Tuesday April 26 - Friday July 1

**Term 3**
Monday July 25 - Friday September 23

**Term 4**
Monday October 10 - Tues December 13

---

**Campus Information**

**Prayer Requests**
We would like to encourage our school community to come together in prayer.

If you have any prayer requests, please feel free to let the staff know, so that we can include your request in our prayers.

**Office Hours**
- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: 8:30am - 12:30pm
- Wednesday: 8:30am - 12:30pm
- Thursday: 8:30am - 01:30pm
- Friday: 8:30am - 12:30pm

**Uniform Shop Hours (Cooranbong Campus)**
- Monday: 8:30 am - 4:30pm
- Wednesday: 8:30 am - 4:30pm

---

**Calendar - Term 4**

- Week of Worship..................................Nov 14-18
- Swimming Lessons..............................Nov 21-25
- Pre-Kindy Letterland Party......................Nov 30
- Pupil Free Day.................................Dec 2
- TCN Awards Night..............................Dec 4
- School Picnic..................................Dec 8
- Last Day of Classes..........................Dec 13
- Speech Night..................................Dec 13

---

**We value Compassion**