Our Pre-Kindies have been busy creating self-portraits to go on our wall in our classroom. We try to make our self-portraits as life like as possible. It is always amazing to see how each picture actually ends up looking just like their real life counterpart!

First the children have a lesson on how to paint their head, neck and shoulders. They look in the mirror to see what shape their face is. Then they choose their skin colour from the “people paint”, and paint their face.

After a lesson on how to draw their eyes, eyebrows, nose and mouth, the children use coloured pencils to add these features. They check carefully in the mirror first.

Next they add their hair. They again choose their hair colour from the balls of wool available. Sometimes they hold the wool up to their hair and check in the mirror to see which one is the closest to their colour.

Finally, we add clothes, and then the portraits are ready to hang up on the wall. Mrs Thompson keeps them on the wall all year because they look so good! She always sheds a tear when they are taken down and sent home.

Make sure you drop into our classroom and see our self-portraits sometime soon!
I read an editorial in the media this week and the headline was – ‘Respect - quality seriously lacking in today’s society.’ It caught my attention because that is the value we are promoting this week at Avondale. The article, pointed out some of the behaviours in public places and on the road that demonstrate a lack of respect for individuals and personal safety.

Respect means valuing each other’s points of views. It means being open to being wrong. It means accepting people as they are. It means not dumping on someone because you’re having a bad day. It means being polite and kind always, because being kind to people is not negotiable. It means not dismissing people because they’re different to you. It means not gossiping about people or spreading lies. Respectful behavior should be something that children want to do without overindulgent rewards. However, it is good to associate respectful behavior with intangible rewards such as praise, recognition, extra responsibility, and privileges. Teaching respect takes patience, time, and a willingness to do as you preach. Modelling respectful behavior is an effective teacher. Time isn’t everything though, is it? It takes years to rear a respectful child and only moments to fill one with anger and disrespect. Which one do you choose?

Have a great week!!

Dr D J Faull
Principal

Swimming
Our swimming program will be commencing next week. Swimming lessons for this term are to take place on 18, 19, 24, 25, and 26 February. Please refer to the letter that was sent home last week for further details about our swimming program.

The Years 3-6 Swimming Carnival is to take place on Tuesday 16 February. Parents are welcome to attend this event. Please refer to the letter that was sent home earlier this week for further details about this event.

Student Well-Being
Avondale takes responsibility for students safety and wellbeing seriously. We have in place proactive measures to achieve this outcome. All Adventist schools across Australia have common practice in this area. A letter outlining these polices is attached to our school website. If you require further information please visit www.avondaleschool.com.au.

Attendance & Punctuality
It is great to have the students back and settled into the learning agenda with the teachers. We really do appreciate your efforts to have the children at school on time for the start of school. It is a requirement that attendance rolls are marked and it is a huge help if everyone is at school on time. Every class, every day is important.

Awards

Students of the Week
Pre-Kindy - Lieve
K-2 - Daniel
3-6 - Caitlyn

Values Award
Pre-Kindy - Sebastian
K-2 - Eden
3-6 - Grace
In our Pre-Kindy classroom we have a beautiful bucket display. This is to remind us to be bucket fillers where we fill each other's invisible buckets with kind words and actions. We are hearing that children are being bucket fillers at home too!! This is wonderful news to hear.

We want to wish Sebastian and Lieve a very happy birthday as they have both turned five in the last week. We celebrated at school with some very yummy cupcakes.

Pre-Kindy having been enjoying working in the garden with Mr Drury. The children have planted broccoli and lettuce seeds. The broccoli seeds have already come up out of the seed pots. The lettuce seeds were very tiny and they were tricky to get in the right place. The good part about having a school garden is that we get to eat the food when it has grown. This week we have eaten watermelon and cucumber!! Yum!!

On Wednesday we had our gardening time with Mr Lyle Drury and we planted lettuce seeds this time. We observed the little broccoli seeds that have grown and following that we watered the new plants outside our office. Then we went inside to write about our gardening experience.

We are looking forward to swimming and that begins next Thursday 18th and Friday 19th. Then we will go again on the 24th, 25th and 26th. Please come and support your child swimming if you are available.

We have been working hard this week to learn lots of new ways of doing things. We are learning our new Spelling routine quickly and it is great to see students making a big effort to complete their homework requirements in this area. We have been learning all about whole numbers in Maths and we are also working hard to learn our timetables. It was great to have Pastor Brock come and take our first Bible study for the year on Wednesday. We are looking forward to many more visits from our pastors during the year. We had lots of fun creating awesome pictures of gardens in Art.

Next week on Tuesday, we are going to have our Swimming Carnival. We are looking forward to joining students from our Cooranbong Campus at the Morisset Pool for this event. Parents are welcome to attend this event.

We need to remember to return our homework to school each day. It is very important that we return our Spelling books to school each day as we work from them Monday through Thursday.

A big congratulations to everyone for a great effort this week!
Garden News

On Wednesday we had our gardening time with Mr Drury and we planted broccoli and tended to the worm farm. It’s always great to get our hands dirty. (K-2)

TCN News

There have been a good number of applications for the TCN jobs advertised at school last week. The TCN producer won’t have any problems filling each of the jobs due to the high quality of the applicants. Well done students for getting your applications in on time and we look forward to seeing you at your interview on Thursday, 18 February. Remember to look out for a letter in the mail that will inform you of which job you have been successful in obtaining.

Students have also started brainstorming for the first edition of the TCN news. As you can see from our whiteboard, there are lots of good ideas ready to be turned into stories so you can be informed of the happenings at our Toronto Campus. If anyone at home has a good idea for a news story at TCN, please pass on your ideas. Remember you can check out our TCN website and see all the past editions of the news. There is also a place on the website where you can email TCN and leave any ideas you have for a news story. Our web address is torontocampusnews.com
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 8:30pm - 1:30pm
Friday 8:30am - 12:30pm

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

Calendar - Term 1

School Fees due ...........................................................5 February
Kindy Rest Days ..........................................................10, 17 February
Primary Swimming Carnival ........................................ 16 February
Parent Teacher interviews .............................................2 March
Open Day ...........................................................................8 March
Interim Reports .............................................................. 29 March
Easter weekend ........................................................... 25 - 28 March
Primary Cross Country ..................................................30 March
Daylight saving ends .................................................... 3 April
Primary SWOMP .............................................................4 - 8 April

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 - Tuesday December 13
Corner Wangi Rd and Parkside Pde, Toronto
8 March 2016 | 10am to 6pm
www.avondaleschool.com.au