We’re back.........

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Have you seen our new promotional video on facebook?
Welcome back!!

It is great to have the students with us with boundless energy ready to start a new term. As I pulled into the parking area I could not help but notice the new growth in the gardens. It is great to have our students working the soil and seeing the results of their efforts and enjoying the harvest.

A special welcome to our new students and their parents. We hope you will enjoy becoming part of our community.

Our family value we are using to start the term is responsibility. Responsibility is a duty or obligation to satisfactorily perform or complete a task (assigned by someone, or created by one’s own promise or circumstances) that one must fulfill, and which has a consequent outcome. A responsible person is held accountable. Our plants grow because we choose to look after them and be responsible!

Just today, I watched a P Plater on Green Ps rip past above the speed limit. A few minutes later the time saved was lost with blue and red lights flashing. Who was responsible? The P driver will have a long time to reflect on his heavy right foot and how he came to be accountable!!

As we begin this term by talking about responsibility I support the poster that said – ‘Be responsible, be dependable, hold yourself accountable, do the right thing but apologise when you make a mistake, do your best work and complete what you set out to do.’ What a world it would be, if we all did this!!

Enjoy the news for the first week back!!

Dr DJ Faull
Principal

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Welcome to Term 2! It's great to see everyone back at school again. We hope you had a wonderful holiday. Congratulations to Riley who celebrated his birthday during the holiday break.

Even though we've only been here for four days this week, it has been a busy time filled with lots of activities. We ... of landings at Gallipoli. We plan to take good care of these special reminders of what others have done for our country.

We have begun to study a new book in English and we are having lots of fun finding out all about the adventures of a girl ... we are looking forward to sharing our work with others. Well done everyone for a fantastic effort in our spelling test!

We are trying really hard to fulfil our homework requirements for the new term. We need to remember to complete our new ... night. We are going to try really hard to read lots of books and record our efforts in our new Reading Record Booklets.

A great start to the term, everyone!

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Fees
Have you settled your fee account for the term? The prompt payment of school fees is required and appreciated. Please note that the School depends on your payments to operate so if you have an outstanding balance on school fees, please settle your account promptly. Thank you in anticipation.

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!!

Kindy Orientation
It has been just great to see how well our Pre-Kindy students have been adjusting to a 'big' school classroom environment as a result of their visits to the K-2 classroom. A BIG thank you to Mrs Woods and the K-2 students for helping the little people in our school make a huge transition so smoothly.

We are looking forward to seeing our Kindy 2017 parents at our Kindy Orientation Parent Night on 2 November. Please mark this important date on your calendar.

If your child is entering into our Kindergarten program in 2017 then he/she will need to participate in a Kindy assessment. This is scheduled to take place next week on Tuesday 18 October.

Pre-Kindy Vision Screening
The Pre-Kindy students have the opportunity to have their vision tested on either Tuesday 18 October or Wednesday 26 October. Pre-Kindy parents are asked to contact Mrs Thompson for further information about this free service.

Swimming Program
Our Term 4 swimming program is to take place 21-25 November. Students will attend the Morisset Pool for their lessons. Further information will be sent home closer to the time.

Uniforms
K-6 students are required to wear their summer uniform during Term 4. Students may continue to wear their sports uniform on Mondays and Fridays.

Please note that the wearing of hats is compulsory this term. Students must wear their hats during recess and lunch breaks as well as during PE lessons.
Pre-Kindy

The year is well underway with the end in sight! The Pre-Kindy children have been making wonderful progress, with many reasons to celebrate. This week, we read a story in class called “Pig the Fibber”. It had lots of rhyming words in it, and it was about a dog that always blamed his mate Trevor. Our sounds that we learned about were s, m and j, and we ate sour squirms, marshmallows and jelly.

Our Pre-Kindy children have been treated to several visits to the K-2 classroom where they have been able to see what Kindy will be like next year. They have all been coming back to class excited and happy - a good sign that Mrs Woods has a great classroom, and the K-2 class has been very welcoming to its new students.

We have our Letterland party coming up on Wednesday, November 30. Please check Edmodo and reply stating which Letterland character your child would like to dress up as. We would like only one of each character, so we have as many characters as possible. If your child does not attend school on Wednesdays, your child is welcome to attend the party. Also, we have our vision screening checks coming up next week, and if you haven’t sent your forms back, please do so.

Have a great week everyone!

Birthdays and jelly making - all good fun!

K-2

Welcome back, we have had a lovely start to Term four, welcoming two new students to our classroom family and Luis returning. Jasmine is in Kindy and her brother Malachi is in Year one.

We also had some Pre-Kindy children come for their second visit.

During Maths this week our focus has been patterns with numbers and shapes.

The theme for show and tell for this week has been: Tell about something exciting you did on the holidays. Next week for show and tell the theme is: Interview a grown-up member of your family to find out more about them. You could ask about: What was it like for them growing up? What family means to them. What their parents were like. Please use the template provided in the homework booklet.

Group 3 Garden – students planted corn and fed the worms. We also had a look at how the potatoes have grown over the holidays.

Group 4 Garden hunt with Mrs Holt today - students found four different textures in the garden and did some crayon rubbings of them.

Groups 1 and 2 - made a paper frame and went outside, we placed the frame on the ground and had a close look at all the things we could find inside our frame.

Congratulations to the following students:

Speedy Maths – Darius, Daniel, Katie, Eden, Kayden and Tyler
Super Improver – Tyler and Ioana
Reading Awards – 15 books: Tyler, Mikayla, Isaac, Darius and Peter
50 books: Ioana, Daniel, Katie, and Grady

I am available most afternoons apart from Wednesday and Friday, so please feel free to make an appointment to come and chat about your child’s progress.
Welcome back to school! It’s just great to have everyone back and the place buzzing with activity and excitement.

A very warm Toronto welcome to Savannah who has joined our class. It’s lovely to have Savannah and her family part of the Avondale School community.

We are learning all about ‘greatness’ in Bible at the moment. So far we have discovered that true greatness comes from serving God and not ourselves. Our memory verse (1 Timothy 4:14, 15) for this week reminds us that God has given each of us gifts and He wants us to use them to serve Him and help others.

We have been focusing our learning in Maths on patterns and algebra this week. We have discovered that when looking at a pattern you need to work out what the rule is in order to work out how to continue a pattern.

We have been studying the book called ‘The Little Refugee’ in English and we have had some interesting discussions about the topic of refugees. We have realised just how grateful we should be for the peace we enjoy in Australia.

We are really loving our new reading books, thanks to the generous support of Toronto Church and our school families and friends. Reading groups time is just fabulous!

We began a new art project at the beginning of the week. We are learning all about abstract art and we are creating our own artworks using shapes. It’s just great to see all the creativity!

A BIG thank you to Mrs Cooper for her efforts with teaching us to play an instrument in the context of a band. We are absolutely loving our music lessons and we have been so excited to be able to take our instruments home.

It’s wonderful to see the students enthusiastic about completing their reading homework. We are looking forward to rewarding students for their efforts. A great start to the new term, Years 3-6!

Allow me to share with you some amazing things that are happening in our academic program. I visit our classrooms on a regular basis and I am absolutely blown away by the quality of the lessons the teachers are delivering. For quite some time now, the teachers and I have been working very hard to introduce a number of new initiatives, particularly in our English program. I have been working with specialist consultants and a lot of research has gone into choosing appropriate learning strategies for our school. We are fully committed to implementing a cutting-edge academic program at Toronto Campus.

This week, the teachers and I spent time in our staff meeting making decisions about the introduction of a new Writing program called Seven Steps to Writing Success. During the mid-year holidays we were trained to implement this program. We then purchased the resources and we are now able to add the Seven Steps strategies to our Writing program. Your child may tell you about such things as ‘sizzling starts’ and ‘ban the boring’ as these are specific strategies designed to assist students with developing their writing skills.

We will soon begin working our way through our end-of-year English and Maths assessment schedule. This will involve assessing the students’ abilities in specific learning areas such as phonemic awareness, phonics, reading comprehension, number and algebra and more. We maintain an assessment profile for each of our students and this involves recording and tracking their progress. We would be very happy to share your child’s 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.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions about our academic program. I look forward to sharing more news about our program with you next time.
Chaplain’s Message

Congratulations!

You may have noticed that Pastor Brock was absent from our chapel program this week. That’s because he is away on paternity leave. The exciting news is that Pastor Brock’s son was born over the holidays. We want to congratulate Pastor Brock and his wife, Cindy, on their new arrival and we wish them all well. We look forward to having Pastor Brock back at school again when he returns in November.

A Boy for Brock and Cindy!

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

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Uniform Shop Hours (Cooranbong Campus)

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Calendar - Term 4

- Testing for 2017 Kindy Class .................. Oct 18
- Pre-Kindy Vision Screening .................... Oct 18
- Kindy Orientation (classroom visits) .... Oct 18, 19, 20
- Pre-Kindy Vision Screening .................... Oct 26
- Kindy Orientation Evening ..................... Nov 2
- Remembrance Day ................................ Nov 11
- Week of Worship .................................. Nov 14-18
- Swimming Lessons ................................ Nov 21-25
- Pre-Kindy Letterland Party .................... Nov 30
- Pupil Free Day .................................. Dec 2
- School Picnic .................................... Dec 8
- Last Day of Classes .............................. Dec 13
- Speech Night .................................... Dec 13

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