I am a person who loves stories. They help me remember things. They provide an interest point for me to learn from, and to share ideas with. This year I am going to endeavour to share some stories that will provide a learning point. That will hopefully help us as a school community gather some ideas on parenting, on providing some character development for us all as we focus on safeguarding our most valuable investment – our children.

I came across a powerful story about the influence that just one person can have over time. I think sometimes we forget how important each person is, and can get caught up in the ‘numbers and beat the next person’ game. This story is a reminder of how important just one person can be.

In 1921 David and Svea Flood left Sweden and went as missionaries to Africa, and ended up in the Belgian Congo in the remote village of N’dolera. They were refused permission to live in the village for fear of upsetting the local spirits, and so lived further up the hill. The only person that Sevea could talk to was the young boy who sold them food from the village. He came to be a converted Christian in the two years they were there.

At the birth of their baby girl, Sevea was so weak she died and her husband became discouraged and gave up, went back to the coast, gave his newborn daughter to another missionary family, went back to Sweden and gave up on God. The little girl, Aggie, returned with her adopted family to America and grew and married Dewey Hunt, a Protestant pastor.

Imagine her surprise when in 1963, she opened a Swedish religious magazine and saw a picture of the grave of her mum in Africa with the name SVEA FLOOD on the white cross. Because she could not read the article in Swedish, she jumped in the car and went to a friend’s house who could. It was basically the story she knew so well, of her mum’s sacrifice and her influence on just one young lad in the village. It went on to though that the young lad had received permission to run a school in his home village, and then converted the chief and the entire village, so that there were now some 600 Christian believers in the village.

Some years later she visited Sweden and met her biological father. David was an old broken man who had remarried and had four other children. He had become an alcoholic and was very bitter about God. Her step siblings had warned her not to talk about God with Dad. However, for Aggie, it was what gave her purpose and meaning in life, and was just a natural part of her conversation. She shared with her dad as he lay in bed sick, that God had a purpose in their going to Africa and that the whole village was now a Christian community. He initially stiffened but as she kept talking, she concluded by saying “Papa, Jesus loves you. He has never hated you.”

Over the next few days she was able to see him come back to see God as a God of love, and made his peace with God. He died only a few weeks later, but content in God.

A few years later, Aggie and her husband were attending an evangelism conference in London and listened to the leader of the national church representing some 110,000 believers in Zaire (Belgian Congo). Aggie went up to him afterwards and asked if he had ever heard of David and Svea Flood and mentioned she was their daughter. The man broke down in tears. “It was Svea Flood who led me to Jesus Christ. I was the boy who brought food to your parents before you were born. In fact to this day your mother’s grave and her memory are honoured by all of us.”

The influence of just one dedicated lady to just one young lad had a huge ripple effect in that community and indeed, in that nation. Have you ever stopped to wonder about your own influence? Your children are watching you and all you do and say at home. What are they learning? As teachers, we are challenged with the same thought. I hope that our influence is positive, and that we are able see a strong ripple effect from the good things we may do.
**GENERAL**

**Primary Captains and Prefects**

Congratulations to our Captains and Prefects for 2017.

Captains: Matthew G and Erin B

Prefects: Jack E, David L, Aidan S, Junior V, Charlotte B, Bethany H, Mia H, Amy M

**Primary Roll Classes**

To assist us with identifying classes for administrative purposes, the class in which your child/ren are in can be identified in the following way:

- Mrs Fraser, KF - Mrs Vaughan, 2V - Mrs Bishop, 4B
- Mrs Lawrence, KL - Mrs Pascoe, 2P - Mr Skinner, 5S
- Mrs Lawson, KSL - Mrs Watson, 3W - Mrs Morton, 5M
- Mrs Schur, 1S - Mrs Dumbrell, 3D - Mr Venegas, 5V
- Mrs Wind, 1W - Miss Moncrieff, 3M - Mrs Morton, 6M
- Mrs Hobson, 1H - Mrs Roberts, 4R - Mrs Hill, 6Hi
- Mrs Hartigan, 2H - Mr Clark, 4C - Mr Hosken, 6Ho

**Medication Forms**

Should your child require medication to be dispensed at School this year, you must complete a Medication Authority Form for 2017. These are available from the Office. All medication must be in the original container prescribed for your child and clearly labelled.

**The Munchery - School Canteen**

If you have not already jumped online to Munch Monitor, our hassel free lunch ordering system, it’s not too late! Simply go to www.munchmonitor.com - School ID: avondale, Password: munch2265 and follow the steps to sign up. Just a reminder to those who already have a Munch Monitor account that you need to update your child’s class, otherwise orders will not be delivered to your child’s classroom. Please note that the Canteen will NOT be open on Tuesday, February 14 due to students from Years 3-12 being off campus for their Swimming Carnivals.

**Before School Supervision**

For your convenience we have a Teacher on duty from 8.00 am each day. To ensure your child’s safety, no students are permitted to be left unsupervised on campus before 8.00 am. Thank you for noting this.

**Uniform Matters**

Thank you to all our students for looking fantastic in their school uniform this week! Just a reminder that as per our Student Handbook, all students are expected to have an “appropriate, neat and tidy hairstyle. Girls’ hair should be their natural colour and long hair should be tied back. Boys’ hair should be their natural colour, neat and above collar length.”

In regards to jewellery, the Handbook states “Jewellery, including bracelets, bands, chains, earrings, studs and rings, is not part of school uniform and is not to be worn. Plastic spacers may be worn in earlobe piercing only.” Students are reminded of our ‘no hat, no play’ policy and asked to have their school hat at school with them to wear.

If your child is temporarily out of uniform parents are required to email or write a note to the class teacher. Thank you for ensuring that your child is wearing their school uniform correctly.

**School Travel 2017 - Opal Cards**

Students who travel on the School Bus are reminded that they need to present their Opal Card for every trip. Hunter Valley Buses has advised that from 24 February 2017 any student who does not have an Opal card will not be permitted to travel on a school bus. All new applications for bus passes and change of address etc need to be completed online at transportnsw.info/ school-students. Once completed the application will be endorsed online by the school with Transport NSW, who will then send the Opal Card directly to the address provided on the application. If you have any queries please contact Transport for NSW on 131 500.

**SPORT**

**Primary Swimming Club**

The Primary Swimming Club commenced this week at Morisset Pool. This is an opportunity for students to prepare for the Swimming Carnival by correcting strokes, building fitness, practising starts and developing confidence. There is no need to book or register, just turn up.

*Who:* Any student who can swim 50m.

*Where:* Morisset Pool

*Cost:* $5.00 (covers pool entry, professional coaching, transport and breakfast). Paid to Mr Head on entry to the pool each morning.

*When:* Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7.00 am - 8.00 am

*Breakfast:* Sanitamurit cereals, toast and spreads.

*Transport:* Mr Head will drive students to school after swimming for breakfast at the Sport Shed.

*Program Operating Dates:* January 31 - February 21 2017

**Sport Uniform**

All students in Kindy, Year 1 and Year 2 will have sport on Mondays and full sport uniform is to be worn. Students will be developing their skills in the following areas: striking, catching, throwing, jumping, balancing and kicking. All students in Years 3-6 will participate in team sports on Fridays, and full sports uniform is to be worn on this day. Students will be developing their skills in the following team sports: Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball Touch Football, Dodgeball, Gymnastics, Hockey and Newcombe Ball.

**2017 Sport House Captains**

Congratulations to our Captains and Vice Captains for 2017:

**Hunter:**
- C - Meshach, I Summer S
- VC - Ryan H, Charlotte N

**Macquarie:**
- C - Leighton C, Tiarra M
- VC - Nathan R, Dayna C

**Pacific:**
- C - Caleb M, Mackinley R
- VC - Dylan H, Stephanie E

**Watagan:**
- C - Ben K, Abigail C
- VC - Luke P, Poppy M

**Library Classes**

Library classes will begin in Week 2 with an introduction to the library and borrowing will start the following week. Please ensure that students bring their library bags on the day listed for their class. You can find this information in the library timetable on the Primary Library Landscape page. http://landscape.avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au/homepage/2828/ Library bags are available for sale from the library at $5.00 per bag.

**Parent Library**

Have you seen our Parent Library? As well as borrowing books on parenting and other related topics, parents can borrow readers, non-fiction and picture books too. You are also most welcome to find a quiet place in the library to sit down and read with your child. If you haven’t joined the Parent Library yet and would like to, just visit the library and sign up at the circulation desk. You can also download a signup sheet from the iCentre Landscape page. http://landscape.avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au/homepage/1762 It’s quick and easy, and we’d love to see you.
Secondary

GENERAL

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SPORT

Swimming Carnival
Tuesday, February 14 - Wyong Olympic Pool

We are having our Swimming Carnival at the Wyong Olympic Pool (1 Ithome St, Wyong) on Tuesday, February 14. There is some shade available and we will be providing some extra. Spectators will have an entry fee at the front gate and are urged to bring a chair as there is limited seating. A canteen will be available on the day and the longterm weather forecast is looking good at this stage. Please feel welcome to come along to cheer and support.

Students do not have to pre-register for events; they marshal on the day for the events they wish to enter. Ages for all events are as at December 31, 2017; it is how old you turn this year. A competitor may compete in their age division only ie. no swimming in higher age groups except for the relays. Age divisions for relays are Junior (12, 13, 14) Intermediate (15, 16) and Senior (17 & 18).

Age Champion Trophies, Runner-up Age Champion Trophies and Third Place Trophies will be awarded in each age division for both boys and girls. All events will contribute to Age Championships except relays and open events. Sport Uniform is expected to be worn by students and they can then change into House colors at the venue. Modest and appropriate swimwear is expected. As this is a normal school event school policies apply to behavior.

PROCEDURE FOR THE DAY
DEPARTURE
1. Students will board buses at 8.50 am for a 9.00 am departure after Roll Call.

AT THE POOL
1. Students are to assemble in the correct House bay area.
2. Students who go direct to the pool from home must get their name marked off at the recording table on arrival and departure.

EVENTS
1. Event 1 will begin at 9.45 am.
2. House Marshalls and Captains will gather students together ready three events BEFORE their scheduled event.
3. The Chief Marshall will then collect competitors and direct them to the starting area.

DEPARTURE
1. Buses will leave the pool at approx 2.00 pm and arrive at school in time for normal buses home.
2. Students leaving with parents prior to this time must sign out at the recording table.

CLASS

NSW School Vaccination Program - Year 7

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2017 the following vaccines will be offered to Year 7 students:

- dTpa vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (whooping cough)) as a single dose
- varicella vaccine (chickenpox) as a single dose; and
- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in a 3-dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6 months (students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8)

Parent Information Kits will be sent home to parents/guardians shortly. The Parent Information Kits contain a consent form, information sheet and privacy statement that details how personal information will be collected, stored and utilised. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation.

To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible. A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

Vaccinations dates for 2017 are: February 21, May 23 and September 12.

PRIVATE MUSIC TUTORS

Are you interested in having music lessons?

We have many great tutors and instruments available to learn on. Please contact tutors directly to arrange lesson times.

Kylie Stacey
piano (Simply Music, AMEB, traditional) 0409 939 302

Ngareta Rorich
piano (Simply Music) 4973 6086

Angela Miller
piano (Simply Music) 0421 464 797

Valmai Hill
piano / music theory 0414 288 931

Jan Hughes
piano 4977 2037

Cybèle Coutet
voice (AMEB) / piano (AMEB) 0423 455 977

Alison Hodge
voice 0402 528 868

Gabriel Ontanu
violon / viola 0447 282 290

Esther Albert
cello / violin / double bass 0439 420 661

Emma Jones
flute 0432 925 199

Fred Cracknell
saxophone / clarinet / brass 0404 082 151

Trish O'Hearn
brass 0402 003 214

Jake Bisognin
guitar 0400 389 612

Zayne Marais
bass guitar / guitar 0435 578 723

James Dennett
flute 0436 608 180

Emma Jones
drums 0401 549 084

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Auditions

Seussical - Theatre for Young Audiences version

Seussical the Musical – On stage June 22 to 24

Years 7 – 12 auditions for lead roles and chorus members

When? Friday 3/2, Monday 6/2, and Tuesday 7/2
What time? Lunchtime
Where? Music Building
What to prepare for a lead role audition: Part of a song (own choice) and a short monologue - no more than 1 minute for each!
What to prepare for a chorus member audition: Part of a song (own choice).

You may audition individually or in a small group.

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brass 0402 003 214

Jake Bisognin
guitar 0400 389 612

Zayne Marais
bass guitar / guitar 0435 578 723

James Dennett
flute 0436 608 180

Emma Jones
drums 0401 549 084
DR DAVID MCCINTOCK
ROLE: Principal
BIBLE VERSE: Isaiah 43:1-2 “But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, and He who formed you: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you." - Fulfilled several times in my life.
FOOD: Weet-bix
HOLIDAY ACTIVITY: Reading

A BIT MORE: I grew up in Bougainville in Papua New Guinea speaking Tok Pisin as my first language. My twin brother and I could understand English, but could not speak it. At the age of three we then lived in New Zealand while my mum recovered from the effects of anti-malaria tablets on her eyes. Then at seven we were back out to Papua New Guinea spending six years in Kabuija in the Highlands of PNG. I had the joys of Distance Education during that time before being sent off for the final five years of high school as a boarding student at Lylidale Adventist Academy. Never dreaming I would be a teacher, a Deputy and then finally a Principal there. I completed both Theology and Teaching courses at Avondale College and have spent the last 36 years as a teacher and school administrator, and absolutely loved it. Glenda and I have been privileged to work in many places. I have been the deputy at Lylidale Adventist Academy, Avondale High School and Tweed Valley College. I have also been the Principal at Mount Diamond Adventist High School in PNG, Carmel College in West Australia, Lylidale Adventist Academy in Victoria, Tweed Valley College in Murwillumbah and also at Carlisle Adventist Christian College in Mackay. We also had the privilege of living in America twice while I completed my Masters in 1987 and my PhD in 1994-5. We have three wonderful children who are grown up and married. Our son Ken is married to Hopal and they live in Brisbane where Brad works for Adventist Schools Australia in the computer support area, and our daughter Katrina is married to Damian and she works in Pathology at Wyong Hospital. I love being in school and we feel a deep conviction from God that this is where He wants us to be. I really look forward to getting to know you over the years.

MR COLIN CHUANG
ROLE: Marketing Communications Manager
BIBLE VERSE: Isaiah 40:30-31 “Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.”
FOOD: Italian or Malaysian
HOLIDAY ACTIVITY: Eating

A BIT MORE: I’ve just married the man of my dreams and moved into the Central Coast area from Kingscliff. Looking forward to what God has in store for me!

MR STUART CLARK
ROLE: Year 4 Teacher
BIBLE VERSE: Genesis 1:1 “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”
FOOD: Mangoes
HOLIDAY ACTIVITY: Relax and retreat into the pages of a non-fiction book.

MISS ANITA GERSBACH
ROLE: Secondary English Teacher
BIBLE VERSE: Matthew 8:26 “And he said to them, “Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?” Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.” I love the challenge to my own faith and the reminder of the power of God.
FOOD: Any fresh fruit
HOLIDAY ACTIVITY: Surfing

Primary Calendar - Term 1
Kindy Rest Day ................................................................. February 9
School Fees Due ............................................................... February 10
Get Active Commences ................................................ February 13
Years 3-6 Swimming Carnival ....................................... February 14
Canteen Closed ............................................................... February 14
Photo ID Day ................................................................. February 16
Kindy Rest Day ............................................................... February 17
HRIS Swimming Carnival ............................................... February 23
Chess Competition ........................................................ March 8
Primary Parent Teacher Night ........................................ March 9
School Open Day .......................................................... March 14

Secondary Calendar - Term 1
School Fees Due ............................................................... February 10
Get Active Commences ................................................ February 13
Secondary Swimming Carnival ...................................... February 14
Year 7 IT Parent Information Night .............................. February 15
Photo ID Day ................................................................. February 16
Duke of Edinburgh Camp ............................................... February 17 - 19
Secondary Week of Worship ....................................... February 20 - 24
Year 8 & 10 Parent Information Night ........................ February 20
Year 7 & 9 Parent Information Night .............................. February 21
Year 12 VET Work Placement (Non-ATAR) ............... February 27 - March 3
Year 10 Business Week .................................................. March 6 - 10

We Value Respect

Like us on Facebook for regular information updates. Search for Avondale School (Preschool to Year 12).

SCHOOL TERMS 2017
Term 1 January 30/31 - Friday, April 7
Term 2 Wednesday, April 26 - Friday, June 30
Term 3 Monday, July 24 - Friday, September 22
Term 4 Monday, October 9 - Monday, December 11