THIS WEEK … Kindy kids headed to the farm with their families. Our chess teams have been successful in their competitions. Students from Kindy and Year 6 participated in a Water Safety Program run by lifeguards. Our Parents and Friends group ran a highly successful Fathers’ Day Stall to raise funds for Kindy-Year 2 playground equipment. We have also had loads of impressive artworks submitted for the Art Show on Saturday evening. Make sure you come along to the CLC at 6.30 pm on Saturday evening to view the art!

NEXT WEEK … some of our students will be heading off to the CIS Athletics Day. There is another chess competition and our Years 3 and 4 concert is on Thursday evening. Make sure you come along to see the amazing talents of our students. They have worked incredibly hard to prepare for this event.

DO YOU KNOW … that we have introduced the Bounce Back program for all Primary students. This award-winning program, written by psychologists and educators, covers a range of areas relating to wellbeing and social skills. Areas covered include core values, resilience, courage, optimism, emotions, relationships, humour, no bullying, skills and attitudes for success. Schools that have introduced this program not only report higher levels of student wellbeing, but improved academic results also. I hope you enjoy some special family time this weekend as you celebrate Fathers’ Day!

MAKING A MARK … “It’s not that I’m so smart, it’s just that I stay with problems longer.” Albert Einstein

DONE AND DUSTED … Thank you for your prayers over our Week of Worship – it was AWESOME! Our fearless worship team just gave it up for Jesus, Priscilla (our guest speaker) kept it real and talked about living fearless because of our relationship with Him, and our prayer rooms were the bomb! I got things a bit mixed up – HSC Music is being marked next Monday (wishing our Year 12ers all the best for that)! Instead of that though, we had a fantastic Creative Arts Gala night with music and artwork on Thursday. Such a great showcase of our senior students. We had some great results at the AICES Athletics Day earlier in the week too. Just so proud of our student body!

CHALKBOARD ITEMS … So we have our HSC Music on Monday, HSC D&T on Wednesday, Year 11s on Friday study for exams the week after, our annual Art Show tomorrow night and the Family Festival next weekend, and a bunch of assessments across the board peppered throughout! Prefect nominations have closed and we’ll be voting on names at the end of next week too. Quite seriously, there’s never a dull moment!

BEFORE IT’S ERASED … How about this – the word ‘queue’ is the only word in the English language that is still pronounced the same way when the last four letters are removed.

Our Orchestra and Choir is taking Memorial Church’s Spring Festival tomorrow afternoon – just in time for Father’s Day too! If you enjoy good music, you should come along! 2.30 pm Memorial Church – TOMORROW!

Mrs Deb Cooper
Head of Primary
dcooper@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au

Mr Benton Craig
Head of Secondary
bcr@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au
**GENERAL**

**Signing In**
For the safety of our students and staff, all parents and other visitors to the campus are required to sign in at the Primary Office or Administration Building before proceeding around campus. If you are visiting classrooms, on campus for music lessons or visiting the iCentre we request that you sign in. If you are dropping students off or collecting them signing in is not required. Thank you for noting this.

**Soccer Stars 2015**
Soccer Stars is a program specifically designed for primary aged children (3-12 years old). The aim of this program is to teach sports skills, confidence, communication and community in a fun and safe environment. The program is held on the Avondale School oval and run by Gateway KIDS, our Campus Church Children's Ministries Department.

October 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15, 22 (9.30 am - 10.30 am)
REGISTER ONLINE at www.gatewaycommunity.com.au
REGISTRATION CLOSES SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 20
FREE t-shirt for all registrations!

gatewaycommunity.com.au

**SPORT**

**Newcastle One-Day Chess Competition**
This week, 15 students competed in the Newcastle One-Day Chess Competition in Newcastle. There were 78 teams of three players, making a total of 234 players from all over the Hunter region. It was a great day with valuable experience being achieved by all our players.

All five teams played extremely well with our number one team tying for first place with New Lambton South Public School. Both schools scored 15/18 matches for the day. The two teams then had a play off and Avondale School took out second place trophies. Congratulations to the number one team: Board 1 - Kaleb G, Board 2 - Matthew L and Board 3 - Ryan B.

gatewaycommunity.com.au

**Year 3 and 4 Concert**
Thursday, September 10, 7.00 pm

‘It’s Cool in the Furnace’ is a musical of the captivating tale of Daniel and his three friends Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Year 3 and 4 will be presenting with humour, action, and a spiritual heart at 7.00 pm on Thursday, September 10. Everyone is welcome to enjoy this free, special event at the MPC. Come early and stay afterwards to enjoy the Zaida Café hosted by Gateway Youth.

**HRIS Soccer and Netball Gala Day**
Tuesday, September 15
Please note that the HRIS Soccer and Netball Gala Day is now on Tuesday, September 15, and new permission notes should have been returned to Mr Head.

**Tennis Selections**
Due to the change in date for the Soccer and Netball Gala Day, the tennis selections have been brought forward. Students need to register their names with Mr Head by Monday, September 7. Students must be able to do an over arm serve from the baseline.

**SPORT UNIFORM FOR TERM 3**

- **Kindy:** wear sport uniform each Monday and Tuesday.
- **Years 1 & 2:** wear sport uniform each Tuesday only.
- **Years 3-6:** wear sport uniform each Tuesday and Friday.
National Literacy and Numeracy Week
This week Avondale School celebrated National Literacy and Numeracy Week with various fun and informative numeracy activities involving students in Years 7-10. Students in Year 7 and 8 had the opportunity to learn about, create and construct amazing tri-hexaflexagons and hexa-hexaflexagons. Many students exclaimed, “That is cool!” when seeing a tri-hexaflexagon for the first time.

Year 9 and 10 students had the opportunity to listen to a number of presentations made by people from within our local community, sharing how they use mathematics in their current vocations. Mathematics is a STEM subject. It is widely understood that STEM skills are essential in many jobs and offer pathways to a wide range of occupations. Mr Justin Boyd, Technology Development Manager for Compassion Australia, gave our Year 9 and 10 students a fascinating presentation about how he uses mathematics in his work for this charity organisation. Compassion Australia has released millions of children from poverty around the world in Jesus’ name. Mr Marty Stafford, owner and manager of Stafford Constructions, shared with our students how he uses mathematics in very practical ways in the various roles that he has within his business. Mr Peter Lyons, one of our current school parents, shared with our students how he uses a vast variety of mathematics in amazing ways in his role as Mechanical Reliability Engineer for Origin Energy at Eraring Power Station. It was terrific to have both Mr Boyd and Mr Stafford come back to Avondale School and share with our students some of the lessons they have learned since graduating from Avondale School themselves some years ago.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to each of our presenters for the time and energy that they have given to our students this week.

AICES Athletics Success
Earlier this week selected students from Avondale School competed in the AICES Athletics Day at Homebush Olympic Park. There were a number of students who did very well in the various events:

- Riley O (Year 7) came 1st in the Discus and 100m, breaking records for both events for 12 year old boys.
- Mia M (Year 11) came 2nd in the 200m for 17 year old girls.
- Adam S (Year 9) came 3rd in Javelin for 15 year old boys.

Congratulations to all the students for representing Avondale School in such a positive manner.

Year 11 PDHPE
Year 11 PDHPE have been very busy lately obtaining various skills during their course and have completed the Outdoor Education and First Aid topics. Last term students completed their Senior First Aid Certificate. Recently they attended a day in the Watagans to experience a range of outdoor educational experiences. One of the highlights was abseiling down a 40m cliff! Special thanks to Mrs Bradford and Mr Vaughan for their assistance on this excursion.
PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

A common phenomenon in nature is ‘the path of least resistance’. Electricity moving through a circuit will always travel where it has the ‘easiest’ route. Cars are developed aerodynamically so there will be minimal wind resistance. Rivers always travel around a mountain because it’s easier than going through one. People can be like this too. It is easier to sit in front of the TV than to complete household tasks. It is easier to just sit and do nothing than pursue the school task that will make for better grades. And so we find that we as humans are prone to take the ‘path of least resistance’.

Of all the good values we can promote with our children, who are the next generation, it is perseverance – that persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success. If you give your word that you will do something or meet a commitment, then you make it happen, no excuses. We receive excellent work experience reports from our students because they demonstrate that they can be relied on, to see a task through to the finish. Employers really value people who will persevere despite the difficulty. I hope you make the most of this opportunity to demonstrate this value over the next week.

Enjoy the news for this week.

Dr David Faull
Principal

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 - Wednesday, December 14

Primary Calendar - Term 3

Parent Perception Survey ........................................... September 3 - 18
School Art Show 6.30 pm CLC ...................................... September 5
Fathers’ Day ............................................................... September 6
CIS Athletics Day ......................................................... September 9
Year 3 & 4 Concert 7.00 pm MPC .................................. September 10
Wyong Chess Competition ........................................... September 10
Family Festival .............................................................. September 13
Year 4 South American Day ......................................... September 14
Kings Chess Competition ............................................. September 14
HRIS Soccer & Netball Gala Day ..................................... September 15
Year 5 Gold Rush Day .................................................. September 16

Secondary Calendar - Term 3

Parent Perception Survey ........................................... September 3 - 18
Band & Choir at Memorial Church ................................ September 5
School Art Show 6.30 pm CLC ...................................... September 5
Fathers’ Day ............................................................... September 6
Year 10 Food Tech Excursion ......................................... September 10
Year 11 Study Day ......................................................... September 11
Year 11 Final Exams ....................................................... September 14 - 18
Family Festival .............................................................. September 13
CIS Athletics Day ......................................................... September 16
Year 7 Vaccinations Dose #3 .......................................... September 16
Get Active Ends Term 3 ................................................ September 17

LIBRARY

Battle of the Books

On Wednesday afternoon six teams of booklovers from Macquarie College, Central Coast Adventist School and Avondale School spent an afternoon in the iCentre testing their literary knowledge at the inaugural Battle of the Books. All teams performed well and enjoyed the opportunity to meet students from other schools. The trophy for Junior Champion was awarded to Macquarie College and Avondale School brought home the trophy for Senior Champion. Members of the winning teams also received a cash prize. Congratulations to all who took part.