LAST WEEK … We enjoyed the Swimming Carnival awards on Monday morning. It was great to see all of our champions receive their ribbons and trophies. The highlight was seeing the Watagan House Captains presented with the shield. The last time Watagan held the shield was in 1999! Year 1 had a blast with team building activities. We had great attendance at Parent Teacher Interviews. Thanks for taking the time to meet with your child’s teacher.

THIS WEEK … We’re looking forward to lots of visitors on Tuesday for Open Day. Classrooms are open from 10:00 am. We have a lunchtime concert at 12:00 pm in the assembly area and a parent v student soccer match at 12:30 pm. We have another STEM PUP (Pop Up Project) this week. This is a lunchtime activity that engages students in fun activities involving Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. The Avondale Chess Competition is on Wednesday. Friday is a Crazy Hair/Hat Mufti Day to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation.

DID YOU KNOW … “The way children learn to make good decisions is by making decisions, not following directions.” Alfie Kohn

MAKING A MARK … “Life offers you a lot of invitations … Be wise enough to choose which are worth attending.” Unknown

DONE AND DUSTED … Year 10 Commerce students engaged in price wars for food and wares each lunchtime last week. Their enthusiasm and business sense were great to see. We engaged with our senior students in ensuring all details are correct for BOSTES records and our selection of students who visited Google learned much about the world of our future and what might interest them for careers in the digital age. Not all of our students got to participate in the All Schools Triathlon because of the heat, which was a little disappointing, but it’s been a great week!

CHALKBOARD ITEMS … A Year 12 Advanced English excursion, Crazy Hair Day, HRIS Chess and Swimming, the finish to our Peer Support adjustment program, Open Day, and continued work on assessments and class tasks has us looking at Week 7 with excitement.

BEFORE IT’S ERASED … “To avoid criticism, say nothing, do nothing, be nothing.” Fred Shero

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

Mr Benton Craig
Head of Secondary
b craig@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au
GENERAL

STEM PUP March 7 - 11
Message from Mr Neuschulz
To participate in this week’s STEM PUP students will need to bring an empty, clear 1.25L or 2L plastic drink bottle with its lid. Smooth sided is the best so we can see inside.

Kindy Reading
On Tuesday, Dr Faull came to read the story of The Terrible Q to KL. This was part of learning about the letter Qq. It also shows how reading is important to everyone!

SPORT

CIS Swimming Team
Congratulations to the following students who will be participating at the CIS Swimming Championships at Homebush Aquatic Centre on Tuesday, March 22.
Rhiannon D (Relay, 50m Breaststroke, 50m Backstroke, 50m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle).
Erin B (Relay), Georgia N (Relay), Savannah W(Relay).
Jayden T (50m Freestyle).

Avondale Chess Competition
The Primary Chess Competition will be held in the CLC on Wednesday March 9 from 9.00 am - 2.30 pm. This is a Junior (K-Year 4) and Senior (Years 5 & 6) competition with 3 Junior Teams and 2 Senior teams being selected for the Term 2 & 3 Annual Newcastle Chess competition.
Parents are asked to practise with their child so that all entered students do in fact know how to play chess.

Maths Camp
Congratulations to Lilijana G who has been invited to participate in the Newcastle Permanent Maths Camp on March 12 - 13. Only the top students from the 2015 competition are invited.

Run Around Australia (Cross Country Training)
The Run Around Australia training program will commence on Monday March 14. Students are encouraged to run the 1 km cross country course before school (8.00am) and at lunch times to prepare themselves for the school cross country events on Tuesday, March 29.
All laps completed by students are individually recorded with certificates being presented at assembly for kms completed. Parents are invited to run with students before school. It is a good idea for students to bring their joggers and a clean pair of socks as socks can get very wet. Students only have ten days to run the 11,500 km before the Good Friday long weekend.

SPORT UNIFORM FOR TERM 1
Kindy, Years 1 & 2: wear sport uniform each Monday.
Years 3 - 6: wear sport uniform each Friday.
Secondary Chess
The Secondary Chess competition will be held in the MPC Gymnasium on Friday 11 March from 8.50 am -12.30 pm. Students need to register their names by email to Mr Head before Wednesday, March 9.

Sport is Important!
Sport is an important component of the School program. In fact, the Board of Studies requires that full participation be signed off for Certification at Year 10 and Year 11. Venues and transport have to be paid for regardless of how many participate. Students, especially seniors, who ask their parents to sign them out of School before Sport may not complete the requirement. Parents please support the fitness and activity participation of students in the Sport program.

In November last year three Avondale School Year 11 students sat the Colin Doyle Memorial Prize mathematics competition run by Newcastle University. This competition is conducted for Year 11 students who have previously demonstrated an aptitude for high-level mathematics. There were 133 students from the Hunter and the Central Coast who were brave enough to give the competition a go. This is a 3-hour competition where students are asked to solve 8 challenging questions. Each year students find interesting and innovative ways to solve the problems, and this time was no exception. On Monday this week, Dr Faull recognised the outstanding achievements of our three boys, Filip R, Joshua M and Andrew T, presenting them each with a Colin Doyle Memorial Prize certificate. Two of the boys managed to achieve an A grade on their papers, ranking within the top 25 students. Congratulations Filip, Joshua and Andrew!

Colin Doyle Mathematics Memorial Prize

Music Lessons

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Music Lesson</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Contact Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Angela Miller</td>
<td>0421 464 797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guitar</td>
<td>Gabriel Ontanu</td>
<td>0447 262 260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Emma Jones</td>
<td>0434 997 985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violin</td>
<td>James Dennett</td>
<td>0401 549 084</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cello</td>
<td>Esther Albert</td>
<td>0439 271 999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bass</td>
<td>Fred Cracknell</td>
<td>0404 082 151</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saxophone</td>
<td>Gabriel Ontanu</td>
<td>0447 262 260</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clarinet</td>
<td>Janet Lawler</td>
<td>0438 608 180</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cello</td>
<td>Jake Bisognin</td>
<td>0400 389 612</td>
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<td>Bass</td>
<td>Kylie Smith</td>
<td>0418 262 644</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cello</td>
<td>Kylie Stacey</td>
<td>0409 339 302</td>
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<td>Bass</td>
<td>Mitchell Wallace</td>
<td>0435 578 723</td>
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<tr>
<td>Violin</td>
<td>Ngareta Rorich</td>
<td>0421 546 340</td>
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<td>Clarinet</td>
<td>Trish O’Hearn</td>
<td>0402 003 214</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bass</td>
<td>Volmai Hill</td>
<td>0414 288 931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guitar</td>
<td>Zayne Mariassouce</td>
<td>0421 730 045</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEED A PRAYER?
Simply fill in one of our prayer cards and let us know what we can take to Jesus on your behalf. You can put your name, you can be really specific or you can just leave a general request and we’ll take it to Jesus when we’re next on our knees.

STEP UP
3.30 - 4.30 PM THURSDAYS ALL THIS TERM in the iCentre

Hope to see you there!
This Week We Value Discernment

Principal’s Message

Value in Review
It is hard to believe we are half way into term and it’s time to discuss a new value. In its simplest form, discernment is nothing more than the ability to decide between truth and error, right and wrong. Discernment is the process of thinking about evidence and making careful decisions. Author Ginger Plowman suggests asking children about their thinking — whether, for example, they’re using self-control or are overreacting; whether they’re being unloving or loving; whether they are lying or being truthful, helps build their decisions in positive ways. You might then ask your kids what they think God’s Word says in relation to what behavior and heart attitude they should “put off”, and what they should “put on.” Parents can ask questions like:

“So what do you think about that?”
“What do you think the Bible says about that?”
“So why might that person have made that decision?”

This might take time and patience but it builds the skills of good decisions – discernment. This is what the Bible says, “But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil.” 1Thessalonians 5:21-22

Enjoy the discussion of discernment with your children!

Dr David Faull
Principal

School Term Dates 2016

**Primary Calendar - Term 1**

- Open Day (10 am - 6 pm) .................................................. March 8
- Avondale Chess Competition ............................................. March 9
- Mufti Crazy Hair/Hat Day .................................................. March 11
- CIS Swimming Carnival .................................................... March 22
- Good Friday ................................................................. March 25
- Easter Monday .............................................................. March 28
- Cross Country K - 6 ....................................................... March 29
- Get Active ends ............................................................. March 31
- Primary Performance (Memorial Church Plus1) ................. April 2
- SWOMP ........................................................................ April 4 - 8
- Kindy Jolly Phonics Day .................................................. April 8

**Secondary Calendar - Term 1**

- Open Day (10 am - 6 pm) .................................................. March 8
- HRIS Swimming .............................................................. March 9
- Mufti Crazy Hair Day ....................................................... March 11
- Interim Reports ............................................................. March 14
- Cross Country .............................................................. March 16
- Parent Teacher Interviews (Years 10 & 11) ......................... March 21
- Parent Teacher Interviews (Years 7 - 9) ........................... March 22
- Good Friday ................................................................. March 25
- Easter Monday .............................................................. March 28
- Year 12 Exams ............................................................. March 31

Canteen

Munch Monitor
Thank you to those of you that enjoy the benefits of online ordering. Please note: If you have children in Primary and Secondary school, you need to order Primary school student lunches in the Primary section and High school student lunches in the High school section. This is important as Primary and Secondary student lunch times are different and the cooking time of your child’s lunch is crucial for freshness. We look forward to continuing to provide your children with yummy lunches.

Fund for Cambodia
If you enjoy the free bread and cakes available to us all on Tuesday afternoons, you might like to make a donation when you collect your free goods! All donations are happily and gratefully received for our Year 12 Cambodia trip at the end of the year! Thanks so much.

Library News

Premier’s Reading Challenge

**Kindy to Year 9**

March is sign up month for the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge. All students who complete the challenge will receive a certificate from the Premier of New South Wales and have their name included on the publicly available Honour Roll. Sign up on the iCentre page on Landscape or at the library. Reading logs are available for download from the iCentre page or in hard copy at the library. Please complete details as books are read and return the completed form to the library no later than 19 August.

**Kindy – Year 2**: 25 books from the PRC list plus 5 free choice selections

**Years 3-9**: 15 books from the PRC list plus 5 free choice selections

Reading from a series: Only two books from one series may be included in those required on the PRC list. If you would like to read more from one series they need to be included as “free choice” books. There is a wide selection of books for loan from the school library, or you can read books you have at home or borrow from other libraries.