THIS WEEK … has been another busy one. We began our swimming program for Years 3-6 students. Kindy, Year 1 and Year 2 will have their intensive swimming program in Week’s 6 and 7. Swimming is part of our Physical Education program. Water safety is such an important life skill. Please encourage your child to make full use of these swimming lessons by ensuring they come prepared to swim.

NEXT WEEK … we have Kindy Bike Day. Year 6 students will be involved in this special day as they support their young buddies. Next Friday we host the HRIS Chess Competition. We will have over 160 young chess players from around the Hunter region here for the day.

OUR VALUE FOR THIS WEEK … is Responsibility. Teaching children to be responsible is a big challenge for parents and teachers. One of the best ways to develop responsibility is to ensure that we don’t shield children from the consequences of their actions and choices. When we support children through the process of accepting consequences, making things right and moving forward, we allow them to grow and learn.

‘Actions have consequences…first rule of life. And the second rule is this – you are the only one responsible for your own actions.’

Holly Lisle

MAKING A MARK … “Find joy in everything you choose to do. Every job, relationship, home... it’s your responsibility to love it, or change it.” Chuck Palahniuk

DONE AND DUSTED … HSC exams began with English on Monday – all students eager, fired and ready to write away. It’s so great to see them hitting this final stage of their HSC year. We’ve been thinking of and praying for them especially this week. Our Year 9s had an awesome week at Bungonia – they’re worn out! Year 10 and 11 students really got inspired at their music masterclass yesterday and those of us left managed to survive classrooms and relief periods!

CHALKBOARD ITEMS … Assessment schedules should be out next week and our Year 11 students will receive their HSC Assessment Booklet for the coming year too. Our Year 11 Parent Teacher night is on from 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm on Tuesday in the CLC, right after a really big function that our Year 11 Hospitality students cater for – the Cancer Survivor Luncheon. Actually, all classes should then be running normally next week!

BEFORE IT’S ERASED … Human thighbones are stronger than concrete … now who’s willing to test that case?! Blessings for a marvelous weekend together!

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Early Years Gardening
2016 Class Allocations
Over the next two weeks class teachers will be working to allocate students to class groups for 2016. We are unable to take requests for a preferred teacher, but are happy to consider extenuating circumstances or special needs. All requests must be made to Mrs Deb Cooper, Head of Primary, in writing.

ASD Support Group
We had our first meeting of our parents support group this week. We are so pleased to be able to connect parents so that we can support each other with parenting challenges. Our next meeting will be held at school on Thursday, November 19 at 2.15 pm.

Year 3-6 Swimming
The swimming program for Years 3-6 students commenced this week at Morisset Pool. Students are required to wear their sport uniform on their swimming day and bring clearly named swimmers (girls are required to wear a one-piece or a rash shirt over swimmers), towel and goggles. A signed note from home is required if students are unable to participate due to illness.

WEDNESDAYS
CLASS | DEPART SCHOOL
3M Miss Moncrieff | 12.50 pm
3S Mr Skinner | 12.50 pm
3R Mr Robinson | 1.25 pm
4B Mrs Bishop | 1.25 pm
4PR Mrs Pascoe | 2.00 pm
4R Mrs Roberts | 2.00 pm

FRIDAYS
CLASS | DEPART SCHOOL
5D Mrs de Martin | 12.50 pm
6SM Mr Swafford | 12.50 pm
5V Mr Venegas | 1.25 pm
5M Mrs Morton | 1.25 pm
6Ho Mr Hosken | 2.00 pm
6Hi Mrs Hill | 2.00 pm

Kindy-Year 2 Learn to Swim Program
November 9 – 20
All students in Kindy, Year 1 and 2 will participate in a Learn to Swim Program at Morisset Heated Pool from Monday, November 9 until Friday, November 20. Students are required to bring their swimmers and towel (goggles are optional) each day for the two-week program.

HRIS Chess
The HRIS Chess Competition hosted by Avondale School will be held in the MPC Building on Friday, October 23. There will be almost 200 students visiting from the 16 HRIS primary schools. The four Avondale School Chess Teams will be playing in the Junior (K-Year 4) and Senior (Years 5-6) divisions. The NSW Chess Ranking Officer will be present and every player will get a NSW State ranking from this competition. Parents are encouraged to give their children extra practice over the coming week.

Newcastle Region Chess Finals
The Kings Chess finals will be held on Thursday, October 29. The Knights and Rookies final will be held on Monday, November 9.

Touch Football
The HRIS has decided to introduce Touch Football this term. We are in the process of selecting both a Senior Boys and Senior Girls team. The HRIS Touch Football Competition will be held on November 11 at Wallsend.

SPORT UNIFORM FOR TERM 4
Kindy: wear sport uniform each Monday.
Years 1 & 2: wear sport uniform each Thursday.
Years 3 & 4: wear sport uniform each Wednesday along with their swimmers, towel and goggles for swimming.
Years 5 & 6: wear sport uniform each Friday along with their swimmers, towel and goggles for swimming.
UNSW ICAS Mathematics Competition

Students from Avondale School have again achieved outstanding results in the University of New South Wales ICAS Mathematics Competition. From the Secondary Mathematics students who took part in the competition, 15 students achieved certificates of Distinction, 50 students were awarded Certificates of Credit and 24 students earned certificates of Merit. Those students who achieved Distinction certificates (pictured below) were presented their awards in Chapel last week.

We celebrate the success of the following students who achieved certificates of Distinction: Nicholas H, Ty D, Heath F, Olivia R, Goria R, Jared C, Samuel S, Justin B, Michael P, Filip R, Joshua M, Nicholas B, Jonathon G, Jessica K, and Janika M.


In recognition of meritorious achievement, Samuel S (pictured right) was awarded the 2015 ICAS Mathematics Avondale School Principal’s Award. We are very proud of all of our students and their achievements. Well done to all who did their best in the 2015 ICAS Mathematics Competition!

Newcastle Mathematics Association’s (NMA) Year 10 Mathematics 5.1 Competition

Last term our Year 10 Mathematics 5.1 students sat the NMA Year 10 Mathematics 5.1 Competition. We congratulate Callan W for achieving a certificate of Distinction, along with Joshua S and Yohasir C for earning certificates of Credit.
**2016 Planning**
We are excited about our plans that we have programmed for your child/ren in 2016. These plans are based on the assumption that your child/ren will be returning after the Christmas school holidays. However, if you find your circumstances are changing or you think they may be changing for 2016, please notify the Principal ASAP via email to admin@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au. As stated in the School Handbook, a term's notice is required for us to plan appropriately and efficiently for your child. Thank you.

**Fossil Display**
Russian trilobites, a fossilised shrimp from Lebanon and two extinct mammal skulls are just a few fascinating items in the fossil collection on display at the library this week. Why not take a few minutes to take a look at these interesting items and learn more from one of the books available on fossils?

**Year 7 Science Research**
This week Year 7 Science classes have spent time in the library researching their ‘Renewable Energy’ task. Using their iPads they have been shown how to access a reading list for the topic and how to find relevant information on Encyclopedia Britannica online. Both of these resources are available on the library catalogue at http://accessit.avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au

**Return Term 3 Library Books**
Thanks to most K-6 students who have already returned their library books from last term. However, there are still quite a few students who need to return their books as soon as possible so that these books are available for others to borrow.

**Term 4 Library Borrowing for K-6**
It’s been great to see so many students remembering their library bags and getting into borrowing lots of excellent books this week. Please remember that if you forget your library bag on your library day then you can come to the library to borrow the next day on your ‘extra-chance day’.

**SCHOOL TERM DATES 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 26 - Friday, July 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Monday, July 25 - Friday, September 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Monday, October 10 - Wednesday, December 14</td>
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**Primary Calendar - Term 4**
- Gateway Kids Soccer Stars - School Oval: October 18
- Kindy Bike Day: October 21
- HRIS Chess Competition: October 23
- Gateway Kids Soccer Stars - School Oval: October 25
- Kings Chess Final Competition: October 29
- 3R & 3S Elizabeth Farm Excursion: October 30
- Gateway Kids Soccer Stars - School Oval: November 1
- Year 6 Orientation Evening for Year 7 2016: November 4
- Kindy 2016 Visit 1: November 4
- Gateway Kids Soccer Stars - School Oval: November 8
- Knights & Rookies Chess Final Competition: November 9

**Secondary Calendar - Term 4**
- Year 11 Food Tech Excursion: October 19
- Year 11 Hospitality Cancer Survivor Function: October 20
- Year 11 Parent Teacher Interviews 4.00 - 7.00 pm: October 20
- AICES Basketball: October 22
- Choir at Toronto SDA Church: October 24
- Year 7 Geography Excursion: October 26
- Year 10 Commerce Excursion: October 26
- Duke of Ed Trip: November 2 – November 3
- HRIS Junior Touch Football: November 5
- HRIS Senior Touch Football: November 8
- Year 12 Formal at Linton Gardens: November 12