THIS WEEK … has been non-stop action! Year 4 enjoyed a fabulous morning of fun, food, games, costumes and dance with South American celebrations. Tuesday brought great weather for the HRIS Soccer and Netball Gala Days. Win or lose, our students had fun and showed great sportsmanship. Year 5 had an amazing day of old-fashioned fun with Gold Rush Day. Their costumes and dancing were the highlight of the day! Year 2 enjoyed a special Science Day with loads of awesome experiments. Thursday saw us brightly dressed to raise money for the Blossom Project. It’s great to see our community show compassion and support a great cause. Students from Kindy and Year 1 are enjoying a sports day today. Thanks to all the parents who helped with all of these special events!

DID YOU KNOW … that the holidays are the perfect time to spend some quality time with your child? Doing things together helps you to have a window into your child’s world. It also shows your child that they are important to you. Great ways to bond include playing sports, walking or riding together, planting a garden, playing board games, reading a book together, cooking, doing crafts or producing works of art, doing science experiments or investigating an area of interest. Doing fun things together creates life-long memories and a sense of belonging. We wish you a safe and fun holiday with your children. We look forward to starting another great term on Tuesday, October 6.

Mrs Deb Cooper
Head of Primary
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MAKING A MARK … “Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.” Winston Churchill

DONE AND DUSTED … Seriously, was there a weekend in the distant past?! Choir at Hillview on Sabbath was awesome – I am always so proud of our students as they perform and praise God. Then we had the Family Festival on Sunday which had a bunch of our students showcased as musicians, fundraisers and performers. Simply proud of them all. It was so cool to see our P&F with a strong presence too as part of what we’re doing at Avondale School. Year 11 Final Exams saw our senior students studying, writing and completing their Preliminary course this week. Today marked the formal end to our Year 12 students. Each year it doesn’t get any easier to say farewell to a great bunch of young people! All the best for your HSC Exams, class of 2015.

CHALKBOARD ITEMS … Well, that’s it for Term 3. Our Year 9s start straight in with our UChooz (No Apologies) course on the first day of Term 4. HSC Exams starts October 12, the same day our Year 9s head off to Bungonia. Soon enough, we’ll be talking end of year exams, Speech Night and Christmas! WOW. Let’s not get ahead of ourselves!

BEFORE IT’S ERASED … ‘Almost’ is the longest word in the English language with all the letters in alphabetical order. Well, there you go! Have a magical holiday time with your kids, however you’re able to enjoy it. Make the most of spring!

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FAMILY FESTIVAL

HEADS UP!
SPORT

HRIS Soccer And Netball Gala Day
This week we had three soccer and three netball teams competing in the HRIS Soccer and Netball Gala Day at various venues around Newcastle. Our teams had a lot of fun using their skills that they have been developing over many weeks of training. Our best performing team was the Soccer (B) team coming 3rd and while the official results are not out yet, we know our other teams came around 5th or 6th place. Congratulations to all our representative students who played to their best ability in very hot and windy conditions.

Wyong Chess Competition
Avondale School entered 9 Primary students and 4 Secondary students into the 21st Annual Central Coast Chess Competition at Wyong High School last week. The competition involved 200 primary and 50 secondary students from various schools. All of our students performed extremely well. At the end of seven rounds we had achieved the following outstanding results:
Individual Age Winners: 12 Years - Kaleb G, 16 Years - Nathaniel G, 17 Years - Jonathon G and 1st Place Overall
1st Place Overall Primary School Winner (best three players): Avondale School - Primary (Kaleb G, Matthew L and Ryan B).

Kings Chess Competition
The Kings Chess Team played this week, tying for 2nd place with Newcastle Grammar School while New Lambton South School took out 1st place. Avondale School tied two-all against New Lambton South School in the final round. These three teams will progress to the finals in Newcastle during Term 4.

PSSA Golf
This week Elliot MQ (Year 6) competed at the challenging Blackheath Golf Course in the PSSA Primary School Golf Championships. Elliot, who is a talented soccer player, had to choose between HRIS Soccer and Golf. Elliot is a member of the CIS Team who came 4th and within the CIS Team Elliot also placed 4th. This is an outstanding result.

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.
Years 5 & 6: wear sport uniform each Friday.

GENERAL

ICAS English Presentation
Tuesday, October 6
The ICAS English medal presentation will be held, weather permitting, on the first day of Term 4, Tuesday, October 6 during assembly.

Scarlet Fever
We have had a reported case of Scarlet Fever at school this week. The symptoms include a sudden onset sore throat, high fever and vomiting, followed by a rash in 12-36 hours. Medical attention should be sort if your child displays these symptoms.

ADRA Blossom Effect Fundraising Mufti Day
It was great to see all the very bright mufti day clothes the students wore this week to raise money for the ADRA Blossom Project. The Primary School had a goal of $5000 and as of Thursday a total of $4265 had been collected. We would like to thank all the parents and community for their generous donations towards this worthy cause. There are still some fundraising envelopes at the Primary Office for late donations. There is also the ability to donate online at www.give.everydayhero.com/au/ride-for-rescue All donations over $2.00 will receive a tax receipt from ADRA.

CLASS

Year 4 South American Day
On Monday, Year 4 dressed up in colourful ponchos, flowing skirts, moustaches and big hats to enjoy South American Day. Students were able to watch a traditional dance, present their Incan artefacts to their classmates, play South American games, enjoy a delicious lunch and even burst a piñata. Huge thanks goes to our parent helpers and particularly Natalia Meliendrez and her team of South American friends who helped to make this a fun and memorable day!

Year 5 Gold Rush Day

Year 2 Science Day
Year 2 had a great day on Wednesday at our Science Day. David and Bob came to visit us from the Newcastle Museum and showed us some exciting experiments with music, oobleck (slime) and lots of pressure!
Congratulations to the top borrowers for Term 3 who each received a book voucher:

- Years 7-8: Sarah L
- Years 9-10: Andrew V
- Years 11-12: Cara O

**PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE**

**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 by the end of this term 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.

**Uniform Shop Holiday Hours**

Summer uniform, including hats, must be worn from the start of Term 4 for all students K-12. There is no cross-over period! For your convenience, please note that the Uniform Shop will be open on the following days during the holidays from 9.00 am until 4.00 pm:

- Monday, September 28
- Tuesday, September 29

**Fee Payments**

Thank you to all our parents for supporting the program of Avondale School by making payments of school fees on time. Your commitment and attention to the priority of these is greatly appreciated. Statements outlining remaining balances will be sent during the first week of the holidays and we draw your attention to the due date of Friday, October 9. Have a great and safe holiday.

**Quality Assurance**

Avondale School has been working on improving student engagement and the learning journey for all students. This is a long term project headed by the K-12 Leading Learning Team. Earlier this term a team of eight professional educators came to Avondale School and toured the school to look at evidence of the learning journey. The comments from the audit process at the end of the day were very gratifying. It is great to have the hard work and committed effort of the Avondale School TEAM - Together Everyone Achieves More - acknowledged by this audit group. The learning journey continues!

**Library**

**K-6 Term 3 Library Prizes**

Congratulations to the K-6 students who borrowed so many exciting books EVERY week this term! These students choose their well-earned prizes this week. Great job!

**Years 7-12 Top Borrowers**

Congratulations to the top borrowers for Term 3 who each received a book voucher:

- Years 7-8: Sarah L
- Years 9-10: Andrew V
- Years 11-12: Cara O

**SCHOOL TERM DATES 2016**

**Primary Calendar - Term 4**

- Last Day of Term 3: September 18
- Labour Day Holiday: October 6
- Gateway Kids Soccer Stars - School Oval: October 9
- First Day of Term 4: October 10
- Gateway Kids Soccer Stars - School Oval: October 11
- Get Active Starts for Term 4: October 12
- HRIS Tennis: October 16

**Secondary Calendar - Term 4**

- Last Day of Term 3: September 18
- Labour Day Holiday: October 6 & 7
- Year 9 UChooz Program: October 6 & 7
- School Fees Due: October 9
- Year 9 Bungonia Camp: October 12 - 16
- Get Active Starts for Term 4: October 12
- HRIS Junior Touch Football: October 20
- Year 11 Parent Teacher Interviews: October 20
- HRIS Senior Touch Football: October 21

**Enthusiasm**

Did you ever return from a hard day of work completely drained? Then you hear the phone and your friend offers you a challenge on the tennis court with your mates. Suddenly you find yourself filled with energy and on your way to the game. This is an example of the power of enthusiasm. It is a source of boundless energy. The guy who began the Ford company said this, “Enthusiasm is the yeast that makes your hopes shine to the stars. Enthusiasm is the sparkle in your eyes, the swing in your gait, the grip of your hand, the irresistible surge of will and energy to execute your ideas.” Enthusiasm will not only make you more productive, but it will lighten burdens and make obstacles easier to overcome. You will have the energy to succeed. It will also make you happier, for as Charles Kingsley wrote, “We act as though comfort and luxury were the chief goals of life, when all that we need to make us happy is something to be enthusiastic about.”

What an outstanding term. Every week the pages of our Newsletter are packed full of great achievements from enthusiastic people. Enjoy the news for this week and school holiday break.

Dr David Faull
Principal

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