LAST WEEK ... was awesome! We had our Swimming Carnival on Tuesday and enjoyed the highest levels of participation ever! We’re so proud of all our students for overcoming their nerves and doing their best. On Wednesday we practised our evacuation procedure so we’re ready for emergencies. Our Makerday on Thursday was an amazing day! Our teachers excelled themselves with fantastic STEM activities to challenge students.

THIS WEEK ... we’re looking forward to lots of learning fun. Our swim team head off to the HRIS Swimming Carnival on Wednesday.

DID YOU KNOW ... that most children only see things from their point of view. They generally lack the ability to analyse a situation from the viewpoint of others. This means that the stories you hear from the playground may well be very one-sided. When we accept a child’s perspective as the whole truth, we deny them a valuable opportunity to learn. We build compassion and resilience when we encourage our child to see a situation from the viewpoint of others. We reinforce the Golden Rule at school. Treat other people the way you would like to be treated. This helps to create outward looking children.

MAKING A MARK ... “He who refuses to obey cannot command.” Kenyan proverb

DONE AND DUSTED ... Wow! And that’s been our week on two levels – an incredible Week of Worship, hosted by our inspiring Year 12 class. Our student speakers and worship team have just lifted us into the presence of God! We have also had two very full nights sharing information with Years 7 – 10 families, including the iPad rollout for our newest group of Year 7s!

CHALKBOARD ITEMS ... Vaccinations for Year 7 on Tuesday, Year 12 Work Placement (for all our VET students), a senior music excursion to last year’s HSC stand-out performances and a Year 9 Commerce excursion are top of the list for next week.

BEFORE IT’S ERASED ... People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered. Love them anyway.” Kent M Keith

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

Mr Benton Craig
Head of Secondary
craig@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au
Parent Teacher Interviews - Change of Date - Wednesday, March 2
Due to unforeseen circumstances we need to run our interviews on Wednesday, March 2. We apologise for any inconvenience caused. These interviews are for teachers to share how your child has settled into the new school year. Teachers do not have detailed assessment data to share at this stage of the year but are happy to discuss your child’s level of engagement, social interaction and general level of performance.

STEM Makerday
Creativity and enthusiasm were on show as students from Kindy to Year 6 had amazing fun working on STEM challenges. Students designed and built towers, bridges, marble runs, boats, catapults, robot arms and much more! Thanks for supporting our fundraiser for our MakerSpace. We’re really looking forward to setting up this collaborative learning area.

Kindy Canteen Visit
Kindy visited the Canteen as part of learning the letter ‘C’. It was ccccool in the big fridge and ccccold in the big freezer. Noo gave us a coin and we used our courteous manners to ask for a lolly.

3M Parent Information Evening – Thursday, February 25, 7.00 pm
An information evening for parents of 3M students is planned for Thursday, February 25 at 7:00 pm. Please organise a baby sitter so you can attend this session. The meeting will be held in the 3M classroom, which is adjacent to the Kindy centre.

Animals at School
If your child would like to bring an animal or bird to school, please ask him/her to visit Mrs Roberts (Year 4 teacher), in Room 20 to ask for permission.
Year 12 Week of Worship

Last week was Week of Worship in the High School. Our Year 12 class led out during the week with the theme “revival … bring it forward”. On Monday, Braydon H challenged us to give ourselves to God…because He has given everything for us. On Tuesday, Madison K talked about things that block us from coming to Jesus, and challenged us to “check it out before we chuck it out!”

On Wednesday, Jordan W talked about two types of confession … confess to God and be forgiven, confess to each other for accountability! On Thursday, Grace V took us back in time to the woman at the well with Jesus. She challenged us to leave the past behind and move forward with Jesus. On Friday, John L shared the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead … he challenged us to come out from the things that hold us back, and respond to the call of Jesus for freedom!

The worship band inspired us daily as they led us into God’s presence. Nathan H painted on stage throughout the week … his painting was a depiction of the final prayer of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. A variety of musical items, and personal testimonies were shared by the Year 12s this week in addition to the daily talks. A number of students responded to the call of Jesus at the end of the week, and all of us experienced a revival within our hearts through the Spirit of Jesus. Thanks for letting Jesus Shine through you Year 12!

Swimming Carnival

From the 12 year olds to the 18 year olds the Captains encouraged, bribed or literally pushed competitors into the pool to get House points. It was great to see up to three heats of some races. The carnival went like clockwork, students followed instructions, the staff did a great job. A big thank you to the cheer squad who had the pool side seating across from the stands. Congratulations to Pacific who won the day! The team to compete at HRIS have been notified and are encouraged to attend squad training at Morisset Swim Centre on Monday and Wednesday mornings at 6:45 am. The cost is $5 which covers pool entry, coaching, bus ride back to showers at school and breakfast. We need our whole team to attend HRIS. Please help us achieve this goal for swimming in 2016.

3.30 - 4.30 PM THURSDAYS
ALL THIS TERM in the iCentre

A chance to:
• do independent study
• complete your homework
• get some help with writing (just sorting that essay out!)
• get some help with maths (even that tricky homework question!)
• get some guidance on that assessment task you need to start!

Music at Avondale
Contact Details in the previous newsletter

Avondale School
OPEN DAY
8 March 2016 | 10am to 6pm
119 Avondale Rd Cooranbong www.avondaleschool.com.au
PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

In an act of impatience, a very stressed businessman ignored the road signs and tried to beat traffic by swerving around a lane of cars that had come to a stop. However, the lane he pulled into had just been laid with fresh cement, and his Porsche 911 got stuck. This driver paid a high price for disobeying the road signs.

The Bible tells of a king who also paid a high price for his disobedience. (1 Sam. 13:8-13)

This week I watched as the caring Kindy teachers began to extend the work of parents, carefully explaining why it is important to follow instructions and be obedient. One of the first principles that young children need to learn for their own safety and survival is – obedience. To do what we are told, when we are told.

As we grow older we sometimes think that our actions are all our own and we can choose as we please, but we often do this at a cost. We learn to do what is right by practising obedience – to tell the truth and to follow instructions immediately.

And that is a good choice – to choose to obey, even for Porsche drivers!!

Enjoy the news for this week.

Dr David Faull
Principal

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2016

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<th>Term</th>
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Primary Calendar - Term 1

- Final Swim Club Session: February 23
- HRIS Swimming Carnival: February 24
- 3M Parent Information Evening: February 25
- Interim Reports: February 29
- Year 1 Team Building Incursion: March 2
- Parent Teacher Interviews (Change of Date): March 2
- Open Day (10 am - 6 pm): March 8
- Avondale Chess Competition: March 9
- CIS Swimming Carnival: March 22
- Good Friday: March 25
- Easter Monday: March 28
- Cross Country K - 6: March 29

Secondary Calendar - Term 1

- Year 12 Work Placement: February 22 - 26
- Secondary Vaccinations: February 23
- HRIS Tennis Juniors: February 23
- Interim Reports: February 29
- Year 10 Business Week: February 29 - March 4
- Open Day (10 am - 6 pm): March 8
- HRIS Swimming: March 9
- Cross Country: March 16
- Parent Teacher Interviews (Years 10 & 11): March 21
- Parent Teacher Interviews (Years 7 - 9): March 22
- Good Friday: March 25

CAINTEEN

Munch Monitor

If you have not already jumped online to Munch Monitor, our hassle free lunch ordering system, it’s not too late! Simply go to www.munchmonitor.com to login, click register then enter Username: avondale Password: munch2265 then enter personal login details. Just a reminder to all of you who already have a Munch Monitor account that your child’s classes have changed this year and you need to update this information, otherwise orders will go to last year’s class.

UPDATES

Newsletter

As announced last week, the newsletter for this term is now issued on Monday. Events happening on Monday will be advised by email on the previous Friday. Thank you to those who have written asking for a Friday delivery. We appreciate your understanding.

Evacuation Safety

Avondale staff members take student safety issues seriously. On Wednesday, 15 February we conducted a whole school evacuation. It was a very safe and efficient drill. The safety wardens conducted a review to improve the process. In an emergency we will all know the drill!!

FUNDS 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

Year 7 Students

Who says there’s no such thing as a free lunch? Six Year 7 students received a free canteen voucher this week to reward their efforts in the Library Treasure Hunt. Congratulations to Caoimhe K, Isabella E, Cadence A, Jasmin C, Jie A and Tyson H.

Parent Library

Parents, we have lots of informative books and DVDs on parenting and family life that may interest you. It’s quick and easy to sign up and start borrowing.

K - 6 Library Borrowing

Thanks to all the primary students that have been borrowing bundles of books over the last couple of weeks. Remember that if you forget your library bag on your library day then come to the iCentre the next day and do your borrowing.