THIS WEEK ... Table tennis players have been battling it out in our Avondale School Table Tennis Competition. Students with perfect borrowing records attended library parties. We welcomed our 2017 Kindy students for their second visit to school and teachers are busy finalising assessments and writing reports.

NEXT WEEK ... Library parties continue and students will be busily engaged in learning. Friday is a Pupil Free Day to allow teachers to complete final reports.

WELLBEING ... We work hard to support the wellbeing of our staff and our students. I had the pleasure of attending a professional development course on wellbeing. The overwhelming message is that we all control our wellbeing by the way we think. A cute way to discuss positive thinking with children is ANTS and PETS. Automatic Negative Thinking is often our first response to challenging situations. This kind of thinking drags us down. Performance Enhancing Thinking allows us to have a positive mind set. When your child shares a negative response or ANT (I’m really dumb), try asking them for a PET instead (I sometimes make mistakes, but I do my best and I’m improving). Change your words, change your world.

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

“We must be the change we wish to see in the world.” Mahatma Gandhi
I can’t help but think that this simple quote references so much: it encourages us to think beyond ourselves and be prepared to make a difference; it challenges us to consider being the best version of ourselves, achieving our best so that we can contribute to the world and make it better; it does not say ‘I’, suggesting we actually have to work together to be better. And all of these ideals are what we’re trying to achieve at school with each of our students – think beyond yourself, challenge yourself to be better and achieve your best, and work together to be our best. I would like to think that in this final stretch (exams, sign-off and final reports) we will see the best come out in our students and reflect on a year of improvements, journeying towards being the best versions of ourselves.

Mr Benton Craig
Head of Secondary
bcraig@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au
**CLASS**

**Year 4 Powerhouse Museum Excursion Tuesday, November 29**
Year 4 students are looking forward to their excursion next Tuesday, November 29 to the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney. The bus will depart from school at 7.15 am and return at 4.30 pm.

**Year 2 Science Day**
Newcastle Museum presented three shows to our Year 2 students on Wednesday. Year 2 had a very exciting day learning about pressure, the marvels of flight and slippery slimy slime!

**SPORT**

**Years 3-6 Handball Competition November 28 - 29**
The Handball Competition will be held next week on November 28 and 29 for students in Years 3-6. There will be two divisions, Junior (Years 3-4), and Senior (Years 5-6). Students who would like to play need to register their names next week with Mrs Ginn in the Sports Shed.

**Table Tennis Competition**
This week a large number of students competed in the Table Tennis Competition held in the MPC during lunchtimes. Congratulations to the following students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls Competition</th>
<th>Boys Competition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Amy M</td>
<td>1st Matthew G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Savannah W</td>
<td>2nd Mitchell A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Lilijana G</td>
<td>3rd Oscar O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Years 3-6 Swimming Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>DEPART SCHOOL</th>
<th>FRIDAYS</th>
<th>DEPART SCHOOL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3R Mr Robinson</td>
<td>12.50 pm</td>
<td>5D Mrs de Martin</td>
<td>12.50 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B Mrs Bishop</td>
<td>12.50 pm</td>
<td>6SM Mr Swafford</td>
<td>12.50 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3M Miss Moncrieff</td>
<td>1.25 pm</td>
<td>5V Mr Venegas</td>
<td>1.25 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4R Mrs Roberts</td>
<td>1.25 pm</td>
<td>5M Mrs Morton</td>
<td>1.25 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3S Mr Skinner</td>
<td>2.00 pm</td>
<td>6HO Mr Hosken</td>
<td>2.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4PR Mrs Pascoe</td>
<td>2.00 pm</td>
<td>6HI Mrs Hill</td>
<td>2.00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Get Active**
Get Active classes have now finished for the year. After School Care will continue to run until the end of the school year, Monday December 12. Thank you for noting this.

**Out of Uniform**
If your child is out of uniform, parents please send a note or email to the teacher to explain the uniform situation. We ask that you have your child back in the correct uniform as quickly as possible.

**Early Arrival at School**
Please note that playground supervision begins at 8.00 am. For safety reasons we request that students not arrive at school before 8.00 am. Thank you for supporting us in keeping your children safe.

**School Travel 2017 – Opal Cards**
Students will need to keep their current Opal Cards for travel in 2017. These cards will be automatically deactivated for school holidays and then reactivated for school travel in Term 1 so do not throw them away. Please note, you will need to reapply at www.transporthsw.info/school-students only if your child is progressing from Year 2 to Year 3 or from Year 6 to Year 7 to ensure your child is able to travel in 2017.

**SPORT UNIFORM TERM 4**

**Kindy - Year 2** wear sport uniform on MONDAYS

**Years 3 & 4** wear sport uniform on WEDNESDAYS

**Years 5 & 6** wear sport uniform on FRIDAYS
Last Week of School
The countdown to completion of the school year has almost begun. Below is an outline for the Secondary Campus, post exam periods.

Year 10 parents have received a detailed list of activities for next week via email on Thursday.
Year 11 will be expected to work solidly on class tasks and assessments right until the last day – this continues to be the important first term of their HSC.
For all Years 7-10 students, in the last week of school, most days are anticipated as having normal scheduled classes.

Please understand that in these final stages of the year, students and teachers will be engaging in a number of simple tasks together. These will include:
- Y7-9 formative feedback of exams, checking of marks and building of skills;
- Y7-10 tidying of rooms, some cleaning, returning of equipment and texts;
- Celebration of a successful year within class time;
- Y7-10 Some quiet time as teachers complete final edits and notes relating to student progress and reports;
- Y7-10 final sign-off processes and cleaning of locker areas;
- Y7-11 running of our normal sport programs.

On Friday, December 9, after our sign-off process, students will be taken to the local pool for the afternoon. This activity will cost each student $4 for pool entry and transport, and will conclude the final 2016 school week on a fun note.

End of Year Sign-off
If for some reason your child(ren) will be finishing earlier than the scheduled Friday, December 9 (our official sign-off day), you will need to have a request in writing to Mr Craig ASAP please. This will allow us to provision time for all the school processes to be completed by your child(ren) before leaving. We are required to record official attendance to December 9. If your child(ren) leave early, a note of explanation will be required for BOSTES purposes.

Secondary Speech Night
Monday, December 12, 7.30 pm
Speech Night changes a little this year – now on a Monday night and not long after the Primary presentation! We plan to begin proceedings promptly at 7.30 pm, with students expected to be in full summer school uniform and seated by 7.20 pm. Of course, if you are pressed for time between programs or running straight from work, food and drink will be available for purchase on campus. This is our final formal celebration of the year and we look forward to your presence at this event, right before the Christmas holidays begin.
PLEASE NOTE

Noo’s News
Because Friday, December 2 is a Pupil Free Day The Munchery is going to serve Friday’s menu options on Thursday, December 1.

KIDS PASTOR NEEDED!
CLICK HERE FOR JOB DESCRIPTION.

LIBRARY

K-6 Library Book Returns
Thanks to most students who have returned their library books already. There are still a few students, however, that need to search for their library books ASAP! Please see the library staff if your book is lost because you will need to bring along the replacement money to the library.

K-6 Library Parties
Our Year 3-6 students have enjoyed their library parties this week with Kindy to Year 2 looking forward to their library parties next week. Please note that the Year 2 library party is on Monday, November 28, not 29 as stated on the invitations. All students are to be commended for their excellent manners and library party behaviour! Library party photos can be viewed on the Primary Library Landscape page. http://landscape.avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au/homepage/2828

2016 Library / Student ID Cards
Please keep your 2016 ID cards for use until 2017 cards are processed.

Secondary School Book Return
A huge thank you to everyone who has returned library books this week. Please ensure any outstanding books are returned by Thursday, December 1.

Parent Library
Parents, just a reminder that any library books you have borrowed this year need to be returned to the library next week. We’ll look forward to seeing you again next year in the iCentre.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Sometimes in life different personalities or knowledge can colour people's views. It does not mean that one is right or the other is wrong. It is in times of disagreement that a spirit of justice and fairness might just provide the solution to the disagreement. Maybe we can even learn from someone who sees things with a different perspective. Justice is making decisions on the basis of right principles, examining all the information from both sides. It is fair! It hit me this week that my opportunities to write these comments on life are running out. I checked with our Webmaster and over 100 people per week take the time to read the Principal's blog. It has been a weekly challenge, but I have appreciated the people who have taken the time to comment and encourage. I have discovered that life has taught me that there are no shortcuts to any place worth going! At Avondale School we have had the joy of setting a course. Fourteen years ago there were some buildings we dreamed about and now they are a reality because we have put in the time and effort and God has cared for the rest. It has been an amazing journey to watch as Avondale School has shined through its people as we have tried to be the best we can be!

Enjoy the news for this week.
Dr David Faull - Principal

CALENDAR

Primary Calendar - Term 4
Years 3-6 Handball Competition……………………November 28 & 29
Year 4 Powerhouse Museum Excursion……………………November 29
P&F Meeting 3.15pm Admin Building……………………December 1
Pupil Free Day …………………………………………………December 2
Kindy Christmas Concert……………………………………December 7
End of Year Celebration ………………………………………December 8
K-6 Final Chapel………………………………………………December 9
Last Day of Term 4……………………………………………December 10
Primary Speech Night 5.00pm MPC…………………………December 12
Last Day for Staff………………………………………………December 16

Secondary Calendar - Term 4
Year 12 Cambodia Schoolies Service Trip … November 13 - 28
Year 11 Geography Excursion ………………………………November 28
Years 7-9 End of Year Exams………………November 28 - December 1
P&F Meeting 3.15pm Admin Building……………………December 1
Pupil Free Day …………………………………………………December 2
National Basketball Competition…………………………December 4 - 9
Last Day for Term 4 (Sign-Off Day)…………………………December 9
Secondary Speech Night 7.30pm MPC……………………December 12
Last Day for Staff………………………………………………December 16

Like us on Facebook for regular information updates. Search for Avondale School (Preschool to Year 12).

SCHOOL TERMS 2017
Term 1 Monday / Tuesday, January 30/31 - Friday, April 7
Term 2 Wednesday, April 26 - Friday, June 30
Term 3 Monday, July 24 - Friday, September 22
Term 4 Monday, October 9 - Monday, December 11