THIS WEEK … our Rookies and Knights Chess Teams did very well in the competition hosted on our campus. Students are continuing to learn and develop athletics skills in preparation for Athletics Days in Week 9 and our Basketball Teams are training hard for the HRIS Basketball in Week 7. Kindy students had fun on Colour Day and our String Ensembles will be playing at Lakeside Church this Saturday.

NEXT WEEK … we will be busy completing assessments in preparation for Mid Year Reports, so please avoid absences if possible. Assessment allows us to see the progress of each child along their own learning pathway. Our Kings Chess Team will compete against local schools and our top Science students from Years 3-6 will participate in the ICAS Science Competition.

ON WELLBEING … One of our goals this year is to continue to develop a positive school climate that supports student wellbeing. Our Chaplains and Counsellors are a big part of the support that we provide. All teachers work within their classrooms and in the playground to teach students the necessary skills to deal with social challenges. We want our students to develop the resiliency required to face and overcome challenges in their personal lives, in the classroom and in the playground. Resilience is the ability to bounce back when life knocks you down.

MAKING A MARK … “People spend too much time looking for more, instead of appreciating what they already have.” Picturequotes.com

DONE AND DUSTED … This week, our Year 11 and 12 students had a sobering and confronting look at the cost of poor driving with Michelle, Mel and Adam from the Roadwhyz program. Year 7 survived their second bout of vaccinations and our Prefects (along with prefects from Macquarie College and Central Coast Adventist School) had an enlightening talk from Dr Peter Beamish from Avondale College on Thursday. Year 9 and 10 Music students rocked the night away with their performances on the same day. Another great week.

CHALKBOARD ITEMS … The whole campus engages in the ICAS Science Competition this coming week as well as the Athletics Day on Wednesday. Looking forward to everyone getting involved!

BEFORE IT’S ERASED … “Life isn’t about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself.” George Bernard Shaw

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Years 1-6 Music Class Concerts
In Music this term all students from Years 1-6 will have the opportunity to sing, play or dance in our annual class concerts. The concerts will take place next week. Parents are welcome to attend their child’s performance, which will take place during their class music lesson timeslot. If there is not enough time to complete all performances in the allotted lesson, they will be carried forward to the following week.

Kindy Reenact Baby Moses Story
This week Mrs Fraser’s Kindy class learnt about the story of baby Moses and then reenacted it down at the school dam.

HRIS Basketball
Tuesday, June 7
Avondale School has four basketball teams who will be competing at the HRIS Basketball Competition in Maitland on Tuesday, June 7. The Junior Boys will be playing at Hunter Valley Grammar School while the Senior Boys and both Junior and Senior Girl teams will be playing at the Maitland Basketball Stadium. Uniforms will be handed out and re-collected on the day.

Athletics Training
All students from Years 2-6 are invited to train with Mr Head before school from 8.00 am until 8.45 am each morning except Wednesdays.
Year 12 Music Students are Winners

Our Year 12 Music students recently won $5000 for a music video they filmed for local building firm Mojo Homes. The competition, open to schools in the Hunter, invited students to produce a video incorporating a performance of the company’s jingle. Mrs Cooper and her 13 students opted for an a capella performance, filming it with an iPad and using a drone in the school grounds. The planning, filming and post-production work was driven entirely by the students. Students tossed around a few creative ideas, chose a few set locations around the school and had fun with the choreography. The $5000 prize will be put to good use by our Music Department. They are planning to get an electric guitar, pay for some professional musicians to come in and run workshops for the students, get some accompanists for the students’ HSC exams, and buy some recording equipment. What an awesome job Year 12 Music!

Athletics Day Next Week

Wednesday, June 1 at Mingara

Our Athletics Day is next week on Wednesday, June 1 at Mingara. The buses will leave school after Roll Call and the first event will start at 9.45 am. Students will be back at school by 3.00 pm to catch their normal buses home.

UNIFORM - It is expected that all students will attend in Sport Uniform. Students may change into their House colours when they get there. It is not a mufti day. All students must have a hat!

EVENTS - A program of events will be available on the day. Track and field events may occur simultaneously. When a competitor is required at both a track and field event, the track event shall take precedence. Students are to compete in their own age category only. Ages are calculated as at December 31, 2016.

FOOD - A canteen will be operating on the day as well as a fundraising BBQ with burgers and pancakes.

Results will be used to assist in the selection of the school team that will head to the HRIS Athletics Day at Glendale on July 29. Please note that the 1500m event will be done in a lunchtime a week after Athletics Day, and javelin will be done during PE classes at school.

Roadwhyz Keeps Things Real

On Monday morning, the reality of irresponsible driving was brought home to our Year 11 and 12 cohorts with a program brought to them by Roadwhyz. Michelle Davis (a mum who lost her two teenage boys to speeding) confronted our seniors with the facts about road crashes and a parent’s perspective of needless loss. This was echoed in sobering conversations with a highway patrol officer and a social worker. The students walked away with a graphic reality check on their choices when driving. It was an impressive, real and meaningful program.

Step Up

We Learn ∙ We Value ∙ We Serve

General

Hope to see you there!
**PLEASE NOTE**

**Entertainment Books**
Entertainment Books were made available to the youngest child of each family last week. Help your P&F raise $1200 or more by investing in this entertainment opportunity. If you do not wish to purchase the book, please return it to the School Office ASAP. Lost or unreturned books will incur a replacement fee.

**Canteen - Thursday is the New Friday**
FOR 1 WEEK ONLY

For one week only The Munchery will be offering Friday's menu on Thursday, June 9. This is the Thursday before the long weekend. There is no school on Friday, June 10 as it is a Pupil Free Day.

**Avondale School Fire Safety**

Avondale School is proactive about their safety. Last Monday all staff across the campus were given instruction on fire emergency and what to do with fire extinguishers as part of their Professional Development. The local Fire Emergency crew attended and all Risk Assessments for the training activity were completed. Teachers were given information on different types of extinguishers and how to use them. The group then moved outdoors to receive practical training of safe and appropriate ways to use the extinguishers. It was a very useful and practical training session for all staff.

**LIBRARY**

**Library Landscape Page**

Where do you go when you want all the latest information from the iCentre? It's so quick and easy to go to http://landscape.avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au and choose the iCentre icon. From there you can select Primary library information to search the library catalogue, check out the library photo gallery, view the K-6 library timetable, read about weekly library activities and more. Secondary students can select High School library information for access to databases and the latest research guides to help with their assessment tasks. These pages are updated regularly, so keep checking back for new information.

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

I used to love birthdays. I can still remember standing excitedly on our front porch waiting for my friends to show up for my 5th birthday party. I wasn’t just excited about the balloons, the gifts and the cake - I was happy that I was no longer 4! I was growing up. Birthdays are milestones we can count as an opportunity to look back and be thankful for the many good things that have happened in the last twelve months. Since my 4th birthday I have found it’s not things I appreciate but people and relationships. I am thankful to God for creating me with five senses to enjoy life; the smell of fresh baked bread; the ‘bite’ of a good curry; a drop of dew on a perfect flower; and fluffy baby ducks, to name a few. Avondale School is fantastic because people make it so, and the efforts of our community to make it so is something I never forget to appreciate. How about taking a few moments to make a list of the people and things you appreciate. You will feel the better for it! “Gratitude is something of which none of us can give too much. For on the smiles, the thanks we give, our little gestures of appreciation, our neighbours build their philosophy of life.” A. J. Cronin  

Enjoy the good news for this week.

Dr David Faull  
Principal

**CALENDAR**

**Primary Calendar - Term 2**

String Ensemble at Lakeside Church .......................... May 28  
Family Portrait Fundraiser for Year 12 Cambodia Trip .......................... May 29  
ICAS Science Competition ....................................................... May 31  
Kings Chess ................................................................. June 1  
HRIS Basketball ............................................................. June 7  
Pupil Free Day ................................................................. June 10  
Queen’s Birthday Holiday ................................................. June 13  
CIS Cross Country .......................................................... June 16  
Years 3 & 4 Athletics Day ................................................. June 21  
Years 5 & 6 Athletics Day ................................................. June 22

**Secondary Calendar - Term 2**

String Ensemble at Lakeside Church .......................... May 28  
Family Portrait Fundraiser for Year 12 Cambodia Trip .......................... May 29  
ICAS Science Competition ....................................................... May 31  
Athletics Day @ Mingara ....................................................... June 1  
Year 11 General Maths Excursion ........................................ June 2  
Year 10-12 Paul Dillon Visit .............................................. June 6  
Year 9 Geography Excursion .............................................. June 7  
Year 12 Geography Excursion .............................................. June 8  
HRIS Netball ................................................................. June 9  
Pupil Free Day ................................................................. June 10

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Search for Avondale School (Preschool to Year 12).