Welcome to the 2015 school year! We’re off to a great start with students already engaged in a whole range of exciting learning activities. A walk around our primary campus shows enticing classrooms with flexible learning spaces. Our teachers are working towards meeting a range of learning needs and styles. Our Student Leaders were involved in a Leadership Training Day this week. Mrs Hill guided our leaders through a range of activities that helped them to understand the power they have to positively impact our school culture. Our leaders identified lots of initiatives that they would like to be involved in. Two of the big ideas were to initiate more opportunities for students to serve our community and to help to develop a positive school environment where students stand up against bullying.

We are focusing on courtesy and respect at present. Did you know that the strongest influence in teaching respect is modelling. Do we show our children the kind of respect that we expect of them? Our intention is that every student settles into the new school year and thrives. We want all of our students to be happy and ready to learn. If your child is having any difficulty settling in, please make sure you share this with school staff. Every child is important to us.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK ... “To be one, to be united is a great thing. But to respect the right to be different is maybe even greater.” Bono

Hands up if the beginning of 2015 happened and you’re still playing catch-up? Wow! We’re off to a flying start, Year 7 are making themselves at home in the high school, Year 12s are into the swing of study, Year 11 are adjusting to white shirts and our ‘middle years’ are rediscovering routines! A great week, capped off with ID Photos! Next week has us ‘doing’ the Swimming Carnival, Year 12 and Year 11 information nights, continuing with our Peer Support program, a Year 7 Parent Essay Workshop and of course, Valentine’s Day!

WHAT WE’RE STRIVING FOR THIS YEAR ... We are still putting God front and centre in our program for 2015, while also helping our students to embrace consistent approaches to study, learning and use of their technology. Our collective expectations of students will be on personal bests, encouraging mutual respect for each other and community members. We’re looking forward to a good year together.

THAT’S ALL THEN … Although, I do have something to tell you … just for fun … it’s impossible to lick your elbow!

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

Mrs Deb Cooper
Head of Primary
dcooper@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au
In regards to jewellery, the Handbook states “Jewellery, including bracelets, bands, chains, earrings, studs and rings, is not part of school uniform and is not to be worn. Any piercing must be done during school holidays to enable healing to take place and the jewellery to be removed before school – unhealed piercings will not be accepted as an excuse to wear jewellery. Plastic spacers may be worn in earlobe piercing only.” Thank you for ensuring that your child is wearing their school uniform correctly.

**Music**

Thank you to those students who have signed up for the various music groups Avondale School has on offer. If your child/children missed signing up it’s not too late. For more information please contact the following teachers:

- Mrs Campbell - lcampbell@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au (Junior Strings, Intermediate Strings)
- Miss Parsons - sparsons@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au (Primary Choirs, Handbell Choir, Junior Band)
- Miss Knopper - nknopper@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au (Intermediate Band)

Our regular rehearsals will start next week at the following times.

- **Year 5-6 Choir** 3.00 – 3.30 pm on Thursdays in the Primary Ensemble Room
- **Year 3-4 Choir** TBC
- **Junior Band** 3.00 – 3.30 pm on Thursdays in the Primary Ensemble Room
- **Intermediate Band** 3.20 – 4.00 pm on Thursdays in the Music Building
- **Primary Handbells** 3.20 – 4.30 pm on Tuesdays in the Primary Ensemble Room

**Avondale Primary Performing Arts Auditioning For 2015**

**When:** Monday, February 16

**Who:** Interested Years 3-6 students

**How:** Simply collect an Information/Permission Form from Miss Moncrieff

**Sport**

**Primary Swimming Club**

It was amazing to see 58 students participating in the Primary School Swimming Club on Thursday, all wanting to improve their swimming ability and their fitness levels. All students who can swim 25m are able to participate. The cost is $5.00, which includes pool entry, coaching, transport to school and a healthy Sanitarium breakfast. Swimming Club operates on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Morisset Heated Pool.

**House Captains and Vice Captains**

The House Captains have been selected this week as voted by students. House Captain and Vice Captain badges will be presented at assembly this coming Monday, February 9.

**House Meetings**

Students have selected the events they would like to compete in at the Swimming Carnival. Parents are asked to make sure their child knows which age group they should compete in. The age (in years) at December 31 2015 is the age group your child will compete in this year. Students are allowed to enter events on the day even if they have not registered their name at House meetings.
**GENERAL**

**Year 7 Parents’ Essay Writing Seminar**
When: Wednesday, February 11 at 6.00 - 7.00 pm  
Where: iCentre (Media Room)
The aim of this one hour presentation is to help you help your child reach their full potential in English. You will gain a greater understanding of the principles of successful essay writing in English and how the subject has changed over recent years.

If you would like to attend the seminar, please RSVP before 4.00 pm on Monday, February 9 by emailing Mrs Calli Vogel (English Coordinator) at: callivogel@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au

**SPORT**

**Year 7 and 8 Sport**
This term our Year 7 and 8 students will be involved in the Triathlon and Surf Survival Program during their sport afternoon.

Year 7 - Every Tuesday afternoon (Boys Triathlon and Girls Surf Survival)  
Year 8 - Every Thursday afternoon (Boys Triathlon and Girls Surf Survival)

Students need to bring their PE uniform as well as their swimmers for both of these activities.

**Secondary Swim Squad**
Where: Morisset Heated Pool  
When: Mondays and Wednesdays at 6.45 – 7.45 am  
Cost: $5.00 which includes pool entry, coaching, transport back to school and breakfast  
Transport: Parents need to drop students to the pool. The school bus will then take all students back to school for breakfast.  
Ability: Students need to be able to confidently swim 400m.

Please Note: This is not a learn-to-swim session. It will focus on some stroke correction and aerobic conditioning as well as developing overall swimming fitness.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact Mr Ward in the PDHPE department on 4977 0200 or email bward@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au

**MUSIC**

Music at Avondale School has started the year well with our Choir, Band and String members being represented at the Commencement Chapel last week. We have many ensembles on offer for students to be involved in. Our regular rehearsals will start next week at the following times. If you would like to be involved in any of these ensembles, please contact Miss Parsons, Miss Knopper or Mr Craig.

- **Secondary Choir** 3.30 – 5.00 pm on Wednesdays in the Music Building  
- **Intermediate Band** 3.20 – 4.00 pm on Thursdays in the Music Building  
- **Concert Band** 3.30 – 5.00 pm on Tuesdays in the Music Building  
- **Stage Band** Tuesday lunchtimes in the Music Building (Terms 2 & 3)  
- **Secondary Handbells** Monday lunchtimes in the Primary Ensemble Room (Terms 2 & 3)

**Swimming Carnival**
**Tuesday, February 10**
**Wyong Olympic Pool**

Once again we are having our Swimming Carnival at the Wyong Olympic Pool (1 Ithome St, Wyong). There is some shade available and we will be providing some extra as well. Spectators will have a $1.70 entry fee at the front gate and are urged to bring a chair as there is limited seating. A canteen will be available on the day and the longterm forecast is looking fine at this stage. Please feel welcome to come along to cheer and support.

Students do not have to pre register for events, they marshal on the day for the events they wish to enter. Ages for all events are what you will be on December 31, 2015 (what you turn this year). A competitor may compete in their age division only (ie no swimming in higher age groups, except for the relays). Age divisions for relays are Junior (ages 12-14,) Intermediate (ages 15-16), Senior (ages 17-18.)

Age Champion Trophies, Runner-up Age Champion Trophies and Third Place trophies will be awarded in each age division for both boys and girls. All events will contribute to Age Championships, except relays and open events.

Sports uniform is expected to be worn by students and they can change into House colours at the venue. Modest and appropriate swimwear is expected. As this is a normal school event school policies apply to attendance and behaviour.

**PROCEDURE FOR THE DAY**

**DEPARTURE**
Students will board buses at 8.50 am for a 9.00 am departure after Roll Call.

**AT THE POOL**

1. Students are to assemble in the correct House Bay Area.
2. Students who go direct to the pool from home must get their name marked off at the recording table on arrival and departure.

**EVENTS**

1. Event 1 will begin at 9.45 am.
2. House Marshall’s and Captains will gather students together ready three events BEFORE their scheduled event.
3. The Chief Marshall will then collect competitors and direct them to the starting area.

**DEPARTURE**

1. Buses will leave the pool at approx 2.00 pm and arrive at school in time for normal buses home.
2. Students leaving with parents prior to this time must sign out at the recording table.

Step Up will be starting soon. Watch this space!
It's great to have the students back with all their energy and enthusiasm. The Commencement Chapel where all our students and teachers gather together was a great way to start the year.

One of the core activities at Avondale School is to promote family values. This year we commence with Courtesy and Respect. Rudeness is pervasive in society. We see and hear it all the time. When we teach our children to speak appropriately and show respect we are giving them crucial lessons in kindness, consideration, honesty, open-mindedness, as well as gratitude.

When a young person who stands tall, looks a prospective employer in the eye and speaks firmly with respect is enhancing their chances if employment and acceptance as an adult. Taking the time to role model and talk about respect is not just a task for this week, but it is a core task for all of us every day.

Best wishes to you all for the rest of this year as we journey together.

Dr David Faull
Principal

NO ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY
Please note in your planning for this year that there is no break from school on April 27 for Anzac Day. Due to an oversight it was listed in the Avondale School Calendar. No holiday has been gazetted for that day, and it will be a normal school day. We apologise for any inconvenience.

This week Primary library classes have commenced and Senior High School students have begun studying in earnest during study periods. The library is for everyone, and that includes parents of all students from K-12. We’d love to have you visit, with or without your children, anytime we are open. Parents also have the opportunity to become borrowers by completing a few details at the front desk. Once registered as a borrower, parents can borrow from most sections of the library including a special ‘Parent Library’ section that includes books and DVDs on parenting skills and personal relationships.

Library Online
Access to the library catalogue and a number of databases, including Encyclopedia Britannica, is available online 24/7 at accessit.avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au. Usernames are:
- Primary School section
- Senior

No password needed

Enjoy exploring Avondale School’s online library.

Music Lessons
The following is a list of private teachers offering music lessons at School. Please contact these teachers directly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Instrument(s)</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kylie Stacey</td>
<td>Simply Music (piano)</td>
<td>(02) 4973 3234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ngarina Ronich</td>
<td>Simply Music (piano)</td>
<td>(02) 4973 6826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vamsi Hili</td>
<td>piano / music theory</td>
<td>(02) 4914 588 853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan Hughes</td>
<td>piano</td>
<td>(02) 4977 2037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kylie Smith</td>
<td>piano / voice (Suzuki / AMEB)</td>
<td>(02) 4936 664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cybele Couty</td>
<td>voice (AMEB) / piano (AMEB)</td>
<td>(02) 435 455 977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison Hedge</td>
<td>voice</td>
<td>(02) 420 520 895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esther Albert</td>
<td>cello / violin / piano (Suzuki)</td>
<td>(02) 439 420 661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Jones</td>
<td>flute</td>
<td>(02) 432 923 199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Schackwell</td>
<td>saxophone / clarinet / brass</td>
<td>(02) 404 022 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trish O’Hearn</td>
<td>trumpet</td>
<td>(02) 402 020 314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake Boganin</td>
<td>guitar</td>
<td>(02) 400 389 612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Dixon</td>
<td>guitar / ukulele</td>
<td>(02) 414 607 882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Wallace</td>
<td>guitar / bass guitar</td>
<td>(02) 435 376 723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garry Laverer</td>
<td>group guitar lessons / ukulele</td>
<td>(02) 438 683 180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiffany Boddey</td>
<td>drums</td>
<td>(02) 425 989 899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudio Gerasco</td>
<td>guitar / piano / voice / drums / bass guitar</td>
<td>(02) 404 097 687</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I love you, Lord God, and you make me strong. You are my mighty rock, my fortress, my protector, the rock where I am safe, my shield, my powerful weapon, and my place of shelter. Psalm 18:1-2 CEV

Primary Calendar - Term 1
Get Active Commences ........................................February 9
Cuppa and Chat with the Principal 9.15 am ..............February 10
Year 5 Camp .....................................................February 11 - 13
Kindy Rest Day .................................................February 12
Year 3-6 APPA Auditions ....................................February 16
Year 3-6 Swimming Carnival ................................February 17
Kindy Rest Day ....................................................February 20
Collaborative Learning Centre Opening 10.00 am ....February 20
HRIS Swimming .................................................February 26
School Open Day ..............................................March 3
Week of Worship ................................................March 9 - 13

Secondary Calendar - Term 1
Get Active Commences ........................................February 9
Cuppa and Chat with the Principal 9.15 am ..............February 10
Swimming Carnival at Wyong Pool ...............................February 10
Year 12 Information Night 7.00 pm .............................February 10
Year 7 Parent Essay Writing Workshop 6.00 pm ........February 11
Year 11 Information Night 7.00 pm .............................February 11
Year 7 Camp (at School) ........................................February 12 - 13
Week of Worship ................................................February 16 - 20
Year 7 Vaccinations #1 ........................................February 17
Year 10 Information Night 7.00 pm .............................February 17
Year 7 Information Night 7.00 pm .............................February 18

Avondale School
119 Avondale Road (PO Box 61)
COORANBONG NSW 2264
p. (02) 4977 0200 f. (02) 4977 2651
e. admin@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au
w. www.avondaleschool.com.au
You are invited to the official opening of the Collaborative Learning Centre on

**Friday 20 February 2015 at 10am**

Please join us for refreshments after the opening

RSVP by **Friday 13 February 2015**
email khowells@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au
or phone 02 4977 0200