This week has been another blur of activity here at school. Along with lots of exciting class activities, we had School Photo Day. The logistics of photographing almost 500 Primary students individually, in class groups and in Year Level groups, are amazing! Thanks for making sure your child was looking fabulous in their school uniform. We also had a BOSTES Compliance Audit this week. Our teachers have been working tirelessly to ensure that all our curriculum documentation was completed to a high standard. We were delighted to receive overwhelmingly positive feedback about the quality of the program we run here at Avondale School. I’m sure you would agree that we are blessed with an amazing team of highly professional teachers.

Next week our Year 3 and 5 students will be engaged in NAPLAN testing. This is simply a snapshot of student achievement in Numeracy and Literacy. We endeavour to reduce any stress for our students during this week to give them every chance to do their best. The data from the testing is helpful for us to track the effectiveness of specific learning strategies that we implement. During the next three weeks teachers will be assessing and observing students in preparation for mid year reports. We would appreciate you avoiding unnecessary absences from school during this time. We want to give you an informed and comprehensive report on your child’s achievement. Are you available for an hour after school next Wednesday? Why not come to our first Parents & Friends meeting for the term. Come along and support Phill and Karen Toepfer. Supervision for children will be provided. 

Thought for the week: “Teamwork makes the dream work.”
Mrs Deb Cooper
Head of Primary
dcooper@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au

Making a mark … “If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.” Henry Ford

Done and dusted … How impressive did everyone look on School Photo Day? We were spectacular in presentation and in organisation. So proud of our staff and students! Of course we work constantly ‘behind the scenes’ to ensure all we do on the Secondary Campus is reflected appropriately in paperwork – and we were commended on our synergy, clarity and integrity of program this week when we were audited. Woohoo! Watching our teachers in action and seeing some of our students’ projects coming along, I am reminded that we are really blessed! What a great week it was!

Chalkboard items … Next week is a pretty big week in terms of activity: Year 10 do Work Experience, Year 8 do Broken Bay Camp, Year 12 do their Retreat to Riverwood Downs and the biggun’ is Year 7 and 9 doing NAPLAN. We’re fired up and ready to go on all fronts! Just don’t want our Year 11s to feel too left out … so they have a special presenter coming in to talk about relationships and marriage. Now that’s got to be a winner!

Before it’s erased … Ostriches are often not taken seriously. They can run faster than horses, and the males can roar like lions. Don’t you dare forget your mums this weekend! You’d never live it down. Just a tip!

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

**Impetigo**
We have had a few reported cases of impetigo at school this week. The symptoms of impetigo are either blisters or flat, honey-coloured crusty sores on the skin. If your child has a sore that is not healing and is growing in size medical attention should be sought. As impetigo is contagious, students are required to be excluded from school until they have commenced antibiotics and have a medical clearance from a doctor to return to school. Further information can be obtained from the NSW Department of Health website or a medical practitioner.

**Volunteer Readers for NAPLAN**
We require two volunteer readers for the NAPLAN Numeracy assessment next Thursday, May 14 from 9.00 am until 10.30 am. If you are able to help, please email Mrs Karen Price at kprice@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au

**SPORT**

**HRIS Cross Country**
The HRIS Cross Country was held at Morisset Showground last Friday on a very wet and boggy track. The change of venue at the last minute made it very challenging for the organisers. While the rain stayed away on the day there was plenty of mud with most students’ legs being totally covered by the end of their event. We are very grateful to the Morisset Showground for allowing the event to be held on their site at short notice.
The day became a selection trial only with no team banners or school shields being awarded as many schools competed with reduced teams. Congratulations to the following students for their outstanding performances and their selection to the CIS Cross Country Team to compete in Sydney on Thursday, June 11.

| 1st  | Boys 12 years | Ethan M |
| 2nd  | Boys 11 years | Matthew L |
| 3rd  | Boys 10 years | Luke P |
| 3rd  | Boys 9 years  | Talen B |
| 5th  | Girls 12 years| Olivia M |
| 6th  | Girls 11 years| Savannah W |
| 10th | Boys 11 years | Elijah M |
| 12th | Girls 9 years | Georgia C |
| 12th | Boys 11 years | Oliver C |
| 12th | Girls 10 years| Lilijana G |

**Netball Trials**
Students are currently trying out for the Girls’ School Netball teams. Girls do not have to know how to play. The Junior Team (Years 3 & 4) will train with Mrs Hobson on Wednesdays at lunchtime. The Senior Team (Years 5 & 6) will train with Mrs Vaughan and Mrs Hill on Fridays. Students are asked to bring their joggers for training.

**CLASS**

**Year 6 Paddle Pop Bridges**
Mrs Hill’s Year 6 class were testing out their paddle pop bridges this week.
SPORT

HRIS Cross Country

GENERAL

Orchestra Performances
The Dora Creek SDA church enjoyed the music of the Orchestra last Saturday. The performance was 'awesome', coming on the back of the recent NZ tour. On Monday the Orchestra and Choir also performed and shared pictures of the tour with their peers in Chapel. The quality of musicality when the team works together lifts the whole group to a new level. It makes the hours of committed practice very worthwhile.
A special thank you to parents for supporting our musicians and their performances. They are outstanding ambassadors for Avondale School.

Helping Others in Need
Last week some of our students were involved with packing a shipping container with various goods to help others less fortunate than us. The container is being sent to Fiji.

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!

Hope to see you there!

Avondale School
Reunion Cooranbong
30 May

Welcome to Graduating Years of 2005, 1995, 1990, 1985 ... 1935
(My 12, Leaving Cert or your Grading Year)

more information
www.avondaleschool.com.au
phone 02 4977 0200
## Parents and Friends Meeting

**Wednesday, May 13 - ALL Parents Welcome!**

We would like to welcome Mrs Karen and Mr. Phill Toepfer as our new Parents and Friends leaders. They would like to extend an invitation to all parents to attend the P&F Meeting next week on Wednesday, May 13 at 3.15 pm. All parents are most welcome to attend this meeting where we look forward to seeing you there.

## PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

A turtle, snake, rabbit and an elephant lived together on an island. Covering the top of a mountain on the island was a ‘great big enormous rock’. The animals thought it would be such a good place to play if not for that ‘great big enormous rock’! One by one, they tried to climb the mountain and push off the rock so they could play at the top of the mountain. After a while they all decided to push together and the ‘great big enormous rock’ went crashing down the mountain. The four animal friends who cooperated together to get the result settled down on top of the mountain and had a wonderful picnic to celebrate their achievement.

Often we might come across a problem that on our own seems hard to solve but with the help of others the task becomes easy. Cooperation exists when people work together toward a common goal and it requires us to recognise the value of everyone’s part in making it happen. Tuesday was our School Photo Day and it was outstanding to see students, teachers and photographers working together. We ran to time and the photographers could not believe how cooperative our whole team was – well done everyone! Enjoy the news for this week.

**Dr David Faull**

**Principal**

## Special Events – Term 2

**Book Week is Coming!**

Primary students are excitedly talking about Book Week already! The date is August 17 – 21 and there will be fun book-based activities for the whole school to participate in. In case you’ve forgotten, it’s our biennial Book Character Parade for Years K-6 on Thursday, August 20 and students are looking through books to get ideas for their costumes. Watch this space for more information.