What a great first term! Our final week has seen Year 6 enjoy China Day, Year 2 share a special Easter concert with parents and grandparents, Year 2 also had an excursion to the Wetlands, Year 3M stayed at school overnight, Year 5 were on camp and Kindy had Jolly Phonics Fun Day today! Our teachers really do a great job of making learning fun!

It was great to see everyone get into the spirit of Go Blue For Autism! Thanks for helping us raise money for this fantastic cause.

Our SRC met this week and shared many creative ideas for making our school a better place. I was very impressed with their enthusiasm. The SRC also plans to look for people on our campus that they can thank for doing a great job.

I hope you enjoy a great holiday time with your precious children and I look forward to seeing them all back again in winter uniform to start Term 2.

Thought for the week: “Mistakes are always forgivable, if one has the courage to admit them.” Bruce Lee

Week 11 – check! Year 12 got results back from their Mid Year Exams; Motivational Media talked about the personal impact each of us can make in the world if we make an effort and believe in ourselves; we’ve completed a whole bunch of tests and tasks this week (nothing like the end of term to finish topics and units!); going ‘Blue for Autism’ saw us raise $1,260 on the Secondary Campus (woohoo!) and our Year 10 students engaged with some Vietnam VETS on the Nambus visit. Just another ‘ordinary’ week!

On the Horizon … ANZAC Day is on the last Friday of the holidays. We would love to have you and your child walk with us, representing Avondale School in the Morisset March. Full winter uniform, Morisset Train Station carpark at 9.30 am, April 25. It would be an honour to see you there! Term 2 starts April 28 and we’re into it: Photo Day (Thursday), Music Camp (May 3/4) and the Year 12 Retreat, Year 10 Work Experience and Year 8 Camp. I’m tired just thinking about it!

THAT’S ALL FOLKS … EXCEPT, I’VE OFTEN WONDERED … Is it still illegal to park next to a fire hydrant, even if your car is on fire? Anyone for testing that idea out?! On another note, avoid eating excessive amounts of chocolate and remember the most amazing part of Easter – Jesus gave His life for each of us! Catch you in Term 2!

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

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

Year 6 China Day

We had our Year 6 China Day this week. Some of the activities we were involved in included river crossing, where students had to work together to cross a ‘river’ with only six stepping stones; chop stick wars, where students had to try and eat food items using chop sticks; and our favourite activity, sword fighting, where two students were in a ring fighting with pool noodles. After a delicious Chinese lunch cooked by some awesome parents, students played a game of Chinese Battleground before sitting down and watching Kung Fu Panda to end the day.

Written by Kaine R (Year 6)

School Photo Day – May 1

Photo forms have gone home with your child. Please return these to the School no later than Wednesday, April 30. Family Photo forms are available from the School Office.
General News

Whooping Cough
We have a reported case of Whooping Cough in the Primary School. Should your child develop a persistent cough, please seek medical attention as soon as possible. More information can be obtained on the NSW Department of Health website. Thanks for your attention to this matter.

Citizenship Awardees
Congratulations to this week’s citizenship awardees:
Ella J, Aiden B, Kial G, Isaiah F, Ben M
These people have made our school a better place through their thoughtful actions.

Year 2 Wetlands Excursion
On Wednesday Year 2 had a wonderful day at the Hunter Wetlands Environmental Centre. The students were very excited as they captured miniature wildlife from the pond with dip nets and examined them closely under microscopes and magnifying glasses. They also enjoyed exploring in the discovery room and spotting a variety of bird life using binoculars, as they walked around the wetlands. Thank you to all the parents who were able to come and help make this a fun, learning experience.

Year 2 Easter Mini Concert
On Tuesday Year 2 presented their Easter Bilby Concert to parents. The students made their own animal masks and acted enthusiastically. They also shared some songs and spoke about the real meaning of Easter. After the concert all students participated in an Easter egg hunt outside. We had so much fun!

Class News

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Sport News

HRIS Cross Country
The HRIS Cross Country event will be held at Avondale College on Thursday, May 8.
Students in the team have been given a program this week along with a permission note. Students are able to train on the course over the holidays. If that is not possible, students are encouraged to train at home consistently over the next three weeks.

Years 3-6 Friday Sport – Term 2
Sport for Years 3-6 in Term 2 is Athletics and sport uniform is required each Friday.
If there are any parents with expertise in any athletic event and are willing to assist teachers during sport time please contact Mr Head.

Citizenship Awardees
Congratulations to this week’s citizenship awardees:
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These people have made our school a better place through their thoughtful actions.
Last Tuesday morning, Year 10 boarded the bus to Anna Bay. Students were filled with uncontrollable excitement for the great memories that were about to be made. Over the four days, Year 10 participated in a variety of activities such as kayaking, walking up Mt Tomaree, learning to surf at One Mile Beach, sand-boarding on Stockton Dunes, going on a 4WD tour on Stockton Beach and riding tandem bikes around Nelson’s Bay. After dark there was even more fun to be had! On Tuesday night we all played put-put golf and attempted to hit a target on the driving range. Wednesday night involved a game of capture the flag out on the dunes with over 100 glow sticks under a beautiful starry sky. And last but certainly not least, we all caught a bus over to the d’Albora Marinas for pizza and worship by the water. Later that evening we returned to our accommodation where some students chose to perform in the talent show, whilst other enjoyed sitting back and enjoying the fun! We all had an absolute blast at Anna Bay!!! By Emma D (Year 10)

Retiree’s Morning Tea

Our Hospitality and Music students really treated our Avondale Retirement Village visitors to an outstanding concert and morning tea. They really enjoyed a great show and wonderful morning tea!

Year 10 NAMBUS Visit

On Tuesday, our Year 10 students had the honour of receiving a visit from the Gosford Vietnam Veterans Association with their mobile museum, the Nambus. Four veterans visited this year, Lindsay, Chris, John and Kieran. The students were able to look at photographs and medals from the Vietnam War. They were also able to dress in army uniform and experience what it would have been like to carry all of the heavy equipment through the jungle. The students were extremely privileged to be able to have direct access to the veterans who had served in Vietnam. Each veteran spoke of how the Nambus has helped them in dealing with their experiences in Vietnam. Mrs Richards and Mrs Twine would like to thank the gentlemen from the Gosford Vietnam Veterans Association for being so open to sharing their experiences. Year 10 is commended for their participation on the day, with the veterans specifically commenting that they always enjoy coming to Avondale School, as the students are so inquisitive and respectful. With ANZAC Day approaching, we hope that the students will reflect on their day with the veterans and remember their sacrifices. The Nambus is an event that the History Department is proud to support and will continue to in the future. We cannot wait until our visit next year!

Special thanks to Miss Knopper, Mrs Nevell and Mr Tosen for hosting such a special event.
Avondale School Values

Forgiveness

It has been a busy term! The Newsletter is just a snapshot of what happens each week. I have just come back from the retiree’s morning tea showcasing our Music and Hospitality students. It was outstanding! On Wednesday we had the Vietnam Veterans here and they could not be more complimentary on the attitude, respect and behavior of our students. The pages of this Newsletter detail how lucky our students are to have such excellent opportunities for learning. It was also great to have Rhema FM on campus today. The value we have been promoting this week is forgiveness. Everyone makes mistakes. Forgiving does not mean that all of a sudden you do not feel hurt or that the wrong choice someone made was right. It means that you find it in your heart to give the person another chance. Let’s make our family value forgiveness one we use regularly. Thank you for your support this term. We have packed it full of great experiences and lots of learning. It’s been an exciting journey and we look forward to taking up the challenge when we return on April 28. Enjoy the news for this week and the break that follows!

Dr David Faull
Principal

Uniform Shop - Holiday Hours
Students are required to wear winter uniform in Terms 2 and 3. For all your winter uniform needs, the Uniform Shop will be open during the school holidays on Tuesday, April 15 and Wednesday, April 16 from 9.00 am - 5.00 pm. All students must be in full winter uniform from the first day of Term 2. There is no cross over period.

CAMBODIA PHOTO FUNDRAISER
Sunday, May 4
Need to update your family photos? For just $20 a session you can! For more information or to book a photo session go to our website www.avondaleschool.com.au.

Library News

Term 1 Highest Borrowers – Years 7-12
Congratulations to the following students who were the highest library borrowers during Term 1:
Years 7-8 Tanya V
Years 9-10 Andrew V
Years 11-12 Pepe L
Each of these students has won a book voucher to be used at a local bookstore. Many borrowers were following close behind, so start planning to borrow and read regularly in Term 2.

Late Opening for Years 7-12
Throughout Term 2 the iCentre will continue to remain open until 4.30 pm from Tuesday – Thursday to provide a quiet study space for students in Years 7-12. Please note that any Primary students coming into the library should be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

ANZAC Day March - Friday, April 25
Avondale School will be participating in the South Lake Macquarie ANZAC March and Ceremony on Friday, April 25. All Avondale students are invited to attend. Students need to wear their full winter uniform and to meet at the Morisset Railway Station car park (new one) adjacent to the traffic lights at 9.30 am. The March will commence at 10.00 am and will go down Dora Street to the Morisset Country Club where the main service will be held. We look forward to seeing you there.

School Term Dates 2014

P&F Open Meeting

Principal’s Message

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Primary Calendar - Term 2

Last Day of Term 1 ........................................... April 11
Kids Rally at Gateway Church.................................. April 12
Vacation Care .................................................. April 14 - 17
Uniform Shop Open 9.00 am - 5.00 pm.................. April 15 & 16
Good Friday Holiday .......................................... April 18
Easter Monday Holiday ...................................... April 21
ANZAC Day Holiday & Parade ............................. April 25
First Day of Term 2 ......................................... April 28
School Photo Day ............................................. May 1
School Fees Due .............................................. May 2
Get Active Starts for Term 2 ................................. May 5

Secondary Calendar - Term 2

Last Day of Term 1 ............................................. April 11
Uniform Shop Open 9.00 am - 5.00 pm.................. April 15 & 16
Good Friday Holiday .......................................... April 18
Easter Monday Holiday ...................................... April 21
ANZAC Day Holiday & Parade ............................. April 25
First Day of Term 2 ......................................... April 28
School Photo Day ............................................. May 1
School Fees Due .............................................. May 2
School Musical ‘Camp’ ...................................... May 3 - 4
Get Active Starts for Term 2 ................................. May 5
P&F Open Meeting ............................................ May 7