LAST WEEK … The highlight of the week was Open Day. We loved having parents, grandparents and community members visit. The lunch concert was fantastic! Year 6 students competed in the MasterChef Chinese cooking challenge. I thoroughly enjoyed being the Emperor and taste-testing the food! It was great to see a huge group of students participating in the Avondale Chess Competition on Wednesday. What fun we had with crazy hair day on Friday! Thanks for supporting our fundraising efforts for the Leukemia Foundation.

THIS WEEK … We begin our annual ‘Run Around Australia’ as we train for Cross Country. Why not come and do some laps with your child. Friday is the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. We will be inviting our students to take a stand against bullying here at Avondale. We have a special chapel on Friday that will focus on standing together against bullying.

DID YOU KNOW … Bullying is defined as ongoing physical, verbal or psychological attack or intimidation that is intended to cause fear, distress or harm to the victim and where there is an imbalance of power in favour of the perpetrator. We want our students to be proactive in identifying, reporting and taking action against bullying. All students deserve a safe place to learn and grow!

MAKING A MARK … “The greatness of a man is not in how much wealth he acquires, but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively.” Bob Marley

DONE AND DUSTED … A great result for our Swimming Team at HRIS – 2nd overall and some age champions as well! They did themselves and our school proud. Year 12 Advanced English explored the complexities of Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar and we had a successful Open Day. Some of our students have had the workload pick up, with assessments and significant tasks being due. But all in all, another top week!

CHALKBOARD ITEMS … Our Cross Country is on Wednesday while Interims will be sent out this week and bookings open online for our Parent/Teacher nights on 21 and 22 March (both nights from 4 – 8 pm). We traditionally have allowed for Years 10/11 on Monday and Years 7 – 9 on Tuesday, with the understanding that you’ll book whatever night works best for all your children’s teachers. Thanks and we look forward to seeing you there!

BEFORE IT’S ERASED … “If opportunity doesn’t knock, build a door.” Milton Berle

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

Mr Benton Craig
Head of Secondary
b CRAIG@AVONDALENSW.GOV.AU
GENERAL

Uniform Matters - School Socks
We have a number of students wearing incorrect socks to school. As stated in the School Handbook in relation to the summer uniform, boys are to wear grey regulation school socks with turn down tops and girls socks should be white regulation school socks with turn down tops. Socks are available for sale in the uniform shop. Thank you for noting this and ensuring your child/children are wearing the correct uniform.

Cartesian Divers in STEM PUP
Last week Mr Neuschulz ran a STEM PUP where students made cartesian divers. There was a steady stream of excited students with their empty bottles who followed the instructions to create the pipette divers. A cartesian diver works because it will float when no pressure is applied to the bottle but as soon as the bottle is squeezed, the gas will compress and as more water enters the diver, it becomes heavy and sinks. Filling the ballast tanks of a submarine has the same effect: making the submarine go up and down in the water.

If your child enjoyed making one of these divers at school you may like to search for “Cartesian Divers” on the internet and try making some more at home. They can be made with Lego men, straws and paper clips, pen lids and even tomato sauce packets. Have fun with STEM.

Gymnastics Costumes
Just a reminder to the students involved in school gymnastics, that costumes need to be returned to Miss Moncrieff as soon as possible.

SPORT

Avondale Chess Competition
The Primary Chess Competition was held in the CLC this week with over 70 students from Years 1 to 6 competing. The students played 5 rounds in the morning session. After lunch a cut was made and the two afternoon rounds saw the leaders change position with each student trying their best to make it into the top placing for a spot on a School team. Due to the closeness of some of the results some more matches may be required to decide the final representative teams. A big thank you to Dr Rumsey and Mr Ginn for assisting with scoring the competition. Congratulations to the following students who took out the top placings:

Senior Division
1st Ryan B 7/7
2nd Matthew G 5.5/7
3rd Elijah M 5/7

Junior Division
1st Kylan M 6/7
2nd Darcey S 6/7
3rd Benzen B 5.5/7

Best Junior Girl
Holly H 3.5/7
Best Senior Girl
Rose J 5/7

Cross Country - Run Around Australia
Cross Country training commences on Monday, March 14, at 8.00 am on the Primary school oval. Students are invited to run before school and at lunchtime around the 1 km track. Each student will receive a certificate for the number of kilometres completed over the next two weeks leading up to the Easter break. Parents are welcome to run with the students before school. A big map of Australia is on display outside the STEM rooms where our progress will be recorded each day. Due to the Good Friday holiday this year we only have nine days to complete our Run around Australia instead of ten. Our school Cross Country Events will be held the first day after the Easter break on Tuesday, March 29 (weather permitting).

Cross Country Event Schedule
9.20 am – 9.55 am 9 year olds (2 km)
10.00 am – 10.30 am 10 year olds (2 km)
10.30 am – 10.50 am RECESS
10.50 am - 11.40 am 11 year olds (3 km)
11.40 am – 12.20 pm 12 year olds (3 km)
12.20 pm – 1.10 pm LUNCH
1.10 pm – 1.45 pm 5 & 6 year olds (1 km)
1.45 pm – 2.30 pm 7 year olds (1 km)
2.30 pm – 3.10 pm 8 year olds (2 km)

(Please note: Age is how old your child will be by the 31 December, 2016).

Road Safety
Road safety is important for every student. Please observe the road speed signs, 40 km/h on Avondale Road during school zone times and 10 km/h in the school grounds.

SPORT UNIFORM FOR TERM 1
Kindy, Years 1 & 2
wear sport uniform each Monday
Years 3 - 6
wear sport uniform each Friday
Secondary

**NSW All Schools Team Triathlon 2016**

The Sydney International Regatta Centre, Penrith, was again the location for all NSW triathlon teams representing Government, Catholic and Independent Schools on March 3. Avondale School in its eighth year of participation entered a total of five teams in the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Divisions. The format of the team relay was a Swim, Ride and then a Run.

Unfortunately due to the extremely hot weather conditions on the day, the Senior events were cancelled. The Junior and Intermediate Avondale teams put in their best efforts and achieved the following commendable results:

Junior Girls  
126/200 (Time: 49m 20s)
Junior Boys 1  
33/136 (Time: 40m 01s)
Intermediate Boys  
50/104 (Time: 53m 43s),

Congratulations to all competitors for their excellent performances, team spirit and attitude.

**Junior Girls**

Eleora T  
Scarlett M  
Olivia M

**Junior Boys**

Bryan R  
Liam B  
Ethan M

**Intermediate Boys**

David K  
Zac W  
Rowan A

**SENIOR TEAMS: (MIXED)**

**Team 1**

Paige F  
Nathaniel G  
Tyler H

**Team 2**

Samantha W  
Lachlan B  
Sarah A

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to Chad M who has qualified to play at CIS Golf in the Blue Mountains. Congratulations also to Rowan A who has been selected to play in the Hunter Region Open Hockey Team at Bathurst.

**Music Lessons**

Please contact these teachers directly.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
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**Cross Country March 16**

The School Cross Country is being held this Wednesday March 16. Students will be running around the dam and out the back paddock, depending on the distance each age group has to cover. House points and age champions are announced at a chapel program after the event. The first five runners in each age group are selected to represent Avondale School at the HRIS Cross Country held at Avondale College on May 6.

All the different year levels have been doing a variety of fitness training during sport in preparation for this event. PE uniform is expected, and students need to bring a water bottle.

**Cross Country Distances**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12yrs</td>
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<td>15yrs</td>
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<td>16yrs</td>
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<td>5km</td>
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**Bathurst**

Congratulations to Chad M who has qualified to play in the Hunter Region Open Hockey Team at Bathurst.

**STEP UP**

3.30 - 4.30 PM THURSDAYS  
ALL THIS TERM in the iCentre

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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!
This Week We Value

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Value in Review

‘Do you have to do that?’ I pleaded, silently calculating the extra cost. ‘Can’t you just patch it up?’ But the builder was adamant. ‘Unless we go down to the proper depth, the building inspector won’t approve it. The right foundation is vital.’

The right foundation makes the difference between something that lasts and something temporary. Jesus knew that though foundations are invisible, they are vitally important to the strength and stability of the house (Matt. 7:24-25), especially when it is battered by storms. Often when we make a decision we can be tempted to take the easy way, find shortcuts, or do things by halves to meet an objective. Other foundations may be faster and easier, and building our lives on the right foundation is hard work. But when the storms of life hit, houses built on solid values stand firm.

Asking questions of our young people as they grow may be some of the most important character building moments we have with them. Discernment is the ability to see things as they really are. To have good foundations is hard work. But when the storms of life hit, houses built on solid values stand firm.

Dr David Faull
Principal

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 27 - Friday, April 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 26 - Friday, July 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Monday, July 25 - Friday, September 23</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Monday, October 10 - Monday, December 12</td>
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Primary Calendar - Term 1

GIS Swimming Carnival: March 22
Good Friday: March 25
Easter Monday: March 28
Cross Country K - 6: March 29
Get Active ends: March 31
Primary Performance (Memorial Church Plus1): April 2
SWOMP: April 4 - 8
Kindy Jolly Phonics Day: April 8
End of Term 1: April 8

Secondary Calendar - Term 1

Interim Reports: March 14
Cross Country: March 16
Parent Teacher Interviews (Years 10 & 11): March 21
Parent Teacher Interviews (Years 7 - 9): March 22
Good Friday: March 25
Easter Monday: March 28
Year 8 Camp: April 4 - 6
Year 12 Exams: April 4 - 8
Urban Challenge: April 4 - 8
Year 10 Camp: April 5 - 8
Year 7 Camp: April 7 - 8
End of Term 1: April 8

LIBRARY NEWS

Premier’s Reading Challenge

Kindy to Year 9

Eighty-five students from Kindy – Year 9 have already signed up for the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Like to to join them in taking up the challenge? Please sign up at the library or online on the iCentre page on Landscape before the end of March. Reading logs are also available for download from the iCentre page or in hard copy at the library. Complete the details of books as you read and return the completed form to the library no later than 19 August.

Kindy – Year 2 25 books from the PRC list plus 5 free choice selections
Years 3-9 15 books from the PRC list plus 5 free choice selections

Reading from a series: Only two books from one series may be included in those required on the PRC list. If you would like to read more from one series they need to be included as “free choice” books. There is a wide selection of books for loan from the school library, or you can read books you have at home or borrow from other libraries. All students who complete the challenge will have their name included on the publicly available Honour Roll. More detailed information about the Premier’s Reading Challenge is available on their website: www.products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html

Sign up and start reading today!!!

Have you used LANDSCAPE?

Hi, my name is Andrew Cameron and I’m the Director of eLearning at Avondale School. Over the last couple of weeks we have launched an exciting new communication tool for parents. It is called LANDSCAPE. Parents can login to LANDSCAPE to:

- access relevant and up-to-date information
- download permission notes
- view photo galleries of recent events
- contact teachers
- access links to the iCentre, Uniform Shop, Munch Monitor ... and much, much more. An email was sent out recently, advising parents of their username and password for logging into LANDSCAPE.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like any further information or any assistance with accessing LANDSCAPE.

Email: acameron@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au

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LANDSCAPE