THE VIEW

“Let’s be clear; it is going to take all of us.”*

As parents, we know that our child will not become a great musician after a short course in learning to read music. We send them to music lessons for years and supervise practice at home, and hear them gradually improve. We know they will not become proficient from attending a weekly lesson but then skipping the practice. Reading and literacy follow a similar path – formal teaching of reading skills gets them started on their reading journey but the practice needs to happen independently. The early years are hard work and require time and consistent commitment but the long-term gains are life-changing.

The Benefits of Reading
Reading is a skill that underpins all learning. A confident and competent reader has the world at their feet. Fluent readers achieve greater success in school. It doesn’t matter whether they are reading for pleasure or researching a topic, strong reading skills ensure they understand the material and are capable of utilizing it in their own education and development. Regular reading not only increases their reading competence but results in stronger skills in spelling, comprehension, verbal fluency, a broader vocabulary and a greater awareness of general knowledge.
Reading is also acknowledged as being instrumental in developing empathy and compassion as it allows the reader to see things from a different person’s perspective and to gain insight into the feelings of others too.

Furthermore, reading is liberating – readers can vicariously climb mountains and experience the world without having to leave the room. Readers may not be able to physically escape their environments but reading allows them to mentally escape to anywhere they wish. Books can also act as a refuge when the world is overwhelming or unfriendly.

Factors that Contribute to Reading Success

Immersion – students need access to a wide range of books and time to read them. Children who grow up surrounded by books are more likely to become proficient readers and learners.

Demonstration – students need to see significant people in their lives making reading a priority, even if it is just for a few minutes each day.

Engagement – reading for pleasure should be pleasurable (seems obvious doesn’t it?) so students need to have access to reading material that interests them and engages their attention.

We want all our students to be confident and competent readers and to experience success in their lifelong educational journey. The fact is that if the average upper primary student read 10 minutes a day, they would be exposed to over 600,000 extra words per year. Can you join with us and tuck in ten minutes of reading a day to help them read and succeed?

*Donalyn Miller in Game Changer: Book Access for All Kids (2018)

Helen Lindsay
Teacher Librarian
SPORT

Term 3 Sport Uniform
Kindy – wear their Sport Uniform on Mondays and Tuesdays.
Years 1 & 2 – wear their Sport Uniform on Tuesdays.
Years 3-6 – wear their Sport Uniform on Tuesdays and Fridays.

HRIS Soccer Gala Day – Change Of Venue For A & C Teams
The locations of A & C Teams were incorrect on the permission note sent home. Please note the correct venues below for the HRIS Soccer Gala Day to be held next Tuesday August 20.
A & B Teams will play at Adamstown Oval – Propran Road Adamstown.
C Team will play at No 5 Sports Ground, Newcastle West – Smith Street, Newcastle West.
We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.

GENERAL

Year 6 Science & Engineering Discovery Day
Avondale School had the opportunity to host the Year 6 Science and Engineering Discovery Day presented by the University of Newcastle for the 5th consecutive year. Selected students participated in two half day activities involving STEM skills. The main purpose of the day was to have fun and discover real life applications for science and mathematics. However, there were points awarded to each school team depending on their activity results. Avondale School students performed incredibly well on the day and ended up with a well-deserved 1st place. Perseverance and grit were noticed as the key strengths within our School team.

After School Primary Hoops
After School Primary Hoops runs on Tuesday afternoons from 3.30 - 4.30pm in the MPC for ages 10-13. There are two groups available: a beginners group for kids just learning and a more advanced group for kids who have played before.
The focus is on Fitness, Ball Handling and Shooting for the first half hour followed by a game played in each level for the last half hour. This is a parent run initiative. Join the After School Primary Hoops Facebook page for more information: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1974555969516715/
Year 10 Nambus Incursion

Last Wednesday, our Year 10 students had the honour of receiving a visit from the Gosford Vietnam Veterans Association with their mobile museum, the Nambus. Seven veterans visited this year, including a veteran from New Zealand. The students were able to look at photographs and artefacts 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 their experience in Vietnam and of how the Nambus has helped them in dealing with their experiences in Vietnam. Year 10 is commended for their participation on the day, with the veterans specifically commenting that they always enjoy coming to Avondale School. The Nambus is an event that the History Department is proud to support and will continue to support in the future.

STEP UP 3.30 - 4.30PM THURSDAYS in the iCentre

Please note that it will not be running September 26 (last day of Term 3).

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!
Private Music Tutors
Are you interested in having music lessons? We have many great tutors and instruments available to learn on. Please contact tutors directly to arrange lesson times.

Piano
Kylie Stacey / 0409 939 302
Sandi Lowe / 0447 006 209
Cybèle Coutet (AMEB) / 0423 455 977
Jan Hughes / 4977 2037
Henry Higgins / 0490 0404 308
Sophie-Lee Johnson / 0490 451 781

Voice
Cybèle Coutet (AMEB) / 0423 455 977

Strings
Henry Higgins (cello) / 0490 040 308
Esther Albert (cello / violin / double bass) / 0439 420 661

Woodwinds
Meldi Arkinstall (flute) / 0413 548 985
Fred Cracknell (saxophone / clarinet) / 0404 082 151

Brass
Fred Cracknell / 0404 082 151

Guitar
Jake Bisognin / 0400 389 612
Toby Zeuschner / 0405 405 131
Henry Higgins / 0490 0404 308
Garry Lowler (group lessons / ukulele) / 0438 608 180

Drums
James Dennett / 0401 549 084

A new $100 Creative Kids Rebate can be put towards the cost of registration, participation or tuition fees for creative and cultural activities such as music lessons with registered teachers. You can apply for an active kids voucher at Service NSW online or in person.

K-9 PRC
Please remember that all completed PRC reading record sheets need to be returned to the library by **Friday August 30**, two weeks from today! Enjoy your last-minute reading.

K-6 Book Character Parade
Is your costume nearly ready for our biennial K-6 Book Character Parade? Please remember to choose costumes that reflect the values of the school and especially avoid supernatural and violent book characters, and for obvious reasons, don’t bring along LIVE animals as part of your costume! A good rule of thumb to work by is if the library has the book then you certainly can dress as a character from that book. Please let the library know ASAP if you would like the library staff to find a particular book to go with your costume. We can’t help you find a book on the morning of the parade! This year our judges will be choosing five students with creative costumes from each Year Level, without ranking them, to receive awards and book gift vouchers. For more information please visit the Primary Library Landscape page https://landscape.avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au/homepage/2828 It will be great fun so parents and grandparents, you won’t want to miss it! Looking forward to seeing YOU in the MPC at 9.00am on **Thursday August 22**.

**Year 7-12 Quizzical**
Our annual Book Week Secondary School Quizzical Challenge is on next Monday at lunchtime in the iCentre. Students book a table for their team of 4 and compete to win prizes and gift vouchers whilst enjoying drinks and snacks. Tables are filling fast! There is something for everyone.

**K-6 Storytellers at Lunchtime**
Each lunchtime (except Thursday) there will be super storytellers in the library Story Centre from 1.05pm to enthral the students. Our storytellers this year are: Mr Jonathan Christian, Mrs Deb Cooper, Dr Adelle Faull and Mr Stuart Clark. It’s going to be fun!

**K-12 ‘Reading is My Secret Power’ Competition**
This week many of our teachers and school staff have had their photos taken wearing disguises while reading books showing that reading is THEIR secret power! (This is the National Book Week theme for 2019!)
All the photos will be displayed in the library next week during Book Week and it’ll be the students’ job to work out who the teachers are through their disguises! All you need to do is look at the photos and fill in a competition entry form! Please note that there are separate entry forms for K-6 and 7-12. There will be exciting prizes for the student in each Year Level that matches the most teachers with their books!

**Fathers Day**
**GIFT STALL**
**FRIDAY, 30 AUGUST**
**PRIMARY CAMPUS MAKERSPACE**
**GIFTS FROM $1**