Primary Calendar - Term 2
School Open Day ........................................... May 22
Y4 Awabakal Excursion .............................May 24
K-12 Combined Chapel ...............................May 25
Quirindi Horse Sports Day ..........................May 25
ICAS Science Competition ......................May 29
School Photo Day ............................................May 31
Knights & Rookies Chess Gala Day ..........Jun 7
Kings Chess Gala Day ....................................Jun 12
P&F Meeting 7.00pm .......................................Jun 13
CIS Cross Country ..............................................Jun 14

Secondary Calendar - Term 2
School Open Day ........................................... May 22
HRIS Netball ........................................................May 22
Y12 Food Tech Excursion ...........................May 22
Y9 History/Geography Excursion ........May 24
K-12 Combined Chapel ...............................May 25
Careers Testing Opportunity ...................May 27
Athletics Carnival ............................................May 28
ICAS Science Competition ......................May 29
School Photo Day ............................................May 31
Y11 PDHPE Excursion .............................................Jun 1

School Terms 2018
Term 2 ........................................................Apr 30 - Jul 6
Term 3 ........................................................Jul 30 - Sept 28
Term 4 ........................................................Oct 15 - Dec 7
Term 1 2019 ..................................................Jan 29 - Apr 12

THE VIEW

Hi, my name is Georgina O'Reilly, but some of you know me as George. I was raised in Devonport, Tasmania, but have lived in NSW for the last 18 years.

On a visit to this beautiful region with my then future husband, I knew that this was where I wanted to settle down and raise my family. The fact that it’s not too cold, and that travel to anywhere in Australia is possible without getting on a boat or plane, was quite appealing. Even being able to catch a train was an exciting prospect, as Tasmania does not offer this public transport option.

Now that I’m raising my family here, my life has become very busy. For most of us juggling work and family commitments certainly takes its toll. So finding some extra time to volunteer for the school or in the community seems impossible.

However, volunteers in our community are essential! A lot of the programs and events that we as families have come to enjoy and love are not possible without parents and community members volunteering to help. The additional benefit of being a volunteer is that it sets a great example for our children, the next generation, who will also need volunteers in their community when they have families of their own.

Unfortunately, the reality is there are only a small number of people volunteering and if this continues there will certainly be programs and events that will be compromised. I don’t want to see that happen, as I am sure you as parents don’t either.

The misconception about volunteering is that a massive amount of personal time is required, which is not the case. It could be something as simple as picking up some supplies on your way home from work, packing lolly bags in front of the TV, helping out at our Community Christmas Carols or standing at a slushy stall for one or two hours. Honestly, every little bit helps!

I am so pleased to inform you all that in the last three events, Primary Cross Country, HRIS Cross Country and the Mother’s Day Stall, we raised close to $5,300. This money will go towards purchasing much needed items for our School.

My message is simple ... if you have even a little bit of spare time, we would really appreciate your help and support. All for the good of the community, our children and this wonderful place we live in. Please get in touch with me and I will be happy to work with you in tailoring a volunteer plan that fits your personal situation. I look forward to hearing from you.

Georgina O'Reilly
Parents & Friends Events Coordinator
Change Of Dates
Please make the following changes on your School Calendar:
K-6 Parent Teacher Night – Monday, June 25.
Kindy Grandparents Day – Friday, June 29.

Kindy 2019
Just a reminder that if you have a child or know of a child wanting to commence Kindy in 2019, please make sure you have completed and returned an enrolment form. Forms are available from the Admin Building.

Head Lice
We have had a number of reports of students with head lice at School. Please check your child/children’s hair. The School policy requires that all live adult head lice and eggs be treated and removed before the child is permitted to return to School.

CLASS

Year 2 Sunnyside Excursion
On Wednesday, Year 2 visited Ellen G. White’s Home ‘Sunnyside’. Students were privileged to have Dr John Hammond tell wonderful historical stories and guide them through the home of the pioneer of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Ellen White is the most published female author of all time! It was fascinating to learn about her life.

Year 2 Hunter Wetlands Excursion
Last week, Year 2 went on a discovery excursion to the Hunter Wetlands Centre. They had a wonderful time dip-netting in the wetlands and then investigating the live pond animals they collected under a microscope. Students enjoyed observing birdlife and nature through their own set of binoculars when walking through the Shortland Estuary habitat.

SPORT

NSW Interschool Snow Sports Event
There is some interest in having an Avondale School Team enter this year’s NSW Interschool Snow Sports event at Thredbo on July 10-14. The carnival covers 9 different events with two divisions for primary aged students. More information can be found on the NSW Interschools 2018 website. Competitors from all ability levels are encouraged to enter, with an emphasis on fun and participation in the initial Regional Championships. As the competitions progress to State and National levels, the level of competition and degree of difficulty increases.

If you are interested in entering a student, please contact Mr Head. Entries open next week.

CIS Rugby League
We wish the following boys all the best as they attend the CIS Rugby League trials in Sydney next week: Harry K, Noah MG, Jacob C, Talen B and Marcus H.

Quirindi Public School Horse Sports
We wish the following girls all the best as they compete in this Equestrian Event at Quirindi next week: Matilda E, Georgia C and Ally R.

Learn To Play Chess
Students interested in Chess are invited to attend the iCentre on Thursday mornings. From 8.15 am – 8.35 am students will play Social Games and at 8.35 am basic chess tactics will be discussed. All students welcome.
SPORT

Athletics Carnival
Monday, May 28

1. Times
8.40am Roll Marking
9.00am Buses leave for Mingara
9.45am Event 1 commences
2.15pm Departure by bus returning to school

2. Events
- A program of events will be available on the day. Track and field events may occur simultaneously. When a competitor is required at both a track and field event, the track event shall take precedence.
- Students are to compete in their own age category only.
- As many students as possible may enter the events. There will be qualifying guidelines on some events.
- One relay team may be entered from each House, in each age group.
- Ages are calculated as at December 31, 2018. Age categories are 12-14 (Junior), 15-16 (Intermediate) and 17-18 (Senior).
- Results will be used to assist in the selection of the HRIS team.

3. Food
Mingara’s canteen will be operating on the day, as well as the Year 12 students fundraising for Cambodia will be selling burgers and pancakes.

4. Uniform
Students are to be in full PE uniform or House colours only – Green, Blue, Red, Yellow. Everyone must have a hat!

4. Extra Events
The 1500m event will be done during a lunchtime a week after the carnival. Javelin will be done in PE class time at school.

P&F Fundraiser

Take the career test that could change your life
Our test will help you choose senior subjects and the best training and education for your career path. Includes a comprehensive careers assessment, results, workbook and debrief.

Register at: www.careeroptions.net.au/sb

Call Rachel at Career Options 0405 383 210

GENERAL

Cambodia Photo Fundraiser
We are holding a portrait fundraising day and would be delighted to receive a donation from you in return for a framed 10×13” family portrait (of your family – valued at $90!) by Laura Jean. Check your emails for more details. Bookings can be made at www.trybooking.com/374783

STEP UP

3.30 - 4.30PM THURSDAYS
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!
Entertainment Books
Give Mum an Entertainment Membership this Mother’s Day and she can enjoy more than 12 months of valuable dining, shopping and travel offers! Support our fundraising by purchasing your membership from us. The Entertainment Book was sent home with the ELDEST child of each family. Entertainment Book Memberships sell for $65 and $15 of each book purchased goes directly to our school! Entertainment Memberships are available as a BOOK or as a DIGITAL MEMBERSHIP.
To purchase the book, simply keep the book your child brings home and make your payment online or complete the order form included in the book and return it to the School Office. To purchase the digital membership, make your payment online and your digital membership will be emailed to you. If you do not wish to purchase the Entertainment Book or if you have purchased a digital membership instead, please return the Book your child has brought home to the School Office ASAP.

Library
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 (Simply Music, AMEB, traditional) / 0409 939 302
Angela Miller (Simply Music) / 0421 464 797
Cybèle Coutet (AMEB) / 0423 455 977
Jan Hughes / 4977 2037
Henry Higgins / 0490 040 308

Voice
Cybèle Coutet (AMEB) / 0423 455 977

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

Woodwinds
Emma Jones (flute) / 0432 925 199
Fred Cracknell (saxophone / clarinet) / 0404 082 151

Brass
Fred Cracknell / 0404 082 151
Anna Howard (trumpet) / 0430 106 953

Guitar
Jake Bisognin / 0400 389 612
Toby Zeuschner / 0405 405 131
Henry Higgins / 0490 040 308
Garry Lawler (group lessons / ukulele) / 0438 608 180

Drums
James Dennett / 0401 549 084

We value ...
Discernment