This week we enjoyed fantastic weather for our Swimming Carnival. We had brilliant levels of student participation. We are extremely proud of all those students who knew they were unlikely to win but still wanted to have a go and earn points for their House. It’s great to see such a positive culture of support and affirmation. Thanks Mr Head for organising yet another awesome sporting event. Our School Team has been announced and they will be representing us next week at the HRIS Swimming Carnival.

Homework is an important part of school life. Daily reading practice helps students make huge leaps forward with decoding words and reading fluently. Reading aloud has been shown to be more effective than silent reading so try to give your child an audience and purpose for reading. Small amounts of homework for younger children also help to develop positive work habits and focus. If your child is struggling with homework, or if homework time is a battle-ground in your home, please let your child’s teachers know. We want to work with you towards positive learning outcomes.

Did you know that a sense of belonging and connectedness helps to minimise bullying? With this in mind our teachers have been intentionally working to develop a team mentality in each classroom where individual differences are noticed and celebrated. Our goal is to make every child feel valued. Enjoy a great weekend with your family!

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

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK ... “Know the true value of time; snatch, seize, and enjoy every moment of it. No idleness, no delay, no procrastination; never put off till tomorrow what you can do today.” Anon

SO WEEK 4 ... is completed with a Year 10 information night that started the ball rolling on Board of Studies processes for our students; Year 7 received information about technology and settling into high school – all in a bid to be ready for our iPad deployment yesterday. They’re armed and ready now! They also seemed to survive their vaccinations on Tuesday. We’ve had an exceptional Week of Worship with our Year 12s too – they have inspired us and challenged us to be on fire for God. Our CLC officially opened this morning – we are excited about the potential of this space. And now the weekend is a delightful bookend to a great week.

AND NEXT WEEK ... Our Year 12s engage in Work Placement for our VET courses next week, the HRIS Swimming Carnival occurs on Monday and the All Schools Triathlon take place on Thursday. We hit the middle of the term by the end of next week – and our learning program is in full swing! Interim reports are not far away.

THAT’S ALL THEN ... Although, did you know that a duck’s quack doesn’t echo, and no one knows why? Enjoy a restful Sabbath!

Mr Benton Craig
Head of Secondary
b CRAIG@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au
Visitors On Campus
Just a reminder that if you are visiting the school between 9.00 am and 3.10 pm it is a requirement that you sign in and out at the Office. Thank you for noting this.

CLASS
Year 5 Myuna Bay Camp
Last week students from Year 5 headed up the road to Myuna Bay Camp, on the shores of Lake Macquarie, to spend three days conquering many of their fears and connecting with their classmates in a variety of challenging activities. They kayaked and sailed up the lagoon to the open waters of the lake; they flew though the air at an astonishing pace with the giant swing and climbed a 10m high wall with the encouragement and support of their peers. “It was the best thing I have ever done in my life,” commented one excited Year 5 student. We would like to thank all the students who participated for their willingness to have a go and their positive attitude across the entire experience. Year 5 will certainly never forget their time at Myuna Bay Camp 2015.

SPORT
Swimming Carnival
The Swimming Carnival was held at Morisset Pool this week with over 350 students from Years 2-6 competing. It was great to see so many students participating, even though they knew they would not place. The swimming presentation will be held at assembly on Monday, March 2, weather permitting. Congratulations to Rhiannon D, who broke the 11 Years Girls 50m freestyle with a time of 34.75 seconds.

House Results
Congratulations to Hunter House who won the Swimming Carnival for the third year in a row.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>House</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>Hunter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>691</td>
<td>Watanag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>581</td>
<td>Macquarie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>Pacific</td>
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A very big THANK YOU to all the parents who helped make the day such a success.

HRIS Swimming Team 2015
The HRIS Team is on display in the sports cabinet and students have been given permission notes. The HRIS Swimming Carnival will be held at Maitland Pool on Thursday, February 26. Students in the HRIS Team are encouraged to attend the last Swimming Club on Tuesday, February 24, at Morisset Pool. Our coaches will go over things that will cause disqualification at the HRIS Carnival.
SPORT

Year 7 Sport
Our Year 7 students have been doing triathlon and surf survival for the past four weeks and have one more week before the girls start triathlon and the boys start surf survival. Students are encouraged to do some running out of school as a way of training for the upcoming school Cross Country on March 18.

Swim Squad Finished
A reminder to students and parents that the Swim Squad has now finished. HRIS Swimming is next Monday, February 23. Students should be at school by 7.00 am for a 7.15 am departure to Lambton Swimming Pool.

Cross Country Training
Students are encouraged to train for the Cross Country which is on Wednesday, March 18. The school will have training available every Monday and Friday mornings at 7.00 am with Mr Ward. Breakfast will be provided here at school after each session for a gold coin donation. The first session will start on Friday, February 27 and will continue until the HRIS Cross Country on May 1.

Sporting Achievement
Riley O in Year 7 recently competed in the NSW Country Championships held at Glendale and came 2nd by 0.05 in the 12 Years 100m. He then competed in the Hunter Classic 12 Years 100m race and won, becoming the Fastest Kid in The Hunter. Riley recently took part in the NSW Junior and Youth Track and Field Championships held at Sydney Olympic Park. The youngest division was the Under 14s (Riley turned 12 during the competition) and Riley came a very creditable 4th in the 100m and an amazing 2nd in the discus. He is now off to the Australian Junior Championships for discus, to be held in March. Well done, Riley!

CLASS

Year 10 Food Tech Making Toddler Food
Last week Year 10 learnt about fussy toddlers and ways to get them to eat nutritious food. Here are some of their picture plate ideas.

STEP UP

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!

3.30 - 4.30 PM THURSDAYS ALL THIS TERM in the iCentre

Hope to see you there!

Avondale School
We Learn ∙ We Value ∙ We Serve
We Value obedience

We Value issues that may interest you. It’s quick and easy to sign up and start.

Parents, we have lots of informative books and DVDs on parenting.

Parent Library

Monday for a special announcement in Chapel and posters around the

books, earn House points, it’s that simple. Keep your eyes peeled on

Reading Rulz is your chance to show your House spirit by reading! Read

Secondary Reading Rulz Kicks Off Next Week!

next day and do your borrowing.

your library bag on your library day then you come to the iCentre the

of books over the last couple of weeks. Remember that if you forget

Thanks to all the Primary students who have been borrowing oodles

K-6 Library Borrowing

thanks for this week.

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Open Day is coming up on Tuesday, March 3. We have a special menu available that day (see next page). Please note that online ordering will be closed on this day, however students will still be able to purchase across the counter if they have snack money available.

If you have not registered for online ordering, it is as easy as going to www.munchmonitor.com - the username is ‘avondale’ and the password is ‘munch2265’.

Book a TOUR today at www.avondaleschool.com.au or 4977 0200

Principal’s Message

Research is very clear on time lost for being late. It is documented that even just 5 minutes a couple of times a week makes a time loss across a year of 3-4 days. That amount of lost time can impact on quality learning time. If a student arrives late to class, the whole class is interrupted from their focus.

As a school we have government requirements on attendance and rollmarking. It is great to see students on time and taking responsibility for punctuality and attendance. Quality time can then be engaged with learning tasks and skill development. Let’s not just talk about punctuality but work together – students, parents and school – to be on time, so our learning focus can proceed from Kindy to Year 12 – Be on time ALL the time!

It is great to see our student leaders already stepping up to their responsibilities and working as team for the opening of the Collaborative Learning Centre. Enjoy reading the news for this week.

Dr David Faull
Principal

School Term Dates 2015

Term 1  Tuesday, January 27 – Thursday, April 2
Term 2  Monday, April 20 – Friday, June 26
Term 3  Monday, July 20 – Friday, September 18
Term 4  Tuesday, October 6 – Wednesday, December 9

Primary Calendar - Term 4

HRIS Swimming Carnival .............................................................. February 26
School Open Day ................................................................. March 3
Year 1 Team Building Incursion ............................................. March 4
Week of Worship ................................................................. March 16 - 20
CIS Swimming ........................................................................ March 18
Interim Reports sent to Parents ......................................... March 18
Year 1 Lakes Beach Excursion ............................................. March 25
Parent Teacher Interviews ................................................. March 26
Cross Country Run .............................................................. March 30
Get Active Ends for Term 1 .................................................... April 2
Last Day of Term 1 .............................................................. April 2

Secondary Calendar - Term 1

HRIS Swimming Carnival .............................................................. February 23
Year 12 VET Work Placement ............................................... February 23 - 27
Year 9 Commerce Excursion .............................................. February 24
Year 10 Business Week .......................................................... March 2 - 6
School Open Day ................................................................. March 3
Year 11 & 12 Music Excursion .............................................. March 9
Cross Country Run .............................................................. March 18
Year 11 General Maths Excursion ....................................... March 19
Year 12 Mid Year Exams .......................................................... March 23 - April 2
Year 10 & 11 Parent Teacher Interviews ............................ March 24
Year 7-9 Parent Teacher Interviews ......................................... March 25

Canteen

What’s Been Happening in the iCentre this Week?

K-6 Library Borrowing

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Open Day 2015 Special Lunch Order

Order your SPECIAL lunch order online at www.avondaleschool.com.au or by filling out this form by FRIDAY 27 February
Drop form and money to Primary School Office. Collect lunch order from your nominated child’s classroom after 12 noon on Open Day.
Further information please phone (02) 4977 0200.

Parent name

Student name

Student class or teacher

Mobile number

$7.50 meal
- Gourmet Wrap
  (Roast, Sweet Potato/Broccoli/Tater/Broccoli/Cucumber/Trail Mix/Honey Mustard)
- Homemade Muffin
- Bottle of Juice

Qty

$6.50 meal
- Spinach & Fetta Pasty & Sauce
- Homemade Cookie
- Popper

Qty

$5.50 meal
- Cheese Sandwich
- Cup Cake
- Popper

Qty

$4.50 meal
- Mini Spinach Ricotta Roll & Sauce
- Cup Cake
- Popper

Qty

Please note munch monitor www.munchmonitor.com will be CLOSED on Open Day!

Hot tea, cappuccino and hot chocolates available at the canteen all day...
Small $3.50 Large $4.00