What an exciting week! Our students have continued to run thousands of kilometres in preparation for the Cross Country Events next week. iPads are being used in all sorts of fun ways to engage students in deep thinking and learning. It’s great to see the results as our teachers continue to make learning exciting for their students.

The highlight of our week was Open Day. It is a pleasure to show parents, grandparents and our community what we do everyday here at Avondale. Thanks to all of you who came for a visit! The students love their parents and grandparents seeing them in action! Year 6 students had their first class on the Secondary campus. We are working hard to build a strong transition program to make the move to Year 7 smooth and stress-free!

We are looking forward to our annual Super Week of Mega Praise in just over a week’s time. This is a highlight for our entire Primary campus! We also look forward to seeing you next Monday evening for Parent Teacher Interviews. Reports and interviews provide a great opportunity to make goals with your child and implement strategies to help them achieve their goals.

Enjoy a fun weekend!

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

Thought for the week: “If you conquer yourself, then you conquer the world.” Paulo Coelho

Week 8 – check!
What a great opportunity to see new faces on our Campus – Open Day saw successful tours, parents mingling with each other and our teachers working with our students to engage, learn and grow! It is such a blessing to have great resources, dedicated staff and appreciative clientele. Thanks for a great day! We had a fire evacuation drill, a brilliant Bell Shakespeare rendition of Romeo and Juliet that had our Year 9’s riveted, and a successful afternoon doing the Cross Country. I think there were a handful of students who surprised themselves at being able to run the entire distance!

On the Horizon …
Parent Teacher Interviews are a pretty important calendar item next Tuesday and Wednesday nights, along with a couple of senior excursions for Music and Visual Arts. The exam schedule has gone out to the Year 12’s too, making Mid Year Exams for them only a couple of weeks away. We are but a moment away from completing Term 1!

THAT’S ALL FOLKS … EXCEPT, I’VE OFTEN WONDERED …
When does it stop being partly cloudy and start being partly sunny? (Is your cup half full or half empty?!)

Whichever way you see it, here’s to a marvelous weekend!

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

Open Day 2014
**General News**

**Initial Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews - Monday, March 24**

Parent Teacher Interviews will be this coming Monday, March 24, from 3.30 pm until 8.30 pm. Interview times can be booked online at www.schoolinterviews.com.au until 12 noon on Monday afternoon. **The school event code is 6NL52.** We look forward to seeing you there.

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**2015 Kindy Enrolments**

We are currently accepting enrolments for Kindy 2015. Enrolment packs and application forms are available from the Administration Building or by phoning the school on 4977 0200. Assessments and interviews for the first round of offers will be held in May.

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**Class News**

**Year 4 Mini Winter Olympics Thursday, March 27**

The Year 4 Mini Winter Olympics has been re-scheduled for Thursday, March 27. All students will be placed in teams for the morning activities and will need to bring gloves, a spare pair of old thick socks and a helmet for the day. It would be very helpful if students could bring in a lego man with their name on him by Tuesday, March 25, as he will be doing one of the events. Start training now!

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**Sport News**

**CIS Swimming Carnival**

Change of date – new date is March 26!

**Cross Country Events**

Cross Country events will be held next week at school. Students must wear their sports uniform on the day that their age group is running. Students will run in the age group according to the age in years they will be at December 31, 2014. Each student will receive a certificate with their placing as they cross the finish line. There will be no sport on Friday for students in Years 3-6 due to the Cross Country events. Parents are welcome to attend. The top five students in each age group from 8 - 12 years will make up the school team to go to HRIS on Thursday, May 8 at Avondale College. Students from Toronto Campus are not running at the same time as Avondale students and will also be considered for selection based on time.

**Cross Country Events 2014**: **Note: Ages are at 31/12/14.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 24</td>
<td>12.30 - 1.10 pm</td>
<td>9 years</td>
<td>2km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.25 - 2.00 pm</td>
<td>5 &amp; 6 years</td>
<td>1km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.30 - 3.05 pm</td>
<td>7 years</td>
<td>1km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8 years</td>
<td>2km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 25</td>
<td>12.30 - 1.10 pm</td>
<td>10 years</td>
<td>2km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 26</td>
<td>12.30 - 1.10 pm</td>
<td>11 years</td>
<td>3km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 27</td>
<td>12.30 - 1.10 pm</td>
<td>12 years</td>
<td>3km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reserved for wet weather.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Run Around Australia**

Students have been running well this week with many certificates being handed out from Kindy to Year 6. Several students are aiming to run 100km before Friday. By Thursday morning students had covered over 9,000km around Australia.
Year 12 Mid Year Exams - 2014
Avondale is seeking volunteers to assist with our off campus Year 12 Mid Year Exams starting March 31 until April 11. We are looking for exam supervisors to assist in this process. If you are interested in assisting or have any questions, please contact Jo Chermside: 4977 0200 or jchermside@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au

Hillview Friends
The Concert Band played extremely well last Saturday for their first performance for the year at Hillview SDA Church. The Concert Band has only been practicing for a few weeks and the musicality was greatly appreciated.
We are also thankful for the support of parents who came to enjoy the music. Performance opportunities means the individual practice and group work all come together under Miss Knopper's baton. Well done, Concert Band!

Step Up
3.30 - 4.30 PM
THURSDAYS
ALL THIS TERM
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!

Hope to see you there!

Year 8 Goes Walkabout!
Last Thursday, students in Year 8 attended the History site study to the Australian Wildlife Walkabout Park. The students engaged in a variety of activities involving boomerang throwing, native Australian fauna, bush medicine and the opportunity to see ancient Aboriginal rock paintings and carvings. The students learnt a great deal about ancient Indigenous Australia in this hands-on experience. Mrs Richards and Mrs Twine would not only like to thank the Year 8 students for contributing to a great day but also the wonderful staff who attended with us - Ms Curzi, Miss Parsons, Mr Kunz and Mr Hosken.

Reading Rulz!
SIGN UP TODAY AND START READING
Collect a check sheet from your English teacher.
Get your books signed off as you read them.
Hand your check sheet to your English teacher by November 3.
Collect house points by reading. Fantastic!

Years 7-10

1 house point for every book you read before November 3.
BONUS 2 points if you read 8 books.
**Principal’s Message**

THANK YOU for making our Open Day a hit. We had lots of new visitors and a great day was had by all. It was awesome to have some grandparents also join us to see the children at work.

The following is a collection of actual excuses for absences from school that were handed in by students and reported in Seventeen magazine:

‘My son is under a doctor’s care and could not take PE yesterday. Please excite her.’

‘Please excuse Cynthia for being absent. She was sick and I had her shot.’

‘Richard had an acre in his side.’

‘Please excuse Robert for being absent. He had a cold and could not breed well.’

We might laugh. Some will notice the spelling! People have all sorts of excuses for the things they do. A teenage boy was recently acquitted of murder charges on the grounds that he was ‘morally handicapped’. Life, for most us doesn’t work that way. Sooner or later we all have to take responsibility for who we are and what we do. We can’t keep blaming our behaviour on someone or something else. The best way is to take responsibility for who we are and what we do. We can’t keep blaming our behaviour on someone or something else. The best way is to take responsibility for who we are and what we do.

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**library news**

**Premier’s Reading Challenge – Years K-9**

A number of students are making great progress with their reading for the Premier’s Reading Challenge for 2014. Have you signed up yet? You have until the end of March to register at the library and start reading. Remember to bring your reading log into the library after you have read your first five books.

**Reading Rulz – Year 7-10**

Sign up with your English teacher to take part in the Reading Rulz challenge. You need to read just eight books from selected genres and have your teacher mark off each book as you read it. Each book read = 1 House point. Please check with the library if you would like some reading suggestions in any of the genres.

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**Positions Vacant**

**Science Teacher**

Avondale School is seeking to employ a full time Science teacher (Years 7-10) with a load of general Science and Mathematics. The appointment is a 6-12 month contract position from June 2014. The successful applicant will be appropriately qualified, enjoy creative teaching, be familiar with ICLT in the classroom and exemplify the mission and vision of Avondale School. Familiarity with the Apple Mac environment preferred. Applications in writing to the Principal, Dr David Faull, Avondale School.

**Cleaner**

Avondale Early Learning Centre is seeking the services of a contracted school cleaner. The position involves out of hours cleaning of the facility and is remunerated at award rates for 20 hours per week at beginning and end of day (negotiable). Applications to the Principal, Dr David Faull, Avondale School.

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**Primary Calendar - Term 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>March 24 - 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>March 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIS Swimming</td>
<td>March 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4 Mini Winter Olympics</td>
<td>March 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of Mega Praise</td>
<td>March 31 - April 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Get Active Ends for Term 1</td>
<td>April 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daylight Savings Ends</td>
<td>April 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5 Camp</td>
<td>April 9 - 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
<td>April 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Friday Holiday</td>
<td>April 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter Monday Holiday</td>
<td>April 21</td>
</tr>
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**Secondary Calendar - Term 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 11 &amp; 12 Music Excursion</td>
<td>March 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7-11 Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>March 25 &amp; 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 11 &amp; 12 Visual Arts Excursion</td>
<td>March 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Band &amp; Choir at Gateway Church</td>
<td>March 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>AICES Swimming</td>
<td>March 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 12 Mid Year Exams</td>
<td>March 31 - April 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 10 Anna Bay Camp</td>
<td>April 1 - 4</td>
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<td>Get Active Ends for Term 1</td>
<td>April 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daylight Savings Ends</td>
<td>April 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 10 History Nambus Incursion</td>
<td>April 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
<td>April 11</td>
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