Speak Lord

When the prophet Samuel was only a small child his mother dedicated Him to the Lord. Samuel became a child priest working in the Lord’s temple under the High Priest Eli. One night Samuel heard a voice call out to him “Samuel!” Thinking it was Eli, Samuel went to his bedside and said “Here I am!” Eli let Samuel know it was not him who had called. Three times this happened and finally Eli gave Samuel this advice. “Go lie down, and if the voice calls out to you, respond by saying “Speak Lord, for I am listening”.” Not long after Samuel went back to bed, this is exactly what happened. The Bible tells us that the Lord came and stood in Samuel’s room and called out to him. Young Samuel responded with “Speak Lord, for I am listening...” Following this, the Lord spoke directly to Samuel, and this continued throughout his life as he became the first Prophet of Israel. What can we learn from this story?

As parents, dedicating our children to God is a powerful thing. God honours us when we honour him. When we dedicate our children to the Lord, we acknowledge that we want them entirely in His hands and under His banner of love and grace. Teaching our kids to hear from God and to discern His voice is so important. With all the voices vying for our kids’ hearts and minds, the voice of God often gets drowned out. ‘Go lie down...’ teaches our kids to make themselves available to God by being quiet and still - turning off technology and sitting in His presence, reading the Bible or a Christian book, taking time in the sunshine or under the stars, listening to worship music, praying, attending church or youth group. These are just a few ways we can encourage our kids to make themselves available to God. “Speak Lord...” teaches our kids to invite God’s voice, to help them understand if they ask God to speak to them, He will. He speaks in a variety of ways and through many different mediums, and He will speak if they take time to listen. This is such a powerful truth for our kids to understand. Once our kids begin to experience hearing God’s voice, they will move from what they have heard about God to what they are hearing from God - through His Word, His nature, His music, His servants. “I am listening...” teaches our kids to humbly submit to God and respond, which is life changing. Being humble before God and hearing His voice will change everything because God speaks love, grace, forgiveness, acceptance, wisdom and salvation over us. These are all principles we want to see lived out in the hearts and lives of our children. My challenge for all of us is to live these principles out ourselves. We cannot expect our children to go somewhere we are not going. If our kids know we are hearing from God, see us taking time out with Him, know that we are submitting to His leading in our lives they will follow suit. We are their example as parents, as teachers, as pastors, as friends! Speak Lord ... are you listening?

Brian Reed
Secondary Chaplain
**GENERAL**

**2018 Class Lists**
Teachers will be working on class lists for next year in the next few weeks. While we are unable to take requests for class lists based on preferences, we are happy to give consideration to special needs or circumstances relating to your child. Please email Deb Cooper, Head of Primary, at dcooper@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au with special considerations now.

**String Ensemble Performance at Wyee Church**
On Saturday the Senior, Intermediate and Beginner String Ensembles performed at the Wyee SDA Church service. Solos were performed by Acaia R on the double bass, Rhianna L on viola and Jason L on the cello. Ava M (violin) and Kaiden A (cello) played ‘You Raise Me Up’ as a duet and it brought a few tears to the congregation. Our speakers were Georgia C, Candace R, Millicent R and Rhianna L. They did a superb job! Thank you to all the students who put so much effort into practising the pieces and thank you to the parents for all their support.

**SPORT**

**Term 4 Sport Uniform**
Kindy, Year 1 & Year 2: Wear sports uniform on Monday.
Years 3 & 4: Wear sports uniform on Wednesday.
Years 5 & 6: Wear sports uniform on Friday.

**HRIS Tennis**
Last week Avondale School convened the HRIS Primary Tennis Competition at Newcastle City Tennis Centre. There were 60 students representing 11 schools competing in the two-division competition. The round robin matches in the morning saw Matthew G (6Ho), Robert K (5V) and Ryan M (5V) progress through to the final matches in the afternoon.

Congratulations to Matthew G who came 6th place in the Year 6 division. Robert K came 3rd and Ryan Mulligan 8th in the Year 5 and under division. Avondale School did well considering we didn’t have any girls in the competition. Overall school scores were: 1st St Columba’s Primary School - 34 pts, 2nd St Philip’s Christian College, Newcastle - 30 pts, 3rd Macquarie College - 22 pts, 4th Newcastle Grammar School - 21pts, 5th Hunter Valley Grammar School - 12pts, and 6th Avondale School - 10pts.

**Kings Chess Team**
Avondale School’s Kings Chess Team has done extremely well this year and after winning the Newcastle One Day Chess Competition, will play in Sydney at the NSW Championships on Sunday, November 26. Our Kings Team - Kylan M (5V), Matthew G (6Ho), Rose J (5S) and Ryan M (5V) will play the finals of this year’s Kings competition on October 25 in Newcastle.

**Years 3-6 Swimming Program**
Students in Years 3 and 4 will swim on Wednesdays and Years 5 and 6 on Fridays. The students will be under the instruction of qualified swim instructors at the Morisset Heated Pool. All students are to wear their sports uniform on their swimming day ONLY. Please note that swimming replaces Friday sport for the rest of Term 4. Students are required to bring clearly named swimmers (girls are required to wear a one-piece or a rash shirt over swimmers), towel, and goggles are optional. A signed note from home is required if students are unable to participate due to illness. Students are assessed in swimming classes and certificates are awarded.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesdays</th>
<th>DEPART SCHOOL</th>
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<tr>
<td>CLASS</td>
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<tr>
<td>4B Mrs Bishop</td>
<td>12.50 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>4C Mr Clark</td>
<td>12.50 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3M Miss Moncrieff</td>
<td>1.25 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>4R Mrs Roberts</td>
<td>1.25 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3D Mrs Dumbrell</td>
<td>2.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3W Mrs Watson</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fridays</th>
<th>DEPART SCHOOL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLASS</td>
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<tr>
<td>5S Mr Skinner</td>
<td>12.50 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>5V Mr Venegas</td>
<td>12.50 pm</td>
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<td>5M Mrs Morton</td>
<td>1.25 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>6Hi Mrs Hill</td>
<td>1.25 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>6M Mrs Morton</td>
<td>2.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>6Ho Mr Hosken</td>
<td>2.00 pm</td>
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**Kindy-Year 2 Learn to Swim Program**
November 6 – November 17
All students in Kindy, Years 1 and 2 will participate in a Learn to Swim Program at Morisset Heated Pool from Monday, November 6 until Friday, November 17. Students are required to bring their clearly named swimmers and towel (goggles are optional) each day for the two-week program.
### GENERAL

**Year 9 Bungonia Camp**

### SPORT

**All Schools Athletics Carnival**

Last week two of our students attended the All School Athletics Carnival. Reilly D (Year 7) came 3rd in high jump and 5th in the 400m heats. Liam B (Year 8) came in the top 7 in high jump. Well done!

### 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!

**STEP UP**

We Learn ∙ We Value ∙ We Serve

Secondary
K-6 Library Year-End Activities

The end of the school year is fast approaching and lots of exciting activities will be happening in the library. Because Term 4 is only a nine week term each of the following activities has had to be moved a week earlier in the term than usual. Please note the following library timetable for the last weeks of the school year:

Week 4 (ending Nov 3)  Return K-2 student library books (due to daily swimming being held in Weeks 5 & 6)
Week 5 (ending Nov 10)  Return Year 3-6 student library books
Term 4 prizes and library party invitations awarded
Week 6 (ending Nov 17)  Library parties for perfect borrowers
Week 7 (ending Nov 24)  Library parties for perfect borrowers
Week 8 (ending Dec 1)  Return all student Year 4 & 5 class library books

There are prizes for the first class in each Stage to return all their library books!

Primary Calendar - Term 4

Year 5 Taronga Zoo Excursion ................................................... October 24
Kings Chess Finals ................................................................. October 25
2018 Kindy Parent Information Night ..................................... October 30
Year 6 Parent Year 7 2018 Information Night ......................... October 31
2018 Kindy Visit #1 ............................................................... November 1
P&amp;F Meeting 3.15 - 4.00pm Admin Building ...................... November 2
Kindy - Year 2 Swimming ...................................................... November 6 - 17
Art Show .............................................................................. November 7
HRIS Touch Football ............................................................. November 8

Secondary Calendar - Term 4

Year 11 Food Tech Excursion .................................................. October 24
HRIS Touch Football (15s) ..................................................... October 24
Year 11 Parent Teacher Interviews 4.00 - 7.00 pm ................. October 24
Prefect Training Day ............................................................. October 26
Duke of Ed Camp ................................................................. October 27 - 29
P&amp;F Meeting 3.15 - 4.00pm Admin Building ...................... November 2
HRIS Touch Football (Open) ............................................... November 3
Art Show (M.A.D. Night) ..................................................... November 7
Year 12 Formal .................................................................... November 9

Like us on social media for regular information updates!

Private Music Tutors

We have many great tutors and instruments available to learn on. Please contact tutors directly to arrange lesson times.

Kylie Stacey  piano (Simply Music, AMEB, traditional)  0409 939 302
Angela Miller  piano (Simply Music)  0421 464 797
Jan Hughes  piano  4977 2037
Marilyn Aveling-Rowe  piano  0422 714 747
Cybèle Coutet  voice (AMEB) / piano (AMEB)  0423 455 977
Alison Hodge  voice  0420 528 866
Gabriel Ontanu  violin / viola  0447 262 260
Renee Liss  violin  0413 777 477
Esther Albert  cello / violin / double bass  0439 420 661
Emma Jones  flute  0432 925 199
Fred Cracknell  saxophone / clarinet / brass  0404 082 151
Oliver Doyle  trumpet  0418 975 033
Jake Bisognin  guitar  0400 389 612
Zayne Mariassouce  guitar  0455 114 448
Mitchell Wallace  bass guitar / guitar  0435 578 723
Garry Lawler  group guitar lessons / ukulele  0438 608 180
James Dennett  drums  0401 549 084

3 December 2017

We Value Tolerance