THE VIEW

“Preparing our students for the future”, is a phrase commonly used in educational documentation, however, what does it really mean? How do we prepare students for the future in such a rapidly changing environment? Some studies suggest the average employee will change their career five to seven times during their employment. So, how do we prepare students for this? Can we prepare them for this?

Students have the opportunity at school to gain the necessary skills required for the 21st century. This is achieved in their learning environments, such as PDHPE and Vocational Education and Training (VET).

These subjects are preparing students for the ever-changing workforce due to their practical nature and undertaking work experience programs, work placement programs and industry visits. These practical engagements allow students to see the workforce first hand and in areas of interest to them. Providing students with ‘real life’ learning situations and projects assists them to develop the necessary skills required to succeed.

The vocational education students have been busy servicing customers’ vehicles, serving customers’ food and beverages through catering opportunities and making carpentry resources for learning environments. Each of these experiences prepare students with the skills to perform tasks and develop specific job-related skills.

The practical nature of PDHPE is also important as it allows students to develop a balanced healthy lifestyle through nutrition and physical activity. Engaging in physical activities as a student, and throughout their employment, allows them to make better decisions.

These important factors assist our students to adapt and to evolve with the ever-changing future ahead. Skills and abilities to adapt to any situation are essential for all students looking towards future employment. Reading a recent employment article, employers expressed the need for workers who stay current, consistently improving skills and developing new skills. This means we need to prepare our students for the ever changing and evolving workplace, ensuring they have the skills to cope and adapt within these work spaces.

Donna Nevell
Secondary VET / PDHPE Hub Leader
CLASS

Year 6 Bike Day
Traffic lights, round-a-bouts, Give Way signs and Stop signs made for some interesting moments as Year 6 students rode bikes around a purpose-built track in Palmdale last week. Police Officers taught the students about safe bike riding and the road rules, both of which were put to the test during free ride time. Students left with a greater understanding of bike safety on the road.

Year 4 Awabakal Excursion
On Tuesday, Year 4 trekked to Dudley to spend a day at the Awabakal Centre. Students learnt about bush tucker, use of Ochre as a sunscreen, how to build a weather proof Gunya and how to make a simple Coolamon. While walking through the bush we side-stepped large angry ants and learnt about how the indigenous people used the bush as a hardware store. We also discovered some of the tools and implements the Awabakal people made and used. Some of us were even lucky enough to spot a whale! All agreed it was an excellent time learning in nature.

SPORT

Run4Bibles Program
The National Development officer for Run4Bibles, Sione Veikoso, was extremely impressed with our students this week when he happily accepted a cheque for $3072.65. The total in the last two years has been over $7000 which has enabled 1000 Bibles to go into Africa. The motto for Run4Bibles is ‘Stand Up, Speak Up and Lace Up for God’s Glory’!

Chess Competition
Our four School Chess teams will be playing their first 5 rounds of chess against 6 other local schools in the MPC on Thursday June 20. Parents are asked to allow some extra practise time for these students in preparation for this event. Rounds 6-10 will be held in Term 3.

Athletics Training
There will be athletics training for throwing events on Oval B from 8.00am. All students from Years 2-6 are welcome.

Champion Students
At Avondale School we love to acknowledge champions. Sometimes students achieve amazing things outside of school sport and we would like to support these students publicly. If your child has an amazing achievement to share (eg, State Representative) please contact Mr Head.
**SPORT**

**Athletics Carnival**

_Monday May 27 at Mingara_

Our Secondary Athletics Carnival is this coming **Monday May 27** (please note this is a change from the printed school calendar).

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**

   Please click on the link below to access the program. 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, 2019. Age categories are: 12, 13, 14 (Junior), 15-16 (Intermediate), 17-18 (Senior).
   - Results will be used to assist in the selection of the HRIS team.

3. **General**

   Mingara's canteen will be operating on the day. The Year 12 Cambodia Team will be selling burgers ($5) and pancakes / icecream ($3) as a fundraiser too.

4. **Uniform**

   Students are to be in full sport uniform or House colours - Green, Blue, Red or Yellow only. Everyone must have a hat.

   **NB:** The 1500m event will be completed at school. Javelin will be done in sport time at school.

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**Central Coast Oztag Regional Tournament**

**Dates:** Y9/10 and Opens - Wednesday June 19

**Venue:** Central Coast Regional Sporting Complex, 20 Lake Road, Tuggerah

**Canteen:** Full canteen and BBQ will be operating on the day.

Students who are wanting to try out for the teams are encouraged to come down to the ovals at lunchtimes and play. For more information please contact Mr Gorry or Mr Stuart.

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**CLASS**

**Year 9 & 10 Drama**

Studying Drama in Year 9 and 10 allows the students to explore the creative, expressive side of themselves in a non-judgmental setting. In Term 1 we focused on play-building which helped rebuild confidence to perform in front of others. Students have also learnt to support each other while they work cohesively with others. Delving into characterisation workshops, the students have used their imaginations and undertaken script writing to communicate a significant message to an audience.

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**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!
We are excited to provide a more cohesive reporting process for the first half of the year as part of our new reporting system. As a result, K-11 student reports will be available early in Term 3. We believe these new initiatives will add further value to our reporting.

Book Fair Roundup
Our Book Fair has been lots of fun and a great success with many students, parents and grandparents coming to buy awesome books this week in the iCentre. Our library has greatly benefitted from the Book Fair in the way of new books and a handy cash commission. Thanks so much for your support. Check out the library Landscape page for all the photos. https://landscape.avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au/homepage/1762

School Reports
We are 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
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 Lawler (group lessons / ukulele) / 0438 606 180

Drums
James Dennett / 0401 549 084

We value ... DISCERNMENT