Welcome to Term 3! There was an excited buzz on Monday as our students returned from holidays. Our professional development week for staff was an incredibly productive time, with Primary teachers being in-serviced in both Mathematics and Science. Our Mathematics presenter showed teachers how to make maths classes exciting, interactive and challenging. Our Science presenter introduced teachers to the new syllabus and guided them in understanding how students best learn science and develop positive attitudes towards this discipline. We are currently writing programs for both Mathematics and Science based on the new NSW Syllabus documents. While we will be trialing some new units this year, full implementation will begin in 2015. We believe that our new initiatives will have a positive impact on student engagement and learning.

Thank you to all the parents who take the time to communicate their praise, feedback and suggestions. Your comments help us to focus on delivering the best possible education for your child.

Enjoy all the fun of Term 3!

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

Thought for the week: “Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody’s going to know whether you did it or not.” Oprah Winfrey

Week 1 – Let’s get crackin’!
And we’re back. Straight into it too! Greg Piper (our local member of state parliament) talked responsibility, electorates and being passionate about a cause with our seniors; Year 12 prepared for their Trial Exams; HRIS Athletics saw a number of our students excel brilliantly; our Year 12 Drama students were exceptional in their Trial Performances; a group of Year 9 & 10 students rose to the rigour of the Science & Engineering Challenge (@ Newcastle Uni) and placed second; our boys playing HRIS chess are now one of 4 schools left (competing semi-finals today) and our normal program of learning well truly got underway this week! We have also introduced prayer cards across our school for anyone wishing to put in prayer requests and we are embarking on a ‘Leaders of Tomorrow’ program with a selected group of Year 8 boys this term – a very exciting adventure of challenges, physical activity and self-development. We musn’t forget either the success of our musical and the DVDs of the production which should be available for collection late next week.

On the Horizon …
Year 11 leave for their Geography Field Trip on Sunday; Year 12 Trial Exams loom larger than life on Monday; HRIS Junior Boys’ Soccer on Tuesday; HRIS Cultural Festival on Wednesday and a Robocup Tournament on Thursday … should manage to catch our breath by next weekend!

THAT’S ALL FOLKS … EXCEPT, I’VE OFTEN WONDERED …
What do you do when you see an endangered animal that is eating an endangered plant?
A weekend to enjoy with each other. Be sure to make the most of it!

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

STORMCo 2014

Twelve students and three staff from Avondale School traveled to Wee Waa for our 8th annual STORMCo trip. This year’s activities included painting horse jumps, picking up rubbish, singing to people in hospital, visiting and singing at the aged care home and running a Kids Club for three days at the public primary school. The team attended the Wee Waa Presbyterian Church and later in the week washed their windows, did some sanding work in their hall and knocked down cobwebs. The team enjoyed a movie night in the shed, a trip to the Pillaga Bore Baths, and a night dinner by a bonfire with a local Cotton Farmer and his family. Our final night, the team came together for a foot washing service and agape meal. Many tears were shed as we pulled away from our pancake feed in Dangar Park with local kids and waved goodbye until next year.

This year was the 16th year that Avondale School headed to Cobar for STORMCo. There were 120 kids who attended the Kids Club. Activities for the week included the Pinnacle Challenge, free community pancake feed, meeting the Cobar Mayor, mentoring 19 local Cobar youth, meeting with and encouraging each of the church groups in town. It was a fantastic trip!
SPORT UNIFORM FOR TERM 3
Kindy: wear sport uniform each Monday and Tuesday.
Years 1 & 2: wear sport uniform each Tuesday only.
Years 3-6: wear sport uniform each Tuesday and Friday.

Uniform Matters
Where a student needs to wear a non-uniform item (eg. shoes wet from constant rain) the School Policy requires parents/guardians to send a note of explanation which is to be given to the class teacher. Thank you for noting this.

ICAS Mathematics Competition
A list of students who have been selected to do the ICAS Mathematics Competition has been placed on the notice board. If your child has not been selected, we can include them in the competition at a cost of $8.80. Please contact the Primary Office if you would like your child to be included.

Gateway Church Kids Rally
Kids Rally on this Saturday. Everyone is welcome!
When: Saturday, July 26
Time: 10.00 am until 12.00 pm
Where: Avondale School MPC
Theme: The Good Shepherd and His Sheep
Speaker: Paul Attwood

Spend Time by Ordering Online!
Avondale School has a great new online ordering system for the canteen – MunchMonitor!

Parents can set up a MunchMonitor account to:
✓ place lunch orders online up to 4 weeks in advance for the canteen
✓ top-up the account using VISA/MasterCard (or with cash at canteen window)
✓ view your last 3 months of transactions online
✓ list allergies to alert canteen staff

How do I set up an account to order online?
• go to www.munchmonitor.com
• enter Username: avondale and Password: munch2265 then click the Login button
• click Sign up then follow the 3 easy steps to create your account:

Create a Parent Profile by entering information about yourself
Add Students to your account
Transfer money to your account by clicking the Account Top-up button. You will be directed to ANZ’s secure eGate website to do this.

Click MY ORDERS and you’re ready to go!

SAVE TIME BY ORDERING ONLINE!

Sport in Schools Australia Program
The Sport In Schools Australia Program commenced this week. This program, running each Tuesday for the whole of Term 3, complements the existing sports skill development areas of the physical educational curriculum. The Sport in Schools Australia Program concentrates on the basic fundamental motor skills and physical activities of locomotion, throwing, launching, tracking, catching, hitting and striking games, cooperative learning, balance, fitness, coordination and core stability. The program enables students to use a wide variety of fun equipment that students have not used before.

Years 3-6 Friday Sport – Term 3
Students in Years 3-6 have now selected their sport option for Term 3. The range of sports students were able to select from included boys soccer, girls soccer, touch football, tennis, basketball, softball, table tennis, netball, hockey and gymnastics. They will need to wear their sports uniform each Friday.

Athletics Carnival Presentation
Monday, July 28
The Athletics Carnival Presentation will be held this coming Monday, July 28 immediately after assembly. Parents are most welcome to attend.

HRIS Soccer/Netball Gala Day
Thursday, July 31
Avondale School will have 70 students competing in the HRIS Soccer/Netball Gala Day next Thursday, July 31, at different venues around Newcastle. These teams have been training very hard and all are looking forward to the big day. Boys are reminded that they must have soccer boots and shin pads. (Shin pads may be borrowed from Mr Head). Please note that soccer and netball uniforms will be handed out to students on the day and MUST NOT be taken home but returned to the teacher.

HRIS Athletics Carnival
Wednesday, August 6
Students representing the school at the HRIS Athletics Carnival on Wednesday, August 6, are encouraged to continue training for their events. All students selected for throwing events are invited to train with Mr Head before school from 8.00 am until 8.45 am each morning on Oval (B). Permission notes and a program will be sent home with students next week.

HRIS Equestrian Championships
The HRIS is running an Equestrian event in August. Entry forms are available online at www.hvgs.nsw.edu.au, or from Mr Head. Entries for the event close on August 8. Please contact Mr Head at ghead@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au for further information.
A Midsummer Night’s Dream

Rehearsals for the School Play continue to highlight the talent and dedication of our students. Make sure that you keep the evenings of September 4 and 6 free. Come and see Jessica Krause and Sebastian Szeszeran in A Midsummer Night’s Dream! Tickets are only $5 and are available at the door.

Jessica Krause
Year: 11
Character: Hermia
Describe your character in the play?
Hermia is a young Athenian woman in love with Lysander. They run away into the woods and this is where all the fun and confusion begins. She’s a bit of a feisty character and when she is mocked for her shortness, she displays quite a temper. Her conflict with the other characters provides humour. Hermia is a very enjoyable character to play.

What challenges do you see in playing Hermia?
Performing in Shakespearean language has been a new and exciting challenge for me. Also, acting out a romantic relationship onstage has been a challenge as I have never played a character in a relationship before.

Why should people come and see the School Play?
It’s a fun performance that we have thoroughly enjoyed rehearsing! We’ve worked hard and we hope you can all come and support us and have a great time as well!

Sebastian Szeszeran
Year: 9
Character: Lysander
Who is your character in the play?
Lysander is a young Athenian in love with Hermia. He is spontaneous and passionate. He devises a plan to escape with Hermia as she is already in a prearranged marriage organised by her father. His rival is Demetrius and they have some memorable interchanges as they both seek to win the girl.

What challenges do you see in playing Lysander?
One of the biggest challenges in playing Lysander is interpreting the Shakespearean language and being able to put a true emotion into the performance.

Why should people come and see the School Play?
We have a brilliant and hard working cast who have dedicated hours of commitment and effort to create a truly ‘magical’ performance. Please come and support us!

HRIS Athletics
Tuesday proved to be a beautiful sunny day at HRIS Athletics. Congratulations to Indianna A in Year 7 who was the Age Champion for the 12-year-old girls for Division 1. There were a number of other outstanding athletes who performed well on the day enabling Avondale School to come 7th on the day out of the 16 schools in HRIS. A big thanks to those student who went above and beyond to compete in events that they were originally not entered into. A list of those selected to go to AICES will be available next week.

Sport Achievement
Rowan A in Year 7 played in the Hockey NSW State Championships last weekend and his Newcastle rep team were Runners Up, receiving silver medals. Rowan played in the first division Under 13. There were three divisions which meant there were a lot of players! Newcastle lost against Sydney 3-1 in the finals but it was a very tough game with some great hockey played. Congratulations Rowan and your team!

Secondary Chess Champion
Jonathon G in Year 11 has recently been announced as the Number 1 player in the NSW Country Region. Jonathon has been striving for this spot for some time and recently his ranking jumped to 920. Jonathon is the Board 1 player on the school team and is highly respected by his team members. The Avondale Secondary Chess Team has recently made it to the semi-finals of the Hunter Region Chess Championships.

HRIS Equestrian Championships
The HRIS is running an equestrian event in August. Entry forms are available online at www hvgs nsw edu au or from Mr Head. Entries for the event close on August 8. Please contact Mr Head at ghead avondaleschool nsw edu au for further information.
Principal’s Message
Welcome back! Last week our Teachers had a full program of professional development. The whole Avondale team was busy, committed and involved.

Thank you for your support of the student’s achievements and the discussion at school Report time. It is important that we work together to encourage them to persevere and make the best of the opportunities this semester and to strive for a personal best. Integrity is the value that we begin the term with, “Having the moral courage to make your actions consistent with your knowledge of right and wrong”. Life is full of challenges and choices from Kindy to Year 12.

Making good decisions based on our values is important work and discussing this with your family will reinforce what we talk about at school over the next two weeks.

Please drive safely! Our children are precious and we really do need your support to keep them safe.

We welcome the new families who have joined us for this term. Enjoy the news for this week!

Dr David Faull
Principal

library news

Book Week (August 18 - 22)

During our week-long celebration of books and reading from August 18 - 22, Primary students can look forward to stories at lunchtime from Monday to Thursday and a fabulous opportunity to choose bargain books for themselves, or maybe even for friends and family at the giant BOOK FAIR. Secondary students will have the opportunity to win fabulous cash prizes in our Quizzical trivia competition. Watch for more details in the coming weeks.

Gifted Hands

Dr Ben Carson inspired many when he spoke at the Panthers Club in Newcastle and Avondale Memorial Church recently. If you would like to read more of his story, the library has several copies of his autobiography, Gifted Hands, available for loan.

Premier’s Reading Challenge

There are only four weeks left to finish reading for the Premier’s Reading Challenge this year. Please remember to have all signed sheets handed in to the library by August 22 to be eligible for PRC certificates in 2014.

Second Hand Clothing Returns

The Uniform Shop operates a second hand repurchase service for parents. The guidelines for this service are as follows: All garments returned for repurchase should be clean (washed), appropriate original condition and not damaged (eg. garments with holes, paint, alterations or cut offs will not be considered). Only ex-Uniform Shop stock will be repurchased (Year 6 and 12 jerseys do not qualify). Final decision on any items will be at the discretion of the Uniform Shop staff.

Primary Calendar - Term 3

School Fees Due .................................................................July 25
Athletics Carnival Presentation .....................................July 28
Get Active Commences .........................................July 28
ICAS English Competition ....................................July 29
HRIS Cultural Festival ............................................July 30
HRIS Soccer/Netball Gala Day ..................................July 31
HRIS Athletics Carnival ........................................August 6
P&F Meeting at 7.00 pm in the iCentre .........................August 6
ICAS Maths Competition ....................................August 12
Book Week ..................................................................August 18 - 22
Year 5 & 6 Newcastle Permanent Maths Comp ..........August 27

Secondary Calendar - Term 3

School Fees Due .................................................................July 25
Choir at Wyee Church .................................................July 26
Year 11 Geography Field Trip ..................................July 27 - 30
Get Active Commences .........................................July 28
Year 7 & 8 Cybersmart Presentation at 2.00 pm ............July 28
Year 12 Trial Exams ..................................................July 28 - August 11
HRIS Junior Boys’ Soccer .........................................July 29
HRIS Cultural Festival ...............................................July 30
Year 7 - 10 Robocup Tournament ...........................July 31
Year 11 VET Work Placement ..................................August 4 - 8
P&F Meeting at 7.00 pm in the iCentre .........................August 6

But Jesus said, “Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children.” Matthew 19:14 NLT