THE VIEW

Last Thursday, 41 of the most persistent, diligent, intelligent, awesome Year 12 students began their HSC Examination journey here at Avondale School. Their nerves were on edge as they bravely entered the examination room ready to give their all to their first HSC English Examination.

The first HSC began in 1967 with around 18,000 students compared to this year where over 75,000 students are sitting for at least one HSC Examination and around 68,000 students are on track to complete their HSC. Being a mathematician, the statistics interest me! There are 123 written exams totalling around 350 hours, 96 exam committees and every exam is reviewed at least 6 times before more than 700,000 exam papers are printed. There are 750 exam centres and 5,500 exam markers.

The time, effort and money that is poured into this exercise is phenomenal!

HOWEVER… I’d like to offer some advice to those sitting their HSC now, those that will sit it in the near future and for parents who go on the journey with them:

- The HSC may get you an ATAR. This is purely a ticket into a university. There are SO many other ways to get to where you want to be. Sometimes the ‘scenic’ route is much more fun and varied!
- Your self-worth is NOT determined by your mark! You are an amazing, talented unique, special individual no matter what your HSC or ATAR!
- It’s not about the mark – it’s about the journey. The journey teaches how to deal with stress, how to pick yourself back up after a bad result, how to help and encourage others and how to think, collaborate and prioritize! These are the important lessons to learn.

We feel so privileged, humbled and blessed to have been allowed the opportunity to partnership with you and your family through this school season.

We are SO proud of our students and wish them all the best as they finish their school journey and start the journey of the rest of their life!

Julie Carter
Secondary Director of Learning
SPORT

Term 4 Sport Uniform
Kindy, Year 1 & Year 2: Wear sports uniform on Mondays.
Years 3 & 4: Wear sports uniform on Wednesdays.
Years 5 & 6: Wear sports uniform on Fridays.

HRIS Golf
The first ever HRIS Primary Golf Tournament was held on Monday at the East Maitland Golf Club. Congratulations to Samantha L (6Ho) for winning the HRIS Primary Golf event in her first ever tournament.

HRIS Tennis
The annual HRIS Tennis Competition was held in Newcastle last week, with four players representing Avondale School. Congratulations to Solomon F who came 2nd in the Year 6 Division and Joshua T who came 8th overall. The winning school was St Columba Anglican School.

Woolworths Cricket Blast
Thursday October 31
The rescheduled Woolworths Cricket Blast will now take place on Thursday October 31 at Ron Hill Oval, Toronto. We have two teams who will be enjoying this fun day.

Y3-6 Swimming Program
Commencing Next Week
The swimming program for all students in Years 3-6 has commenced this week. 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. Years 3 & 4 - Wednesdays
Year 3 depart at 1.15pm, return at 2.25pm
Year 4 depart at 1.50pm, return at 3.00pm
Years 5 & 6 - Fridays
Year 5 depart at 1.15pm, return at 2.25pm
Year 6 depart at 1.50pm, return at 3.00pm

Kindy – Year 2 Learn to Swim Program
November 11 – November 22
All students in Kindy, Years 1 and 2 will participate in a Learn to Swim Program at Morisset Heated Pool from Monday November 11 until Friday November 22. Students are required to bring their clearly named swimmers and towel (goggles are optional) each day for the two-week program.

After School Sports Program

When: 11am Saturday, 16th November
Where: Plus One-MPC (The big tin shed)
584/586 Freemans Drive
Cooranbong NSW 2265

Please note the following:
Monday - Cricket (some places available for students in Years 3-6 only)
Tuesday - Basketball (FULL)
Wednesday - AFL (some places available for students in Years 3-6 only)
Thursday - Tennis (FULL)
Thursday - Chess (DISCONTINUED DUE TO LOW NUMBERS)

Please note: If your child is not participating on a certain day, please contact the primary office.
**CLASS**

**Telling Stories**

Last week Year 7 students participated in a Project Based Learning (PBL) event to launch their next English unit, ‘Telling Stories’. During this unit students will give a voice to an untold story or unsung hero through a form of storytelling appropriate to their intended audience. Students were inspired by a visit from author John Heffernan, who has written more than 30 children’s books and young adult fiction books. After sharing some of his funniest and most moving experiences writing stories, John guided each English class in a writing workshop designed to help students get started when they feel stuck for ideas and to encourage them to realise their own talent or having a “head for tales” as John put it. We look forward to seeing our Year 7 students in action, researching facts, interviewing people and giving a voice to some interesting stories over the coming weeks.

**SPORT**

**Singleton Mountain Bike Competition**

Twenty students from the Secondary School and three students from the Primary School braved the gruelling track, dust and flies to compete in the schools Mountain Bike Competition at Singleton last Friday. Our students competed with enthusiasm, tenacity and showed great team spirit as they completed laps in a relay style race. Flat tyres, broken spokes and bent de-railers did little to slow our riders down! Students impacted by these set-backs picked up their bikes and ran with them to the transition point where their next team member continued the race. It was great to see students and parents pitching in to repair and share bikes and keep all team members in the race. Thanks to sponsorship organised by Hunter Christian School, students received some valuable prizes in the lucky draw which contributed to the fun atmosphere. Congratulations to Kaleb G and Ethan M who placed third in the Year 9+ boys category and Kahlia H and Ezra H who placed second in the Year 7-8 mixed category. Thank you to the parents who helped with transport, emergency bike maintenance and cheering for the Avondale School riders.

**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!
**Private Music Tutors**

Are you 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 / 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
- Garry Lowler (group lessons / ukulele) / 0438 608 180

**Drums**
- James Dennett / 0401 549 084

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**LIBRARY**

**K-6 Book Club**

Last chance to order from Scholastic Book Club this year! Scholastic Book Club Issue 7 was sent home last week. This will be your last chance to order this year. Look out for a great range of books including Christmas titles and the heavily discounted books scattered through the catalogue. These books start at $2 and are chosen to try and make books affordable for everyone.

If you would like to order books for Christmas presents, simply email us at the library (hlindsay@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au or jlitster@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au) and let us know and we will keep them aside until we have arranged a time for you to pick them up. All orders should be lodged online by today, Friday October 25.

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**ALL SCHOOL**

**Horizon 2019 ... and Beyond**

The Horizon is a much treasured keepsake provided to students as a memory of their school year. However, due to printing deadlines, the Horizon misses out on some key events toward the end of the year. This requires Term 4 events to be included in the Horizon for the following year.

So for this year’s Horizon, and beyond, we are excited to actually include everything from 2019, right up to Closing Celebration. The 2019 Horizon will then be presented to students at the commencement of the 2020 school year. This enables us to provide a complete and accurate record of the whole school year.

Students who have concluded their schooling at Avondale will receive their Horizon via mail. We’re sure you’ll appreciate this change as you enjoy the cherished memories that Horizon provides.

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**Uniform Shop Hours**

Please note the revised opening hours for the Uniform Shop. You can contact them direct on 4977 0231 for anything uniform related.

There will also be new opening hours beginning in Term 4 Mondays and Wednesdays, 8-10am and 2.30-5.30pm.

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**2020 Plans**

If you are not intending to return in 2020 please notify the school via email admin@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au

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**BECOME A SPONSOR OF COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS 2019**

Avondale School is proud to host Community Christmas Carols on 1 December 2019. Being a community driven event, much of its success relies on local support by way of sponsorship. This helps keep the event sustainable, and provides an opportunity for local businesses to showcase, as well as providing the community with an event of excellence.

For sponsorship expressions of interest or more information, please email carols@avondaleschool.nsw.edu.au or phone 02 4977 0230.

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**A new $100 Creative Kids Rebate can be put towards the cost of registration, participation or tuition fees for creative and cultural activities such as music lessons with registered teachers. You can apply for an active kids voucher at Service NSW online or in person.**

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**We value ...**

**ENTHUSIASM**