This is not the editorial that I had written last week for this week’s Newsletter, but given the circumstances that our school family is facing with the tragic death of Kalani Hardy-Hawken, it seemed appropriate to change what I had initially written.

As I have chatted to Kalani’s family and teachers there is a picture of a pre-kindy girl who was others-focused. A girl who enjoyed being with people. A girl who insisted that everyone in the room share in the food that she was enjoying. A person who delighted in playing with everyone at the park and making them her friend within five minutes.

When it was time to leave the park Kalani wanted her Dad to acknowledge everyone else there as well before they could leave. Perennially happy. A girl who died just three days short of her fifth birthday.

Sadly, we have been reminded of the fragility of life. We have no guarantees of the next day. People’s emotions can vary considerably as they respond to grief in different ways. Yet for each person, their way of processing grief is valid and important.

Words are not adequate in this situation. Realistically there are no answers to the big questions that events like this prompt. We will have no answers this side of heaven. We do know that God has guaranteed that nothing can separate us from His love. Neither life nor death (Romans 8:38). We also know that He has suffered more than we do even now, and that His presence is always with us, even to the end of the world (Matt 28:20).

There are almost five years’ worth of memories for Kalani’s family. All we can do is cherish the memories and live for the hope of the soon coming resurrection at the Second Coming.

I look forward to the resurrection morning when Jesus returns - to see Kalani back in Kyrstle and Darren’s arms again, smiling at Maddie as the sisters reunite.

The challenge for us is to reflect on the legacy that we are making right now. What would people say about us? Do we cherish the memories and value our children right now? Do we make the most of the opportunities to connect with our loved ones? Do we envelop our children with our unconditional love so that they know absolutely that we love them as parents? Build those memories with your children. Cherish the memories and live for the hope of Jesus’ soon return. Even so, come Lord Jesus.

David McClintock
Principal
Entertainment Books
Please return all unwanted Entertainment Books to the class teacher as soon as possible. Thank you for noting this.

ICAS Science Competition - Tuesday, May 30
The ICAS Science Competition will take place on Tuesday, May 30. The top 10 scientific thinkers in each year level from Years 3-6 have been selected to sit the competition and given an invitation this week.

Chess Competition
Last week the Primary School hosted the first five rounds of the Newcastle Junior Chess League Competition. Seventeen teams played in three divisions of ability; Kings, Knights and the Rookies.

After five rounds, the Avondale School Kings Team, with 12.5 points, are only one point behind Newcastle Grammar School who is leading the competition on 13.5 points. Our team leader Kylan M (board 1) top scored with 3.5/5. Our Knights Team on 13 points are in 3rd place behind St Mary's Primary School, Warners Bay (17 points) and Cooranbong Public School (14 points). Our team leader Jayden B (board 1) top scored with 4/5. Our Rookies (C) Team is coming 1st with 14 points. Our team leader Benzen B (board 1) top scored with 4/5 along with Harry K (board 3). Our Rookies (D) Team is placed 4th on 11.5 points. Jayden T (board 4) top scored with 4/5.

Rounds 6-10 will be held next term. It is important that each team member attend the after school chess coaching on Mondays from 3.30 - 4.30 pm.

Athletics and Cross Country Training
Students are welcome to train with Mr Head for both Athletics and Cross Country training each morning from 8.00 am (excluding Wednesdays).
SPORT
SECONDARY ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

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

POETIC JUSTICE

FEATURING:
ANISA NANDAULA
ROJE
SUZY MONZER

WORDS TO GIVE VOICE TO THOSE UNREPRESENTED

DATE: 3 JUNE 2023
TIME: 7:00
LOCATION: AVONDALE SCHOOL
19 AVONDALE RD
COORANBOURG 3064

HOSTED BY:
AsianAID
Avondale School

COLD COIN DONATION FOR ENTRANCE.

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!
PLEASE NOTE

Friday Office Hours
Given the sun is setting much earlier on a Friday in winter, we would like to have our Office staff able to get home prior to Sabbath. Thus we are going to be closing our main Admin Office and Primary and Secondary Offices by the time the last bus leaves - which is 3.40 pm. We will provide a roster to maintain the school phoneline until 4.00 pm, but all offices will close at 3.40 pm each Friday.

CALENDAR

Primary Calendar - Term 2
School Reunion .................................................................May 27
ICAS Science Competition ...........................................May 30
Poetic Justice Spoken Word Night 7.00pm .......................June 3
HRIS Basketball ..............................................................June 6
Year 5 Taronga Zoo Excursion .........................................June 8
Pupil Free Day ...............................................................June 9
Queen’s Birthday Holiday ................................................June 12
HRIS Public Speaking ..................................................June 14
CIS Cross Country ........................................................June 15
Years 3 & 4 Athletics Carnival ......................................June 20

Secondary Calendar - Term 2
School Reunion .................................................................May 27
Poetic Justice Spoken Word Night 7.00pm .......................June 3
Year 10-12 Paul Dillon Visit ............................................June 5
HRIS Netball .................................................................June 8
Pupil Free Day ...............................................................June 9
Queen’s Birthday Holiday ................................................June 12
Year 12 Maths Extension 1 Excursion .............................June 13
HRIS Basketball .............................................................June 20
Year 11 & 12 Hospitality Community Function ................June 20
Year 9 English Excursion .................................................June 21

Library

What a busy three days we’ve had in the library at our Book Fair! Thanks to you we sold $7,330.50 worth of books and other items, and that is an excellent effort! Each year we take our Book Fair commission in cash and books so that we can provide new books and other resources for our library. This year we earned over $1500.00 worth of new books and cash so that we can purchase more resources to enhance teaching and learning at Avondale School. A BIG thank you to everyone that supported our annual library fundraiser.

Like us on social media for regular information updates!

School Terms 2017
Term 1 January 30/31 - Friday, April 7
Term 2 Wednesday, April 26 - Friday, June 30
Term 3 Monday, July 24 - Friday, September 22
Term 4 Monday, October 9 - Friday, December 8