Primary Calendar - Term 2
School Musical .........................................................Jun 27 - 29
YS56 Athletics Carnival .........................................Jul 1
Kindy Grandparents Day ........................................Jul 5
Last Day of Term 2 ....................................................Jul 5
First Day of Term 3 ....................................................Jul 22
Primary Parent Teacher Night ............................Jul 23
School Reunion ..........................................................Aug 3
HRIS Cultural Festival .........................................Aug 7
HRIS Athletics Carnival .........................................Aug 16
HRIS Soccer / Netball Gala Day ............................Aug 20

Secondary Calendar - Term 2
School Musical .........................................................Jun 27 - 29
Y12 Modern History & SOR Excursion ..............Jul 3
Last Day of Term 2 ....................................................Jul 5
Cobar STORMCo Trip ..............................................Jul 12 - 18
First Day of Term 3 ....................................................Jul 22
Y11 VET Work Placement ......................................Aug 12 - 26
Y7-11 Parent Teacher Nights ............................Jul 23 & 24
HRIS Athletics Carnival .........................................Jul 29
Y10 English Excursion ...............................................Jul 30
Y11 Hospitality Community Function ..............Jul 30

School Terms 2019
Term 2 ........................................................................May 6 - Jul 5
Term 3 ........................................................................Jul 22 - Sep 27
Term 4 ........................................................................Oct 14 - Dec 6

THE VIEW
In the final weeks of this term I found myself a bit nostalgic. Reflecting on my own schooling journey, I am reminded that my formal education began in a school in Rarotonga, Cook Islands. The classes had bare concrete floors, a wall-length blackboard complete with a wooden metre ruler, louvred windows and a rustic hardwood door. Life was simple. My cares included “Who would get to play the swings first?” “Did I have enough marbles left to play a game at lunch?”. My experience is a unique memory and one that is not the norm today. It may be an understatement to say, “we live in a fast-paced and changing world”. It seems that in almost all areas of life advancement in technology, access to information and social connectivity is seen as desirable and required. We are able to connect with family, friends and a broad range of content. More and more of being ‘connected’ is changing how we communicate and how we socialise. Social media acts as digital community hubs. Here images and messages can be sent, shared, grouped, filtered, received and replied to. The immediacy that social media provides has meant it is now a preferred mode of conversation and connection - especially in young people.

While connectivity is fast becoming a requirement for various areas of life, it is not without its pitfalls. Many Australian schools have reported behavioural and relational issues relating to student use of games, social media, texts and emails. Among the common issues are those relating to image-based abuse, cyberbullying and harassment. This aspect has become an increasing concern for parents, carers and schools.

Recently Avondale School was asked to attend a Police Forum hosted by the Belmont Police Station. The forum was an opportunity for the Administration of the schools in Lake Macquarie to receive a presentation from the office of the eSafety Commissioner. The Government has expanded the capability of the eSafety Commissioner’s office and has passed legislation that has increased the effective reach of the eSafety Commissioner. The office has greater power to restrict and control persons who use technology to impact Australians negatively. Social media providers have given eSafety round the clock access to allow quick responses to cases, and cases are dealt with promptly. It is now possible to have the text or image removed and the offender’s account closed within 1-3 hours. The eSafety Commissioner’s presentation provided practical principles and steps that individuals, parents and caregivers can take to maintain and ensure their children are safe while connecting online using social media, games and text messages. The same information is available to everyone on the eSafety website https://www.esafety.gov.au

While as a school, Avondale does not permit students’ access to social media on the school device during the school day, the School understands that students will have access to social media outside of school. We strongly recommend parents access the website of the eSafety Commissioner and to begin the conversation about cybersafe behaviours and incident prevention with your child. The eSafety resources are quite accessible, informative and empowering.

It is exciting to think that the world our children will lead one day will be one that values connectedness, adaptation, innovation and creativity. In this season we are tasked to guide them through a change in the technological and social landscape. As a school we are focused to see that each Avondale School student will be equipped to move with confidence toward a future blessed with God-given hope and opportunity. We believe that by partnering with you in this aspect of learning we can see a strong return on our combined efforts. Be blessed in the week and across the weekend.

Gary Marsters
Assistant Head of Secondary
GENERAL

Year 2 History Excursion
Year 2 explored and learned more about our local area last week. They visited the angora goat farm that sells their mohair to Italy, experienced what Avondale College was like in the early 1900’s with very strict Miss Rose and churned some butter and ate an old-fashioned meal at the Caf served by Chef Nick. Year 2 also saw the closed down Sanitarium buildings and walked across the bouncy swing bridge. Cooranbong is such an interesting place!

Year 3 Healthy Food Fest
Tuesday, July 2
Year 3 students are planning to run a ‘Healthy Food Fest’ at lunchtime next Tuesday July 2. Students have been working in groups for weeks to select recipes, analyse the health of their product, price ingredients, cost products, and design a marketing strategy. There will be all sorts of delicious healthy food for sale for students and visitors to purchase. Everyone is welcome to attend. Come along, buy your lunch and support our Year 3 entrepreneurs.

Primary Parent Teacher Interviews
This year we have moved to a new interface for attendance, marks books and reporting. This change will allow us to assess and report in a more effective manner in the future. The new process has taken some time to implement and we ask for your patience as we strive to deliver a better reporting experience. As a result of this change, we have needed to postpone Parent Teacher Interviews. They will now take place early next term at a date to be advised. We apologise for any inconvenience.

SPORT

Knights And Rookies Chess
Last week, 64 students from 7 local schools came to Avondale School to play the first 5 rounds of the Newcastle Primary Chess Competition. There were 10 teams of 4 in the Rookies division and 6 teams of 4 in the Knights division. The results after 5 rounds are as follows:

Knights Division
1st Heritage College A 17 points
2nd Avondale School B 16½ points
3rd Heritage College B 11 points
4th Cooranbong Primary School A 7½ points
5th St Mary’s Primary School A 4 points
6th Elermore Vale Public School A 4 points

Rookies Division
1st Avondale School C 20 points
2nd Avondale School D 18 points
3rd St Mary’s Primary School B 17½ points
4th Charlton Christian College B 11 points
5th Cooranbong Primary School B 8½ points
6th Biddabah Public School B 6½ points
7th Biddabah Public School C 6 points
8th Elermore Vale Public School B 6 points
9th Biddabah Public School C 3½ points
10th Charlton Christian College A 3 points

Years 5 & 6 Athletics Day
Monday, July 1
It is great to have understanding parents when it comes to the postponement of Athletics Days. Weather permitting, we will run the Years 5 and 6 Athletics Day this coming Monday.

Avondale School Gift Race
Tuesday, July 2
Weather permitting, those students selected from the Athletics Days to participate in the Avondale School Gift 100m event will race next Tuesday at recess time, 11.00am.
CLASS

Y7 Integrated STEM Project
To Mars or Not to Mars?
Following the exciting launch of Part A of our Year 7 Integrated Project Based Learning STEM unit last week with future Australian astronaut Josh Richards (from the Mars One program) our Year 7 students have been learning to code Sphero BOLTS – a skill that will be needed to drive vehicles around Mars. Students have also started designing and building water rockets, striving to build not only a rocket that will travel the furthest, but a rocket that will carry the greatest payload to Mars. A significant part of our To Mars or Not to Mars project involves our students learning to effectively collaborate and work together in small groups. Throughout this project, we are striving to have our students answer the following driving question: What advice would you give Elon Musk about colonising Mars?
On Tuesday next week (July 2) Year 7 students will all be involved in an amazing full day incursion where student groups will be involved in competing in two competitions: The Mars Trek and Who can get the greatest payload to Mars? Students will be involved in completing a significant amount of data analysis relating to the data that they collect. We encourage Year 7 parents to pop into school any time after 1.30pm and have a look at what our students are learning and the fun that they will be having. We ask that parents sign in at the Main Admin Office before making their way down to the veranda of the Collaborative Learning Centre (CLC) and the Secondary School Oval. Year 7 students are encouraged to wear their PE uniform next Tuesday (July 2).

SPORT

HRIS Basketball
The Secondary HRIS Basketball competition was held this week. Our girls came 2nd out of 9 by only one point in the for and against, and the boys finished 5th out of 12. Good effort by both teams!

Year 9 Textiles Excursion
Year 9 Textiles Technology students went to the Quilt and Craft Fair in Darling Harbour to learn the technique of Boro (Japan). Students got to make three coasters using sashimi needles and threads. Students also got to tour and look at the vast array of quilts on display. An enjoyable day which clearly displays the wide variety of textile options and the world of professional quilt designers on display.

Secondary Parent Teacher Interviews
This year we have moved to a new interface for attendance, marks books and reporting. This change will allow us to assess and report in a more effective manner in the future. The new process has taken some time to implement and we ask for your patience as we strive to deliver a better reporting experience.
As a result of this change, we need to reschedule Parent Teacher Interviews. Interviews for students from Years 7-11 will now happen in the first week of Term 3, on Tuesday July 23 and Wednesday July 24.
Watch for further information regarding booking interviews before the end of this term.

Opal Cards
ALL STUDENTS need to present and tap their Opal Card as they board the bus to and from school. All card enquiries including new applications, lost cards, change of address details etc can all be sorted online at www.transportnsw.info/school-students
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 (Simply Music, AMEB, traditional) / 0409 959 302
Sandi Lowe / 0447 006 209
Cybèle Coutet (AMEB) / 0423 455 977
Jan Hughes / 4977 2037
Henry Higgins / 0490 040 308
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 040 308
Garry Lawler (group lessons / ukulele) / 0438 608 180

Drums
James Dennett / 0401 549 084

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K-6 Library Prizes
Hundreds of thrilling fiction books and informative non-fiction books have been read by a great many students during Term 2. It’s now time to return your library books so please remember your library bags and books next week. If you’d like to borrow books for the holidays that is fine too. What an excellent and enjoyable pastime! You will choose your prizes in library classes next week.

K-6 Scholastic Book Club
If you ordered from Scholastic Book Club last week please come and collect your books as they are now at the library. Happy reading!

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Lego Masters
This week we started the Years 3 & 4 Lego Masters Competition and it will run until the end of this term. Teams of between 2 and 4 students will have two lunchtimes to create something amazing. Rounds 1 and 2 for Years 3 & 4 have been completed with Rounds 3 & 4 happening next week. Check the library front door to be reminded of when your turn is coming if you have entered the competition. Prize winners for Years 5 & 6 will be announced at Monday’s assembly next week.

K-6 Book Character Parade
Thursday, August 22
Our whole school Book Week celebrations are from August 19-23 this year and although that sounds like a long way away, one activity that may take some planning on your part is our biennial K-6 Book Character Parade. As in recent parades, we will acknowledge ‘commendable’ costumes in each Year Level without ranking them. Our esteemed judges will be looking for creativity and originality in costume designs so please start thinking about your costume now to reduce stress at the last minute. Remember that you need to bring along the book that your book character is from. When designing costumes please only choose costumes that reflect the values of the school, so avoid supernatural, violent and grotesque characters such as witches, wizards, etc. Looking forward to seeing YOU in the MPC at 9.00am on Thursday August 22.