Primary Calendar - Term 1
Prim Cross Country (date change) .... Apr 1
Y2 Hunter Wetlands Excursion ......... Apr 3
Y4 Outdoor Ed Activities Excursion .... Apr 3
P&F Meeting 3.15pm .................. Apr 3
Chess Competition .................... Apr 5
Daylight Savings Ends ................ Apr 7
Y5 Camp ..................................... Apr 10 - 12
Kindy Jolly Phonics Day .......... Apr 12
Last Day of Term 1 ..................... Apr 12
Good Friday ............................. Apr 19

Secondary Calendar - Term 1
Y10 Camp ..................................... Apr 2 - 5
Y8 Maths Excursion .................. Apr 3
P&F Meeting 3.15pm .................. Apr 3
Daylight Savings Ends ............ Apr 7
Y10 Work Experience ............... Apr 8 - 12
Y12 Mid Year Exams ............... Apr 9 - 12
Y11 Camp .................................... Apr 10 - 12
Y8 Camp .................................... Apr 10 - 12
Last Day of Term 1 ..................... Apr 12
Good Friday ............................. Apr 19

School Terms 2019
Term 1 ................................ Jan 29 - Apr 12
Term 2 ................................ May 6 - Jul 5
Term 3 ................................ Jul 22 - Sep 27
Term 4 ................................ Oct 14 - Dec 6

THE VIEW

Three Key Ideas For Parents About How Students Learn In The Classroom

It is sometimes easy to think that our children come to school and all they do is Reading, Writing and Arithmetic. While they do learn these things, they also learn how to learn and use these new found skills in multiple settings. The following are three different ways that this happens:

1. Thinking Deeply
The syllabus that we teach from emphasises critical thinking. It requires students to analyse more, discuss more, evaluate more, justify more and explain their thinking and understanding deeply, both verbally and in writing.

Key Idea for Parents - Really thinking deeply is hard. Let it BE hard, help them talk it out.

2. Integrating Learning
Within the classroom we are regularly learning across multiple learning areas, such as Geography, Mathematics and English, combined into one task. Students spend more time working together with learning areas, structures and tools.

Key Idea for Parents - Problems and solutions happen every day in the real world.

3. Showing How They Know
Students are encouraged to show proof and evidence of how they know what they have learnt. It is not all about facts memorisations and skill and drill. Even though they do have their place in the classroom, we encourage students to show how they can use that knowledge in other settings.

Key Idea for Parents - Transferring knowledge and being able to use it in other situations increases confidence and shows understanding.

How can this be supported at home?
1. Ask “why” when children tell you they want something or want to do or not do something.
2. Use the word “because” after “No” or “Not tonight”.
3. Give reasons - you to them and them to you.
4. Encourage questions and answers, especially questions where answers are not yes or no.
5. Explain and discuss issues or problems in your house, neighbourhood and community. Brainstorm solutions.
6. Compare how things are alike and different - videos, movies, food.
7. Look for patterns.
8. Describe and categorise stuff.
10. Encourage and celebrate opinions.

Information adapted from www.helloliteracy.blogspot.com
cc-2013 by Jen Jones & Kate Duty
Megan Hobson & Alisa Wind
Stage 1 Coordinators
SPORT

K-6 Cross Country
Monday, April 1
Our Primary Cross Country will be held this Monday, April 1 commencing at 9.15am, weather permitting. The program was emailed to all parents last week. Parents and friends are welcome to attend. Students will be selected from Monday’s event to attend the HRIS Cross Country to be held at Avondale College on Friday, May 3. (Please note: If your child cannot run on Monday, April 1, please contact Mr Head so another time can be arranged.)

HRIS Cross Country
Held In School Holidays
The HRIS Cross Country will be held at Avondale College on Friday, May 3. Please note that this is the last day of the school holidays. The first 5 places in the 8 to 12 years age groups will be invited to compete at the HRIS event.

Tennis
If you would like your child to learn to play tennis after school from 3.30 - 4.30pm on our school courts with a tennis coach from Tennis Australia, please contact Mr Head. Tennis will commence in Term 2 and will cost $65 for 8 weeks.

School Chess Competition
Friday, April 5
The Primary Chess Competition will be held next Friday, April 5 in the MPC. Students will be selected from this competition to compete in the Hunter Region Junior Chess Competition and the HRIS Chess Competition.

Run 4 Bibles
Many classes have set class goals as they raise money for this worthy cause. Each $7 raised will put a Bible into a family in Africa. All money raised is to be returned to the class teacher on Monday, April 8.

GENERAL

Impetigo (School Sores)
We have had a few reported cases of Impetigo in the Primary School. Impetigo is a skin infection also known as School Sores because it commonly affects school-aged children. It is highly contagious and a child with Impetigo should be kept at home until appropriate treatment has commenced. If your child/children develop blisters which weep and crust, or if they have sores that are not healing and getting larger, medical treatment should be sought. On returning to school the sores should be covered with a waterproof dressing until healed. More information can be obtained from your Medical Practitioner or NSW Department of Health.

What is P.O.P???
When: 11.00am Saturday, 30 March
Where: Plus One Memorial Church MPC (The big tin shed)
584/586 Freemans Drive, Cooranbong NSW 2265
Bring your friends and find out what it’s all about!

Vacation Care
Bookings for April/May holidays are now available. Book online today!
SPORT
Cross Country

Yesterday I had a great birthday! It’s not often you get over 250 people come to your party :) Some ran, some walked, some further and faster than others, we played a few games and then we had ice blocks (it’s the new thing instead of cake). We had House Captains urging on runners to try and get more points, some adults even came to the sidelines to watch the fun. Ethan M (Y12) ran the 6km in just over 22 mins, Olivia, Elijah and Caleb M all placed with great times in their respective races. Zoe and Lisa D won their own races. Practice paid off for many students running for personal best times. I would like to acknowledge those who ran, who found it hard but kept going for their House points but also to prove to themselves they could do it. A big thank you to the staff and students who helped the events flow. Presentations will be made on Tuesday morning in the MPC starting at normal Roll Call time. The HRIS team will also be posted on Tuesday and permission notes will be handed out. HRIS Cross Country will be held May 3, the last day of the school holidays, at Avondale College. I would encourage all team members to keep training over the break.

NAPLAN Numeracy Practice

Parents are advised that a number of NAPLAN Numeracy Practice Papers, along with answers, have been placed on the Year 7 and Year 9 students’ Landscape class pages. Students are encouraged to utilise these at home in the lead-up to this year’s NAPLAN tests, which are scheduled to take place in Week 2 of next term. Also, each student is required to bring their own NESA approved scientific calculator to the NAPLAN Numeracy Trial Test, which will occur at school in the last week of this term.

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!
ALL SCHOOL

Pupil Free Date Change
Our 2019 Calendar had Friday, June 7 as a Pupil Free Day, however we need to change this to the final Friday of Term 3, September 27. We apologise if that affects any plans you might have had, but it is due to circumstances beyond our control.

After School Parking
Due to the limited parking on campus, parents are asked to park in the carpark outside the school gates after school. The ELC carpark needs to be kept clear for ELC parents. The drop-off zone outside the Primary Office also needs to be kept clear after school. The carline service is a great option for an easy pick-up.

LIBRARY

K-9 Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC)
It’s been excellent to have 168 students from Kindy to Year 9 sign up for the PRC during the month of March. It would be wonderful to have all 168 students who have signed up actually finish the PRC this year. Enjoy reading your books and you have until August 30 to do so.

KidsLitQuiz
Avondale School hosted the Newcastle Regional Final of KidsLitQuiz on Wednesday, March 27. Wayne Mills hosts KidsLitQuiz competitions all around the world and writes an amazing range of questions for the competing teams. He was a great host and all the competing students were really focused and great ambassadors for their schools. Our Avondale School teams were fantastic participants and, while they didn’t win the competition, they were certainly terrific hosts and spirited competitors in a very closely fought competition.

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
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 608 180

Drums
James Dennett / 0401 549 084

We value ...
PATIENCE