THIS WEEK … we acknowledged sporting excellence with ribbons and trophies from our Athletics Day followed by an amazing concert by virtuoso violinist, Jaime Jorge. We enjoyed the fun of Sport in Schools Australia on Tuesday. Year 5 and 6 students from our choir spent Wednesday rehearsing as part of a 215 voice choir. The performance was AMAZING! The joy on our students’ faces reflected their enjoyment of working collaboratively with a large group of like-minded and talented students. Thursday was yo-yo madness as students showed off their best skills and tricks.

NEXT WEEK … we would love you to stay after assembly for a Cuppa and Chat with our Principal, Dr Faull. This is a great chance to ask questions or share your opinion about school issues. Our Athletics team is off to the HRIS Athletics Day on Wednesday and Year 1 is hoping for great weather as they head off to the Reptile Park. Our Parents and Friends Meeting is on Wednesday afternoon. We would LOVE to see you there.

DID YOU KNOW … we have a team of passionate staff working collaboratively to increase opportunities for our students to engage in STEM activities. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) STEM offers student the chance to work together to think outside the box, face challenges creatively, design and test solutions and persevere. Watch for more details!

Have a great weekend.

Mrs Deb Cooper
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Mr Benton Craig
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MAKING A MARK … “Honesty and integrity are absolutely essential for success in life - all areas of life. The really good news is that anyone can develop both honesty and integrity.” Zig Ziglar

DONE AND DUSTED … Just catching our breath after a massive week: Year 12 Trial Exams began (and they’re going really well. There’s a calm approach to them – at least on the outside!); Jaime Jorge performed on his violin on Monday (he played ‘The Swan’ with our own senior string ensemble and his technique was impressive); HRIS Soccer (our team made the semis and got pipped at the post by one goal); the HRIS Cultural Festival was amazing (our kids AND staff were awesome – Miss Knopper even had a piece performed that she’d composed); we had our 2016 Year 11 and Year 9 Information Nights (and despite the fresh evening air, they were both well attended). Amongst all of this, we pushed out some assessment tasks and our Year 11 VET students got ready for Work Placement next week.

CHALKBOARD ITEMS … Year 12s continue with their Trial Exams while our Year 11 VET students head out into the workplace for a week. 2016 Year 9 Elective Choices are due on Monday (so that’s our current Year 8s needing to hand their choices in for next year!) and we begin the month of August … which, by the way, doesn’t see us slowing down much by way of calendar items – just saying!

BEFORE IT’S ERASED … The name Wendy was made up for the book Peter Pan, there was never a recorded Wendy before! No way! Have a blessed break from the business of the week. Enjoy each other!

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JAIME JORGE VISIT

Acclaimed international Christian performer Jaime Jorge visited Avondale School and conducted a workshop with the Senior String Ensemble. The students really rose to the challenge of playing with such an accomplished musician. Jaime Jorge has performed on six continents and clocked up six million miles of air travel to perform all over the world. He took time out to workshop the students and then they played with him to the rest of the school. His stories and interspersed performances had the students spellbound throughout the performance. It was a real privilege to have such a world class performer come and play for us.

HRIS ATHLETICS DAY

Wednesday, August 5

The HRIS Athletics Day is being held at Hunter Sports Centre, Glendale on Wednesday, August 5. There are 80 students from Years 2-6 representing Avondale School at the big event. Students need to be at school at 7.30 am sharp if going on the bus. Students going by private transport need to report to Mrs Morton when they arrive. Students will NOT make it back to school in time for normal bus runs. Parents are welcome to attend this event.

SPORT IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM

This year’s weekly Sport in Schools Program on Tuesdays has been a big hit with the students from K-6. The students especially love the different types of unique equipment used and the wide variety of activities. The teachers running the program have spoken very highly of the behaviour of Avondale School students.

Kindy Kite Flying

KSL Kindy students have had lots of fun this week making and flying kites with their Year 6 Buddies for ‘Q’ and ‘K’ week.

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.

Year 6 E-Day Refunds

E-Day refund notes were send home last term with students. Monday will be the last day to return these notes and claim the E-Day refund. If needed, new notes are available from Mr Neuschulz.

HRIS CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Wednesday was a great experience for our Year 5-8 choir and ensemble students singing and playing with over 200 students in a combined schools choir and ensemble at the HRIS Cultural Festival. We are very proud of all our students who attended.

It's Free Games Night

Sat - 1st August - 6:00pm

Woolworths Earn & Learn

Help make a difference for your local school or ELC

Gateway Kids

Avondale MPC - CAFE & FOOD

www.gatewaycommunity.com.au
Towards the end of last term we ran our Athletics Day at Mingara. We had 15 records broken on the day with Riley O setting three new records and Mia M breaking two, one of which was set back in 1988. Participation was fierce in some events with three heats in the 14 year olds age group. House Captains did a great job of motivating their teams. Due to the wet weather and being unable to use our oval we were never able to complete the Javelin events and 1500m so Age Champions and House points did not include any of those events.

4th Pacific - 556 points  
3rd Macquarie - 600 points  
2nd Watagan - 837 points  
1st Pacific - 1062 points

Avondale School is proud of their achievements, coming a pleasing 5th in Division 1 out of a total of 16 schools. All 87 students competed on a beautiful winters day with many students achieving their personal best. We have a number of students who competed outside their age group to fill in for students unable to attend. It was this contribution, along with a solid team effort, that culminated in such a pleasing result. Lachlan L was the 18 year old boys Age Champion and the 13 and 17 year old boys won their age pennants. Riley O broke two records in the 12 year old 100m and Discus. Avondale School had 14 students selected to compete at AICES Athletics Day on August 31 at Homebush.
**PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE**

The Secret Garden, a novel by Frances Burnett, tells the story of Mary, a young girl who goes to live with her wealthy Uncle Archibald on his Estate. Mary gets to know Dickon, a working class boy who loves nature. The two children discover a fenced-in garden that Mary’s uncle has locked up, because it reminded him of his wife who had died. The garden looks terrible with most plants almost dead because of neglect, but Dickon assures Mary that with good care it will recover with new life. Mary and Dickon make the garden their project and soon ‘the secret garden’ bursts forth with colourful flowers.

All of us have a secret garden of the heart. How we look after it will determine what speech and behaviour it produces. Integrity is all about having all the pieces together - guarding what we put in the ‘garden’ of the heart and monitoring what takes root there. God asks each one of us to water the seeds of honesty, responsibility, and kindness, helping us to demonstrate integrity.

The challenge for us all is to live in such a way that when people think of honesty and integrity they will think of you.

Enjoy the news from our school this week.

Dr David Faull
Principal

**SCHOOL TERM DATES 2016**

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**Primary Calendar - Term 3**

- **Gateway Kids Games Night 6.00 - 7.30 pm MPC** August 1
- **HRIS Athletics Day** August 5
- **Year 1 Reptile Park Excursion** August 5
- **P&F Meeting 3.15 pm in Admin Building** August 5
- **Gateway Kids Rally 10.30 am - 12.00 pm MPC** August 8
- **Open Day** August 12
- **Year 6 Rocket Launch** August 13
- **Book Week** August 17 - 20
- **Book Character Parade** August 20
- **HRIS Soccer / Netball Gala Day** August 25
- **Year 5-6 Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition** August 26

**Secondary Calendar - Term 3**

- **Year 12 Trial Exams** July 27 - August 10
- **Year 11 VET Work Placement** August 3 - 7
- **Year 9 2016 Subjects Due** August 3
- **P&F Meeting 3.15 pm in Admin Building** August 5
- **Year 7-9 Robotics Excursion** August 6
- **Year 9 Visual Arts Excursion** August 7
- **ICAS Maths Competition** August 11
- **Open Day** August 12
- **Year 12 Drama Night** August 13
- **Year 10 Visual Arts Excursion** August 14
- **Year 9 & 10 Textiles Excursion** August 14

**Book Week 2015 - August 17-20**

Exciting activities are planned for Book Week including the annual Book Fair, competitions, storytellers and our Book Character Parade for Primary School with lots of prizes. The **Book Fair** will run from Monday through to Thursday during Book Week and you won’t want to miss it. It’s a great time to stock up on books at bargain prices. Our fabulous **Book Character Parade** will in held in the MPC on Thursday, August 20 at 9.00 am. How is your costume planning coming along? Remember that your character must be from a suitable book and you need to bring the book along on the parade day.

Just for Secondary School… **Quizzical Book Quiz Competitions** will run at lunchtimes on Tuesday and Thursday with cash prizes on offer for winning teams. Watch the Newsletter during the coming weeks for more exciting Book Week information.

**Premier’s Reading Challenge**

Nearly finished? Do you have just a few more books to read? Need to read fast? Please make sure all completed reading records are handed in at the iCentre as soon as they are completed and no later than Friday, August 21.