



# AVONDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Thursday 2nd April 2009

Dear Parents,

### **Staff changes at Avondale Primary School**

As mentioned last week, we will be holding a farewell morning-tea for Ann-Maree Trewin tomorrow from 11am to 12 midday in the Art Room. I hope you will join us to celebrate Ann-Maree's career and contribution to the Avondale community. I ask visitors to bring along a small plate of food. A student presentation will be made to Ann-Maree at the 2pm assembly. I have taken this from a note written by Sarah S, a grade 6 student, "Thank you for making my dad's and my school years wonderful. I will miss you."



I would also like to thank Anja Rauch-Bellofiore for her work in the school office during Ros' convalescence. Her careful and efficient work has been appreciated by staff and students.

Mr John Cleary will commence as the PE teacher from the beginning of second term. This is John's first placement, he majored in Physical Education while at University and I look forward to his contribution to our students and working with him as he begins his career.

### **Congratulate Serena Thomas (Gr. 4).**

Serena was awarded a black belt in Taekwondo on Monday night. This is a very impressive achievement as it takes years of dedication and a willingness to learn and give your best. Congratulations Serena from all in the Avondale community.

### **Homework Survey**

Thank you to all the families who responded to our survey. Mr Scarfo received another 17 survey responses today and so we are unable to publish the collated responses just yet. We will however publish these in the first newsletter next term.

### **Cat food running low**

The school has a cat named "Ginger". As far as I know the cat adopted the school around 11 years ago and has kept faithful guard protecting us from inquisitive mice and the occasional unwary bird. Rob our cleaner, feeds that cat each morning and he informs me that stocks are running low. If you would like to make a donation it would be appreciated; the cat likes all kinds of cat-food and Rob likes a beer (just joking Rob ☺).

### **Chocolate Drive**

I would like to thank parents for supporting this major fundraiser; we have had several families already take home extra boxes; this will entitle them to a raffle ticket in a draw for a wonderful hamper. Money raised will go towards the purchase of yard furniture and new take-home books for students. Unsold chocolates are due back first day Term 2.

### **Final Assembly**

Tomorrow the students will be dismissed at 2.15pm immediately following the 2pm, end-of-term assembly. At this assembly, a student representative from each grade will give a class-made present to Mrs Trewin as an acknowledgement and thanks for her work with them. Parents who are unable to come to the morning tea are welcome to say a few words to Ann-Maree following the assembly.

### **Newsletter by Email**

Did you know that there are now 46 e-mail recipients who have a colour edition of the weekly newsletter sent directly to their computer—be it at work or at home. The advantages are: it can be easily stored, colour pictures of their children can be saved, newsletters do not get lost nor clutter your household and best of all it is good for the environment!

Have a great week

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

(subject to change check regularly)

### **April**

Friday 3rd 11am—12 noon Farewell Morning Tea Mrs. Trewin  
Last Day Term One \*\*\**No canteen on last day.*\*\*\*  
Final assembly 2pm, Student dismissal 2.15pm

Monday 20th First Day Term Two,  
Chocolate \$48/box due back to school

Monday 27th Special School Council Meeting—7.30pm

Wednesday 29th Secondary School Expo (Moonee Ponds West PS) 4pm—7.30pm (for Yr 5 & 6 students and their parents)

### **May**

Wednesday 6th Police band *Code One at the ECA centre—Free for students*



### ***Rebel Sport Fundraiser***

When you purchase goods at *Rebel Sport Highpoint* and mention Avondale Primary School in the MVP program, the school receives 5% of the purchase price and you receive a 5% discount. Why not mention this next time you're there?

## **Lost Property**

It's the end of term and our Lost Property Boxes are full.

Parents, please pop in and check for your child's missing clothing.

There are many articles without names that are now free to a good home !



### **Primary School Wear—VIP Night Gift Card winner**

Primary School Wear ran a 'VIP Night' promotion late last year to encourage parents to shop early for school uniforms. Not only were there discounted prices but every shopper went into a draw for a \$200 gift card.

***I congratulate Effie, Theo and Kosta Theophanous on winning the \$200 gift card.***



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### **Advertisements**

***The advertisements in this newsletter are for community interest only. The school has no connection with, nor endorses, any particular business activity.***

## **Possible merger with Milleara Primary School**

A letter was sent to all families yesterday explaining the reasons that have prompted the proposal for a merger between Avondale and Milleara Primary Schools. This is available on our web site at:

<http://www.avondaleps.vic.edu.au/home/newsletters/>

The letter explained the pressing effect of the federal government's economic stimulus package '*Building the Education Revolution*' on this merger proposal. It also explained the local situation and the reasons for considering a merger.

They are explained again here: Milleara Primary School has experienced declining enrolments over several years. Their current enrolment is 117 students and the enrolment trend is expected to continue next year. Western Metropolitan Region is inviting Avondale Primary School to agree in principle, to consider a possible merger with Milleara Primary.

A merger would be subject to a satisfactory proposal arising from the elements contained within *Building the Education Revolution*. If the proposal for a new, merged entity isn't satisfactory, Avondale Primary School Council would not be committed to a merger and would be able to submit stand alone proposals without prejudice.

Avondale Primary School Council was addressed by a Regional Officer on Monday evening who explained some of the implications and processes involved during a possible merger with BER funding.

School Council will meet again on Monday 27th April to decide on an 'in principle' agreement to consider the proposal for a possible merger with Milleara Primary.

I invite parents to discuss issues with School Council members. This year's members are: Tony Baldwin, Elizabeth Elliott, John Greenwood, Angelo Ramnac, Lindsay Grant, Nick Doukas, Hien Bui, Bronwyn Pearce, Lisa Needham (teacher) Kim Metelmann (teacher) and myself.

***The staff of Avondale Primary School wish all our families a safe and happy term break.***

***We look forward to seeing all our students refreshed and ready for a great Term Two on 20th April.***