



AVONDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Thursday August 20, 2009

Dear Parents,

Grade 3/4s investigate food-chains in our local environment...

Students in Grades 3 and 4 have been investigating the role of water in creating habitats. Sam, from Melbourne Water, lead their investigation into habitats and food chains in and around the Maribyrnong River. When I visited students in Grade 3/4D, they were able to explain food chains and the concepts of producers and consumers.

Jasmine explained that the energy for the food chain comes from the sun; Abady explained that plants are *producers* that turn the sun's energy into food. Natasha explained that *primary consumers* such as bugs and small fish eat the plants – they are *herbivores*; James explained that *secondary consumers* such as larger fish eat the primary consumers, they may be carnivores or *omnivores* and Erin explained that *tertiary consumers* such as very large fish or humans eat the secondary consumers.

I was very impressed with students knowledge and interested in the food-chains they were developing using specialised software in the computer laboratory. I congratulate all Grade 3/4 students and teachers on their great work.

Footy Day

Footy Day is next Wednesday. Students will have a day on the oval in multi-age groups practicing a range of sports skills. We are expecting a visit from players in the AFL and VFL for part of the day. There will be the traditional Year 6 marking competition and the parents kick-off competition.

The raffle will be drawn after lunch.

Lunch orders and raffle money need to be into the Office by tomorrow. I request all unsold raffle tickets be returned by every family. I hope you can come along and enjoy the festivities.

Triennial Review – Monday

Dr. Libby Tudwell from Monash University has been engaged by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to conduct a review of Avondale Primary School. I have passed on comments made by parents at our School Self-evaluation Evening on August 4 and published in the newsletter a fortnight ago. A copy of the School's Self Evaluation will be published on the school's web site directly.

Education more than just academic achievement...

Avondale Primary has a well deserved reputation for having very professional and caring teachers and superior educational achievement by students. However we also appreciate that there is much more to education than English and Maths scores.

Over the next few weeks students in the upper grades will be participating in their camping program. They will learn to develop skills in independence and socialising under the careful guidance of teachers and support staff. The camps are invariably one of the highlights of the school year for students and allow further development of their self confidence.

Fathers' Day Breakfast – 4th September

A portable power drill valued at \$100 is the raffle prize for this year's Prep and Grade One Father's Day breakfast. Breakfast is from 7.30am to 8.30am. I hope to see most dads there.



Volcanoes

Our class made volcanoes. We got a plastic bottle and put chicken wire over the top to make the shape. Then we dipped newspaper in glue to make a paper mache on the volcano. We let it dry for a few days. Then we started painting it with black and brown. After a few weeks the paint had dried. We went outside and got baking soda and vinegar and mentos and diet coke. We filled up the bottle with either vinegar or diet coke and put the baking soda or mentos in with a pink or red food dye. Pink was the most favorite colour. We found out that the baking soda and vinegar worked better. After that we had a fun time blowing up our volcanoes.

By James Lam



re@ct

5/6A has been working on a short film called tick tack. When the film is finished it will be sent into the re@ct film festival. There will be numerous schools entered into the festival with there short films. There are 4 important people in the re@ct film there is the producer, director, actor/actors and the camera person. The film has to be a limit of three minutes long.

Briannon Duffin

Tara Davies



GRADE
5/6A



Poetry

We think that poetry in our class is awesome such as Cinquan, Limericks, Nonnet's and the Haku poem. We have lots of fun with these poetry assignments and it helps us use more description when we write.

By Matthew Alhumrany & Matthew Gakovic

Singstar and Music.

Singstar is another way for our class to read out loud, and to have fun at the same time. We have battles against other teams, and also have a ladder with the teams in order with their wins. It's also another way for us to have courage in ourselves to readsing, and for our teacher to have a laugh. Other times Mr. Carrick gets songs and the guitar notes for us to sing. We sing and he plays the guitar. We have heaps of fun doing Singstar, or just singing with Mr. Carrick playing the guitar.

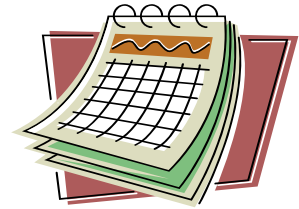
Written

by Felicia Zurzolo & Jacob Stowers.



DATES TO REMEMBER

(Subject to change please check regularly)



August

24th—28th Book week and Book Fair
Wednesday 26th Footy Day
Friday 28th Book Parade
Monday 31st Father's Day Stall

September

Wed 2nd-Fri 4th 5/6 Phillip Island Camp
Friday 4th Fathers Day Breakfast—Prep /Ones
Wednesday 9th Music Students to visit Ron Conn Centre
Mon 14th-Wed 16th 3/4 Lady Northcote Camp Bacchus Marsh
Friday 18th Last day Term 3 - 2:15pm finish for students

October

Monday 5th Term 4 begins
Tuesday 6th Interschool Athletics Carnival
Friday 9th Fundraising Committee 9:15am, Facilities Committee 5:30pm
Thursday 15th Education Committee 3:30pm
Monday 19th Finance Committee 7pm, School Council 7:30pm
Thursday 22nd Multicultural Day

November

Thursday 26th School Concert

**FOOTY DAY
REMINDER**
**Lunch orders and all
raffle books, sold and
unsold, MUST be
returned by tomorrow
(Friday)**

Newsletters can be found every Friday on our website - www.avondaleps.vic.edu.au.

You can also check this site for the term Calendar.

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?

Grade 1/2D students wrote a narrative piece of writing about being stuck on a deserted island. Here are some examples of their great work!

Dear Siena,

Sorry but I can't come to your birthday, but I went on this boat and I fell straight off it. I landed on an island. I eat bananas, coconuts, fish and pineapples. I have a comfy bed because I use all of the banana leaves on the sand. I found a rope so that I can swing all day and all night. I have been getting tired. I have been here for a week.

From Stephanie.

Dear Chloe,

I'm sorry I can't play with you. I was in a boat. The boat had a rope. My Mum was holding the rope. She fell asleep and I sailed away leaving my family. I got so scared that I fainted. I was still in the boat. An elephant found me washed up on the deserted island. He put me in a tree. I saw the elephant and fainted again. When I woke up, I saw the elephant, a peacock and a monkey. We ate fruit from the trees. We slept in the tree that I fainted in. I stayed there for one year. The animals were my friends. I heard someone screaming. I saw a lion. It had a splinter in its paw. I picked it out. He became my friend.

By Thi

Dear Peter,

I've washed up on an island with Vasilios and Julian. I will tell you how I got there. We were in our boat and Vasilios said he saw a shark. I said, "Don't be silly". A minute later we were tossed in the air. It was a shark! I didn't know what happened! On the island we have pets like tigers, turtles, monkeys, elephants and a peacock. You might be a bit sad because we're never coming back. We've made a race track. We have a pool. Our tiger goes to catch our food. We go to the volcano to warm up our food. We've made a huge tree house right next to the volcano. Our tiger is our security guard.

From Lachlan

