



# AVONDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Clarendon Street  
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## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2009

Dear Parents,

### Welcome to the 2009 school year

Congratulations students, parents and staff on a very smooth start to the school year. I welcome our current families to the new year and extend a very warm welcome to those new to our school community. We currently have 292 students enrolled in 13 grades. I warmly congratulate all on a very smooth start to the school year.

We start the year with 292 students in 13 grades, giving an average class size of 22. This is a very pleasing number of students per grade as it allows sufficient numbers for learning groups and still small enough for teachers to interact meaningfully with each student every day.

### Themes for Term One

Students study English and Mathematics for most of the day. However these are frequently presented through themes – especially when there is an obvious and useful link between the theme and our priority curriculum areas.

The themes for Term One are:

- Preps: Marvellous Me – my body, my family, my likes and dislikes  
One/Two: Our Community – what groups and services do we see in our local community?  
Three/Four: Space – What things are in space? What instruments do we use to find and measure them?  
Five/Six: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Australian History – Investigating major events from Federation to the present.

If you know of any worthwhile resources that students or teachers may be able to use in studying these themes, please let your child's teacher know. For example, if you know a person with expertise in any of the above areas and he or she would be suitable to talk to young students; then please inform us. Research clearly demonstrates that information from experts (guest speakers) and providing discussion time for students *greatly assists student learning*. (Reference: <http://www.cshe.unimelb.edu.au/assessinglearning/04/case25.html>)

### Improvements around the school:

Over the Summer Break there were several improvements to the grounds and facilities. I wish to thank Doug Bailey for helping spread the soil donated from Moonee Valley City Council onto our oval. Other improvements such as the current refurbishment of student toilets are still underway. I am hopeful of their completion in early March. There was a lot of work done to improve the gardens at the front of the school and maintain the trees planted on the oval last year. I especially want to thank school staff for working so well during last week's heat wave in ensuring all classrooms were ready for students this week.

### Council Subcommittee

The current School Council will have its final meeting on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February. Thereafter we will enter an election period where nominations for a new Council which will start in March.

### Anaphylaxis – meeting of interested parents

I invite interested parents to a 45 minute meeting where we will discuss the school's anaphylaxis policy, preventative practices and treatment procedures on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February. I would like to create a forum whereby any issues can be identified and responded to, in an agreed manner. A letter will be sent to parents of students who have an anaphylaxis management plan.

### Electrical Power Upgrade—Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

There will be no electrical power for our school on this day as *Jemena* changes our 80 amp power supply to a 300 amp supply. This involves upgrading our main switchboard and commissioning the new power box at the front of the school. ***Students can still attend school however there will be no canteen, lighting or cooling on this day.*** Other utilities such as water are not affected by these works. You can find out more about *Jemena* at: <http://www.jemena.com.au/company/OurNewBrand/default.aspx>

Have a great week

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

(subject to change check regularly)

### **February**

Monday 9th	9.15am Canteen Committee meeting
Tuesday 10th	9am Fundraising Committee meeting
Wednesday 11th	Prep Testing Day
Friday 13th	Power Supply Upgrade— <i>No canteen this day</i>
Monday 16th	School Council monthly meeting
Wednesday 18th	Prep Testing Day
Thursday 19th	Meeting for parents of students with anaphylaxis
Wednesday 25th	Parent-Teacher Interviews (Years 1- 6) and Prep Testing Day

### **March**

Monday 2-13	Senior Swimming Program (Maribyrnong MAC)
Monday 9th	Labour Day Holiday
Monday 16th	School Council AGM and monthly meeting

*Newsletters can be found every Friday on our website - [www.avondaleps.vic.edu.au](http://www.avondaleps.vic.edu.au).  
You can also check this site for the term Calendar.*



### **Canteen News**

The new canteen price list accompanies this newsletter. Note: most items have not changed price.

### **Volunteers...**

We seek volunteers to assist in the canteen on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Please arrange to assist at least once per month. Fridays are our neediest days.

### **Supporting Diabetes**

We are supporting the Diabetes Foundation by having a wheelie bin at school. If you have any clean used clothing that you no longer require please place it in the bin (in plastic bags please) outside the Staffroom so that it can be donated to this worthy charity.



### **Advertisements**

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

### **Playgroup News**

Avondale Anklebiters Playgroup currently has openings for pre-school children available. If you are interested in joining a Playgroup or would just like to see how it runs, please come along on either Thursday or Friday morning. Sessions are held in the Triple Room at school between 10am and 12 noon. For more information please call Joanna on 9317-7872 or just drop in for a cuppa on Thursday or Friday morning.



**Avondale Heights Football Club  
Registration Day For Junior Players  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

11.00am to 1.00pm

UNDER 10's, 12's, 14's & 16'S

Any queries please contact:

Sheren 0421 029 693

Milton 0402 309 071

Avondale Heights Football Club is located at Canning Reserve.  
(Melway Ref. Map 27 G8)

### **UPDATING YOUR DETAILS**

Please ensure that you have all contact numbers for yourself and emergency contacts up to date. There are times when we may need to contact you urgently - i.e.: if your child is unwell at school.

Should you have a new home address or workplace please notify us on these details too.

If you are unsure if the numbers are all correct please call at the office and ask me to check these details.

Thank-you

### **Stockdale & Leggo**

**FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE  
NEEDS**

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