

AVONDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Clarendon Street
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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Thursday 19th February 2009

Dear Parents,

School Captains selected...

On Monday 16th February the following Year 6 students were presented with their Captains badges. I warmly congratulate the following students on their appointment to these student leadership positions.

School Captains James Lam Keng Yee and Felicia Zurzolo

House	Captains	Vice-Captains
Viscount (Red)	Nicholas Loutas Alexia Koutroubas	Jonathan Ramnac Jesikah Butcher
Electra (Blue)	Jacob Cutri Briannon Duffin	Mark Johns Jessica Starr
Boeing (Green)	Harry Birchley Samantha Davies	Ryan Wales Sarah Shembri
Comet (Yellow)	Scott Russell Tara Davies	Matt Gakovic Lily Ngu



Parent-Teacher Interviews on February 25th ...

On Wednesday 25th February, there will be Parent Teacher Interviews from 1pm through to 6.30pm. Notes were distributed to students on Tuesday inviting parents to select a convenient time to visit the school. Parents who require an interpreter are asked to select this option on the note. We will endeavour to schedule appointments to accommodate families who have several children at school. We ask that notes be returned by Friday 20th February so the interview schedule can be finalised.

Helping your child learn at home...

Research clearly shows that **reading competence** is by far the most important single factor for success in education. It accounts for 40% of the difference in test results – even in Maths. The **strongest predictor** of achievement is the **amount of independent reading** done by a child.

This is good news for parents who want their child to get the most out of education. It means that you can have a direct and powerful influence on your child's educational attainment.

I suggest that you establish schedules, routines and assemble a range of books and magazines to **encourage your child to read independently for a sustained period (30 minutes) each day.**

You can do most of the reading to younger children, but as they grow in ability, they do more of the reading. You might encourage older children to read books or magazines in a quiet area and discuss what they have read following their reading time. Monitoring the reading material your child reads ensures that the time is spent on **material that is worth reading.**

The school has an extensive library of age appropriate material. The municipal library in Milleara Mall is also well stocked and has a wider range of magazines and non-fiction material.

Our teachers aim to have every child read for 30 minutes a day in class, if children read for an equivalent amount of time at home, they will succeed in all their tests.

Have a great week.



DATES TO REMEMBER

(subject to change check regularly)

February

Thursday 19th Meeting for parents of students with anaphylaxis
Friday 20th Gold coin donation Uniform Free Day—Money to Fire Appeal
All canteen profits to Fire Appeal
Wednesday 25th Parent-Teacher Interviews (Years 1- 6) and Prep Testing Day

March

Monday 2-13 Senior Swimming Program (Maribyrnong MAC)
Friday 6th Fundraising Committee 9.15am; Facilities Committee 5.30pm
Monday 9th *Labour Day Holiday*
Thursday 12th Education Subcommittee - 8am
Friday 13th Finance Subcommittee 7.30am
Monday 16th School Council AGM and monthly meeting




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?

SCHOOL ROUTINE

Avondale primary School is now commencing school at 8:50 am, it seems timely to discuss establishing a good routine to arrive at school on time each morning. Here are some simple tips to help:

The night before:

- Keep a noticeboard with special weekly activities i.e. Homework books, notes to teachers Library, Art, Show & Tell, Sport etc..
- Have your child pack their bag with the necessary things needed for school the next day.
- Prepare lunches and set the breakfast table ready for the morning rush.
- Lay out clothes ready for school the next day 
- Give your child a bath in the evening rather than a shower in the morning.

In the morning:

- Set the alarm to get up 15-20 minutes earlier to help things run smoothly.
- Turn off the television to cut down distractions.
- Encourage your child to be responsible and do things for him/herself.
- Encourage positive behaviour.
- Use praise or small surprises to celebrate cooperation and being on time.



EXCHANGE STUDENTS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILIES

Have you ever considered introducing your own children to an older international sibling?

World Education Program is looking for Volunteer Host Families for International Students arriving in July 2009.

Our Secondary School students from France, Germany, Italy, and Belgium are keen to start corresponding with a family they can call their own and learn about the place they will call home.

If you would like more information on becoming a Host Family, please contact Nikki Medwell for your information pack:

Nikki Medwell
Inbound Exchange Administrator
World Education Program

Ph: (03) 9598 4733
Fax: (03) 9598 4233
Toll Free: 1300 884 733
E: nikkimedwell@wep.org.au

Lost a school hat?

Replacements can still be purchased from the School Office



Advertisements

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

Stockdale & Leggo

FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS

26 Centreway, East Keilor, Vic. 3033

Phone: 9331 6244 Fax: 9331 6277

Email: sam@stockdale.com.au