Dear Parents,

New School Council
I wish to thank parents for expressing interest in becoming a member of our School Council. The two vacancies were filled by Hien Bui and Lindsay Grant, whose term finishes in March 2011.

The Council for 2009 is:
- President: Anthony Baldwin
- Vice President: Elizabeth Elliott
- Treasurer: Nicholas Doukas
- Secretary: Lisa Needham (Staff)
- Parent Members: Angelo Ramnac, John Greenwood, Bronwyn Pearce, Hien Bui, Lindsay Grant
- Staff Members: Paul Mulroyan, Kim Metelmann

You are welcome to approach Council members if you have concerns or suggestions for improvement.

Farewell and Thankyou Ann-Maree Hart-Trewin
Mrs Trewin has been teaching at Avondale Primary School since 1975 when she started as a graduate teacher taking Physical Education. Three years later she took leave for 12 months to travel overseas before returning as a Grade 6 teacher in 1980. In 1981 Ann-Maree married Terry Trewin, the following year she started Family Leave and had three children: Cameron, Gabrielle and Tim over a period of ten years.

She returned to Avondale at the invitation of Principal Kath Chapman in 1991 to teach for one year. As Ann-Maree says “I’ve been here ever since!” Over the years Ann-Maree has taught with passion and flare: P.E., Library, Art, Drama, prepared Concerts and has been a classroom teacher in all senior grade levels.

I hope parents and other community members will join us at 11am on Friday 3rd April for a morning tea to celebrate Ann-Maree’s career and contribution to the Avondale community. I ask visitors to bring along a small plate of food.

Small fire at back of school
A small fire at the back of the school oval was reported to me last Friday. Fortunately it was at the end of lunch time just as the bell rang so students were never in immediate danger. Equally fortunately the grass was sparse and there was no wind, so the fire did not progress far nor present a real danger. Nonetheless the Fire Brigade was contacted and their quick response was reassuring.

I am sorry to report that two students were responsible. Their parents have been informed and the students will participate in the Fire Brigade’s Junior Fire Awareness Program. This program is specifically designed for younger community members. It raises their awareness of fire danger and informs them of possible legal consequences should this behaviour continue.

Homework Survey
We are reviewing our homework policy. Homework can be a contentious issue and there are invariably a wide range of views among parents, students and staff. We are interested in your view on homework. I have included a survey with today’s newsletter. It is due back by the end of this term and results will be published in the 23rd April Newsletter.

Chocolate Drive
Every family will receive a box of Cadbury chocolate treats today. There are 40 chocolates in every box at $1.20 each which raises $48 for the whole box. We ask parents to support this major fundraiser, if possible please take the box along to work or ask neighbours to support this drive. The money raised will go towards the purchase of yard furniture and new take-home books for students.

Additional boxes can be collected from the Office; this will entitle the family to a raffle ticket in a draw for a wonderful hamper. The money and any unsold chocolates are due back first day Term 2.

Have a great week, Paul Mulroyan
Lost Property
Please check that your child’s jumpers and jackets are their own. We have students who are missing a few garments that are labelled with their names but are not in lost property. A Lost Property Box is located in both school buildings.

Year 6 Windcheaters
Orders will be made for autographed Year 6 windcheaters. This has been a tradition at the school for the last dozen years. The School Council has agreed to subsidise the cost of each windcheater by $15. Order forms will be sent home this week, I ask that orders are returned by Friday 27th March.

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?

Essendon Keilor College
East Keilor Campus
for students in Years 7 - 10

Open Day
Tuesday 31st March 2009
Parent Information Session
7.00 pm

Tour Times
View the Campus “at work”
9.15 am
11.30 am
1.45 pm

6.00 pm

featuring student performances

EKC is a 3 site multi campus college

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