Dear Parents,

The 2014 school year is coming to a close and I would like to say that we are winding up however the truth is that this is a very busy time for staff as they finalise reports and prepare for the following year. This is the second last newsletter for the year and features photographs from the excursion to Fairy Park in Anakie by students in Grades One and Two on Tuesday. I hope you enjoy the images.

Christmas Carols 6.30pm, this evening
Fingers crossed for fine weather tonight; students will be singing traditional Christmas carols and popular songs of the season under cover on the basketball court. The ‘stage’ will be near the BER with students sitting in grade level groups immediately in front of it. Parents are welcome to bring folding chairs or rugs and cushions and sit behind our students. The canteen will be selling hot-dogs, ice-cream and drinks. Our school captains will be collecting donations for the Kmart wishing tree during the concert.

Concert Videos
A free copy of the 2013 concert video is being sent home with this newsletter to families who had children performing in it. The company booked to tape the concert neglected to arrive and I have relied upon footage taken by other parents. The usable footage was taken by Hien Bui, a school council member. I thank Hien for providing this ‘front row’ view of the concert acts. We have managed to capture over 95% of the performances. I hope you enjoy seeing the colourful items again.

Parent Helpers morning tea
Parents who have assisted teachers or worked in the canteen or on subcommittees are welcome to the annual parent helper morning tea, 11am Wednesday 10th December. The morning tea will be provided by staff as our way of thanking you for your support.

Christmas Raffle
The wheelbarrow is in the foyer awaiting donations for our annual Christmas raffle. Tickets will be distributed on Friday. They are in books of fifteen and sell for $1 each or 3 tickets for $2. We expect to raise at least $10 per book. Tickets need to be returned by Friday 12th December, the winner will be drawn from the barrel during assembly on Monday 15th December.

Thank you School Council members
I would like to thank parents and staff who have formed the School Council this year: Tony Baldwin has presided over the meetings ably supported by Vice-president Rose Barletta-Ragusa and Treasurer Lisa Hills. Parent members are: Maria Giordmaina, Caroline Huseinovski, Melissa Pizzinga, Mai Tran, Hien Bui and Vesna Denkovski. Staff representatives are Carol Broadhurst and Joe Scarfo.

The Council has worked well in its governance role and has had active subcommittees overseeing finance, facilities, canteen, fundraising and most importantly, educational aspects of the school. The current Council will have its final meeting in February after which an election will be held for the 2015-16 Council.

I hope you have a great week

[Signature]
Grade 1/2 Excursion to Fairy Park
DATES TO REMEMBER
(Subject to change please check regularly)

December
Thursday 4th  Christmas Carols at School 6:30pm start
Students to arrive at 6:20pm
Friday 5th  Interschool Sport (Home)
Tuesday 9th  Grade 6 Transition at Secondary Schools
Last Day for Tuesday group music lessons
Wednesday 10th  Parent Helpers Morning Tea
Thursday 11th  Last Day for Thursday group music lessons
Last Day for Student Banking
Friday 12th  Student Reports sent home
Wednesday 17th  Grade 6 Graduation
Thursday 18th  Last Day for students 1:30 dismissal

January
Friday 23rd  Book Pack Day at school 8am - 2pm
Thursday 29th  First Day for all students 8:50 am start

Pupils of the week last week were:
Prep A - Melody Z
Prep B - Purva P
Prep/1 A - Anden N
1/2 A - Bovey H
1/2 B - Stephanie G
1/2 C - Albie S
1/2 D - Karunya K
3/4 A - Deanna H
3/4 B - Teli K
3/4 C - Nate S
4/5 A - Daniel C
5/6 A - Brielle E
5/6 B - Ali S
5/6 C - Daniel V

A colour version of this newsletter can also be found on our website at www.avondaleps.vic.edu.au

Creative Learning Centre

Creative Ballet & Contemporary Dance
Teacher: Robyn Richardson
A dynamic dance space where students develop both dance technique and creativity.

Pre-school children: Explore ballet skills through creative dance.
School age students: Develop strength, flexibility, alignment and musicality in classical ballet and contemporary dance.
All classes enjoy improvising and interacting with others in a supportive and friendly environment.

COME ALONG AND TRY A CLASS
Also workshops running in January!
www.creativelc.com.au  9375 7239

Looking for something for your children to do in the holidays?
Team Holiday will be running a school holiday program at Avondale Primary School.
Check out their website for details at www.teamholidays.com.au
Flyers are available at the office.

Book Reviews – Treasured and Tried
I Have a Dream - Dr Martin Luther King Jr.

Paintings by Kadir Nelson
On the 28th of August 1963, on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, Dr Martin Luther King gave a very powerful and memorable speech. His words are paired with Kadir Nelsons award winning pictures. Based on the themes of equality and freedom his words are just as relevant to day as they were then. The amazing illustrations bring this speech to life and truly move and inspire. Included is a cd of the original speech. A book to treasure for 5 year olds to Adults.
By Liz Oruba

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

School Office Hours
8:45am to 9:30am
2:30pm to 3:15pm
Please limit visits to office to these times

Notice to Parents
The school yard is supervised by a teacher on duty until 3:30pm. Students are expected to be picked up by this time.