Dear Parents,

Looking ahead to 2014
While teachers are finalising student reports, I am busy finalising staffing, teacher and student placements and room allocations. Next year we will grow by one class necessitating some changes. It has been like a jigsaw puzzle placing the pieces into the best fit possible. The school will continue to offer weekly lessons in Art, PE and LOTE (Italian). ICT lessons will be provided in a mix of specialist and in class integrated lessons. We recognise that IT is increasingly being utilized across the curriculum and should no longer be used only in isolation.

2014 book packs include access to online resources
Next year students will continue to have access to Mathletics at school and at home. The literacy program will be enhanced through online learning during and after school through the ABC’s Reading Eggs portal and the BrainPOP portal.

BrainPOP is a group of educational websites with over 1,000 short animated movies for students in grades K-12, together with quizzes, supplemental information and related materials, covering the subjects of science, social studies, English, mathematics, health, engineering and technology. You can tour the BrainPOP site by visiting: http://www.brainpop.com/about/tour/

Reading Eggs supports each child’s learning by offering individual, one-on-one lessons that allow children to progress at their own rate. The program has been developed by a highly experienced team of educational teachers, writers and developers. The ABC Reading Eggs program focuses on a core reading curriculum of phonics and sight words using skills and strategies essential for sustained reading success. It completely supports what children learn at school and will help to improve your child’s results at school it can be accessed via iPad or android tablet.

Congratulations to students learning piano and guitar
Yesterday students who learn an instrument at Avondale Primary had the challenging experience of performing in front of their peers. Maxine Shell, our piano instructor, views the concerts as a very important part of their curriculum. ‘It not only motivates students to learn a piece thoroughly, it also gives them experience in performing in front of an audience.’

I think that the standard of performance is rising. There are more accomplished performances by students this year than there were several years ago. I heartily congratulate Maxine Shell and Michelle Di Maria on the programs they provide.

Instrumental lessons are available for students from Grades one to six. The lessons are taken weekly in groups of four or five; the better students practise playing daily.

Film Night to go ahead
A note will go home on Monday with the name of the film to be screened on the basketball court, 8pm, Friday 6 December. There will be drinks and snacks available and families are encouraged to bring seats, bean-bags or picnic rugs. Teachers will not be supervising students – parents are not to ‘leave’ their children as there are no arrangements for supervision at the end of the film.

Christmas Hamper
On Monday a wheelbarrow will be placed in the foyer to be filled with donations for the annual Christmas Hamper. Families are asked to donate items that will not deteriorate before Christmas.

Konnective – A way to keep informed
If you download the free Konnective app to your smart phone, you will be able to receive updates regularly from the school. This is proving to be valuable when the unexpected occurs. A recent reminder was about Lowes 20% discount day on school uniforms. Over $1,000 was spent saving parents around $200.

Have a great week
GRADE 1/2 VISIT TO QUEENSLIFF MARINE DISCOVERY CENTRE
December
Wednesday 4th  Music Students to visit Ron Conn Centre
Thursday 5th  Multicultural Day
Friday 6th  Movie Night Fundraiser
Tuesday 10th  Grade 6 students Orientation Day at Sec. Schools
Wednesday 11th  Parent Helper Morning Tea; Mr H’s retirement function
Thursday 12th  Library Books are due back at school
Friday 13th  Student Reports go home
Wednesday 18th  Grade 6 Graduation
Thursday 19th  Last Day for Students 1:30pm Finish

January 2014
Friday 24th  Book Pack Day 8am-2pm
Wednesday 29th  Grade 1-6 Students return 8:50am
Thursday 30th  Preps first day 8:50am

A Colour version of this newsletters can also be found on our website at www.avondale.ps.vic.edu.au

Wine Orders
Please return your Wine order tomorrow. No late orders can be accepted. Delivery will be before Christmas.
Thank you to Parents who have already supported this fundraiser.
The Fundraising Team

Interschool sport results from round last Friday against Kensington P.S.

European Handball
Boys – Avondale 21 def Kensington 12
Girls – Avondale 11 def Kensington 4

Rounders
Kensington 26 def Avondale 2

Soccer
Boys - Kensington 6 def Avondale 0
Girls - Kensington 10 def Avondale 0

Essendon Keilor College’s 20th Anniversary Celebration
Essendon Campus
Saturday, 30th November, 2013
3 - 6pm

There will be live music, networking opportunities and children’s entertainment as well as light refreshments and memorabilia available for purchase.

Does your child love performing?
Are you looking for an extra-curricular activity which helps develop your child’s confidence?
Does your child want to learn how to develop their performance skills and become more outgoing? We provide fun, engaging and creative weekly classes for kids aged 3 to 16 years. Our classes offer a supportive environment where students can develop communication skills, creativity, and confidence. Ranging from Acting & Drama to Modelling & Confidence as well as Fun Club for preschoolers, we have a variety of classes to suit your little performer’s passion. Our industry trained tutoring staff are actively engaged in the entertainment industry and have extensive experience working with children and teens. We are committed to developing the self confidence and creativity of young Australians and look forward to working with your child to help nurture and build upon their natural creativity and performance skills!
Places are limited for Term 1 2014 - call 1300 658 016 to secure your spot! www.aspireentertainment.com.au

2014 TERM DATES
Term 1: 29th January to 4th April
Term 2: 22nd April to 27th June
Term 3: 14th July to 19th September
Term 4: 6th October to 19th December

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

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.

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