



**VISION STATEMENT:** Avondale Primary School; a community that strives for excellence through high quality learning, engagement and wellbeing for all.

**VALUES:** Learning, Respect, Responsibility

### Acknowledgement of Country

*We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land on which we live and learn.*

*We also pay our respect to the elders past, present and emerging of the Kulin nation and extend that respect to the other Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people present.*

Artwork by Arkie Barton

Dear Parents/Carers,

THANK YOU to our school community for your ongoing support throughout 2023. It was fantastic to have so many of you celebrate this with our parent helper/volunteer morning tea on Monday with our staff saying THANK YOU and providing morning tea. Our Student Representative Council also shared certificates of appreciation.

It is with great pride that we share NAPLAN school-level results that were over the weekend through the Herald Sun. It's the first time NAPLAN schoolwide results have been published in the same year the test was conducted, based on Grade 5 NAPLAN results.

Across all Western Melbourne schools, Avondale Primary ranked number 16 out of over 200 schools, and across all Victorian primary schools, Avondale Primary ranked 243 out of over 1800 schools. What a great way to bring our 2023 school year to a finish.

At Avondale Primary School our grades across each year level represent a range of student academic, social, emotional, psychological and physical wellbeing elements.

Factors considered when allocating students to classes are:

- Academic performance
- Social and emotional development
- Gender balance
- Adjustments and support required for learning
- Medical conditions/ Recommendations of Allied Health services
- Previous class placements

Grade lists are created and reviewed on multiple occasions across Term 4 by classroom teachers, specialist teachers, education support staff and the School Improvement Team before grades are finalised.

Yesterday there was a buzz of excitement throughout our Step up morning with our students meeting their teachers, engaging with learning, building relationships with classmates and visiting their new learning spaces for 2024. This information was shared with families via a letter that went home with students yesterday.

### IMPORTANT DATES

<b>Wednesday December 20</b>	<b>Last day term 4, 2023 Whole school Assembly at 1.00pm  Early finish 1.15pm</b>
<b>Monday January 29</b>	<b>Curriculum Day NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL</b>
<b>Tuesday January 30</b>	<b>Curriculum Day NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL</b>
<b>Wednesday January 31</b>	<b>First day of school for Foundation – Grade 6 students</b>

We look forward to 2024 and encourage families to support their children with a positive mindset and resilience in preparation for a successful and engaging start to the new year.

## **2024 Classes and Locations**

### **Foundation**

Foundation A - Natalie Lo Grasso - Learning Community 2 – Room 1

Foundation B - Cresta Sammut - Learning Community 2 – Room 2

Foundation C - Jessica Kinniburgh - Learning Community 2 – Room 3

Foundation D - Emily Markham - Learning Community 2 – Room 4

### **Grade 1**

1A - Jennifer Tombs - Learning Community 1– Room 7

1B - Elle Kimpton - Learning Community 1– Room 8

1C - Frances Ferraro (M, F) and Tara Glanfield (Tu, W, Th) - Learning Community 1– Room 9

### **Grade 2**

2A - Kate Nicolaou - Learning Community 4 – Room 14

2B - Sarah Pace - Learning Community 4 – Room 15

2C - Rohini Brown - Learning Community 4 – Room 7a

### **Grade 3**

3A - Leisha Watson (M, Tu, Th, F) and Teriann Bryers (W) - Learning Community 4 - Room 8

3B - Ebony Matthews - Learning Community 4 - Room 9

3C - David Boston - Learning Community 4 - Room 10

### **Grade 4**

4A - Maria Roach - Learning Community 4 - Room 12a

4B - Drew Gordon - Learning Community 4 - Room 18a

4C - Olympia Christodoulides 0.6 (M, Tu, W) - Krystal Dion (Th, F) Learning Community 4 - Room 18b

### **Grade 5/6**

5/6A- Dean Barkell - Learning Community 1– Room 10,

5/6B - Elly Blakely - Learning Community 1– Room 11

5/6C - Bettina Handley - Learning Community 1– Room 12

5/6D - Karen Mackintosh - Learning Community 1 – Room 6

5/6E - Patrick Calleja - Learning Community 1 – Room 5

### **Specialists**

Visual Art – Michelle Portelli

Performing Arts – Sharon Craggill

Science – Lisa Needham

Physical Education – Tricia Devine

LOTE – AUSLAN – Kendall Lumby

Tutor Learning – Amy Lane

Intervention – Billie Jean Fitcher

### **Administration Staff**

Business Managers – Maria Zerowsky and Naomi Reeves

Administration – Naomi Reeves

Library and Office Administration – Sharon Di Pastena

Canteen Manager – Dianne Cunningham

Maintenance – Peter Gagliardi

## Education Support Staff

Evangelin Navin, Sandra Gulmen, Chris Greco, Frances Cacopardo, Christine Ho, Christina Bonnici, Seth Catania, Narelle Sharman, Silvana Fedele, Sam Volling, Jenny Cutri, Melissa Lawry, Scarlett Besiroglou

## School Improvement Team

Principal – Jill Benham

Assistant Principal – Jenna Heywood

Learning Specialist (Disability Inclusion) – Frances Ferraro

Learning Specialist (Curriculum and Pedagogy) – Sarah Carroll

Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader – Teriann Bryers

We would like to thank and acknowledge staff who have worked with us and are leaving Avondale PS at the end of 2023. Simmin Almassi, Pilar Martinez, Rosemary Nojdek, Claire Sturrock, Holly Lancashire and Dorothy Cheney. Christopher Stewart will also be taking leave in 2024.

Ms Kim Guthrie officially retired in November, 2023. Mrs Carol Broadhurst is officially retiring on January 30, 2024. We thank both Kim and Carol for their outstanding contribution to education with over thirty years of working with the Department of Education, many of these years teaching at Avondale Primary School.

Please see our Student of the Week recipients for Week 11, Term 4 below.

## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK – Term Four: Week 11

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	VALUE Respect Responsibility Learning	DEMONSTRATED WHEN
Emily	Foundation A	Respect	For being a kind and helpful class member.
Danna M	Foundation B	Respect	For always helping out around the classroom. Danna you are a star!
Sotiri	Foundation C	Respect	For always being a helpful and friendly class member. Keep it up Sotiri!!
Roshia P	1A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being a responsible, respectful learner all year. You're a superstar Roshia, well done!
Isaac P	1B	Respect Responsibility Learning	Weel done for being so joyful, positive, inclusive and for always doing your best. Amazing!
Ann N	1C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always being responsible, respectful to her peers and continuously eager to learn. A fantastic year! Amazing effort Ann, well done!
Max P	2A	Respect Learning	For your growing confidence to share ideas in class discussions and respectfully listening to other people's opinions.
Eleanor P	2B	Respect Responsibility	For being a respectful and responsible member of 2B. Well done Eleanor.
All students in 2C	2C	Respect Responsibility	For their participation, high energy and cooperation for the End of Year celebration song, Waka Waka! We are so proud of you all.

Anouk M	3A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being a responsible, respectful learner by always showing kindness to others and completing her set tasks to an excellent standard all year.
All of 3B	3B	Respect Responsibility Learning	For your amazing effort and participation in our End of Year Celebration. I loved how everyone gave their best to support each other. Well Done
Josephine A	3C	Learning	For consistently applying amazing effort into all your learning this term. Well done Josephine!
Raniya T	4A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For her ongoing commitment to think outside the box, work hard and have fun.
Violet	4B	Respect	For always treating others with kindness and respect.
Anastasia	4C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For having confidence in presenting the 'Our Island Home' project. Well done Anastasia.
Lucas	5/6A	Learning	For completing an outstanding business project. The level of detail you included is exceptional. Well done mate.
Sidney	5/6B	Respect Responsibility Learning	For putting in an amazing effort on his Book Review. You showed passion for your favourite book and displayed it wonderfully.
Victoria V	5/6C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For continuing to show patience and respect for others in and out of the classroom. Your kind, calm presence is always appreciated. Well done!
Kirat S	5/6D	Respect Responsibility Learning	For all approaching his learning with a great sense of humour and displaying tremendous respect for his peers and teachers. Well done on a great year.
Grade 5/6 E	5/6E	Respect Responsibility Learning	Grade 6 for their amazing performance at Graduation and their enthusiasm for the Amazing Race.  Grade 5 for their flexibility, patience and understanding during the past week.
Mason G 5/6B	Performing Arts	Respect Responsibility Learning	Thank you for your dedication and enthusiasm in leading your performance group, displaying all the elements of Performing Arts.
Ashley V (4C) Violet P (4B) Christina S (4C) Nicola K (4C)	Visual Arts	Respect Responsibility	For volunteering your time to help in the Art room. Thank you for your assistance this year.
Ayoub M Foundation A	Science F-2	Respect Responsibility Learning	For coming to Science every lesson and trying your absolute best. Thank you Ayoub, you've been such a lovely member of our Science class.
Dante 3A	Science 3-6	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always being a respectful member of the class and his excellent effort creating his poster. Well done Dante!
Lily T	Italian F-2	Learning	For a fantastic year of Italian. Never stop practising. Forza Lily!

Foundation A			
Ava V 3A	Italian 3-6	Learning	For a fantastic year of Italian and always showing lots of enthusiasm towards the Italian Language. Never stop practising! Forza Ava!
Alysha T 2C	PE F-2	Learning	For being an awesome learner throughout the year, always persisting through each lesson.
Vivian L 56E	PE 3-6	Learning	For having a great year in PE! Always trying your best and demonstrating respectful behaviours.

We look forward to another wonderful year of learning. Have a lovely time with family and friends over the school holidays.

Stay safe, stay healthy,

Jill Benham, Principal and Jenna Heywood, Assistant Principal