



Achievement, Confidence & Pride

Thursday 12 December

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Dear Parents,

Former students Zoe Beasley, Innayat Brar and Alana Brophy enter prestigious program

Zoe, Innayat and Alana are former students of Avondale Primary who attend three different, local secondary colleges. Each has been selected for the 2019 University of Melbourne's **Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program**. This year the program accepted 500 of Victoria's most talented secondary students from 1800 applicants. Applicants are nominated by their secondary school.

Professor Kwong Lee Dow is a former University Vice-Chancellor, a distinguished education scholar and active contributor to curriculum reforms. Young Scholars who achieve an ATAR/notional ATAR of 95.00+, will be guaranteed a place at Melbourne in Arts, Biomedicine, Commerce, Design or Science, subject to meeting course prerequisites.

We wish our three high achieving former students well for their future studies.

Thank you to our parent helpers

Yesterday we thanked our many parent helpers who assisted students throughout 2019. Staff brought morning tea as a gesture of thanks. I appreciate the many parents who assisted during the year, but had work commitments and were unable to attend. Students will bring home a certificate of appreciation to parents and grandparents whose name was read out during the celebration.

Staff changes at Avondale for 2019

Farewell to Billie Jean Fitcher who has taught Grade 3/4 at Avondale for the last two years. Billie Jean will be supporting her daughter who is entering the final years of secondary education. **Joanne Aranyi**, who was on leave this year, is also changing her career. We say farewell to **Danni McLaren** who took up a temporary teaching role in Shepparton during 2019 and has now been appointed to an ongoing position. Many thanks to our departing staff for your contribution.

Welcome to Elle Kimpton who will be teaching Grade 2 next year. Elle has worked here as a relief teacher and spent Tuesday planning next term's curriculum program with the other Year Two teachers. I also welcome **Ethan Smith** who will teach with the Grade 5/6 team, he planned with the 5/6 teaching team earlier this week. Please welcome Elle and Ethan when you meet them next year.



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2020 grade and specialist teachers

Prep	Ms. Zappia Ms. Lo Grasso, Ms. Nikolaou, and Ms. Collins
One	Ms. Ferraro, Ms. Glanfield/Ms. Carroll and Ms. Watson
Two	Ms. Roach, Ms. Gribbin, Ms. Kimpton and Ms. Siebert
Three / Four	Ms. Chaouk, Ms. McGrath, Ms. Handley, and Ms. Gerace
Four / Five	Ms. Needham
Five / Six	Mr. Lumby, Mr. Smith, Ms. Heywood/Ms. Guthrie and Mr. Barkell
Arts	Ms. Farrell / Ms. Portelli
Italian	Mr. Boffa,
Phys. Ed	Mr. Cleary
Welfare	Ms. Broadhurst

Last school day for students: Thursday 19 December

Thursday 19 December is the final day for students this year. There will be a 1 pm assembly for a 1:15 dismissal on the basketball court. 2020 student captains will be announced and Year 6 students will be farewelled as they walk down the avenue of honour. Parents are able to take students home following assembly.

Out of Hours School Care

Aftercare starts immediately after assembly on Thursday 19 December; students will be supervised until 6 pm.

Holiday Program based at St Martin De Porres ...

Sonya Coleman, director of *Community OHSC Services*, informed me that the holiday program will start on Friday 20 December. It will be based at St Martin De Porres Primary School. Further details about the program can be obtained by calling 0405 529 972. You can enrol your child by visiting <https://www.communityohscservices.com>

Year 6 Graduation

Students will have their graduation ceremony at St Bernard's Auditorium on Wednesday 18 December. Students are asked to arrive by 6:45 for a 7 pm start. This is a celebration of their seven years of growth in a primary school. Students will share memories of their school life and perform for their parents and family.

On Thursday at 1:15 pm, we will celebrate each Year 6 student as they walk down an avenue of honour, created by younger peers, as they leave Avondale Primary as a student, for the last time.



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Accessing school grounds over the holidays

The pedestrian gates will be open over the summer break. Families are welcome to use our school's sporting and play equipment. Please note that vehicle access gates and the pedestrian gate to Robson Avenue (East) will be locked.

2020 School Fees payment options

Parent payments for 2020 will be \$260 per student. This will cover students' *essential learning* items. You will be able to pay via the Compass app from Monday 20 January.

Parents who are unable to make payment via Compass can still pay at the school on Friday 24 January. The other payment options are EFTPOS or cash. Please note that B-Pay is no longer available. A letter will be sent home next week with more details about the fees.

Next year, all student supplies and class bulk supplies will be deposited directly into your child's class ready for their first day.

Help for parents to keep children safe online

During the school holidays, children will have increased opportunities to access the web. *Internetmatters.org* is a free UK web site dedicated to assisting parents manage their child's internet activities.

Children use the internet in different ways depending on their age and so this site provides checklists for parents that give you top tips on how to help your child stay safe. Link: <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/esafety-leaflets-resources/>

Three watches found in school yard

There are three watches that have been handed into the office that still remain unclaimed. If your child has lost a watch this year, please call into the office and if your description matches one of the watches, it will be returned to you.

Christmas Raffle drawn Monday 16th December at 9am

I wish to thank families who generously supported this year's Christmas raffle. There are seven fantastic prizes; the first prize is a wheelbarrow and laundry basket full of goodies. There are six additional laundry baskets full of Christmas presents for the next six winning tickets. Ticket sales close tomorrow, Friday 13th December.



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You can use Compass to check your email address

Please take a moment to check that the school has your current email address by logging into compass. The Semester Two reports will be distributed to parents as PDF files via email. Written reports are available on request.

Avondale will communicate with you via Compass from the start of 2020

From the end of next week we will be using **Compass to send reminders** to families about upcoming events. **FlexiBuzz will no longer be used for this purpose.** Please make sure you have logged in using your unique ID and username: [avondaleps-vic.compass.education](https://www.avondaleps.vic.edu.au/page/52/Compass-School-Manager-and-Parent-Portal)

Please visit our school website for more information:

<https://www.avondaleps.vic.edu.au/page/52/Compass-School-Manager-and-Parent-Portal>

If you have misplaced your letter with your unique username and password, please contact the school office on 9318 1755.

December and January Diary

December

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fri 13 | Student End of Year reports emailed home |
| Wed 18 | Year Six students Bowling Excursion
Year Six students' graduation (St Bernard's College) |
| Thurs 19 | Students' last day – Assembly 1pm Year 6 farewell 1:15pm |

January

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon 13 | Parents receive Compass log in details |
| Mon 20 | Online payment of school fees via Compass starts today |
| Fri 24 | Office open for cash payment of fees. |
| Wed 29 | Students in Grades 1 – 6 start |



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Pupils of the Week – Awarded Friday 6 December

Prep A – Anton Q

Prep B – Raniya T

Prep C – Elijah H

Prep D – Lucas N

One A – Isabel S

One B – Mila B

One C –

Two A – Kazem K

Two B – Riria O

1/2 A – Luki S

3/4 A – Deanna L

3/4 B – Mason B

3/4 C – Jared M

3/4 D – Kaan D

4/5A –

5/6 C – Silvia L

5/6 A – Chrissie K

5/6D –

5/6 B – Chloe H

LOTE – Taylor W

Farewell and thank you

It has been an honour to be principal of this fantastic school for the last 19 years. I have looked forward to coming to work every day. The interactions with caring and passionate teachers who genuinely strive to give every student a high quality education is energising.

It has been a privilege to hold this position of responsibility within the Avondale Heights community and to be entrusted with the education and welfare of our youngest members.

To the families who have provided so much support over the years I wish to say a heart-felt thank you. I wish you well in 2020 and beyond.

Paul Mulroyan

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
to all in our school community.**

