



Achievement, Confidence & Pride

Thursday 21 November

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Retirement Announcement

It is with sadness and a tinge of excitement that I inform parents and students of Avondale Primary School that I will retire from the Education Department, effectively, at the end of this year. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to fill the role of principal in this wonderful school.

During the last 19 years, I have been well supported by competent and caring staff and school council members who are committed to improving the education of every student.

It has been an honour to be a partner with parents in developing the skills, knowledge, attitudes and self-confidence of every child.

Our students continue to demonstrate the philosophy and values that our school community holds dear. I am confident that Avondale Primary will continue to maintain high standards and expectations and make solid progress towards further improvement.

Removal of oil storage tanks starts today

When this school was built in 1960 oil was used to heat the school. Storage tanks were buried beneath the south facing entrances. These tanks are no longer needed and the government has implemented a program to remove oil tanks from all schools.

The project started at Avondale Primary today. I expect the workers and their machinery will be on site for three weeks to complete the removal and rehabilitate the affected areas.

Mr Scarfo is consulting with the project manager to ensure safe practices are observed and OHS obligations are met.

Please note that part of the staff car park is being used to house equipment and therefore fewer car parks will be available in Sydney Street during the works. Alternative car parks are along Wood Street, behind the supermarket and near the library / gymnasium.

Flexibuzz to close on Thursday 5 December

I wish to inform parents that you will no longer be able to notify the school of student absences on Flexibuzz from Thursday 5 December. Compass will be the main communication platform from that date.

The newsletter will be distributed to parents via Compass instead of Flexibuzz. If you have any questions or concerns. Please contact the office.



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School Council News:

Thank you council members

The School Council had its final meeting for 2020 on Tuesday. I wish to acknowledge the contribution made by council members and thank them for their diligence in their oversight of the school's finances and policies. A highlight of the year was the presentation of a plan for new school buildings to James Merlino, Minister for Education and Ben Carroll, Member for Niddrie, who facilitated the minister's visit.

2020 School and Book Pack payments

School Council has decided that *the 2020 parent payments will remain at \$260 - the same as in 2019*. There is also an additional voluntary payment of \$20 per family which assists with the maintenance of school gardens and grounds.

Parent payment day will be Friday, 24th January. Parents will no longer need to attend the school on a "Book Pack" day as this can be inconvenient for many families. Parents can make their payment for book packs and student supplies on the 24th January by using Compass.

Student book packs and bulk supplies will be delivered directly to the classrooms removing the need for double handling.

EFTPOS payments can still be made in person by attending the school on Friday, 24th of January.

More information about using Compass for parent payments on the 24th of January will be communicated to you by the end of the year.

Subcommittee members

Thank you to the following parents who contributed regularly to one or more of the council's five subcommittees: **Jac Coleman, Rachelle Odewahn, and Toni Reynes** (Education), **Lance Ferguson, Tony Baldwin, and Andrew Barker** (Facilities), **Ajay Bhargava, Lance Ferguson, and Andrew Lai** (Finance), **Dani Parisi, Haroula Koucoulis, Emma Nicolson, Claire Frigo, and Kylie Lesueur** (Fundraising), **Isabelle Sawtell, Andrew Lai** (Canteen).

Fencing behind new classrooms

Council approved the erection of a fence at either end of the new relocatable classrooms to prevent access into that area during recess periods, Yard Duty teachers can easily monitor students at the front of the school.

Does the school have your current email address?

This semester the school will distribute **student reports** as a PDF file attached to an email on **Friday 13th December**. Please ensure that the school has your current contact details and **email address**. Parents who would like a printed copy of the report can request this at the office.

2020 prep students

Next year's preps have had two transition experiences in our Prep classrooms. Parents have responded positively to the information and networking sessions lead by Jenna Haywood.



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In 2020, all Prep students will have their individual assessment with their teacher before starting school full time.

Every Prep student will be given an hour to meet their teacher during the first six days of Term One. The assessments will be an accurate indication of students' beginning competencies and allow teachers to more accurately structure learning activities for their grade.

Prep students will start their full time attendance on Thursday 6th February.

Junior Athletics Day - Friday 6th December

The Junior Athletics Day will be held on Friday 6th December. These sports focus upon participation rather than competition. Every students will receive a ribbon at the end of the sports. The events will be held on the school oval and finish at lunchtime. Parents are welcome to attend, assist if possible and enjoy the day.

Lost Property

This is a photo of the Building B lost property box taken this morning. As you can see it is overflowing with unclaimed uniforms.

I suspect it cost parents hundreds of dollars of to purchase these items.

If your child is missing articles of clothing, please pop in before the end of the school year to reclaim their uniform.

Unclaimed items at the end of the year will be washed and if suitable, included in the second-hand uniform shop.



Inclement weather protocol

When it is raining or the temperature exceeds 35C at the [Weather Bureau's Essendon Airport monitoring station](#), an inclement weather timetable is declared. Students remain in their classes during the recess and lunch breaks, however they are permitted to visit the canteen.



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Book Reviews –Treasured and Tried

I, Cosmo by Carlie Sorosiak

This is a heart-warming story written from the perspective of Cosmo, an elderly Golden Retriever, and his quest to stop his family from falling apart, as well as learn to dance and eat lots of bacon. Cosmo is totally attuned and dedicated to his family especially 12 year old Max. Max and his sister Emmaline have noticed their parent's arguments' escalating and they worry about their family falling apart. Also Uncle Reggie, a source of joy, has come to stay after returning from the Afghanistan war. As Cosmo narrates the story we recognise the deep warm bond between Cosmo and Max. Best for 8 to 12 year olds. By Liz Oruba



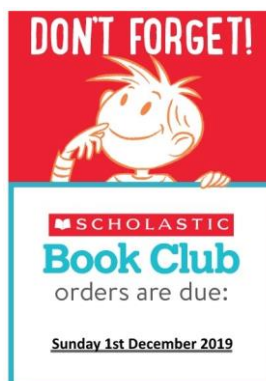
Book Club News Order forms have been distributed, orders close Sunday 1 December.

The **EASIEST** way for parents to order and pay for **Book Club!**

Linked **O**nline **O**rdering & **P**ayment platform

It's easy to order and pay online for your child's **Book Club** order using your credit card. Your order will electronically be linked to your school when you order and pay by **LOOP**.

Also available as an app:





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November - December Diary

November

- Thurs 21 Selected Music Students to visit Ron Conn Centre
2020 Prep Transition Session #2 – 9:15-10:15am
- Fri 22 & 29 Second Hand Uniform Sales 8:30-9am

December

- Wed 4 Prep Zoo Excursion
- Thurs 5 Music Concerts: 3/4A & B and 4/5A
- Fri 6th Junior Athletics Day
- Tue 10 Transition Day for new students Yrs. 1-6 in 2020 and Year 6 Orientation Day
- Wed 11 Parent Helpers Morning Tea
- Thurs. 12 Music Concerts: 1/2A, 2A & 2B, 3/4C & 3/4D and 5/6s
- Fri 13 Student End of Year reports emailed home
- Wed 18 Year Six students graduation (St Bernard’s College)
- Thurs 19 Students’ last day - Assembly

Pupils of the Week – Awarded Friday 15 November

- Prep A** – Hayley C
- Prep B** – Billy H
- Prep C** – Liam N
- Prep D** – Dante Q

- One A** – Joanna T
- One B** – D’Lae M
- One C** –
- Two A** – Kzem K
- Two B** – Maika H & Derek L
- 1/2 A** – Isabel N

- 3/4 A** – *3/4 students*
- 3/4 B** – *on*
- 3/4 C** – *camp*
- 3/4 D** – *this week*

- 4/5A** –
- 5/6 C** – Jaycob B

- 5/6 A** –
- 5/6D** – Danika G

- 5/6 B** – Taimur K
- LOTE** – Victoria F (1B)



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Library Stocktake Timeline

Dear Parents and Students,

As the Library is starting the annual stocktake, we would appreciate the return of the school library books in the following order:

- **Non-fiction Books** due back **Friday 29th Nov.**
- **Fiction Books** due back **Friday 6th Dec.**
- **Picture Books** due back **Friday 13th Dec.**



Please note, borrowing from the library will cease on Friday 29th November 2019.



Save money –

Label your belongings.

- Windcheaters
- Jackets
- Coats
- Hats
- Lunch boxes
- Drink containers



Please check the Lost Property boxes if you have missing uniform pieces.

Paul Mulroyan.