



Achievement, Confidence & Pride

Thursday, 10th September 2020.

School Council President announcement.

Dear Avondale school community,
I am pleased to announce that Avondale Primary will have a new principal from term 4 – Jill Benham. We are looking forward to having Jill join our school community and hope everyone will make her feel welcome. Jill has kindly provided a little introduction of herself below.

Isabelle Sawtell

I feel very privileged and excited to have been appointed as Principal at Avondale Primary School. I firmly believe that every student achieves their personal best in a safe, supportive and engaging learning environment, which is what we will promote together.



Professionalism, approachability, passion, optimism, enthusiasm and confidentiality are traits that I consistently demonstrate, alongside living the Avondale values of Respect, Cooperation, Honesty and Integrity every day.

When I am not at school, some of my favourite things to do include spending time with my husband Tony and two daughters, Ellie and Tayla, reading, cooking, doing jigsaw puzzles and walking our family dog, Harper.

I can't wait to meet all of our students, staff and families and work collaboratively to build strong and supportive relationships with the school community throughout Term 4 and beyond. Getting to know you and your child/ren well is my goal.

*I look forward to meeting you all in Term 4 and building great things together 😊
Stay safe, stay well,*

*Jill Benham
Principal
Avondale Primary School*

A CONVERSATION CAN CHANGE A LIFE

Today is R U OK? Day. R U OK? Connect with the people around you and start a conversation with anyone who may be struggling with life.

You don't need to be an expert to reach out - just a good friend and a great listener.

Use these four steps and have a conversation that could change a life:

1. Ask R U OK?
2. Listen
3. Encourage action
4. Check in

In a year like no other it is important to check in with those around you to see how they are going.

New Build Update

During our weekly meeting this week we were able to see the development of the classrooms so we are getting to the exciting bit of the design process. This is really early stage development but things are progressing quickly.

Dr Bette Prange **Acting Principal**

Inspirational Quote:

“There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure.” – Colin Powell.



The Art of Isolation – Grade 2

From Einstein to J.R Tolkien, imagination is widely recognised as one of the most powerful tools of the mind. It allows us to dream of possibilities; it takes us places. Great things can happen upon the wings of imagination:

- we can become inventors, creators, designers,
- we can solve problems,
- we can explore situations vicariously and learn about ourselves and others, and
- we can escape to other realms.

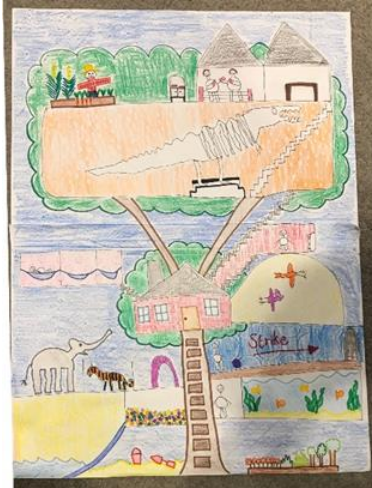


It is for this last reason that Grade 2's were given the art task of using their imaginations to draw their dream tree house. How better to escape the confines of our walls in lockdown?

The Grade 2 artists rose to the challenge and designed some incredible tree houses. They featured plane landing strips (Jed), laser-protected money trees (Thomas), swimming pools with flying foxes and basketball hoops overhead (Mason), vegie gardens (Jess), ball-pits (Lam), duck ponds (Tanishka) and enough ladders, spiral staircases, suspension bridges, hammocks and swings to make you dizzy.

Here is just a taste (L to R: Jess, Vienne, Eleni, Cohen, Lam, Sura, Haris, Tanishka, Arden, Jed):

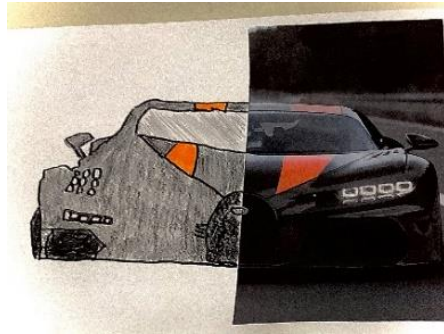
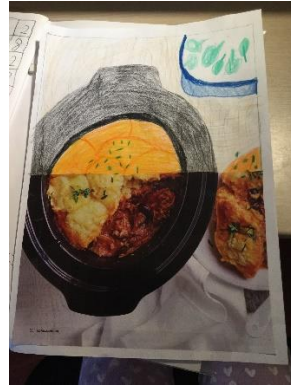




Moving on from imaginative drawing, the Grade 2's have been focused on honing their observational drawing skills. Drawing is like any skill: the more we practise, the better we get. The best way to practise is to look, look, look (preferably at real life objects). We need to train our eye to see the outlines and shapes of the objects we're drawing, and train our drawing hand to create these lines and shapes that we're seeing. It is about establishing a connection between seeing and drawing.

We have used our art meetings to do quick 2-minute observational drawings of objects, such as mugs and toilet rolls. Students have been encouraged to draw quickly, going over and 'adjusting their lines' (but not with a rubber!) until their drawing represents their object more accurately. We have had some fun with missing half drawings and have also been inspired by the drawings of Christoph Niemann, who incorporates everyday objects into his drawings. Some examples of these tasks are included below. (Missing Half Drawings: Aleen, Taylor, Abigail, James. Christoph Niemann drawings: Harris, Mila, Salina Affan).

Your imaginations are exciting and your drawing skills improving beautifully Grade 2. Keep nurturing these precious skills. **Mrs Farrell**

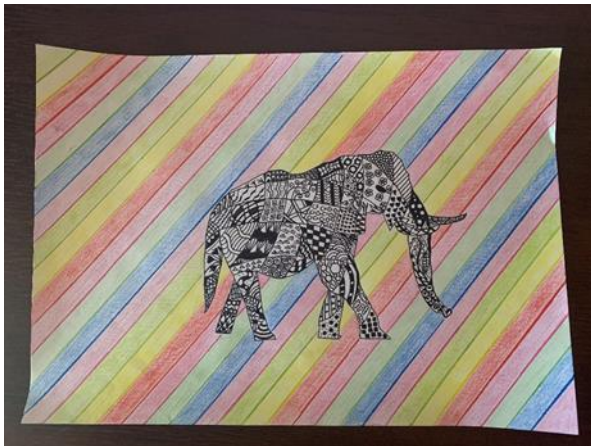




Art News Grade 5/6

This term students in the senior grades have been learning about zentangles. The zentangle method is a relaxing and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structure patterns. These structured patterns are called tangles. Tangles are created by using a combination of dots, lines, and simple curved and s curves. These patterns are usually drawn on small pieces of paper called 'tiles'. They are called tiles because they are then assembled into mosaics.
Ms Portelli

Here are some of the results by grade 5/6 -



Alexander T. 5/6D



Norvelle L. 5/6B



Alexia V 5/6D



Gabriel F 5/6D



Jasmyn G 5/6D



Munji R 5/6A



Liam 5/6C



Stella L 5/6A



Deanna L 5/6C

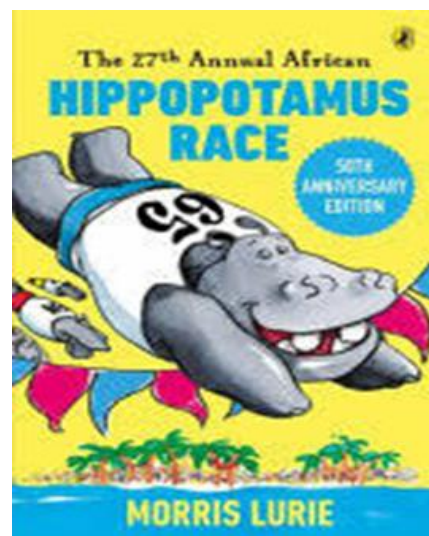
Book Reviews – Tried and Treasured

The 27th Annual African Hippopotamus Race

By Morris Lurie

This book was written in 1969, but like all good stories, it's timeless.

Edward the hippopotamus has always been a great swimmer and at eight years of age, his grandfather encourages Edward to train and enter the prestigious 27th Annual Hippopotamus Race held on the Zamboola River. Edward is determined and trains intensely. Edward and his family drive down to the carnival in their converted bus and the atmosphere is mesmerising. The race starts with eighty-five contestants, for some it is gruelling, after a few race episodes and a lot of persistence Edward is finally declared the the winner. The story definitely highlights that challenges require persistence, but making positive choices can make you a winner.



By Liz Oruba



Saving (Y)our World instalment 21: Other greenhouse gases by: Morrigan R

I have been talking a lot about carbon dioxide (CO₂) recently, but what about other harmful greenhouse gasses? Today we will explore methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (NO) the 2nd and 3rd most abundant and potentially damaging greenhouse gasses emitted by human activity.

Methane is one of the most well-known greenhouse gasses after carbon dioxide because of its common appearance in the media. Methane is a gas that comes from a variety of sources, including animal (mainly livestock) flatulence. Methane is a bad gas because of its ability to trap heat in the atmosphere, contributing greatly to global warming. The worst livestock emitter of methane is the cow, who we heavily rely on for meat and milk, but the growth in cow numbers globally, as more and more people adopt a “western” diet, has seen the amount of methane from agriculture increase dramatically in the last 20-30 years. Methane can also come from drilling into the ground to reach natural gas, referred to as fugitive emissions. People claim that natural gas is cleaner than other fossil fuels, like oil and coal, all the while ignoring the methane seeping into the atmosphere. Indeed, once these emissions are considered, natural gas can be the dirtiest greenhouse gas emitting fossil fuel of all! So, when the government tells us that natural gas is their preferred technology to help the economy recover after Covid-19, be aware that they are really telling us “we want to lock in climate change”. Large garbage dumps contaminate the atmosphere with methane as well. But in this case, we can trap it and burn it to create energy. While this still warms the atmosphere (the methane turns into carbon dioxide when burned), it’s still an improvement because methane is a stronger greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide. That’s because methane’s ability to trap heat is approximately 84X more powerful than carbon dioxide’s, although methane doesn’t stay in the atmosphere as long, so taking this into account, it’s only about 25X more potent (still a lot!).

Nitrous oxide is lesser known than methane and carbon dioxide, but it is more harmful than both of them. With an effect around 300X more powerful than carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide is something we need to be very careful about. Although there isn’t very much nitrous oxide emitted, the harmful gas stays in the atmosphere for 120 years! That’s a very long time for such a harmful gas to be in our atmosphere. This greenhouse gas can be emitted by agriculture, wastewater management and the burning of fossil fuels. Because we emit a lot less of this gas, we tend not to pay as much attention to it, but because it is so powerful and stays in the atmosphere for so long, it’s really important we work hard to limit emissions of this gas.

I hope you have a better understanding of the complex problem of climate change. While we often talk only about carbon dioxide, there are other gasses we need to think about too. Only when we reduce all of these emissions to “net 0” will we finally stop impacting on Earth’s climate and give the atmosphere a chance to heal.

So, you have come to the end of this week’s instalment of Saving (Y)our World. Be sure to join me next time for instalment 22: climate change denial!

“The gas industry can no longer hide behind burping cows. The gas industry is the cause of mounting methane emissions” - Bruce Robertson



Avondale Heights Community Spoon Village



We have created a Spoon Village garden next to the kindergarten, alongside the path from the car park. Children and teachers have decorated a wooden spoon each which is now on display in our Avondale Heights Community Spoon Village. Please feel free to add your spoon. Tell your neighbours and friends - the more the merrier!!! Let's see how big we can create our Spoon Village.

Come and visit on your walk, or on your way to go shopping.

You'll need something like a screwdriver to make a hole to put your spoon in the ground.

Thanking you,

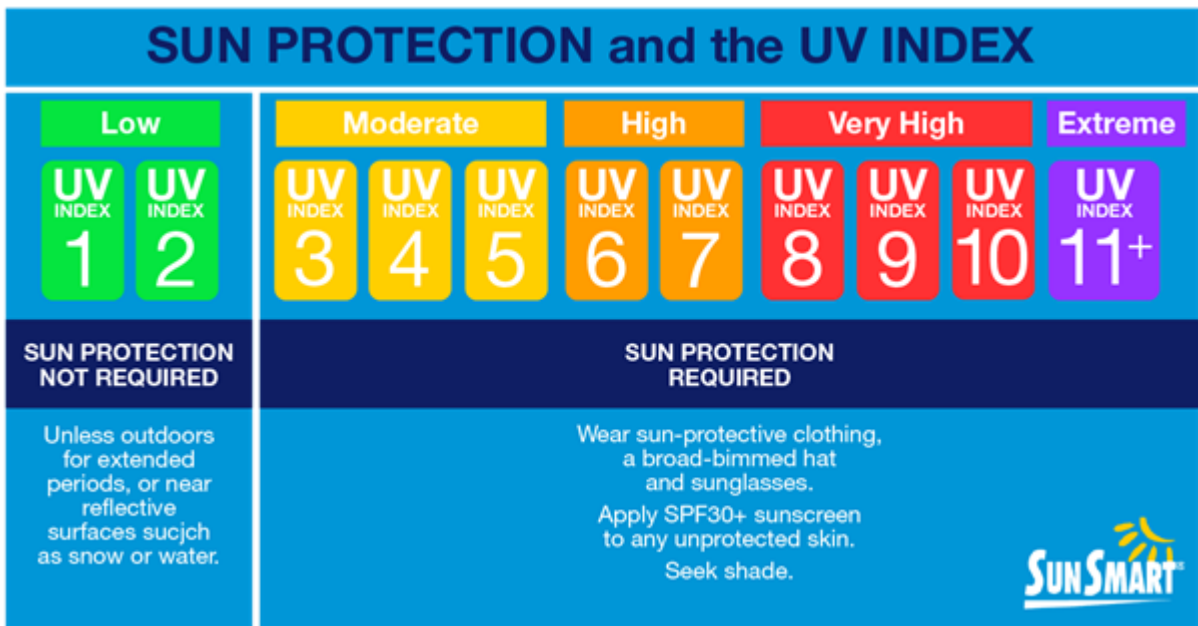
Avondale Heights Kindergarten children and teachers





Friendly reminder - sun protection times have already started

Although it may still be cold, Victoria’s UV levels are on the rise so please check the daily local sun protection times to see when you need to be SunSmart. The sun protection times are a forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology for the time of day UV levels are forecast to reach 3 or higher in your location. At these levels, sun protection (hat, clothing, sunscreen, shade and, if practical, sunglasses) is recommended for all skin types.



So please remind your staff, children and families when outdoors, whether that be for the one hour of permitted exercise in metropolitan Melbourne or if you’re lucky enough to be allowed outside for longer, to check the sun protection times and use sun protection accordingly. For more information for families please check out <https://www.sunsmart.com.au/communities/parents>

Cancer Council Victoria