



Achievement, Confidence & Pride

Thursday, October 8, 2020

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome to Term 4. We are looking forward to having all students return to on-site learning on Monday 12 October.

On behalf of Avondale PS, I would like to say a huge thank you to all our students, parents and carers for your continued resilience and support throughout this year of remote and flexible learning. With your ongoing support, our students have continued to grow as learners. Our staff are working collaboratively to ensure there are many opportunities to have great conversations with students, gain greater insights into their experiences this year and engage in purposeful learning experiences.

The Victorian Government has determined the following priorities in Term 4 for students and staff:

Mental health and wellbeing

Our highest priority will be the wellbeing, particularly the mental health, of every student and member of staff. This means effectively mobilising all available resources to support our most vulnerable students and enabling staff to access the relevant support services.

Learning and excellence

Some of our students have thrived in the remote and flexible learning environment, others have maintained their learning progress, and some have fallen behind, despite their best efforts and those of their families and teachers. Our priority will be

supporting both those who need it to catch up and those who have progressed to continue to extend their learning.

Transitions

We will make every effort to ensure successful transitions for children moving from kindergarten into Prep, the Grade 6s moving into Year 7.

We know some families are worried that their child may have to repeat a year due to the disruptions of coronavirus (COVID-19). There is little evidence to support the benefits of repeating a year to catch up. Instead, schools will use teaching strategies that draw on the best evidence available to help students meet their learning needs.

Parents, families and carers can be confident that the best option for almost every child is to stay with their peer group, whether that is moving from kindergarten into Prep, moving from Grade 6 into Year 7 at secondary school, or students moving up any year level in between.

Our school, working with you, has shown it can be flexible and adaptable in responding to the challenges of coronavirus (COVID-19) and will continue to meet student needs as we look towards the end of the 2020 school year and ahead to 2021.

Our Compass Posts will continue to provide important updates for our community, so check in regularly to keep informed. Our start and finish times along with specific Gate entry details have already been provided on Compass.



Message from Isabelle Sawtell, School Council President

The end of last term was Bette's last week as our Acting Principal. After initially only planning to join us for a term, Bette was fortunately able to remain in the post for an additional two terms. This has been an incredibly challenging year for everyone but Bette advocated for our school every day. Coming from a high school background, primary was a very different environment, COVID-19 presented significant challenges as well but Bette has been consistent in her approach learning extremely quickly how the primary sector functions and the contribution she could make at Avondale Primary.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bette for her hard work and dedication and wish her the very best of luck at her next school.

New Build Update

We are currently working with the design team and are really close sharing the floorplan with our community, which is very exciting. The architects are continuing to work closely with us to provide Avondale PS with a quality design to enhance teaching and learning and that will promote our school community in the future.

Term 4 Sun Smart Reminder

Remember to bring your hat to school each day this term. Term 4 is no hat no play, so please name your school hat and put it in your school bag ready to wear on Monday.

SUN PROTECTION and the UV INDEX										
Low		Moderate			High		Very High		Extreme	
UV INDEX 1	UV INDEX 2	UV INDEX 3	UV INDEX 4	UV INDEX 5	UV INDEX 6	UV INDEX 7	UV INDEX 8	UV INDEX 9	UV INDEX 10	UV INDEX 11+
SUN PROTECTION NOT REQUIRED		SUN PROTECTION REQUIRED								
Unless outdoors for extended periods, or near reflective surfaces such as snow or water.		Wear sun-protective clothing, a broad-brimmed hat and sunglasses. Apply SPF30+ sunscreen to any unprotected skin. Seek shade.								

Mrs Jill Benham

Principal





Book Reviews – Tried and Treasured

The Good Son.

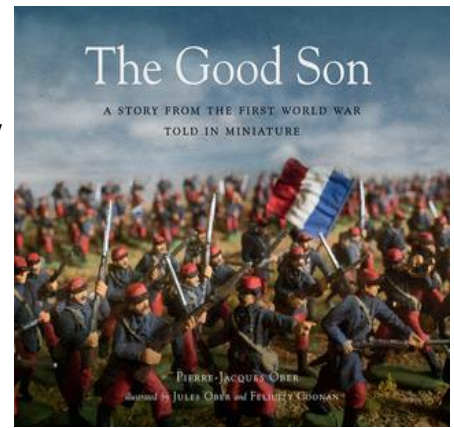
Written by Pierre- Jacques Ober

Illustrated by Jules Ober and Felicity Coonan

Written over 100 years after the 1st World War, this book tells the story of Pierre, a young French soldier, low on morale and longing for home at Christmas and in keeping a promise to his mother he decides to make a unauthorised visit home. As he returns to his troop he feels his mother's warmth with him, but his actions result in dire consequences as he is to be made an example of to his fellow soldiers.

With no more than 2 lines per page and incredibly detailed photographs of realistic miniature scenes the power of this story is visually riveting. A very effective Anti-war book.

Is this a children's book? Not really, but these powerful illustrations will prompt discussion with upper primary children as they would with adults.



SCHOOL ROUTINES

Re-establishing routines prior to returning to school is an essential ingredient for success.

Have conversations about the routines. It is important to establish:

- A bed time and wake up time – no more pressing snooze on the alarm. Remember that bed time needs to be consistent during the week and also enables children to have the recommended 9 – 11 hours of sleep a night
- Some “downtime” in the evening, after which point there are no screens, for example 7.30 -8.30pm before getting ready for bed.
- the COVID-19 routines your family would like to continue. for example, regular family walks after dinner and family dance or quiz nights – no doubt you have all been very innovative!





Saving (Y)our World instalment 23: Animal Organisations by: Morrigan R

Now, we've talked a lot about what you can do and what will come later, but what about what others are doing that you can help with? During this term I will talk about organisations and heroes that are changing the world. Today I will share with you three organisations that focus on animal welfare; one local, one national and one international. Are you ready to learn about these organisations and help them change the world?

Edgar's Mission is a local organisation, a not-for-profit farm sanctuary that seeks to create a humane world for all. You might be surprised that no cruelty laws protect pigs like they do cats and dogs, even though pigs are thought smarter! Pigs make friends, love their children and desperately try to protect their own lives. Edgar's Mission was named after Edgar Allan Pig and has extended its circle to all farm animals, saving them from cruelty. I have been to Edgar's Mission many times before and my favourite part would be either meeting the pigs, feeding the goats or patting the sheep's fluffy wool. At Edgar's Mission, they even make wheelchairs for injured animals like Leon Trotsky, the pig. Edgar's Mission is home to over 300 rescued animals. You can make a donation here: <https://donate.edgarsmission.org.au/Donate/MakeADonation> When COVID ends, you can book a tour at <https://visit.edgarsmission.org.au/Visit/Tours> Take a look at their webpage to learn more <https://www.edgarsmission.org.au/#>



Animals Australia is a National Organisation that seeks to save all Australian animals. Some of their projects include stopping live animal export, ending commercial kangaroo slaughter and exposing all animal cruelty in Australia. They have many eye-opening videos on their website and articles that help you see what's really going on. They also support vegan eating and sell cruelty free products. If you love animals, I advise you to watch the videos and read the articles on their website. They encouraged Starbucks to only use cage-free eggs and helped with the area food drop after the bushfires. Visit their site **here (maybe get your parents/carers to make sure the videos are suitable for you to watch)** <https://www.animalsaustralia.org/> or donate at <https://secure.animalsaustralia.org/donate/>

World Animal Protection is an International organisation. They work on protecting animals from animal abuse for 'medicine', entertainment, food, or as exotic pets. They also protect animals in disaster zones and work to protect wild animals and keep them in the wild. They have branches in Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, India, Kenya, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Thailand, UK and USA. They believe that wild animals don't belong to us, they belong in the wild. They try to stop people from illegally trading animals and stop them from being used in exotic dishes. This year, they have convinced the African Union to save the lives of 100 million dogs from rabies with its Animal Health Strategy and they exposed the suffering of more than 3,000 captive dolphins in the multi-billion-dollar entertainment industry with their Fooled by a Smile campaign. Visit their site here <https://www.worldanimalprotection.org.au/> and donate here https://donate.worldanimalprotection.org.au/campaigns/general/?ctrk=header_donatebtn_5&_ga=2.213884370.779058746.1601259759-637438547.1601259759#.X3FK82gzaUk



So, in this instalment we've learned about three organisations that strive to protect animals from cruelty and believe in kindness for all. I hope you've learned something from this information and that you will help them make a difference. Join me next week to learn about three sea/marine protection organisations. See you next week!



ART with Mrs Farrell

In Art this week, we thought about friendship in preparation for our return to school. The Preps created some gorgeous friendship artworks, both at school and in their remote art learning at home.

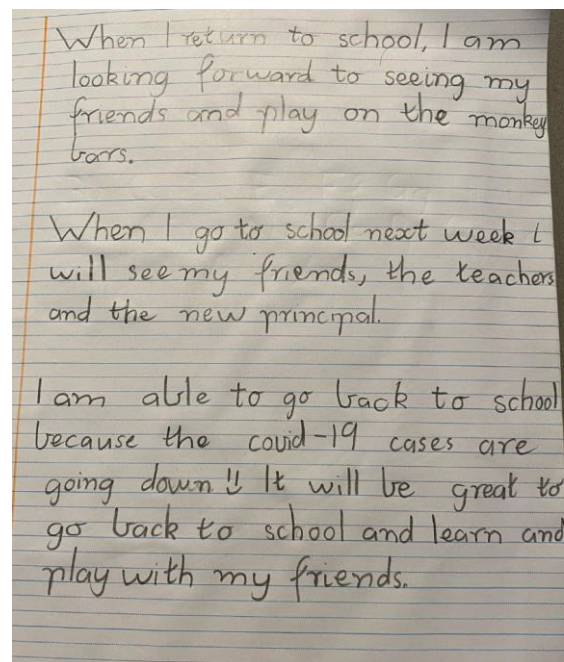
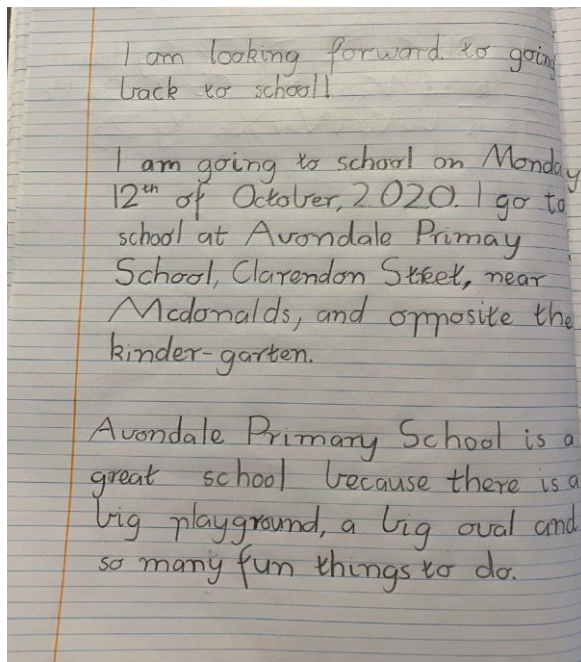
Thank you Ainsley, Lily, Sam, Ethan, Alex, Eloise and Krishiv for sharing your artwork with our community. We have some very impressive artists in the making.





Tessa from Grade 2 has shared some of her insights into returning to school next week.

What a positive mindset Tessa demonstrates in this writing sample, The Future.



Kids Art and Craft online – Maribyrnong Community Centre

We have started an Online Kids Art and Craft class on a Tuesday afternoon from 4 – 5pm. The program is suitable for children 6 – 12 years old.

The sessions to be livestreamed via Zoom and are free (however you may need to purchase some materials depending on what you have at home).

Amanda, our wonderful tutor, is going to get the kids involved in creating small sculptures from recycled materials, paper mache and making 3d objects with cardboard. They'll also do painting inspired by modern masters, drawing activities and collage.

We have a few vacancies in the program due to start on Tuesday 13 October.

To register your children, please click on the link below.

Register via: <https://www.trybooking.com/BLRLR>

For further details, please call the Centre on 9032 4305



MOONEE VALLEY COUNCIL



Dear parents

Have a think about how your getting to and from school each day. Will you walk or cycle and explore your local neighbourhood on the way?

For those that are driving to school, please drive safely and adhere to the 40km zones. Please remember that the pink drop off zones are two minute zones only.

You can find more information on the flyer attached or on Moonee Valley City Councils [website](#).

3 WAYS TO STAY SAFE WHILE YOU'RE OUT

- Stay 1.5 metres away from others
- Wear a face covering
- Wash your hands regularly

If you have symptoms, stay home.

STAYING APART KEEPS US TOGETHER

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The logo for the Victorian State Government, featuring a white triangle with the word 'VICTORIA' in white and 'State Government' in black below it.