



## *Achievement, Confidence & Pride*

NEWSLETTER No. 40 - Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Hello to our Avondale families,

2020 has come to an end and I would like to say a HUGE THANKYOU to you all. Throughout a challenging year, our staff provided quality learning experiences for all students. Staff are now experts at delivering online learning through the Micosoft Teams platform. All staff, including our Education Support Staff and Admininstration team, have done an outstanding job of providing follow up assistance to students and their families and supporing our Essential workers through these challenging times. Paramount to our success was the positive approach to communication and working together to create a learning enviornment to engage and challenge our students as learners, regardless of the location.

I am so proud of our students, who from Prep to Grade Six, have engaged in many learning experiences and demonstrated the You Can Do It behaviours of resilience, persitence, getting along, organisation and confidence.

For our Grade 6 students who say goodbye to Avondale Primary today, I thank you for your outstanding leadership this term. I wish you all the very best in beginning Secondary school next year and continuing your educational journey in the future.

I extend my appreciation to the Avondale community for the generous welcome you have provided on my arrival as Principal of Avondale Primary. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting many of our families at the gates, through email and phone calls. Wishing you all a very safe, healthy and happy holiday season. I look forward to seeing you on THURSDAY January 28<sup>th</sup>, for Day One of Term One, 2021.

### STAFFING UPDATE

After saying goodbye to Mr Nick Boffa and Mrs Lorraine Seibert in our previous newsletters, we now extend our welcome to new staff at Avondale Primary in 2021:

- Ms Amy Bennett to Grade 2
- Mrs Lidiana D'Amico to LOTE
- Mr Stewart to Grade 3/4

### SAVING (Y)OUR WORLD

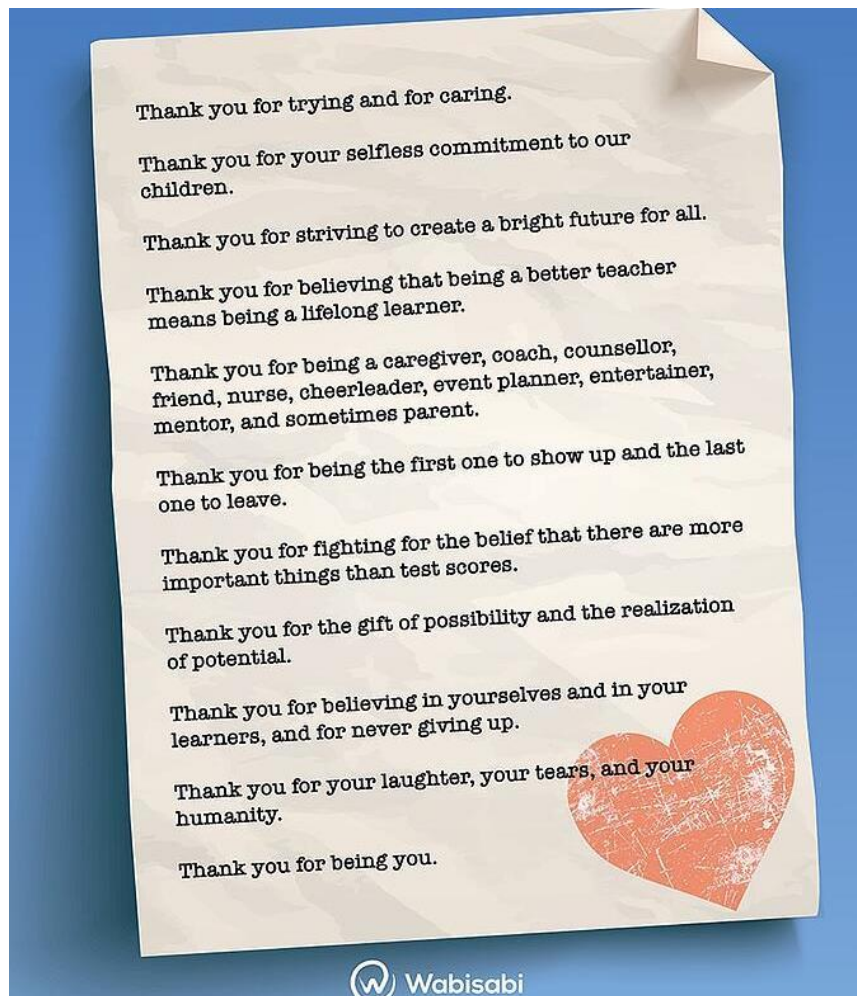
I would like to thank Morrigan for her weekly contributions to the newsletter in 2020. Her articles have provided a very thoughtful and engaging approach to making us all accountable for actively contributing to making the world a better place to live. In the words of an extremely inspirational young woman, *"This is our world, but it's also yours. And you can make decisions that change it for better or for worse. It's up to you."*

Mrs Jill Benham

Principal

It's not always EASY  
IT'S NOT ALWAYS FUN  
BUT THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING THE ONE  
WHO HIGH FIVES & LISTENS  
AND TIES ALL OUR SHOES   
& GETS US TO SMILE  
WHEN WE'RE FEELING THE BLUES  
THANK YOU FOR PATIENCE  
AND LAUGHING & FUN  
THANK YOU FOR TEACHING US  
YOU'RE NUMBER ONE

Below is a thank you letter for teachers, written by author and key note presenter, Lee Watanabe-Crockett acknowledging the work of our staff.

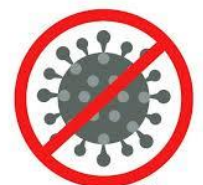


*Dear Santa*

*I am writing this letter because I have been a good child. It has been a tough year in this pandemic but we have got through it. I tried to be on my best behaviour. Hopefully I can have a present. All I want for Christmas is 1.Vbucks, 2.Rollerskates, 3.Covid 19 to be over.*

*I know it's been a hard time but hopefully you can deliver presents all around the world.*

*From Lucas  
Grade 2*



coronavirus  
2019-nCoV

## TERM ONE, 2021 – SCHOOL CALENDAR

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

Thursday January 28                      First day of Term One, 2021 for ALL students

Friday January 29                      First school assembly – 2.30pm

## 2021 STAFF

Foundation A	Ms Zappia		3/4D	Mr Stewart
Foundation B	Ms Nicolaou		3/4E	Ms Roach
Foundation C	Ms Collins		3/4F	Mr Lumby
Foundation/1	Ms Lo Grasso		5/6A	Ms Davies
1A	Ms Ferraro		5/6B	Ms Needham
1B	Ms Watson		5/6C	Ms Heywood Ms Guthrie
1C	Mrs Glanfield Mrs Carroll		5/6D	Mr Barkell
2A	Ms Bennett		The Arts	Ms Farrell Ms Portelli
2B	Ms Kimpton		Physical Education	Mr Cleary
2C	Ms Gribbin		LOTE - Italian	Ms Cotronio Ms D'Amico
3/4A	Ms Chaouk		5/6 Literacy Support Student Wellbeing	Mrs Broadhurst
3/4B	Ms McGrath			
3/4C	Ms Handley			

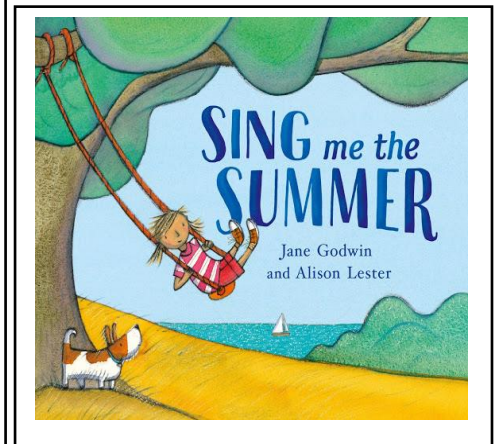
### Book Reviews – Tried and Treasured

#### Sing me the Summer

Written by Jane Godwin. Illustrated by Alison Lester

With this book we go through the seasons starting appropriately with summer into autumn, winter, spring and returning back to summer. As we go through the seasons we see and embrace activities appropriate to the Australian seasons. In summer we glance at play on the beach with buckets and spades, in autumn we gather yellow, orange and brown leaves, in winter we scrape ice off the windscreen and in spring we embrace the sound of bees buzzing around blossom. Written in joyful rhyme a perfect book to begin our summer holidays. An ideal addition for 3 to 7 year olds who won't even know they are learning.

Reviewed by Liz Oruba



## **Saving (Y)our World instalment 33: Into the future**

**By: Morigan Raven**

Well, we have come to the end of the year and this is my last instalment of Saving (Y)our World. This week we are going to learn about someone who is particularly inspirational and will make a huge difference to our future world. This is someone that you know really well, because that person is . . . YOU!

You, because . . . one day when you are walking in a local park you notice some rubbish on the ground—a plastic water bottle. Rather than just ignoring it, or kicking it across the sidewalk as you walk, you pick it up and put it in the recycling bin. What you don't know is that this plastic bottle was recycled by a company that turned it into a bench seat. That bench seat was bought by a local council, who put it under a beautiful tree in a city park and over its lifetime, thousands of people sat on it and enjoyed a small piece of nature in this city.

You, because . . . one day when you are standing in line to order some take-away food, you realise that the only option for a drink is to buy a container with a plastic lid and straw that you are going to use once before you throw it away. But that straw and lid will last in the environment for hundreds of years, so you decide not to buy this again. Instead, you start taking reusable straws and drinking cups everywhere you go. What you don't know is that over your lifetime you stopped tens of thousands of straws from going into the environment, all of which would have released harmful chemicals into the soil and water as they slowly broke down.

You, because . . . one day you decide to join a march organised by a group of young people who want to change the world. This march is incredibly successful, with millions of people participating in cities all over the globe. You enjoy standing up for what you believe in and meeting others who are doing the same thing in a peaceful way. What you don't know is that because so many people marched, governments start paying attention to what the marchers want. They begin introducing laws that better protect nature and help to improve the environment.

You, because . . . one day you see an advertisement for an organisation that you think might be working on something that is important to you. You look into the organisation and decide that you like what they do and how they are doing it. You volunteer for this organisation, which is helping to protect an endangered ecosystem, and you really enjoy doing this. What you don't know is that your work directly helps to protect a small lizard that lives in this ecosystem. No-one knew that lizard was there when you were doing your work, but this site turned out to be one of its last remaining habitat areas and you directly helped to protect this species.

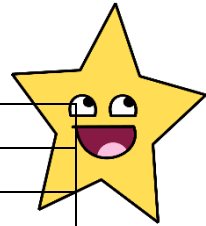
You, because . . . one day as you think about an upcoming election you start actively investigating who you should vote for. You think about what is important in your local area and vote for people you think can best deal with these issues. But you also think about what the State and Federal governments should be doing to promote sustainability. You are not satisfied to vote for a party that does not put forward any ideas or that puts forward ideas you don't agree with. What you don't know is that your decisions to vote for issues that are bigger than yourself causes some of Australia's biggest political parties to reconsider how they represent and support the environment.

You, because . . . over your lifetime of 'one days' you make so many good choices about the things that you buy, eat and use that you produce a lot less waste than others. We all impact on the globe in our daily lives, but whereas others leave behind a history of plastic and poison, you leave behind a planet that is better for having you on it. Your many small actions help improve our environment and contribute to Saving (Y)our World. Thank you!

“This is our world, but it’s also yours. And you can make decisions that change it for better or for worse. It’s up to you.” --Morrigan Raven, age 11

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

**Week 11 - 17/12/2020**



Prep A	Jake A
Prep B	Armin R
Prep C	Phillip C
Prep D	Alex T

1A	Harry H
1B	Anabella L
1C	Simon N & Riya B

2A	Tessa S
2B	Viva P, Jax S & Salina M
2C	Sura T
2D	Aren C, Joel M & Katelyn C

34A	Daniel S
34B	Eliza S
34C	Grace H
34D	Maitham R

45A	Lauren V
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56A	-
56B	Olivia E
56C	Diane B
56D	Mikaela N

ART JNR	Thomas B 2B
ART SNR	Xavier T 34C
LOTE	Ava V 34B
PE	Chloe C 56A

# THE AMAZING RACE 2020

Yesterday was the Grade 6 Celebration Day. We took part in an Amazing Race where we had to travel around the world by solving riddles and mastering challenges. The winning team was the Red team: Jelena, Matt, Yugo, Norvelle, Isaac and Justin N (5/6B). We also conducted Avondale's Got Talent where students performed acts for our grade 5/6 classmates. Congratulations to Unfunny Jokes: Xavier P, Jake, Angus, Alex and Luke who were chosen by their grade 5 peers as the most entertaining act. To celebrate our last lunch together, all grade 5/6s had a special picnic with their grade 5 friends.

Last night was the online graduation ceremony. It included student speeches, which reflected on their experiences at Avondale Primary School, photo montages, student interviews, awards and certificate presentations. It was an emotional moment for the graduating students and their families.

Thank you to all of the students and teachers who made our Celebration Day memorable. We would also like to thank our families for their support during our primary school years. We are all looking forward to a bright and happy future. Avondale Primary School will always hold happy memories for all of our grade 6 graduates.

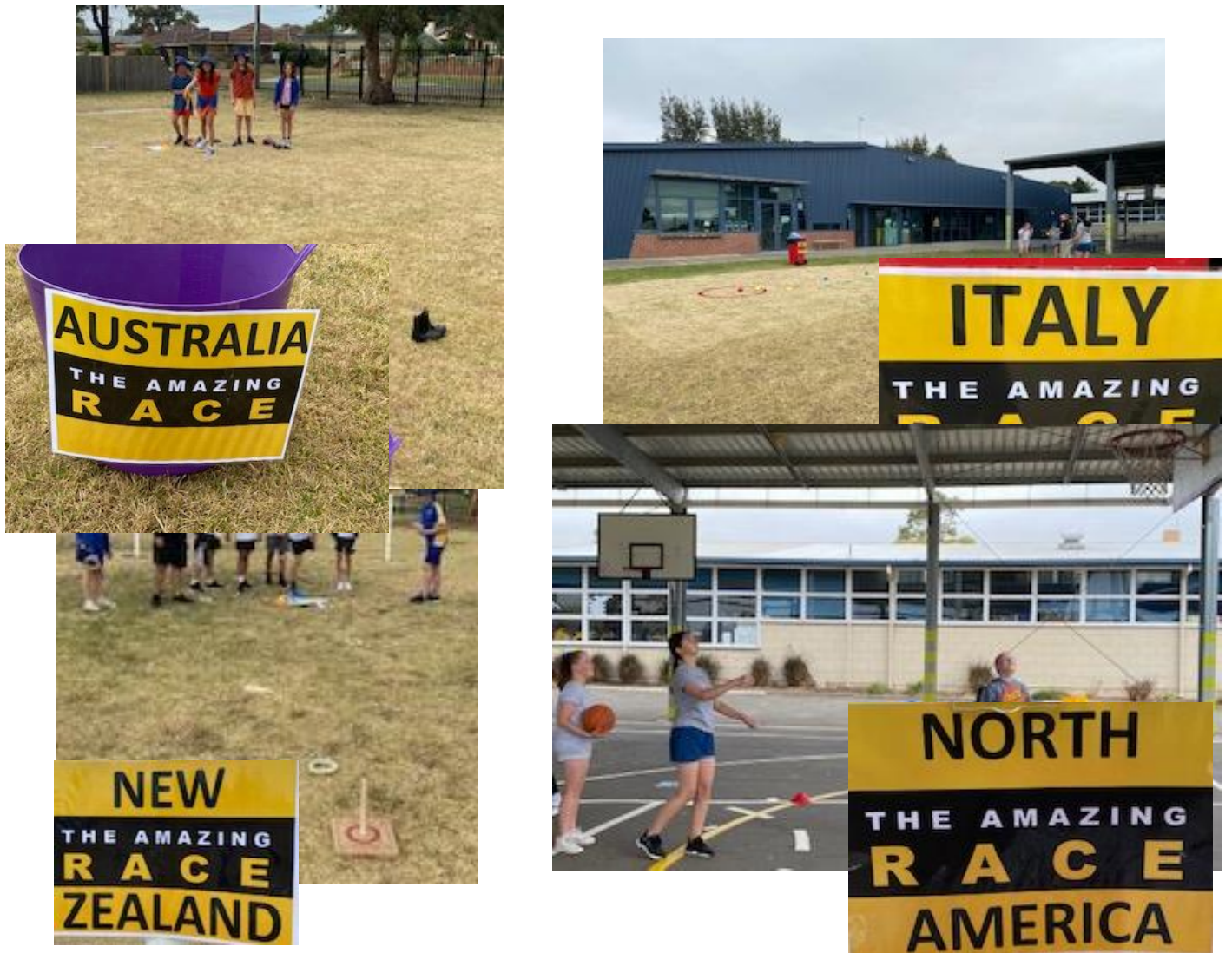
**ABOUT TO BEGIN . . . BUZZING WITH A SENSE OF EXCITEMENT**



**CLUES TO FIND FIRST COUNTRY . . . WORKING TOGETHER WITH INTENT**



**COUNTRIES VISITED . . . ACROSS THE WORLD**



**AFRICA**  
THE AMAZING  
**RACE**



**CHINA**  
THE AMAZING  
**RACE**



**INDIA**  
THE AMAZING  
**RACE**



**AFTER LOTS OF FUN, ENTHUSIAM AND COLLABORATION WE REACHED THE FINISH LINE . . .**



AND CELEBRATED WITH A SPECIAL GRADUTATION TREAT . . .

