



Achievement, Confidence & Pride

Thursday, 5 March 2020

Dear Parents,

We are at the halfway mark of the term and I am pleased with the way students have settled into their learning routine. I have visited a lot of the classes and have been impressed with the range of activities the teachers present to ensure a range of learning styles are catered for.

One consistent message that came through the information sessions was the need to assist your child with allowing them to take responsibility for organising their bag each day – they should know what is in it and what they should bring to school each day. The other consistent message was the need for students to read each night. Parents can support reading development by having your child read aloud each night.

It has come to our attention that some very young students are going to the local library after school. It is a great concern that there is no supervision provided for these students and they are too young to be left on their own. We strongly advise the younger students are collected at the end of the day or they attend After School Care.

Our school value to focus on this week is **Persistence**. That means to keep trying to solve the problem or master the skill. Do not walk away and let the task get the better of you.

Can parents and guardians please nominate a pick up point in the middle area or the basketball playground area at the end of the school day as the area around Reception is becoming too congested.

Also a reminder that, for the safety of all, dogs should not be brought onto school property. Your cooperation in this regard is appreciated.

SCHOOL SAFETY - More safety advice from Moonee Valley Council.

You can keep children safe by:

- walking or cycling to school to decrease traffic congestion
- adhering to the 40km per hour zone when in an operated school zone
- not stopping or parking illegally.

Dr Bette Prange
Acting Principal

Inspirational Quote:

“The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty.” **Winston Churchill**



SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS REMINDER

It has come to our attention that each parent of children enrolled at the school is entitled to vote in the Council Ballot. We have inadvertently mailed home only one ballot paper so we have sent home another ballot paper to households this week. We have also extended the closing time. Completed ballots **MUST** be returned by 4.00 pm, **Tuesday 10th March**. Ballots should be submitted to the Office and parents sign the register. Please ensure you vote according to the instructions so that your vote counts – a clear mark beside 4 candidates **ONLY**.

Saving (Y)our World Instalment No 1 – Cutting down on cutlery

Morrigan R. Grade 6.

Lots of things we do in life effects nature in ways far worse than you could imagine. But you can become part of the solution rather than the problem. YOU can contribute to saving lives and every little bit helps. At many shops, plastic cutlery comes free with your meal. However, the plastic fork that you use once will stay in the environment for up to one thousand years! But you can do something. The way is as simple as just three little letters--BYO.

All you have to do is get some cutlery from home. Make sure you have a fork, spoon, chopsticks and/or knife—whatever you like to use. Wrap them in a clean piece of material, such as a cloth napkin or a handkerchief (to replace disposable paper napkins). Then, when you order food you say that you have your own cutlery. Just being able to Bring Your Own (BYO) is enough to make a difference. It's as simple as that! That's all you have to do. Sustainability is easy, costs almost nothing and can be a great use of old cutlery.

Bringing your own can help you, too. If you BYO, you will be healthier, as people touching your utensils can be a health issue. This is especially important when diseases (such as the coronavirus) are spreading. It is also a simple fact that plastic takes a long time to break down and releases toxins.

Are you going to switch? If you are, then you can rest easy, knowing you're not killing animals or harming yourself. If you've already switched, well done. If you're not switching, it's time to consider the effect your actions have on the environment and on you. Sustainability could save your life!

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not.” – Dr Suess

Morrigan R. signing out. I hope you join me next week for another instalment of Saving (Y)our World.

Request for Assistance

The Avondale Primary Garden Club would greatly appreciate any donations of gardening gloves in good condition. Any sizes are welcome but particularly those suitable for our junior students would be fantastic. Gloves can be left at the office or the Italian room. Many thanks in advance.

Nick Boffa – Garden Club Co-ordinator



What's happening in the classroom ...? *Grade 3/4 Rotations*



The grade 3/4 students are finishing their first Curriculum Rotations. The Rotation Groups are STEM with Ms McGrath, Coding with Ms Chaouk, Music with Ms Gerace and You Can Do It with Ms Handley. STEM is an integrated approach to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Coding is creating computer programming code and it usually involves the Mathematics required to program robots and computer programs. You Can Do It focuses on the social and emotional development of the students as individuals. Each Rotation has 4 lessons then the students move to

another group. Through the Rotations the students are able to focus on a specific area of the curriculum, teachers are teaching to their strengths and the students are exposed to and are adjusting to a new teacher.

Grade 3/4 students above and below engaged in STEM tasks.



Students coding in 3/4A



FEBRUARY/MARCH SCHOOL DIARY

School Council Election – why it is important to vote

In previous years, the school has not received large numbers of votes from parents in the school council elections.

There are a number of reasons for this (not an exhaustive list):

1. People do not know the candidates.
2. A lack of understanding about what a school council member does.
3. Generally not thinking it is something which affects them.

As a member of the school council, I would urge you to use your vote!

Responding to the reasons above:

1. If you are unsure who to vote for, read the information about each candidate carefully and vote for the people who you feel would best represent you on the council.

It is great to have people with different skillsets but equally important are for these parent members to have a genuine interest in the school with a desire to work collaboratively with others to help contribute to the school's future.

2. According to the Department of Education and Training website, "the school council supports the principal to provide the best possible educational outcomes for students." It has 3 main responsibilities:

- finance: overseeing the development of the school's annual budget and ensuring proper records are kept of the school's financial operation
- strategic planning: participating in the development and monitoring of the school strategic plan
- policy development and review: developing, reviewing and updating policies that reflect a school's values and support the school's broad direction outlined in its strategic plan.

3. The parent members of school council represent views of the parents at this school. They make decisions which affect your children and their education which directly affects you.

The school council has powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines and is able to directly influence the quality of education that the Avondale Primary provides for its students.

As a Council, we assist in the efficient governance of the school, ensuring students' best interests are considered and enhancing the educational opportunities for students. This is why it is really important to use your vote.

Forms are handed into the office and you have to sign the register as you do this.

The deadline for the ballot is 4pm on Tuesday 10th March.

School Council President: Isabelle Sawtell



MARCH

Fri 6 Grade 5/6 Interschool Sport - Home
 Mon 9 Labour Day Public Holiday

Pupils of the week on Friday 21st February

Prep A - Araylia M
 Prep B - Hayley A
 Prep C - Hayley S
 Prep D - Tiffany Q

One A - Odessa E
 One B - Elijah H
 One C - Avvan M

Two A - Brayden R
 Two B - Thomas B
 Two C - Linda J
 Two D - Arren P

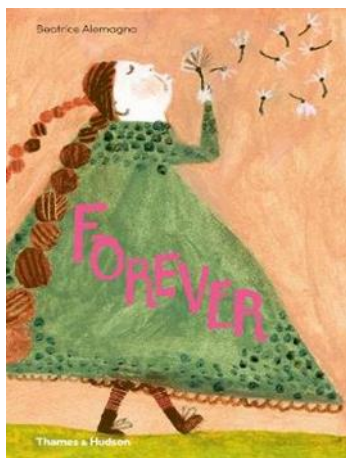
3/4 A - Taj W
 3/4 B - Luki S
 3/4 C - Jesse M
 3/4 D - Lucas N

4/5A -Andrea M
 5/6 A -Jaymee D
 5/6 B - Iggy M

5/6 C - Abbey W
 5/6 D - Alexander T
 LOTE - Luca S (1A)

Book Review

Forever by Beatrice Alemagna ·



A reassuring read that explores the way in which all things come to an end.....Except for one thing. The illustrations are cleverly overlaid with tracing paper in a way that allows the element of the pictures to disappear, as the story goes. Written in simple language and most appealing to children of 3-7years. By Liz Oruba

REBEL SPORT

The Highpoint Rebel Sports Outlet Has a program that supports local schools. If you shop at Rebel Sport- Highpoint please mention



Avondale Primary School so that the school can receive a contribution.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

Second hand uniform day is
Fridays at 8:30 - 9:00am to pick up a
bargain!

Short Sleeve Polo shirts - \$3

Skirts - \$5 Jackets - \$6

Jumpers - \$5 Shorts - \$4

Track pants - \$5

STUDENT BANKING

Every Thursday is Student Banking
day, don't forget to bring along
your bank book to deposit to your
account



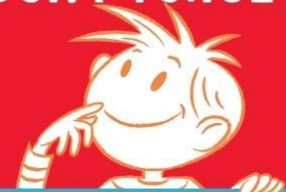
2020 Emergency Information Contact

Details

Please ensure that your child's record is up-to-date and we can contact you during school hours. This includes emergency contact numbers, email addresses and medical conditions.

Any parents who are unable to update their details on Compass are asked to contact the school office.

DON'T FORGET!



SCHOLASTIC
Book Club

orders are due:

Sunday 15th March, 2020