



## *Achievement, Confidence & Pride*

Thursday 7 November

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Many thanks to parents for supporting our concert last week. Students had a wonderful time preparing and performing for our school community. I especially wish to thank our staff for their efforts in ensuring the concert was a memorable event for our students. A special thanks to Kendall Lumby for coordinating the music and Joe Scarfo for painting the backdrop and managing the evening.

This year we are making a 2020 calendar available to parents. The calendar include public holidays, term breaks, cultural days and important Avondale Primary School dates. Calendars are \$15 and can be purchased online at the following website: <https://www.crazycamel.com.au/10253>. A preview of some of the photos to be included can be found on the staffroom window between Building 1 and Building 2. Orders close at 4pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November and will be delivered by the second week of December. Many thanks to Jenna Heywood and Dani Parisi for creating the

### **Junior Athletics Day postponed...**

The Junior Athletics Day will now be **held on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December** due to the weather forecast. The Athletics Day will be held on the oval at school until lunchtime; parents are welcome to attend and enjoy the day.

### **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.

### **Our School Council achievements in 2019**

School Council members are often asked what they do. Well, this seems like the perfect opportunity to tell you some of the things we have agreed/ achieved/ supported/ overseen in 2019:

- Supported the NAIDOC mural for NAIDOC week
- Used locally raised funds to install additional playground equipment
- Ratified the school dress code
- Reviewed school uniforms and added extra uniform items
- Ratified a new inclusion and diversity policy
- Purchased 166 chair bags for junior school students
- Installed CCTV cameras for improved school security



### *Achievement, Confidence & Pride*

- Replaced furniture in the school library
- Replaced the fence & gate facing Robson St
- Installed junior sized toilet bowls for boys and girls
- Installed 2 water bottle filling taps
- Replaced air conditioner in classroom
- Supported the purchase of "Growth Mindset" resources
- Re-painted school asphalt line marking
- Introduced alcohol free hand sanitisers in every class
- Fought to maintain the school cleaning allocation
- Purchased new toaster & sandwich maker for canteen
- Reviewed canteen menus and prices
- Introduced Flexischools for making canteen lunch orders
- Overseen canteen management
- Overseen the maintenance and improvement of school facilities
- Overseen Before & Afterschool care program
- Overseen all expenditure of school funds including program budgets
- Managed the installation of two new classrooms
- Approved the implementation of COMPASS as a school web based management system
- Supported all camps, excursion and incursions in 2019 as well as overseen all budgets related to them.

School Council members: Isabelle Sawtell (President), Andrew Barker (Vice President), Ajay Bhargava (Treasurer), Joe Scarfo (Secretary), Carla Soul, Karena Wojcicki, Joe Kersh, Sally Stevens, Jaclyn Coleman, Jenna Heywood, Tony Baldwin (Community member) and Paul Mulroyan (Executive Officer).

*This list was compiled by Isabelle Sawtell and Joe Scarfo.*

#### **New Starting process for 2020 prep students**

Traditionally Prep students attended school four days a week for the first five weeks. The Wednesday was used for Prep testing, where students spent an hour with their class teacher to assess their entry knowledge.

While this assisted students adapt to the school day, the real purpose of the testing was compromised by the fact that some students were tested a month after starting school. In 2020, we will try another approach whereby Prep students will have their one hour assessment with their teacher before starting school full time.

Each 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 6<sup>th</sup> February.

**Oil Tank removal starts next Wednesday at Avondale Primary**



### *Achievement, Confidence & Pride*

The Department of Education and Training has started a program to remove and/or stabilize oil tanks that were used in the 1960s and 70s to store oil for heating schools. The program is being implemented by the *Operations and Programs Branch* throughout Victoria.

Avondale Primary School is included in this program; there are four tanks located next to the former furnace rooms. As most tanks are located near building entrances, the schedule of work provides for adequate access and egress for students and staff in case of emergency. The works are expected to take between two and three weeks to complete.

I was contacted yesterday and informed that work will begin here on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November. During the works, there will be temporary fences installed to isolate the work area. Large bins and heavy equipment will be stored in the fenced areas during the process. We have requested that concrete, coloured similarly to the surrounding asphalt, be used for restorative works instead of asphalt.

#### **Students recognised for their Art**

Congratulations to **Chloe He, Delcine Li, Kevin Pho, Sofia Tamondong, Kostya Han, and Kary Wu** for their participation in the 2019 VCAA Assessment in the Arts.

Our students were required to:

- Perform two contrasting works in a performance of up to 5 minutes. Students performed music in any style or genre or for any instrumentation, including work they have composed. As appropriate to the instrument, one work was unaccompanied and the other accompanied by another instrument or a backing track.
- Respond to 1 or 2 verbal questions from assessors about how they have communicated their knowledge of the music in their performance



#### **Supporting your child's emotional development – Flyer attached**

Learning to cope with your child's strong emotions while staying calm yourself is very challenging. *NEST Parenting Services* is offering a one hour seminar, 7pm to 8pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November at Keilor Heights Primary School.

You can book through *Eventbrite* (search for *NEST Parenting*). For more information, visit:

<https://www.nestparenting.com.au/>



*Achievement, Confidence & Pride*

**November - December Diary**

**November**

- Fri 8                    Second Hand Uniform Sales 8:30-9am
- Mon 11                Remembrance Day: Buy your poppies from the front office
- 13-15                 Grade 3/4 Lady Northcote Camp
- Thurs 14             2020 Prep Transition Session #1 – 9:15-10:15am
- Fri 15                 Grade 2 Stay Late Night
- Second Hand Uniform Sales 8:30-9am
- 18 - 29               10 day Swimming Program (selected students only)
- Tue 19                School Council Meeting 7:30pm
- 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 6<sup>th</sup>                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

**Pupils of the Week – Awarded Friday 1 November**

- |                             |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Prep A</b> – Nicholas T  | <b>One A</b> – Kiran L      | <b>3/4 A</b> – Joshua C     |
| <b>Prep B</b> – Anastasia P | <b>One B</b> – Lachlan H    | <b>3/4 B</b> – Sienna D     |
| <b>Prep C</b> – Hanyang T   | <b>One C</b> – Vivian L     | <b>3/4 C</b> – Irma A       |
| <b>Prep D</b> – Avneet G    | <b>Two A</b> – All students | <b>3/4 D</b> – All students |
|                             | <b>Two B</b> – All students |                             |
|                             | <b>1/2 A</b> – Vienne T     |                             |
| <b>4/5A</b> – Aiden S       | <b>5/6 A</b> – Arden S      | <b>5/6 B</b> – Dane T       |
| <b>5/6 C</b> – Luke V       | <b>5/6D</b> – Jelena N      |                             |



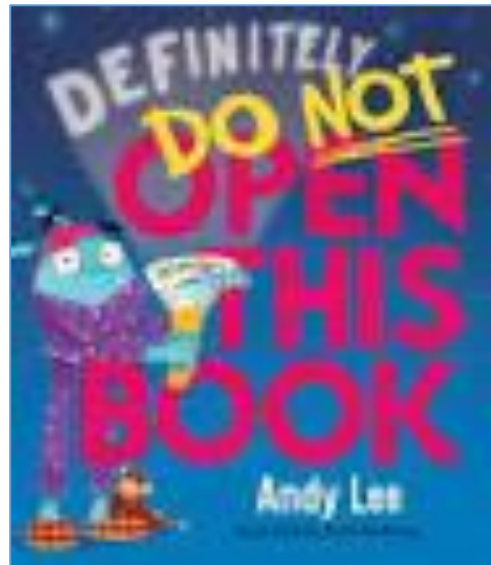
### *Achievement, Confidence & Pride*

#### Student Book Review

#### Definitely Do Not Open This Book.

Written by Andy Lee, Illustrated by Heath McKenzie

This is the 4<sup>th</sup> book in this series written by comedian Andy Lee. Originally I was not a fan of this series but book by book they have grown on me. Definitely the best so far. Children love silly books and Wizz is back to his old tricks in this book. He will resort to just about anything including threats, bribes and reverse psychology to stop you from turning the pages of this book. This is a fun story that will delight most 3 to 8 year olds  
By Liz Oruba



#### Attachments:

- *Cougirls* Girls Footy Development Program – East Keilor
- NEST Parent Services – Seminar.

I hope you have a great week.

Paul Mulroyan.