

AVENEL PRIMARY SCHOOL

OUR MISSION:

To inspire academic excellence, social and emotional growth and community contribution in a collaborative environment.

Newsletter No: 40

13th December 2023



Contact Details:

Web: www.avenelps.vic.edu.au

Email: avenel.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Avenelprimary>

After Hours Number - 0403 565 119



Students of the Week

Recognising and celebrating achievement of our values



Be a Learner

Bailey-Rose Lippert - For her determination and perseverance with her learning, striving to achieve her best resulting in huge growth on her essential assessments. 😊

Kade Mulraney - For explaining his thinking when discussing maths strategies. 😊

Opal Wheeler - For working hard on improving her reading in class and with Mrs Sawyer. 😊

Otto Leunig - For using adjectives when describing his character and setting in his fantasy picture story book. 😊

Ragnar Ekberg - For the focus he is displaying on his decoding skills when reading 😊

Give Something Back

Lyanna Friedrich - For giving something back, helping peers in need without question, in the playground. 😊

Be a Mate

Campbell Smith - For being a patient, caring and considerate grade 6 buddy. 😊

Audrie Halpin - For her warm interactions and inclusiveness of others. 😊

Ross' Report



We had a very successful Transition Day yesterday with students enjoying the opportunity to “move up” a grade for the day. The highlights were definitely the current grade 5s becoming the leaders of the school and the current grade 2s who were allowed to go on the “big kids” playground. We welcomed our 2024 preps for the first full day at school and they settled in with a lot of confidence and happiness.

We appreciate everyone’s patience with the longer than anticipated wait for our grade structure and teachers for 2024 to be released, but we are pleased to have the following in place:

- ☺ Prep- Anne Tranter (4 days) and Anne Fahey (1 day)
- ☺ 1/2- Danielle Pearce (4 days) and Julie Sawyer (1 day)
- ☺ 1/2- Bianca Wood (3 days) and Edwina Bull (2 days)
- ☺ 3/4- David Willis
- ☺ 4/5- Hayley Tobin
- ☺ 6- Abbey Phelps
- ☺ PE- Brodie Humphreys (5 classes) and Ross Davis (Grade 6)
- ☺ Art- Mel Kecskes
- ☺ Science- Tara Edgley
- ☺ Tutor- Julie Sawyer
- ☺ Learning Specialist- Kate Phoenix
- ☺ Student Wellbeing- Carrye Malone

Final class lists will be sent home via Compass in the coming days.

I was extremely proud of our 8 grade 5 students who stood for 2024 school captains earlier this week. They all spoke with such confidence and maturity on Monday morning and then survived the nervous experience of an interview with staff. Our school has 2 captains and 2 vice captains, so it is very challenging when only 4 can get the positions when all 8 would be fabulous leaders. I know that all of our grade 5 candidates will be strong leaders at our school in 2024.

Our Christmas Concert is next Monday evening with every student in the school involved in a performance. Families are welcome to BYO picnic and sit on the oval from 5pm with the concert kicking off at 6pm. As well as all grades performing, there will be some awards presented and the night will finish with a visit from a very special person!

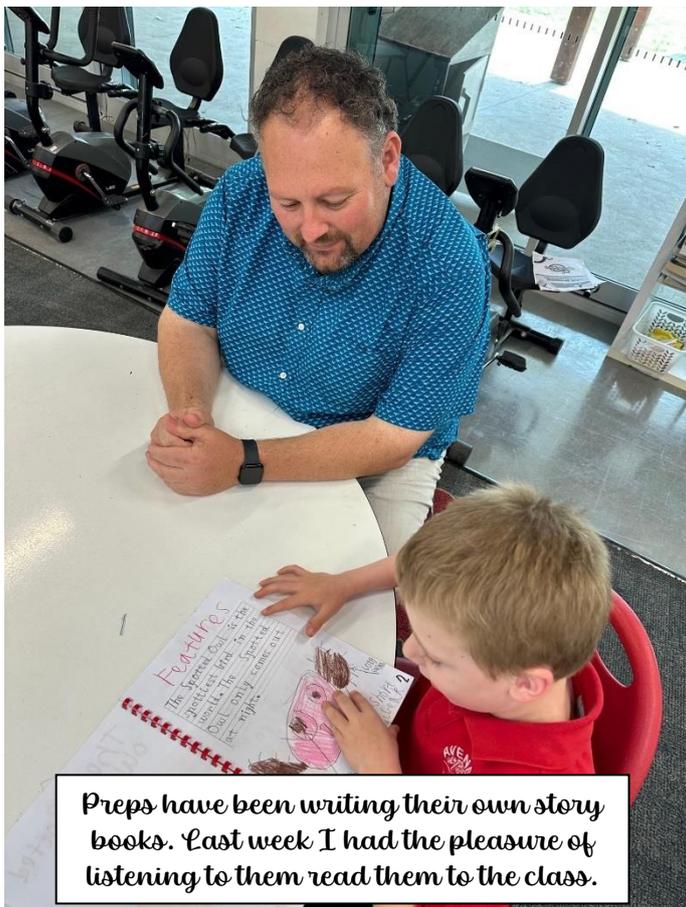
Please see the ad in today’s newsletter regarding Aide vacancies at Avenel PS. If you would like any more information, please see me at school.

The grade 6 graduation was a special night with our students enjoying dressing up for the evening, presenting lovely speeches about their time at primary school and about their fellow graduates and enjoying a beautiful meal together. Thanks to Fowles who provided a lovely venue and to all the family members who made the night special for our grade 6s. Well done to the grade 6 team for organising such a fabulous event.

The Junior School Council invited a large number of adults to a Thank-you Morning Tea last week to acknowledge the incredible number of parents, family and community members who contribute to Avenel Primary School. The staff prepared a delicious morning tea and the JSC members made speeches and presented our volunteers with some home made goodies and a card expressing our gratitude to them. We rely on volunteers for so many of our school events and programs and are thankful for the amazing support we receive.



Thank you, Morning Tea.



Preps have been writing their own story books. Last week I had the pleasure of listening to them read them to the class.




Avenel PS has some integration aide vacancies for 2024. If you are interested, please submit an expression of interest letter and resume to Ross Davis by Monday 18th December. Please deliver to the office or email Ross.Davis@education.vic.gov.au



A reminder that next Wednesday 20th December is our final school day for 2023. We will be finishing school at 1:20pm. There will be a final school assembly for everyone at 12:45 in the main building which all parents and family members are invited to attend.

Your feedback is always welcome at ross.davis@education.vic.gov.au or 0403 565 119.



Avenel Primary School acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the land and acknowledges and pays respect to their elders, past and present.

General Information

SUBJECT CONTRIBUTION – School Council have set the Subject Contribution for this year at \$245 per student. This amount is usually paid in Term 1 but other arrangements can be made if you are struggling to make payment. The subject contribution payment covers the cost of subject expenses and class materials which have been purchased by the school and will be distributed to students throughout the year. This contribution can be paid either by cash or EFPOS at the school or by direct deposit to the school account BSB 063 545 Account No 10076513. Please insert 'sub cont' and family name in the reference field.

LUNCH ORDERS 2024 – New lunch order attached

At the end of the year, we say goodbye to our current grade 6's and welcome new Preps. As a result, we would like to remind everyone of the way to make lunch orders:

Option 1 - keep a copy of the price list at home, write (or get your child to write) their lunch order on the envelope and include the correct money. You are welcome to include one note for two children, just bundle them together

Option 2 - from 8:30am Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, call through to the shop on 5796 2536 to make your order. You can pay over the phone using a credit card. Please note orders must arrive prior to 10am. We will also not repeat card details for your security.

2023 has been extremely challenging. Every effort has been made to ensure price increases are kept to a minimum but to a large regard these are out of our control. We are hoping we will get economic stability in 2024 but would like to thank all of our customers for their ongoing understanding and support. You have made this year one to remember.

Wishing you all a happy festive season and a safe summer. See you in 2024.



HEADLICE – Help us keep our 'unwanted school friends' at bay when school commences in 2024 by taking the time to check your child's hair and treat where necessary. Students if are sent home because of the presence of headlice they are not allowed to return to school until they have been fully treated.

To help us combat this problem we have purchased headlice shampoo which will be available from the office.

More information on how to control headlice can be found at [Treating and controlling Head Lice - Health.vic](https://www.health.vic.gov.au/files/factsheets) - <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/files/factsheets>



2024 Term Start dates

Finish date

| | | |
|--------|--|--------------|
| Term 1 | 29 January (teachers) (31st January Gr 1-6 students start & 1 st Feb Preps) | 28 March |
| Term 2 | 15 April | 28 June |
| Term 3 | 15 July | 20 September |
| Term 4 | 7 October | 20 December |

Education

WATER SAFETY

Being around water is part of everyday life in Australia, whether it be at the beach, backyard pools and spas, rivers and creeks, public swimming pools or dams on farms. However, did you know that drowning is one of the major causes of unintentional death for Australian children under 5 years of age?

Toddlers can drown in as little as a few centimetres of water – this means that objects including buckets, inflatable/toddler wading pools, backyard ponds, eskies with melted ice and even pets drinking bowls can all pose a potential drowning hazard.

DROWNING PREVENTION

To help keep children safe in and around water, there are four important steps you can follow – to ensure maximum safety, it's important that all of these steps are used together.

1. Supervise - Active adult supervision of children is essential to reduce the risk of drowning. For toddlers, this means having an adult within arm's reach at all times when they are in or around water, while for older children it is important there is an adult within the water area who is ready to enter the water in an emergency.

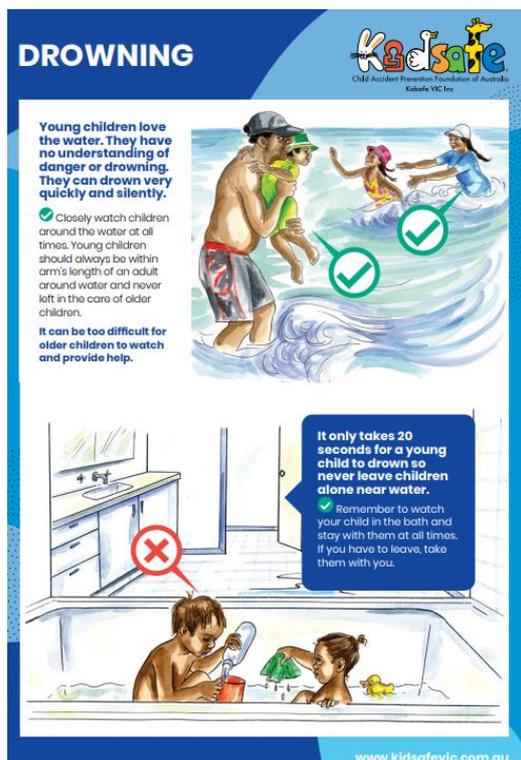
When there are a lot of adults around (e.g. at a BBQ or pool party) it can be easy to assume that someone else is watching the kids, when in fact, nobody is. That's why it's a good idea to have designated adult supervisors whose role it is to actively supervise the kids in and around water – this role can be shared throughout the day so that everyone gets a chance to relax and enjoy themselves.

2. Restrict access - Restricting children's access to water can include placing a barrier around the body of water (e.g. a pool or spa barrier) or placing the barrier around a child's environment (e.g. creating a fenced safe play area on a farm that is away from water hazards like dams and animal drinking troughs).

Children are crafty and will try their best to find a way to get over, under or through barriers, so it's important to never rely on barriers on their own to keep children away from water.

3. Water Awareness - Water awareness and learn to swim classes can assist in helping children to become familiar with water, teaching them about water safety and learning how to swim.

4. CPR/First Aid Knowledge - Having the skills to respond in an emergency situation can mean the difference between life and death. Kidsafe Victoria encourages all parents and carers to enrol in a CPR/first aid course and to update their skills regularly. Hopefully they are skills that you will never have to use, however undertaking a course will assist in ensuring you are equipped to respond if an emergency does arise. It is also a good idea to place a CPR chart in your pool or spa area for easy reference.



Student Reports

Katie Fowles and Russell Marsden started a beautiful tradition at Avenel PS last year, donating an olive tree which will be planted to commemorate the grade 6 students of that year. Katie and Russell have committed to this project for several years and the significance of this project was not lost on our senior students as they planted the tree with Science teacher, Mrs Barri. Below are the lovely words shared by Katie regarding the planting of the tree:

This olive tree which we have planted will always connect each one of you to this moment in your school life. This moment is all about finishing primary school before moving onto secondary school where you will have further memorable adventures and experiences.

As this tree grows and matures, it will bear fruit – its olives. You will also grow and mature in the years ahead and your ‘fruit’ will be achieving your own dreams and aspirations.

Hopefully you will visit this tree in the years ahead as a reminder of your start here in Avenel.

Maybe, one day in the future when you have grown up, you will plant a tree with the young children in your own family to create more memories.



Thanks to Katie and Russell for their generosity and for providing our grade 6s with a lasting tribute to their primary school time.

2023 Friend-o-Leaders

Last Tuesday Mrs Malone and Mrs Tobin took the Friend-o-Leaders down to Jubilee Park for a picnic lunch, to thank these leaders for all their hard work and commitment to their leadership role. This wonderful group were our first ever peer mentors and they have demonstrated tremendous leadership strengths and skills, exemplifying one of our school values of 'Give Something Back'.

The group ate and played together and then debriefed about all the positive aspects of the role as well as making suggestions to improve the program for 2024. The group said they really loved the training they were given and liked helping others with their friendship problems, they all admitted that role took a lot of commitment. In light of their suggestions next year's Friend-o-Leaders will have more regular meeting times to discuss strategies to help with friendship issues and they will join other classes Pos Ed lessons, so all students get to know them and their role.

We thank the 2023 Friend-o-Leaders for all their hard work and giving back to our school community.



A holiday message
from
SunSmart[®]

We are so lucky in regional Victoria to have fantastic outdoor places where we can connect, be active and explore. But when we're outdoors, we are exposed to UV radiation which can cause us and our family harm. When the index hits 3, cover up from UV. **#whentheindexhits3 #coverup #SunSmartVic.**

You can cover up by wearing protective clothing, a hat, sunglasses, SPF50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen and seeking shade. For other ways to protect your skin against UV, visit www.sunsmart.com.au.

This summer we're supporting **SunSmart's** latest campaign **#DontLetCancerIn** by encouraging our school community to cover up. Be part of this movement and pledge to check UV levels every day and protect your skin, even when doing simple things like gardening or taking a walk. Share your commitment below and let's ensure everyone's safe.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| MONTH | DATE | EVENT |
|--------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| December | 14 th | School Council Dinner |
| | 18 th | Concert Night – 6.00pm |
| | 19 th | Triathlon |
| | 20 th | Last day Term 4 – 1.20pm dismissal |
| January 2024 | 31 st | Gr 1-6 students return |
| February | 1 st | Preps commence |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY – Oakeigh Kanters, Georgie Gurkin, Hunter Friedrich, Immy O'Brien, Layla Smith, Daisy Sheean, Makenleigh Martin, Ace Wheeler, Beau Jeffery and Baxter Jameson



KELLY CLUB NEWS – We encourage families to enrol from December 1st. Enrolments can be made if you wish but we will begin contacting families from the 1st.

Enrolments can be made by scanning the QR code on the flyer otherwise you can go directly to the enrolment page here:

https://prodadmin.myxplor.com/enrollment_v2/centre/56ogGCAR4I24356EhkxM9xfaGg



*Good bye and best wishes to our graduating Year 6 students. We wish you all the best with your future years of education and hope that you look back on your time at Avenel Primary School with pride and treasure the memories of good times shared.
From Staff and Students*



Class of 2023

WE
WISH
★ YOU A ★
MERRY
CHRISTMAS
★ AND A ★
HAPPY NEW YEAR



Happy Holidays



BONNIE'S REPORT

I can't believe that it is the end of the school year already. It only seems like yesterday we were welcoming all our new preps to the school and now they are old hands at this school game and moving up to Grade 1. I have enjoyed spending time in every classroom working with all students during the year. You are a very clever lot and have taught me heaps when I've been in your classrooms. Thank you to everyone who came to take me out for walks during play time and lunch time. I really enjoy getting out playing ball and chasing butterflies or anything else that captures my attention. I will not see you all for a while as we are going on holidays so, please enjoy your school break, stay safe and enjoy plenty of play time. I know I will love having lots of time at home sleeping in, playing ball, going for walks around the lake, chasing magpies and butterflies and talking with the dog next door.

Happy Holidays 😊

Bonnie



Merry Christmas



Community Information

The **Visy Recycling Centre** has opened at **Avenel Café**. The following is a list of which containers can be recycled. At school students place the containers collected from lunch and snack time into the red container provided outside the big building which will then be taken to the shop, with the funds going into the school's bank account towards Junior School Council fund raising.



Eligible Vs Ineligible Containers

Which containers are eligible for a refund?

Drink containers ranging from 150ml to 3 litres are eligible for a 10-cent refund if they're made from:

- Glass
- PET clear/coloured
- Aluminium
- Steel
- Liquid paperboard (small juice boxes or flavoured milk containers).
- HDPE

To check if a container qualifies for a refund, look for the '10c' mark on it.

Eligible Containers



Ineligible Containers



Containers must be in good shape.

Containers cannot be crushed, or damaged, and the label or barcode should still be intact.

Which containers are ineligible for a refund?

These include:

- Plain milk containers
- Cordial, syrup, concentrated fruit, or vegetable juice bottles
- Glass containers that contained wine or pure spirits
- Large containers (1 litre or more) that contained flavoured milk, pure juice, cask wine or cask water
- Registered health tonics
- Highly contaminated aluminium such as pet food, tuna tins, or foil trays.

Why are some beverage containers eligible for a refund and some aren't?

Eligible containers are often found as litter in streets, beaches, waterways, and parks and are typically used when people are on the move, outside, or away from home. Containers not accepted are commonly used at home, making them better suited for regular household recycling.

Can lids be left on?

Leave lids on and they will be made into new products as well.

Can I refuse to take containers?

Yes, you can refuse to take any ineligible or contaminated containers and only accept suitable eligible containers.

What do I do with ineligible containers?

Ineligible containers may still be recycled. Advise customers to take these containers home and recycle them in their kerbside bins.

Need some help?

Contact the Visy Customer Service team, email cpo@visy.com or call 1300 220 815

Operating Monday to Sunday 9am-5pm AEST (except public holidays)

Avenel Library JP Document Signing Station

Justice of the Peace

Your JP will be in attendance:

Wednesday: 2PM - 3:30PM

Note: We cannot supply Birros or Pens

No JPs are in Attendance on Public Holidays

If you can't make it to the library, please email justiceofthepeace.avenel@gmail.com to arrange an appointment

JP services provided include:

- witnessing a Statutory Declaration
- certifying a True Copy of an original document
- Attesting the execution of a document
- witnessing an Affidavit for use in court
- witnessing a Power of Attorney
- witnessing a Medical Treatment Decision Maker

A FREE
COMMUNITY
SERVICE



Royal Victorian Association
of Honorary Justices
Independent, Trusted, Respected

UNDERA-KHANA

COME & TRY DAY

SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER

ENTRY LEVEL MOTORCYCLE EVENTS THAT ARE
FUN, SAFE & EDUCATIONAL

Ages 4 – 16years

NO LICENCE NEEDED

9am – 1pm

(BBQ lunch & drinks available)

UNDERA PARK SPEEDWAY COMPLEX

1915 ECHUCA ROAD UNDERA

BVO CHILD, MOTORBIKE, HELMET, BOOTS & SAFETY GEAR

Proudly brought to you
by the Goulburn Valley
Motor Cycle Club Inc



Info / Rob – 0419 142 297

Fun & Creative
Outdoor Activities
for Kids Age 5 and
Above

Sessions Available
for All Levels from
Beginner to
Advanced!

Winston Park Equestrian Centre



HOLIDAY PROGRAM!

\$130 PER CHILD
Includes Lunch

3 Goulding Court, Bradford

Activities

Riding Lessons
Games
Horsemanship
Theory
Team Building
Lots of Fun!!

TO BOOK:

[HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM](https://www.trybooking.com) OR THE
LINK ON OUR PAGE!

For more info: Bianca 0403209811
winstonparkequestriancentre@outlook.com

REGISTER
ONLINE

SPACE IS
LIMITED

Winston Park Equestrian Centre

Holiday Program

January 2024



| Mon | All Levels Program | Tues | All Levels Program |
|---|---|--|--|
| 8/1/24 15/1/24 22/1/24 08:30 - 2:00pm | A fun filled day with lots of activities on and around our experienced School Horses! Learn to catch, groom, ride in our interactive environment. | 9/1/24 16/1/24 23/1/24 08:30 - 2:00pm | A fun filled day with lots of activities on and around our experienced School Horses! Learn to catch, groom, ride in our interactive environment. |
| Wed 10/1/24 8:30 - 1:00pm | Advanced Riders Program Show Preparation, Arena Etiquette, Showing and Workouts | Wed 17/1/24 8:30 - 1:00pm | Advanced Riders Program Dressage Protocol Day - Pick your test or bring your results along, ride and work on improving your results or ride your first test in a comp environment |
| Thurs 11/1/24 8:30 - 2:00pm | Intermediate Riders Program Games Day! Mounted Games and Novelties in our huge 65 x 65m Arena! Learn vaulting, passing, relays, rules and comp day techniques | Thurs 18/1/24 8:30 - 2:00pm | Intermediate Riders Program Flat Work and Dressage Protocol Day Learn all things Dressage. Understand an arena layout, calling a test, practice & ride your preferred test! |
| Fri 12/1/24 19/1/24 26/1/24 8:30 - 2:00pm | All Levels Program A fun filled day with lots of activities on and around our experienced School Horses! Learn to catch, groom, ride in our interactive environment. | Wed 24/1/24 8:30 - 1:00pm | Advanced Riders Program Show Jumping - Improve your skills, Learn about tactics, building a course and ride a full course in a competition environment |
| Thur 26/1/24 8:30 - 2:00pm | Intermediate Riders Program Poles Grids and Show Jumping Day! | | |

TO BOOK:

[HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM](https://www.trybooking.com) OR THE
LINK ON OUR PAGE!

For more info: Bianca 0403209811
winstonparkequestriancentre@outlook.com




 Lions Club of Seymour-Goulburn
 presents
Carols in the Park
 Sunday 10th December at Goulburn Park, Seymour
 4pm Start, Concert at 6pm
 Pre-Show Entertainment,
 Children's Activities,
 A visit from Santa,
 Guest Performer Shanae Watson,
 The Australian Army Band,
 Mitchell Shire Concert Band,
 Food Trucks & Lions BBQ.





For Sale
Solid Timber King Single bed x 2
Premier k/s Mattress. Exc. Cond
Call Lea. 0473 655 188
\$680 Each
(Westminster Furniture Company)

ATHLETICA
 DANCE STUDIOS
OPEN DAY
SATURDAY
16TH DEC



Liked by georgiagregson and 58 others
 athleticadancestudios ATHLETICA OPEN DAY!!! 📣 The perfect opportunity to come and see our facilities, meet our team and participate in a free dance class ! Bookings for classes are essential, please email info@athleticadancestudios.com.au or call/text us on 0461 567 412. We can't wait to meet you! 😊👯

Due to lack of staff
Avenel Pool Opening times
4.30 - 7.30pm
Tuesdays Lap swimming
Postponed until further notice



JUBILEE PARK CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
 Planning your drive around town to view the Christmas lights?
 Don't forget to include Jubilee Park on your list as there is a wonderful display of Christmas lights on show.



