Monday 7th March, 2016

Avoca Beach Public School is committed to providing a safe and caring environment where individuals are respectful, responsible and strive for their personal best.

Our innovative, collaborative and inclusive culture empowers and supports every learner.

---

**Swimming Carnival**

Our annual swimming carnival was held last Monday. Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the events. There were some outstanding performances during the day. Well done to all the students who gained places. We now have 34 students representing the school at the 5th Central Coast Zone PSSA Carnival tomorrow at the Peninsula Leisure Centre. A big thank you to Mr Jarmaine for his organisation of the carnival. Thanks also to all the teachers who assisted on the day. Good luck to our students participating in the Zone Carnival tomorrow.

**The Interrelate Program**

The Interrelate Program will be held this Wednesday evening in the school hall.

- Years 3-4 students & parents 6.00pm -7.00pm & Years 5-6 students & parents 7.15pm to 8.15pm.

Please ensure that all notes and payments are returned by Wednesday.

**Clean Up Australia Day**

On Friday the school participated in the school Clean Up Australia Day. All students spent time in the school ground cleaning up their local environment. Fortunately the students take great pride in their school environment and there was little rubbish to clean up. Thank you to Mrs Humphreys for her organisation of this activity.

**AECG Meeting**

A reminder to all parents of our Aboriginal students that the AECG meeting will be held this Wednesday evening. The meeting is at Kincumber High School starting at 6.00pm.

**P & C Meeting**

The March meeting of the P & C will be held next Monday starting at 7.00pm. The AGM will be held first followed by the monthly meeting. All parents & community members are invited to attend.

**Cricket**

Last Friday our boys cricket team played in the first round of their NSW PSSA Knockout. The boys played Terrigal Public School at Patrick Croke Oval. A report is tabled later in the newsletter.

**Professional Learning**

Our teaching staff are continually involved in updating their teaching knowledge and skills through attending Professional Learning courses. Over the last week Mrs Hartley & Mrs Fyffe attended a Future Schools Conference in Sydney, learning about all the latest trends in technology for learning. Three teachers are attending 8 ways of learning focusing on how to implement Aboriginal perspective into teaching practice.

Last week teachers attended the Central Coast PD/H & PE network meeting and our Kindergarten teachers attended L3 training to continue their training in this literacy program.
LMBR System
Over the next ten weeks all Public Schools on the Central Coast will be preparing for the change over to the new Learning Management & Business Reform System. This will involve significant changes to the way in which schools operate both in recording & tracking student learning, well being & engagement and in the financial management of the school. At present our implementation team of Mrs Worboys & Mrs Craig in the office along with Mr Graham and myself are involved in intensive training to prepare for the change over to the new system which will take place on Monday, 16th May. I will keep the community informed of the implications of the new system for our school.
Primary Schools on the Central Coast are the first group of schools to move onto the new system after a long trial has been completed with 229 schools across the State.

Life Education
The Life Education Van & Healthy Harold will be visiting our school from today.
Please ensure that your notes & payment of $10 have been returned so that your child/ren doesn’t miss out on this very important session.

Opportunities for students
I wanted to highlight the wide range of opportunities being offered to our students at this time of the year.
In the Creative & Performing Arts area students are involved in a junior and senior choir, our band groups practise before school. We have two string groups now operational and three dance groups busily practising at lunchtimes for the upcoming Central Coast Dance Festival. In sport we have just completed our school swimming carnival and we have 34 students competing in the Zone Carnival tomorrow. Our boys cricket team have started their State PSSA Knockout. Students are training for netball, boys and girls football, softball and rugby League. Over 70 students are participating in the Sporting Schools program on Tuesday & Wednesday mornings.

Coding, Parliament and Premiers Debating Challenge
On Friday, 30 Stage 1 students began their coding lessons and our Student Parliament has now begun. Last week a group of Stage 3 students attended a Debating Workshop in preparation for their involvement in the Premiers’ Debating Challenge.

Acknowledgement
It is easy sometimes to forget the wide range of experiences that schools provide for students. They all play a part in the development of our students. They all take organisation and I would like to acknowledge the dedication of the many teachers who willingly give their time to ensure that our students receive these opportunities.

Regards
Ross Hallaways,
Principal.

NAPLAN
In May 2016 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.
The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.
Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 10-12 May 2016.
A separate note outlining organisation and disability adjustments will be provided to all parents of students in Year 3 and 5.

A brochure outlining information for parents can be found by following the link below.

Sporting and Cultural Opportunities

At Avoca Beach PS we provide students with an extensive variety of school based activities promoting student engagement. A document has been created which outlines our main PSSA, general sporting and cultural opportunities, so that students and their families can discuss and make informed decisions. This list does not detail all extracurricular opportunities but is a great start to provide further connections with school and home. A copy is attached to this week’s newsletter and is also available on our website.

Coding

A significant number of students have indicated they are interested in learning about coding (120+) and to ensure equal opportunity to this learning only Year 1 and 2 will be involved this term. Students who have returned their note and are in Year 3-6 will have the opportunity to participate in coding club later in the year.

In the photo are Indali, Oakes and Dylan enjoying the first session of coding learning to use ‘Scratch’.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

This week students in all classes will be involved in lessons about lunchtime in the Library and using the Canteen. Teachers will be rewarding students who demonstrate these behaviours:

**LIBRARY**
- Quiet voice
- Consider others
- Return equipment

**CANTEEN**
- Wait patiently
- Line up in 2 lines
- Use manners

The **Tell Them From Me** student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the **Tell Them From Me** student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the **Tell Them From Me** survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by **Friday 11th March**. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.
Swimming Carnival

Last Monday Avoca Beach Public School held our annual swimming carnival at Peninsula Leisure Centre. The overall day was fun and full of team spirit. There was lots of participation and cheering. Each house had many wins and losses, but the main idea of the carnival was to have a great time and do your personal best. There were four main swimming styles, freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly. Chants went on all day loudly and proudly! The teachers did a fantastic job arranging and running the carnival.

By Cooper and Daniel

Cricket Report – Round 1

Avoca Beach played Terrigal in an absolute thriller of a match! The game was very evenly matched with both sides using all their overs. On the second last ball the game was won by Avoca when Terrigal nervously bowled a no ball. The result was put beyond doubt with a single by Luke on the last ball. With arms raised in the air, Luke celebrated a true captain’s knock with 35 not out, the top score of the day and what proved to be the difference. Avoca Beach 94 defeated Terrigal on 92. The team will now play Brisbania Public School in Round 2.
Respectful
Responsible
Personal Best

SNACK SHACK

CANTEEN NEWS TERM 1 2016
SNACK SHACK WEEKLY SPECIALS

Tuesday  
Caesar Wrap $4.00

Wednesday  
Nachos $4.00 sour cream or avocado 50c extra

Thursday  
Homemade spaghetti bolognaise $4.00

Thursday  
5 x nuggets with mini salad $4.00

5 x nuggets with corn cob $4.00

5 x nuggets with snack cup $4.00

Friday  
SUSHI $3.50 each roll, sushi orders must be placed by Thursday each week and orders placed on FLEXISCHOOLS can be placed as a reoccurring weekly order.

TERM 1 SPECIAL

Pumpkin & Fetta Salad $5.00  
Hawaiian Burger $4.00

Avoca Beach Public school canteen needs your help to operate efficiently, to be able to keep up with the high demand of freshly prepared recess & lunches. If you are available to do just one rostered day each term please message me your details on 0432680392, Kimberly Bridgefoot.

CANTEEN ROSTER:

TERM 1

Mon 7th  
Robyn Donsworth

Tues 8th  
Elise Mackie

Wed 9th  
Megan Rose

Thurs 10th  
Suzanne Barry

Fri 11th  
Ali O’Brien, Maria Gillam

Mon 14th  
Lyn Cleverly

Tues 15th  
Nina Portelli

Wed 16th  
Virginia McNally

Thurs 17th  
Fi Currie

Fri 18th  
Megan Skene, Melissa Griffith-Roberts

Thank you for taking the time out to help in the canteen. If you are unable to attend your rostered day please call me ASAP. Kimberly Bridgefoot 04322 680 392.
**Did you know that uniforms and canteen items can be ordered online?**

*Payments can be made from savings or credit accounts via this method.*


Avoca Beach Public School’s newsletter contains paid advertisements which assist with the cost of publication. The publication of such advertisements does not imply endorsement of any product or service by the NSW Department of Education or Avoca Beach Public.

**UNIFORM SHOP** opening hours Wednesdays 8.30am – 9.30am and Fridays 3.00pm – 4.00pm.

**MAKING PAYMENTS** – The School Office does not carry any MONEY for change. Please either have correct money or make payment on the website under $Make payment

**PIPPA’S BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE NOW OPEN (200m from Avoca Beach Public School).** Registered with Multitask Family Day Care, Monday to Friday 7am—9am and 3:30pm—5:30pm. Please contact Pip for any enquiries 0426 042 671 or email: pippascollon@bigpond.com.

**EAST COAST TAEKWONDO ACADEMY** – Lessons held at Copacabana Public School on Tuesdays from 5:30pm – 6:30pm. Membership includes (for a limited time), free uniform, free one month training and TKT instructional DVD. Contact 7th Dan Master Chris Pennington of 0416 102 487 or 4390 3370 or visit [www.taekwondoeastcoast.com.au](http://www.taekwondoeastcoast.com.au).

**KINCUMBER LIBRARY** Craftanoon @ Kincumber Library Mon 14th March 3.30pm – 4.30pm. Lego Thurs 17th March 3.30 – 4.30pm. Bookings essential, please call Kincumber Library on 4304 7641.
There are a variety of school based activities available for interested students. The table below outlines our main PSSA, general sporting and cultural opportunities, so that students and their families can discuss and make informed decisions. Throughout the year a range of sports are entered into the NSW PSSA Knockout competition. These competitions are played in rounds between schools in the same zone. Teams advance to higher rounds if they win and often rounds are played as a gala day to give schools more opportunity. Please be mindful that the information may be subject to change closer to organised dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Swimming Carnival *</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>29 Feb</td>
<td>Dennis Jarmaine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival *</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>8 Mar</td>
<td>Dennis Jarmaine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-6 X-Country Carnival *</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>6 Apr</td>
<td>Dennis Jarmaine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-2 X-Country</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Rebecca Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone X-Country Carnival *</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>20 May</td>
<td>Dennis Jarmaine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-6 Athletics Carnival *</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>11 Aug</td>
<td>Dave Rattray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-2 Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Rebecca Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone Athletics Carnival *</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>22 Aug</td>
<td>Dave Rattray</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Please note that students need to be turning 8 years of age or older in order to compete. Carnivals may have a cost which is confirmed closer to the date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Softball - Senior</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Julie Boarer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket - Senior</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Craig Blanch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball - Senior</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Dennis Jarmaine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rugby League - Senior</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>David Rattray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football - Senior</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Chris Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball - Senior</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Shannon Metti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touch - Senior</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Esther Hartley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Swimming Program Yr2-6</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Last 2 weeks Term 3 Approx $80</td>
<td>Suzanne Bramford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 2016 Cultural Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>String Ensemble</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Mon 8-9am $10 per week + All year</td>
<td>Eva Wieremann (leader) Carolyn Coleman (coordinator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(experienced students only)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginners String Ensemble</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Fri 8-9am $10 per week +</td>
<td>Carolyn Coleman (coordinator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Band</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Tue 8-9am $10 per week + Term 2-4</td>
<td>Di Gardinar (leader) Carolyn Coleman (coordinator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Year 3-6)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Band</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Wed 8-9 All year</td>
<td>Di Gardinar (leader) Carolyn Coleman (coordinator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Year 4-6)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Choir</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Thursday at lunchtime</td>
<td>Jayne Bevins Carolyn Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Year 1&amp;2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Choir</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Friday afternoon 2.00-2.40pm every second week</td>
<td>Carolyn Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Year 3-6)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debating (Year 5 &amp; 6)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Commencing Term 1</td>
<td>Kim Fyffe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Kim Fyffe &amp; Ashleigh Alarca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tournament of the Minds</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Roxanne Davies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Year 5 &amp; 6)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Cost does not include $50 term hire fee of instruments.*