

## BOARD TALK

### A word from the Chair

As our 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee celebration over Queens Birthday weekend has been such a success I would like to thank the Jubilee committee for all of their hard work. I attended a few of the events and found these to be well organised and fun, I know this has helped the school reflect on past successes and motivate us to ensure we continue to make Avonhead the best school it can be. Amongst all the speeches one common theme came through, relationships and community support for the school. As we head into the next chapter of the Avonhead Schools story we still need our community and maybe now even more than we have on the past. As peoples lives are certainly a lot busier now, from teachers having to keep up with all the paperwork that is now required, to the students that have amazing opportunities outside of school, to the parents who work so hard to make sure their children are getting experiences that were not around when we were kids, it is hard to find time to keep our school community as strong as we remember our when we were all kids.

Support for the school comes in many ways and many forms. I know that we all have high hopes for our children as they develop and head into the future but we must not lose sight that to ensure the school is doing its best to support the growth of our kids we must contribute. We must try to support our teachers and leadership team. The biggest way I think we can all strengthen our community is by communicating, both letting us know when things are going well and also making sure if we lose focus bring us back to the reason we are all involved.

Everyone wants their children to do their best and achieve well at school and as a board this is also what drives us, achievement and well rounded children, and as we head into the next 50 years of the school, as a community I know we will bring back our focus and ensure all of our children are what drives decisions we make.

Once again as a board we are your representatives, and are charged with ensuring that our school is running to the best of its ability, if you have any ideas, or feedback that the board may find valuable please send us and email at [bot@avonhead.school.nz](mailto:bot@avonhead.school.nz)

Regards,  
Lewis Preston.

## Policies

As part of improving communication and parent knowledge we will be including policies so parents and caregivers can be kept well informed.

### **Guidelines for Parents with a Complaint**

If you have a concern or complaint, contact the teacher involved and discuss the matter.

If the matter doesn't involve a particular teacher, or you do not wish to contact the teacher concerned, or you are unhappy with the outcome of meeting with the teacher, contact the principal or deputy principal, or a member of the board of trustees.

If an informal meeting does not resolve your concern, you may need to make a formal complaint

### **Uniform/Dress**

Students are expected and encouraged to take pride in their general appearance. Staff follow up on breaches of the dress code as required by the board of trustees.

Black shoes, or strong, mostly white, sports shoes are worn with the uniform.

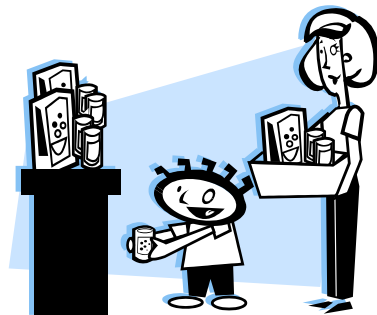
Sunhats can be purchased from the retailer, or from the library at school.

The only jewellery items that may be worn to school are watches, and stud or sleeper earrings.

More policies can be accessed through the school website:

[www.avonhead.school.nz](http://www.avonhead.school.nz)

Please take the time to have a look around



## Updates



### Audit Report 2008

BDO Spicers have completed their audit of the school's accounting systems and controls and have reviewed the financial statements to 31 Dec 08. A copy of this report is available for viewing at the Administration office.



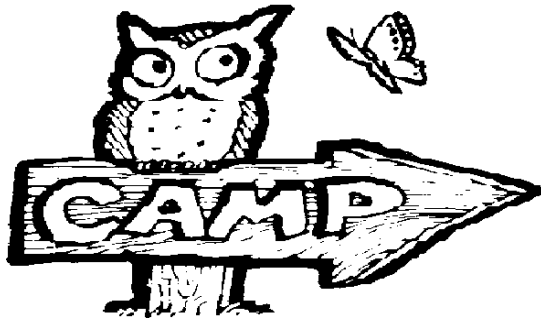
### New Multi Purpose Hall

After interviewing a number of architects, Opus Consultants have been appointed as the architects for the new hall and are currently underway developing concept designs. It is hoped that construction could commence just before the end of Term 4 with the new hall being available for use by the end of Term 1 2010.

### **Website**

Our school website has had a makeover. We would welcome feedback on it and any suggestions for future improvements.

<http://www.avonhead.school.nz>



### **Year 7/8 Hanmer Camp**

The Board would like to pass on their thanks to the staff and parents who helped to make this year's Year 7&8 camp a great success.

Our children benefitted from a wonderful E.O.T.C. experience and will look back on their time at Hanmer camp with great memories.



### **Jubilee**

Congratulations and thanks are due the Avonhead Jubilee committee for putting on a wonderful event over Queen's Birthday weekend.

We have had plenty of wonderful feedback about the range of activities. We are sure everybody enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with old school friends and colleagues.

Here's to the next 50 years!