



Jubilee: What a fantastic celebration during Queen's Birthday weekend! It was a big event enjoyed by all attending, there was something for everyone and everyone was involved, including the major contributors – our own children. This included high quality art work from throughout the school, and amazing performances in the marquee, including the Totem Pole made by the Junior Syndicate, and their special chant and singing (Big thanks to Kate Morgan).

A special highlight for me was the Saturday morning where the chorale sang beautifully in the marquee in what musicians would call 'difficult performance conditions'. The 'echoes' from a building is called (in simple terms) acoustics. Musicians rely on these to help them with their performances, particularly with tuning. As you know, there are no acoustics in a tent! A tent would challenge even the best of musicians but the Chorale sang beautifully and were absolutely 'visually stunning' in their new choir uniform just recently purchased by the PTA and the Board.

Thank you to our Jubilee Committee, parents, staff and children for all the incredible work that went into making the Jubilee a wonderful, celebratory event for all to enjoy.

Swine Flu update:

The last letter I sent to parents included a note from the Ministry of Health that was sent to all schools last Tuesday. As a result, the school decided to prepare for a possible pandemic. We are in the process of updating all our records and collecting first aid resources that we could possibly need. The Ministry of Health letter of 2 June suggested that children returning to New Zealand from affected areas overseas, but who are **not** showing symptoms of flu, should be kept at home for a week. However in the latest newsletter from the Ministry of Education it states that parents need only keep their children home if they or anyone in their family are displaying symptoms of flu or illness and that you should call your doctor whether you have been overseas to affected areas or not.

Sorry children. Those who thought you could travel with your family to Australia and then return and have seven glorious days of holiday at home while you are happy and well, is not the correct thinking at this stage!! If you are happy, well (and rested) we expect you back at school!!

Procedures:

On Monday, we had forty children away with the flu. This is seasonal, flu weather and this sort of number is fairly normal at this time of the year. However having forty families contact us at school to let us know that their child is unwell, puts a 'strain' on our telephone infrastructure and sometimes it doesn't cope with the heavy number of calls. Please persevere as it is much easier getting a phone call from you rather than office staff spending a lot of time trying to contact you at home.

Our telephone technicians have enabled a second answerphone to take the extra load and it should be easier to leave a message.

You can help by:

- Ringing the answer-phone at the school anytime – 24 hours!
- When the greeting message is given, press 0 firmly (for at least one second) to leave a message on our answer-phone
- Please leave your child's name, their room number and brief reason for their absence.
- Ring back if all lines are engaged.

Thank you

Charles Levings
Principal

School Policies

Because many schools have generic policies for everything from Health and Safety to concerns and complaints, a company has been set up that provides generic policies for schools. This company is called 'Schooldocs'

Avonhead School has adopted the policies in School Docs particularly as the package allows us to 'tailor' some of the policies for Avonhead School.

These policies are available for viewing on the 'Schooldocs' website and for the first time we are inviting parents to view our policies. The instructions to do this are listed below.

A feature of the Schooldocs programme allows a review process to occur where parents from Avonhead School, along with responses from parents of all client schools, may make suggestions or amendments for policies under review. The school gets to see these responses and a committee made up of Principals and Board members at Schooldocs considers your response along with others and makes the relevant changes if needed.

This means that parents can have a say in the evolution and review process of the policies that our school has.

Please have a look at Schooldocs below and familiarise yourself with the policies adopted by the school. We are looking forward to using the new school docs and these policies and procedures are more manageable than our current policies and procedures. However, you will appreciate there will be a transition period between the old policies and the new policies.

The Avonhead School policies can now be viewed on the Avonhead School website. When policies are up for review, and depending on the particular policy, parents will have the opportunity to provide their comments through an on-line feedback system.

Please find below the instructions for (A) accessing the policies and (B) reviewing the policies.

Accessing the policies

- Go to the Avonhead School website – www.avonhead.school.nz
- On the "Home" page on the site menu, you will find a button (second from bottom) called school policies which you should click on
- In the user name area, type in "avonhead"
- In the password area, type in "55ahead"
- You will then have access to the Policy and Procedure site
- Navigate your way through the various policies/procedures by using the prompts on the left hand side. (Click on the + sign on the left to show further policies.)

Reviewing the policies

- The procedure to get to the Policy and Procedure site is as indicated above
- At the "welcome" page, you will see highlighted words "policies currently under review"
- Click on this and it will take you to the policies currently being reviewed. (The two documents under review for parents this term are; Reporting to Parents and Improving Educational Outcomes for Maori Students.)
- This will take you to the review screen
- Policies that parents can comment on will have "parents" indicated beside the reviewers heading
- Click on the policy you wish to comment on
- On the top right hand part of the screen you will see a button saying "policy review"
- Click on this and then select the reviewer type as "parent/caregiver"
- Enter your name (optional)
- In the password area, type in 'pin'
- Login
- Submit your ratings and comments

If you don't have internet access, the school office staff can easily provide you with printed copies of the policy and review form.

NW Zones Cross Country Results 2009

9 Year Old Boys

11 Rhys Weaver
12 Fergus McIntosh
16 Yusei Mameno

9 Year Old Girls

2 McKenna Dale
4 Anna Reese-Jones
9 Amy Collett
16 Kerry Chen

10 Year Old Boys

4 A J Salmon
8 Daniel Webber
15 Jason Archer
25 Josh Santich

10 Year Old Girls

9 Maddie Davidson
3 Lucy Walker
22 Gemma Higgins
23 Antonia Heath

11 Year Old Boys

1 Renta Yamamoto
6 Jacob Reese-Jones
10 Ryan Schrader
17 Armin Tahan

11 Year Old Girls

7 Siobhan Dale
11 Claudia Dakin-Thompson
14 Ellen Turnbull
15 Lani Tulia

12 Year Old Boys

1 Fraser Gurney
2 Cleve Thornalley
7 William Gillespie
10 Thomas Wright

12 Year Old Girls

3 Erica Winton
8 Annabelle Greenwood
12 Alice Williams
19 Lucy Goslin

Celebrations

- ☺ Paige Campion, Rm 14, did very well at the Cheerleading Nationals in the weekend in Auckland. Her team was placed 6th out of 8 teams, including two elite teams.
☺ Looking forward to viewing the DVD Paige!

Notices

Raissa Maia, 17, is available for babysitting after school or weekends Ph 343 4459 or 021 02739001

Give Golf A Go
Sunday Mornings 11am - 12noon
Booking required
Riccarton Park Golf Complex
03 342 1066

Star Search..is on again at Northlands Mall. All budding entertainers see the poster in the office!

Social English Conversation for Adult Speakers of Other Languages.

Come and join us at Avonhead.

Where? Avonhead Staff Room

When? Last Thursday of every month

Next: June 25th

Time? 9-9.30am

Theme: Clothing

Term Diary

June 10	NW Festival-rehearsal Senior Camp
11	Ferrymead Yr 3/4 Senior Camp
12	Winter Sport Yr 5/6 Seniors return from camp
15	Speech Final Yr 5/6
16	Ferrymead Yr 3/4
17	Central Cross Country
18	School Speech Contest
22	Teacher Only Day
23	NSW Spelling & Writing
24	NW Festival
25	PTA Meeting Conversation for ESOL Speakers
26	PTA Sausage Sizzle
30	Rotary Speech Contest
July 3	End of Term
22	BOT Meeting
27	NSW Writing test
28/29	Parent teacher Interviews
30	PTA Meeting
Aug 4	NSW English
5	Student Council Wacky Hair Day
7	PTA Sausage Sizzle
10	Zone Winter Tournament
12/13	Canta Maths
17	Music Fest Rehearsal in Town Hall
18	NSW Maths test

