Dear Parents,

**Congratulations on a fabulous Sports day…**
I wish to thank and acknowledge the outstanding work of the Fundraising committee, especially Dianne Carrington, Donna Melican, Kelly Stewart and Lisa Hills in organising the Sports Day. Bitter conditions prevented our usual outside activities however students had a wonderful day, dressed in their favourite sports outfit, competing and playing a range of engaging activities in class.

A highlight of the day was a visit by Matthew Lloyd who spoke to the juniors and seniors in turn. He spoke about growing up in Avondale Heights, playing cricket and football on the school oval, playing for Avondale Heights Football Club and enjoying his time playing sport. When asked why he had retired from AFL football, Matthew spoke about the importance of passion and filling your goals. Matthew explained that he had achieved his goals and wanted to retire from the game on his terms. I thank Matthew for making time to visit our children.

This year Grade six students competed in an elimination, basketball, shoot-for goal contest. Winners were: Vanessa Beleska and William Elliott. The winner of first prize in the raffle Evelyn Butterly (sold by Ebony Waites). I was pleased to see many winners of the following nine prizes were students at the school. The raffle raised over $1700 which will be used to further enhance our outdoor sports and games facilities. More photos of the day will feature in next week’s newsletter.

**Ultranet launched…**
The launch of Ultranet is a significant step Victoria is taking to improve education in government schools. It provides an online environment where:

- Teachers can plan and collaborate to produce high quality curriculum
- Students can use online resources to learn in a manner that suits their learning style
- Provides teachers (and students, term 4) anywhere and anytime access to lessons

The Ultranet was launched on Monday 9th August. Teachers in government schools across the state started their initial training in this new Web 2.0 software. It will be progressively implemented in schools as staff develop expertise in its features.

**Avondale celebrates its 50th anniversary next year…**
Avondale Primary School was opened in 1961, which makes next year the school’s 50th ‘birthday’. I would like to celebrate this milestone in style with current and former students, parents and staff. Preparing for this celebration will present challenges and opportunities. I seek expressions of interest from community members who would like to contribute to the planning process.

We need to decide what to do and when to do it. Our challenges include finding ways to contact former students and staff; collect memorabilia, photographs, videos and art work for displays, and developing a schedule of events. If you are interested in contributing in some way, please contact Maria or Ros (9318 1755).

**Dogs and Cats meet at Etihad…**
After a solid win by the Magpies last week, the Cats will be looking to make amends against the Western Bulldogs. It should be a great game specially if the Bulldogs can shake off their colds SERIOUS VIRUS (edited by Ros Bulldogs supporter).

Have a great week.

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*Paul Mulroyan*
**Important Notice to Parents**

Procedure for sending money to school:
As per department regulations we would appreciate that when families make payments to school for excursions, camps and other activities, please place money in envelopes clearly marked with your child’s name, grade and what the money is for. (School envelopes are always available at the office please feel free to ask for some.) These envelopes are then handed to the class teacher by the student first thing in the morning.

Should you need to pay a large amount (i.e. a camp payment) you pay directly to the office, please do so before 9.30 am or between 3-3.30pm.

We thank you for your support in this matter it will help with management of office procedures.

Many thanks Maria and Ros

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**
(subject to change check regularly)

**August**
- Monday 16th: Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm
- School Council Meeting 7:30pm
- Tuesday 17th: Australian Schools Test—Maths
- Wednesday 18th: Premiers Reading Challenge Closes
- Thursday 19th: Essendon Keilor College perform ‘Fame’ for Grade 5/6s
- 23rd–27th: Children’s Book Week
- Tuesday 24th: Book Week Incursion—Mini Goss visiting author
- Wednesday 25th: Music Students to visit Ron Conn Centre 1:30
- Thursday 26th: Book Week Parade
- Friday 27th: Fundraising Meeting 9:15am
- Tuesday 31st: Zone Athletics

**September**
- Friday 3rd: Grade Prep and One Fathers Day Breakfast
- 6th–16th: Junior Swimming Program
- Wednesday 15th: Music Students to visit Ron Conn Centre
- Friday 17th: Last Day Term 3 Students Finish at 2:15

**October**
- Monday 4th: First Day Term 4

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**Rebel Sport Fundraiser**

When you purchase goods at Rebel Sport Highpoint and mention Avondale Primary School in the MVP program, the school receives 5% of the purchase price and you receive a 5% discount. Why not mention this next time you’re there?

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**THANK-YOU**

K-MART of Westfield Airport West for Their donation of $40.00 Voucher to buy trowels for our Tree Planting Day

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**Advertisements**

The advertisements in this newsletter are for community interest only. The school has no connection with, nor endorses, any particular business activity.