Dear Parents,

**Why not encourage your child to play sport…**

Children are being encouraged to consider playing a club sport as part of a national campaign themed: *Play for life… join a sporting club.*

Nationwide over 150 gala days and ‘try a sport’ events will be held between July and September to introduce children and parents to the range of club sports available in the local area.

The campaign reflects the importance of physical activity for healthy growth and development. Research shows that sport helps children cope with stress, reduces anxiety and depression, strengthens self-esteem, and boosts mental alertness.

Playing club sport adds another dimension – it helps children develop valuable life skills such as cooperation, discipline, respect and tolerance.

Renowned child and adolescent psychologist [Dr Michael Carr-Gregg](#) says that after 20 years of working in his field, he is absolutely convinced of the benefits of club sports for children.

> “Apart from the obvious physical benefits, participation in sports clubs enables young to take healthy risks, spend structured time with age appropriate peers, and win, lose or draw, they discover more about themselves,” he said.

[Johanna Griggs](#) has supported the initiative by becoming the campaign’s ambassador.

> “I’m proud to be an ambassador for ‘Play for Life…join a sporting club’. It reflects my own journey with sport – a journey that has helped me get to where I am today. But more importantly, it reflects the positive role that sport plays in my boys’ lives … for life.”

For more information, or to find sporting clubs near you, visit [www.ausport.gov.au/findaclub](http://www.ausport.gov.au/findaclub)

**‘Claudia Raindrop’ visits during Science Week…**

I wish to thank and congratulate Nancy Wilkinson and Maria Roach on their thorough organisation of Science Week. There has been a wonderful variety of activities for students, which started with students swapping grades for some intriguing investigations.

Students with Mrs Seibert explored static electricity and bubbles while those with Mr Carrick used air pressure to send a plastic bottle rocketing up to a height of 20m.

On Wednesday Claudia (pictured) performed for junior students while staff from Strathmore Secondary College led senior students to discover life at the microscopic level.

We will finish the week celebrating Tree Planting Day by further developing our gardens. I would like to thank and acknowledge the generous support of Bunnings and Moonee Valley City Council for their donation of plants.

**Parents invited to a dedication ceremony 3.05pm Friday…**

Beau and Kristy Butcher are former parents of Avondale Primary. Beau spent many hours designing, acquiring and leading the planting of our indigenous, sensory garden in front of the staff car park. On Friday, we will hold a dedication ceremony and unveil a plaque acknowledging Beau’s contribution. The ceremony will be held in the staff car park at 3.05pm, immediately before dismissal.

**Lost property boxes are full…**

There are many jumpers, hats and other articles in our brimming lost property boxes. The junior school box is located near the Prep rooms and the senior school box is near the first aid room. I ask parents who are missing uniform articles to check the boxes. *Please mark your child’s uniforms with their name.*

Have a great week

[Signature]
DATES TO REMEMBER
(subject to change check regularly)

**July**
Friday 30th  Fundraising Committee Meeting 9:15am
Tree Planting Day & 3:05pm Beau Butcher Garden dedication

**August**
Tuesday 3rd  Australian Schools Test—English
Wednesday 4th  Prep Farm Excursion
**Monday 9th**  Curriculum Day (No Students to come to school)
Tuesday 10th  Education Sub-Committee Meeting—3:30pm
Wednesday 11th  Sports Day (formerly our Footy Day)
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 5/6
23rd– 27th  Children’s Book Week
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

**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?

Newsletters can be found every Friday on our website - www.avondaleps.vic.edu.au. You can also check this site for the term Calendar.

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**Information Meeting on Childhood Behaviour:**
I would like to invite all interested parents to attend an information meeting presented by Social Worker, Jodie Leishman, who regularly visits our school as a Student Support Services Officer.

Jodie is happy to speak on a range of topics and provide strategies to assist with managing children's behaviours. This may include such things as tantrums, rude behaviour, discipline, setting routines etc.

I would like feedback on whether parents would prefer to have this meeting during or after school and what topics you would be most interested in.

Please reply to Kim Metelmann (Student Welfare Coordinator) by Friday 6th August.

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**Parent Forum Session**
**Communication & Relationships is the Key**

Parents Victoria is holding a free session titled “Communication & Relationships is the Key” on Tuesday 17 August 2010 at Laverton p-12 College. This session is relevant to parents, school councillors and the school management/staff to sustain and engage school communities.

Registration can be made by phone on 9380 2158 or via email office@parents.victoria.asn.au by Monday 16 August

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**Do You Know Anything About this Movie?**
I was a student at Avondale Primary School from 1963 to 1968 when Milleara opened. I vividly remember reading the official plaque located outside the principal’s office as I waited on the wooden bench outside his office. But did you know a movie was made of the event( the official opening, not me sitting on a bench ) in 1963, it was filmed by one of the parents. The girl was in my class and I remember seeing it and being very disappointed by it but I was 5 and very hard to impress . The girl whose father filmed the event was Gabriella Madiona. Not sure of the spelling and I don’t know the extent of your records but in 1963 we were in Miss Murray’s class she later became Mrs Scott. It would be nice if this film still existed and put on to DVD.

Name withheld

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**THANK-YOU!**
To Poynton’s Nursery of Essendon for their donation of Garden Shovels for Tree Planting Day

**ANOTHER THANK-YOU also goes to J&D Hardware and Paint**
31 McFarlane Street
East Keilor
For their donation of trowels

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**SPORTS DAY**
We still need more parent volunteers to help with various activities, please leave your name and contact phone number at the office, if you are able to help on the day.

Raffle ticket sales are going well please continue to return sold raffle tickets to school as soon as possible. the prizes for selling the most raffle ticket books the prizes are:

1st: A family Pass (2 Adults and 2 Children ) to the Royal Melbourne Show.
2nd: 2 Hoyts Movie Tickets.

Any unsold tickets must be returned to school also.

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**Reminder**
The Canteen is still closed until further notice, please do not send lunch orders to school.