Our apologies for the late newsletter last week. Unfortunately we had an issue with the delivery of cartridges for the photocopier.

Staff have once again registered our students to be part of the Premier’s Sporting Challenge. This challenge comes with a small amount of money. Last year we saved the money to support swimming lessons for this year. We have also registered to participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Students in K-2 may read independently or have books read to them. Students in Years 3-6 are to read independently. The list of books is available to students through the DEC portal and in the school library. Mrs Prattis encourages students to borrow books for the challenge throughout the year. Students can enter books they have read using their portal link.

At assembly this week, students were presented with their Swimming Certificates. These certificates provide information to parents about the skills developed and the level achieved.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT
At the end of each month, Mrs McMillan generates a STATEMENT of ACCOUNT. This statement will indicate if any money is outstanding.

Statements being sent home today include the cost of textbooks and a general school contribution.

Students have received and are using their textbooks in class.
This year the school has elected to charge a $20 voluntary contribution for each child. This equates to $5 per term. The money collected will be used to support the gardening program, cooking activities, positive behaviours program and special craft days.

Payments may be made in full, or part payments in regular instalments are also acceptable. Families experiencing financial difficulties are encouraged to speak with Mrs McMillan.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR SUCCESS
Caught you being good.
Kiara and Grace packing up maths equipment before leaving the classroom for lunch.

The girls were also the lucky recipients of this week’s Positive behaviour prize draw.
Guitar lessons begin for nominated students. Please advise Mrs Hopwood, Ms Reardon or Mrs McMillan if your child is interested in lessons.

Robertson Show—no excursion

P & C Meeting 6.00pm

Police talk

Cross Country Carnival and Ball Games at Berrima PS—All students attending.

African Drumming lessons at school 8 week program

NAPLAN Writing

NAPLAN Reading

NAPLAN Numeracy

School Photo Day

Bong Bong Athletics Carnival

Bunning BBQ—helpers needed

Life Education Van visit

Bunning BBQ—helpers needed

**ACCOUNT PAYMENTS**

Payments may be made by the following options;

*Direct to the school office     *Returned in the newsletter folder

*Direct Deposit: Bank: Westpac   Account: Avoca Public School

BSB: 032-001 Account No: 161785

PLEASE ENSURE A REFERENCE IS NOTED WHEN PAYING BY DIRECT DEPOSIT AND THE PERMISSION NOTE RETURNED TO SCHOOL.

Thank you

**CANTEEN MENU T1 ~ 2014**

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers for providing delicious lunches for our students this term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>MENU ITEM</th>
<th>NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>FRIDAY 07.03.14</td>
<td>BURRITOS</td>
<td>NATHAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>FRIDAY 14.03.14</td>
<td>MARINATED CHICKEN WINGS</td>
<td>BARB</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>FRIDAY 21.03.14</td>
<td>KID FRIENDLY CHICKEN CURRY</td>
<td>DARNE</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>FRIDAY 28.03.14</td>
<td>SUSHI - CHICKEN OR TUNA PLUS FRUIT SKEWERS</td>
<td>ALISON &amp; MARK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>FRIDAY 04.04.14</td>
<td>EGG &amp; BACON ROLL</td>
<td>AMANDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>FRIDAY 11.04.14</td>
<td>SUBWAY</td>
<td>CHLOE</td>
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COMMUNITY NEWS

THE LOCAL’S NEST
A family friendly place to play, grow and connect with your community. All ages welcome!
2nd & 4th Thursday’s of every month during the school term 9:30am to 12noon at the Avoca Community Hall. Contact: Amanda - 0410 566 016 or Bek - 0429 591 811

Mums and Dads … Don’t forget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>K-1 Home Readers sent home / Years 1-3 Homework sent home</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>K-1 Home Readers sent home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>K-1 Home Readers sent home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>K-1 Home Readers sent home / Reading Diaries collected and marked / LIBRARY BAG needed / Years 2-3 borrow library books and home readers today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>K-1 Home Readers collected 1-3 Homework collected and marked</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reading ….
Kindergarten and Year 1 students start each reading lesson re-reading the book from the day before…. They must return the book every day!

Years 2-3 students should read one or two chapters of a book each night and record the pages read in their reading diary. They are not expected to read the whole book in one night.

Parents… encourage children to talk about the book they have read. Can they name the characters? Who is their favourite character and why? Did they enjoy the story? Have they had a similar experience? What is the book about? Children reading chapter books, should be able to make predictions about what might happen next?

Maths ….
Kindergarten … need to practise their counting, they are learning to add and subtract small groups, and to recognise and name shapes. Board games are also a fun way to encourage recognition of dot patterns and counting.

Years 1-3 … All students have access to Mathletics this is great for learning times tables and live mathletics encourages students to develop speed and accuracy with addition and subtraction. Dice games, board games, suduko puzzles etc are also beneficial, to developing confidence, accuracy and increasing attention spans.

All students have access to ZooWhiz which also includes a variety of games to support learning.

For students in Kindergarten 10 minutes of homework is sufficient. For students in Stage 1 homework should take about 15 minutes each day. Year 3 should aim for 20 –25 minutes.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR BLUE NEWSLETTER FOLDER EACH MONDAY