



**Shire of Northam**  
**Christmas**  
**Movie Night**  
**Wednesday December 24**  
**Village Green | Starts 6PM**



Tis' the season for sparkle, joy, and a back-to-back movie marathon!  
**Kicking off with "A Boy Called Christmas" (PG)**  
 An ordinary young boy called Nikolas sets out on an adventure into the snowy north in search of his father who is on a quest to discover the fabled village of the elves, Elfheim.  
**Then it's time for "ELF" (PG)**  
 Buddy, a human, is raised amongst elves at the North Pole. When he discovers that he is not an elf, he travels to New York to search for his biological father.

Info: (08) 6608 0310  
 events@northam.wa.gov.au  
 www.northam.wa.gov.au  
**FREE ENTRY**

**Shire of Northam**  
**Australia Day 2026**  
**Monday 26 January**  
 Join us on to reflect on what it means to be Australian.

**Northam Recreation Centre**  
 10am-12pm | Awards & Ceremony  
 Citizenship Ceremony, 2026 Citizen of the Year Awards, & Morning Tea

**Aquatic Facilities**  
 11am-4pm | Northam Aquatic Facility  
 FREE entry, sausage sizzle, slides, & games

12pm-4pm | Wundowie Swimming Pool  
 FREE entry, sausage sizzle, inflatables, & games

**Bernard Park**  
 4pm | FREE sausage sizzle & ice cream\*  
 \*while stocks last | limited options available  
 Live music from Jamie Garlett  
 Welcome to Country  
 Live music from Rising Sun

7.30pm | FREE community stargazing

**Other locations in the Shire of Northam**  
 For details of celebrations in other localities, follow us on Facebook or visit [www.northam.wa.gov.au/events](http://www.northam.wa.gov.au/events)

Info: 08 6608 0310  
 events@northam.wa.gov.au  
 www.northam.wa.gov.au  
 @shireofnortham

The Shire of Northam acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, Culture and Community, and embraces the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Australia. On the land of the Ballardong Nyungar and Whadjuk Nyungar People where we meet, we acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present.



**Shire of Northam**  
**Swimming Lessons**  
**Learn to Swim this January**  
 Suitable for all ages and abilities.

Kick off the new year with 9 lessons of fun, confidence-building swimming over 3 exciting weeks! Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons starting January 5, 2025

Our January Swim Program is designed for all ages and abilities — from first-time floaters to confident swimmers looking to refine their strokes.

- Program Highlights:
- Experienced, friendly instructors
  - Safe, supportive, and fun learning environment
  - Classes for all ages and skill levels

**Registrations NOW OPEN!!**



Info: Northam Recreation Centre (08) 9622 5153  
 E: [natashia.james@northam.wa.gov.au](mailto:natashia.james@northam.wa.gov.au)  
[www.northam.wa.gov.au/swimming](http://www.northam.wa.gov.au/swimming)  
**Ready, Set, SWIM**

**Lower Chittering**  
**A CELESTIAL SHOWCASE!**  
 Come on a School Holiday Family Space Adventure with the team from Star Tracks Astro Events.

Get ready for an unforgettable night under the stars! Join us for our Special Stargazing Event featuring a spectacular line-up of the best celestial objects visible through a telescope!

**\*See Jupiter, Saturn & the Moon!\***

Enjoy stunning views through powerful telescopes, guided by our expert team. Come and experience the beauty of the universe up close!

**Date: Friday 23rd Jan, 2026**  
**Time: 7:00pm – 9:30pm**  
**Location: Lower Chittering Hall**  
**23 Chittering Valley Road, Lower Chittering**

**Tickets:**  
 Adults – \$55  
 Kids – \$22  
 Seniors – \$40  
 (Carers / 0 – 4yrs free)  
 Family Ticket – \$145

Please bring torches, drinks, warm clothes, fly net and insect repellent.  
 This event will go ahead rain, hail or shine with our excellent backup indoor program.

**HOSTED BY**  
**STARTRACKS**  
 ASTRO EVENTS  
[www.startracksastroevents.com.au](http://www.startracksastroevents.com.au)

Date : 17 December 2025

**AVONVALE EDUCATION**  
**SUPPORT CENTRE**

Inspiring Dreams, Celebrating Success  
 Hutt Street, Northam, Western Australia, 6401

(08) 9621 5250 Avonvale.ESC@education.wa.edu.au



**A Message From the Principal**



Dear parents, carers and community members

At Avonvale Education Support Centre, our mission is clear: to nurture every student's growth as both a learner and a citizen. This year, our community has continued to focus on three core values—good listening, good work and good attitude. These expectations are not just guidelines; they are the foundation of our school culture, guiding every classroom lesson, playground interaction and decision we make together.

Consistency matters. By embedding these values across all year levels and learning spaces, we ensure that every student knows what is expected and feels secure in a supportive environment. This approach has led to a noticeable improvement in student engagement and behaviour, with staff reporting a more settled, positive atmosphere throughout the school. Students understand that their choices matter and that positive actions are recognised and celebrated.

A key part of reinforcing our values is our whole school reward system. Good Standing Day, held on the last Wednesday of each year, is a highlight for many students. Those who consistently demonstrate good listening, good work and a good attitude are acknowledged and celebrated. The anticipation leading up to Good Standing Day motivates students to strive for their best, not just for themselves, but for their peers and the wider school community. This event is a reminder that effort, respect and a positive mindset are valued at Avonvale, and that every student has the opportunity to succeed. Thank you to Ms Czernowski for organising our Good Standing Day activities this year.

Of course, none of this progress would be possible without the dedication and commitment of our staff and the ongoing support from our families. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all parents and carers for your partnership throughout 2025. Your involvement, encouragement and trust play a vital role in your child's learning, wellbeing and safety. Whether it's supporting learning at home, communicating with teachers, or participating in school events, your contributions are deeply appreciated.

To our staff, your daily commitment to our students is what makes Avonvale such a special place. Every day, you bring energy, patience and professionalism to your work, ensuring the best outcomes for every child. Your willingness to go above and beyond does not go unnoticed, and I am grateful for the care and expertise you bring to our school.

As we approach the end of term, school reports have been sent home, along with information about contributions and charges and personal items lists for next year. Please take the time to review these documents and reach out if you have any questions or need support.

I would also like to express our gratitude to the teachers from the Flying Squad—Alana Vine, Penny Goodwin-Guppy and Marie Morrell—who have worked with us this term. Their expertise, flexibility and support have been invaluable and we thank them for their contributions to our students' learning.

Looking ahead, we are pleased to welcome Mr Armit Singh as a teacher at the high school in 2026. We are also actively seeking to fill further vacancies for 2026, ensuring we continue to provide the best possible learning environment for all students.

Thank you once again to everyone in our community for your ongoing support, commitment and partnership. Together, we are helping every student at Avonvale Education Support Centre grow as learners and as citizens.

As we head into the school holidays, I wish all students, families and staff a safe and restful break. Take the time to recharge, enjoy time with loved ones and look after yourselves. We look forward to seeing everyone back refreshed and ready for another great year at Avonvale.

Kind regards

Michelle O'Brien

Principal

# Merry Christmas to SAVA

Yesterday, Freedom from Saving Avon Valley Animals (SAVA) came to the school to collect our donations for dogs and cats needing homes.

Over the year, Room 3, collected cans for Containers for Change and with the money we collected, we made a list of things to buy and Miss C went to purchase for us. We also opened it up to the school community. We would like to thank our wonderful staff and families who contributed to our donation boxes. We really appreciate it! Here is a picture taken with Freedom and her daughter yesterday.



## Scoliosis

Scoliosis is an abnormal sideways curvature of the spine. It can be detected by a simple examination of the back.

The normal spine has three curves – one in the neck, one in the upper back and one in the lower back. These curves can be seen from the side, but when you look from behind the spine should appear straight. If the spine has a sideways curve, this is scoliosis.

Please read through the [scoliosis](#) information provided by Raising Children Network and check your child for scoliosis as described.

[Scoliosis in children and teenagers | Raising Children Network](#)

If you have any concerns, please contact your General Practitioner or Community Health Nurse: **Georgia Falconer** on **9690 1320**.



## West Oz Wildlife

To add to our festivities of the last week of school, 'West Oz Wildlife' visited to teach students about a range of Australian animals. Students learnt about their habitats and lifestyles, what the animals eat and what to do to keep safe if we see them in the wild. Visiting our school, we had Hazel the Koala, and her friends, Willow the carpet python, Ninja the woma python, Bruce the bobtail lizard and Ceasar the sugar glider. The students were so excited, everyone wanted to have a turn to pat the animals. Everyone was super brave to have a turn and were so gentle with each of the animals. It was such an amazing day!



## School Diary

Monday 2 February	Students return to school
Monday 2 March	Labour Day
Monday 9 March	Swimming lessons start
Friday 20 March	Swimming lessons finish
Thursday 2 April	End of term
Friday 3 April	Good Friday
PLEASE NOTE - TERM 1 IS A 9 WEEK TERM	



## Student Birthdays

January Birthdays  
*Hilary*



## Kalability Sports Program

The Kalability Sports Program, hosted by Kalamunda Secondary Education Support Centre, holds 4 interschool sport carnivals each year for Education Support Schools across the greater Perth region. These carnivals are believed to be the largest interschool sport carnivals for students with disabilities in Western Australia. This term, our students proudly represented our school in the Soccer Carnival. **We won first place in our division and became the overall champions for the carnival, taking home the big trophy. Our students were commended on their teamwork and sportsmanship!**

Well done Avonvale Education Support Centre, you are champions!



## Messines Bee Farm

In Week 9, we had a visit from 'Messines Bee Farm' to teach our students all about bees! Making links to Science, students engaged in learning and activities about exploring the fascinating world of bees, focusing on their needs, features, habitats, life cycles, and their vital role in the environment. Students got to observe bees in action and how seasonal changes impact bees and plants. Thank you to Jay from Messines Bee Farm for an amazing day of learning and exploring!

