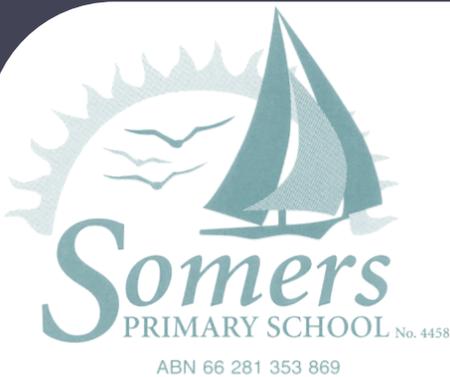


Somers Primary School



Term 4 - Issue 4 Thursday 26th November, 2020.

SPS NEWSLETTER

Principal's Report



Dear Families,

It's hard to believe it, but there are only three weeks of school left! Staff are currently busy completing assessments, writing end-of-semester reports, preparing class lists for 2021, completing their end-of-cycle performance reviews and preparing end-of-year activities. Thanks to all of our staff for the hard work they are currently doing.

At this time of year, parents are often keen to say thanks to their child's teachers for the work they have done throughout the year. Thanks is enough, but some families like to give a gift of appreciation. It is important that gifts of appreciation are given and accepted in line with our DET value of Integrity. If you are considering giving a gift as an individual or group, please be aware that teaching staff receiving gifts with a value over \$100 will need to be declared to the Department of Education for approval. Teaching staff are permitted to accept non-cash vouchers, but cash, or vouchers that can be converted to cash, are not permitted.



Updates to School Operations

Despite an easing of community regulations, our changes to school operations have not changed significantly since last week. Key safety measures still remain in place at school to ensure that our workplace and learning environment is safe for staff and students. Visitors may only attend on-site with prior approval from the principal, all persons over twelve entering the school must wear a face covering, students need to bring a water bottle to school and hand hygiene rules remain. I will keep our school community informed when changes to these guidelines are eased. Thanks for your continued support of this.

- KEY DATES -

Friday 27th November - 2021 Prep Transition

Wednesday 02nd December - 2021 Prep Information Night (on-line)

Friday 04th December - Last Lunch Order Day (orders for this are due Wednesday 02nd December)

Monday 07th December - Yr 3 to 6 Day Out @ Somers Camp (more information to follow)

Monday 14th December - Year 6 Graduation (more information to follow)

Wednesday 16th December - End of Year Concert (on-line via Webex, more information to follow)

Thursday 17th December - Student Reports will be sent home

Friday 18th December - Last Day of Term 4 - Early Dismissal Time of 1:30pm

Final Assembly (on-line via Webex) starting at 12:30pm

Principal's Report continued...

2021 Class Structures

In 2021, our focus remains on our three key priorities in supporting students and families as they recover from the challenges of 2020.

We have now finalised our structures for 2021. Our specialist programs will remain the same, and we will continue our strong focus on student wellbeing, consistent evidence-based teaching and ensuring all students are happy, engaged and making great progress at school.

Our year 5 and 6 students will return to the BER building next year, and additional support staff will be placed in that learning space to lower student ratios to ensure teachers are able to meet the needs of all learners.

CLASS	ROOM
Prep A	16
Prep/1 B	15
1/2A	17
1/2B	18
2/3A	9
3/4B	10
4A	11
5A	1
56B	3
6A	2

Booklists

Please be aware that booklist documentation is due to be returned to school on **Friday 27th November**. Please notify us if you are making other arrangements with books. Payment for booklists are due 19/01/2021. Payments can be made at the office now or on the 19/01/2021, or using the school's direct deposit facility. Please contact us if you are experiencing difficulty paying. Students whose families have not paid for books through the school, or made alternative payment arrangements, will not receive books at the start of next year from the school.

End of year reports

On Thursday 17th December your child will bring home their end-of-semester report for Semester 2 2020. Your child's progress has been assessed by their teachers against the Victorian Curriculum Standards. Our reports are designed to focus on what your child has achieved (what they can do now, and the progress they have made since their last report), what their 'next steps' of learning are, and what you can do at home to support the achievement of their next steps. The reports also include a student self-reflection. Our reports are written using evidence in the form of assessment (from a variety of sources) of your child's learning.

End-of-Year Concert

On Wednesday 16th of December, our school will be holding a virtual end-of-year concert, with a Christmas theme. We will live stream this concert via Webex, and let you know the times that classes will be performing so you can get on and watch! Students to wear Christmas-themed dress to school on this day.

**Bendigo Bank Love Local**

A big thanks to the Balnarring Branch of the Bendigo Bank for our Love Local vouchers to say thanks to our staff for their hard work in 2020. The Love Local initiative is to help stimulate our local economy and encourage locals to buy locally. Look out for stores in Balnarring, Somers and Merricks demonstrating the Love Local signage, and support our local traders to recover from a tough year!

End of Term Arrangements

Our last day for lunch orders is Friday 4th December. Our last day of school for Term 4 is Friday 18th December. Final assembly will take place via WebEx at 12:30, with walking school bus leaving at 1:15 and dismissal at 1:30pm.

Regards,

Hugh Greer, Principal.

hugh.greer@education.vic.gov.au



Assistant Principal's Report

Dear Families,

CLEAR Winners!

Congratulations to Gabriel in Grade 3 for being last week's CLEAR Card winner! Gabriel will receive a lunch order for showing our CLEAR values.

CLEAR Cafe

Next week we are holding our final CLEAR Café for 2020. We have had to make slight changes to our CLEAR Café menu in line with current guidelines however we are pleased that we are able to keep the majority of our items available.

2021 Leadership Speeches

Last week our Grade 5 students presented their leadership speeches to a panel of staff and our current Vice and School Captains. Our Grade 5's did a great job outlining why they would be a good school leader and I was very impressed with the ideas they came up with to improve our school should they be successful.

We feel strongly that every student who wants and is committed to having a leadership role, should get one. As our Grade 5 group is the biggest cohort of our school, we have looked at how we can develop leadership responsibilities and roles to ensure this can happen. The development of additional roles will address and promote the areas of student voice and agency and student engagement and wellbeing.

2021 school leaders will be announced in the final assembly of the school year and parents will be able to watch these presentations via WebEx.

Conflict Resolution

Conflict is a normal part of a child's life. Some types of conflict that can be common at school include; disagreement of what game to play or not allowing others to play, disagreement of the rules or not following the rules, not taking turns, not sharing and perception that another child is being mean.

Sometimes conflict between children blows over but often children need the support of an adult to learn how to manage conflict. As we near the end of the school year, students become tired and their ability to manage conflict lessens. We know that conflict that is poorly managed can have a negative impact on children's relationships and their emotional wellbeing. At school, our staff understand the importance of teaching students the skills for resolving conflict. When conflict occurs, restorative conversation is a strategy that seeks to repair relationships that have been damaged. Our school staff play an important role in modelling and guiding students through this process which gives them the opportunity to reflect, make things right, empathise with others and identify and develop strategies for future use.

At Somers Primary School, Restorative Practice is a key part of building a school community whereby students learn to solve problems in a positive way while helping promote positive social skills.

Another strategy our teachers use in the classroom is Circle time. Circle time gives students an opportunity to speak and listen to one another with the teacher facilitating the conversation. The circle process allows students to tell their stories and offer their own perspectives. This enables students to work through any issues and be in a more positive mindset ready to learn.



KEY POINTS FOR HELPING CHILDREN RESOLVE CONFLICT

The ways that adults respond to children's conflict have powerful effects on their behaviour and skill development. Until they have developed their own skills for managing conflict effectively most children will need very specific adult guidance to help them reach a good resolution. Parents, carers and teaching staff can help children to see conflict as a shared problem that can be solved by understanding both points of view and finding a solution that everyone is happy with.

GUIDE AND COACH

When adults impose a solution on children it may solve the conflict act in the short term, but it can leave children feeling that their wishes have not been taken into account. Coaching children through the conflict resolution steps helps them feel involved. It shows them how effective conflict act resolution can work so that they can start to build their own skills.

LISTEN TO ALL SIDES WITHOUT JUDGING

To learn the skills for effective conflict act resolution children need to be able to acknowledge their own point of view and listen to others' views without fearing that they will be blamed or judged. Being heard encourages children to hear and understand what others have to say and how they feel.

SUPPORT CHILDREN TO WORK THROUGH STRONG FEELINGS

Conflict often generates strong feelings such as anger or anxiety. These feelings can get in the way of being able to think through conflicts fairly and reasonably. Acknowledge children's feelings and help them to manage them. It may be necessary to help children calm down before trying to resolve the conflict act.

REMEMBER

- Praise children for finding a solution and carrying it out.
- If an agreed solution doesn't work out the first time, go through the steps again to understand the needs and concerns and find a different solution.

The information is based on Wertheim, E., Love, A., Peck, C. & Littlefield, L. (2006). Skills for resolving conflict (2nd Edition).

Melbourne: Eruditions Publishing

Kind Regards,

Kirsty Egglestone, Assistant Principal.

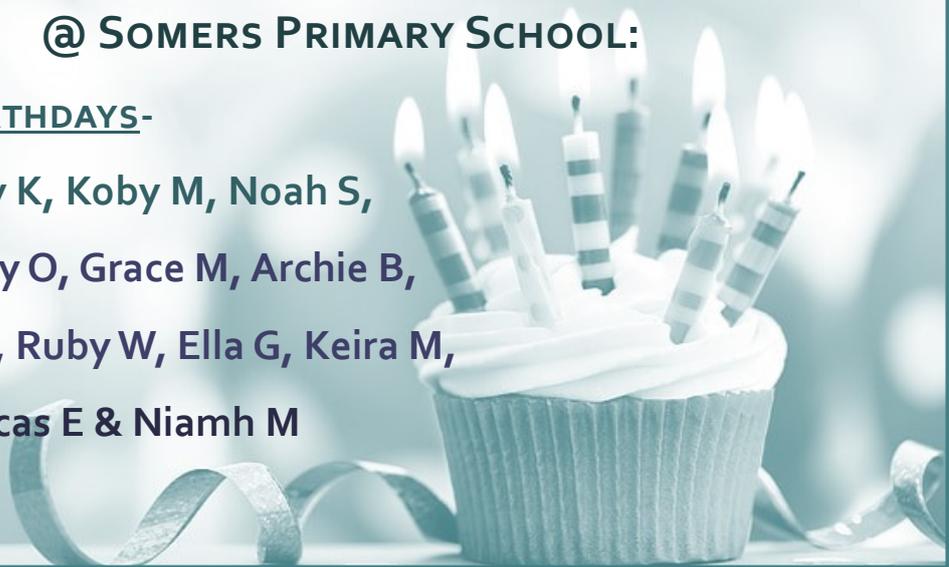
kirsty.egglestone@education.vic.gov.au

**WISHING THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS A VERY HAPPY
BIRTHDAY! BEST WISHES FROM YOUR TEACHERS & FRIENDS**

@ SOMERS PRIMARY SCHOOL:

December BIRTHDAYS-

**Cyrus D, Molly K, Koby M, Noah S,
Logan B, Harry O, Grace M, Archie B,
Cash B, Isac S, Ruby W, Ella G, Keira M,
Michael D, Lucas E & Niamh M**



COMMUNITY NEWS



Southern School
of Creative Arts

**DRAMA & DANCE
CLASSES ARE COMING
TO SOMERS PRIMARY
SCHOOL IN 2021!**

**BOOKINGS
OPEN
SOON!**

WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME

WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL

FRIDAY LUNCHTIME

PREP - GRADE 2

GRADES 3 - 6

GRADES 3 - 6

We offer weekly classes and holiday programs in drama, movement, public speaking, filmmaking and more! Our classes inspire imaginative thinking and creative teamwork while nurturing confidence and clear communication.

Book a free trial class today!

www.ssoca.com.au

hello@ssoca.com.au

0431 109 343



**SOMERS YACHT CLUB
SAILING SCHOOL OPEN DAY**
Saturday 5th Dec 10am-12pm
Somers Yacht Club offers a fun and socially engaging program for the whole family.
Come down and take a ride on our boats and see what our club has to offer your family.
Go to somersyachtclub.com.au to register your interest to make sure you receive the offer or just 'rock on down' on the day.
Super Deal on the Day
Half Price Family Membership and Joining Fee!
Feel the exhilaration of sailing and the community spirit within our club.
Subject to COVID requirements on the day

**WELCOME
TO OUR
PLAYGROUND**

**# DISCOVER
SAILING**

Australian Sailing
Somers Yacht Club

Beleza

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

To All Families of Somers Primary School,
As your school's uniform supplier we would like to welcome you to our Beleza Somerville store.

LOCATION
Beleza Somerville Store
Shop 8/13 Eramosa Road West,
Somerville VIC 3912

OPENING HOURS
Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri: 10:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am to 1:00pm

Phone:
(03) 5977 5277

Your family is welcome to join our Beleza School Uniform Membership, where you'll receive **5% off your purchases** in-store all year round.

Warmest Regards,
Beleza Team

Balnarring Cricket Club
PO Box 37
Balnarring, VIC, 3926
Phone: 03 59831406
INC: VIC A00141933
www.balnarring.vic.cricket.com.au

**BCC WELCOMES ALL JUNIOR CRICKETERS AGED 5-18 YEARS
FOR SEASON 2020/21**

U14 Premiers 2019/20

**WE WILL BE FIELDING TEAMS IN THE
FOLLOWING AGE GROUPS –
Under 10/12/14/16/18
+ Woolworths Blast Cricket**

Season commencement, training dates & coaches will be announced following the directive from the Victorian Government on the Return to Play guidelines for community sport

Age Group by DOB as at 1st September 2020
e.g. birthday is 1 September 2008 is U12
birthday is 31 August 2006 is U14

Enquiries - Junior Co-ordinator
Cam Price 0438 793 120

REGISTER VIA EMAIL
cameron@grand.net.au

Reduced Subscriptions:
\$100 – 1 child
\$175 – 2 children
\$225 – 3 children

*All new players receive a BCC playing shirt & cap

Existing players can pay via direct deposit –
BSB 633-000 A/C 12-553-7654
Please reference child's surname & age group e.g. Smith12

COMMUNITY NEWS

SES Hastings Unit

Our unpaid volunteers give up their time to help serve the community 24/7, during storms, floods and other emergencies



Did you know?

SES Hastings Response Capabilities

- 30 Unpaid volunteer members
- 1 x Unit Headquarters
- 2 x SES General Rescue Trucks
- 2 x 4WD Support Vehicles
- 1 x Specialist Lighting Trailer
- 559 calls outs in 2019

Mornington Peninsula - Snapshot

- 155,000 people
- Seasonal influx of additional people (summer) 100,000+
- 88,996 dwellings
- 723 square kms
- 193 kms of coastline
- 800mm annual rainfall
- 16 CFA Brigades
- 5 Police Stations
- 4 Ambulance Stations

This is our primary response area



We also support French Island!



GiveNow



Help us to help you!
Scan to make a donation

24 x 7 Emergency Response / 132 500 / <https://www.facebook.com/geshastings> / Safer Communities - Together



Summer Athletics

for 5 to 15 year olds.

Make friends. Build skills. Get fit and stay fit.

Safe and fun outdoor activity.

Saturdays mornings behind Western Port Secondary College.

Start 8:45am, finish before 11am.

Register now for two free trials at:

www.westernportlac.com.au

Sibling discounts. Bring your friends.

