

# Somers Primary School



## SPS NEWSLETTER

Term 3 - Issue 13 Thursday 5th September, 2024

### Principal's Report



*Dear Families,*

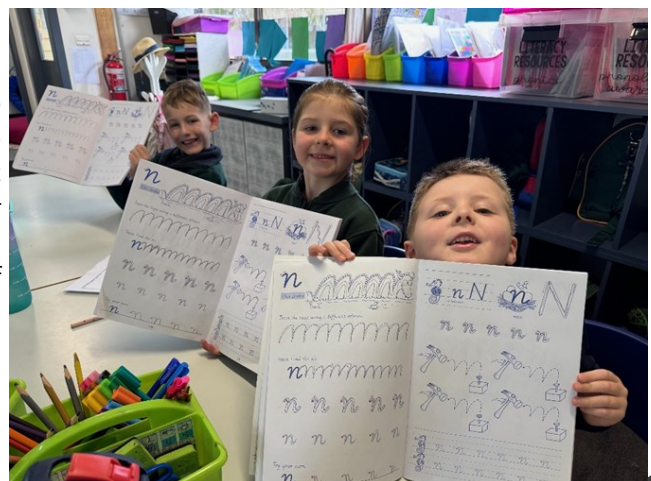
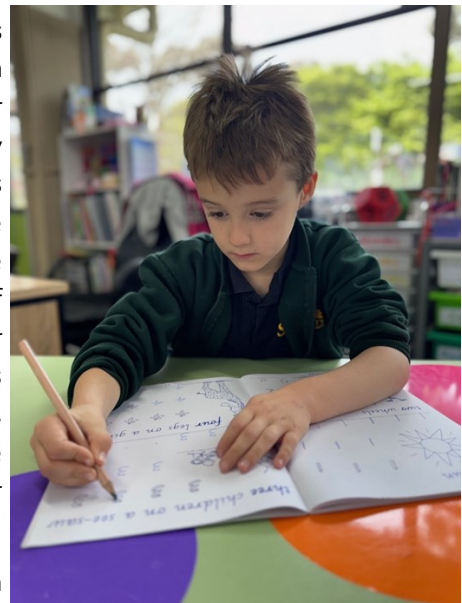
I hope everyone in our school community has had a positive couple of weeks. It has been great to see our students engaged in their core learning, as well as engaging in many extra curricula events. We had many students attending district athletics last week, with a pleasing number of these students progressing onto division athletics. Well done to all of the students proudly representing Somers PS and showing our value of Engagement. Our Prep – Year Two students have been busy preparing for their performing Arts concert that took place on Thursday afternoon this week. Over the term, students have been learning the song "Shordi Krik", written by the students of Barunga School about their local creek where they play and swim, with Indigenous Literacy Foundation ambassador Justine Clarke.

Our Year 3 and 4 students are also on camp this week at the Briars in Mount Martha. We hope our students have a great time and enjoy this memorable experience with their friends and teachers.

We were fortunate that we fared well in the strong winds this week, and despite one large branch falling, our operations were largely uninterrupted, and students were able to learn and play pretty much as normal.

#### Happy Father's Day!

Happy Father's Day to all of the dads and special people in our families for last Sunday! Thank you to Amy Jessup and the volunteers on the Fathers Day stall. It was great to see our students making their dads a cup of tea or coffee in the morning before school – thanks for making the effort to come and spend some time with your child if you were able to.



### Staff Contact outside of Working Hours

Recent changes to the Fair Work Legislation Act came into effect on the 26<sup>th</sup> August that makes it explicit that all employees have the right to refuse to monitor, read or respond to contact outside of their normal working hours. Please continue to communicate with our staff via email and ClassDojo outside of working hours if you need to, but please be aware that they may not monitor these communications until the next work day. For more urgent communication, please contact our school by phone on 59835546 and leave a message, or contact me ([hugh.greer@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:hugh.greer@education.vic.gov.au)) or Kirsty ([kirsty.egglestone@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kirsty.egglestone@education.vic.gov.au)).

### School Saving Bonus

In Term 4 2024, families with a child enrolled in a government school from Prep to Year 12 in 2025 will receive the one-off \$400 School Saving Bonus. The \$400 School Saving Bonus provides families with support for education-related costs such as school activities and/or school uniforms and textbooks. The School Saving Bonus is not available for full-fee international students, home schooled students, TAFE students and students attending kindergarten in 2025.

Before 18 October 2024, the Department of Education is asking parents and carers to:

Complete enrolment: If your child, or children are changing government school for Term 1 2025, or starting Prep or Year 7 in 2025. For more information, visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/how-choose-school-and-enrol>.

- Check your contact information: Ensure your email address and phone number is up to date with us. You can check this information by contacting us directly.

We need to ensure your contact information is up to date as the Department of Education will email you twice:

- in October, to verify your email address
- in November, with your \$400 School Saving Bonus.

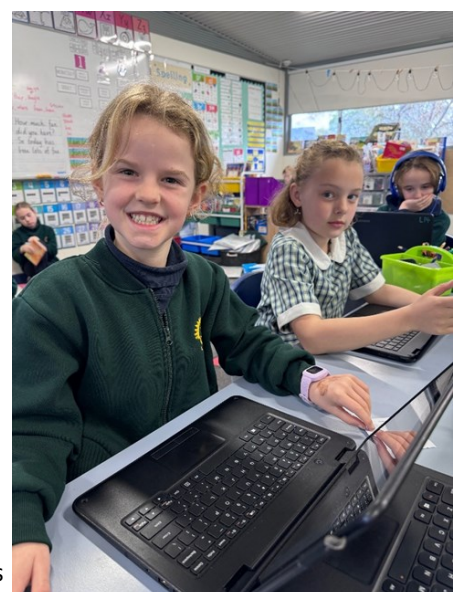
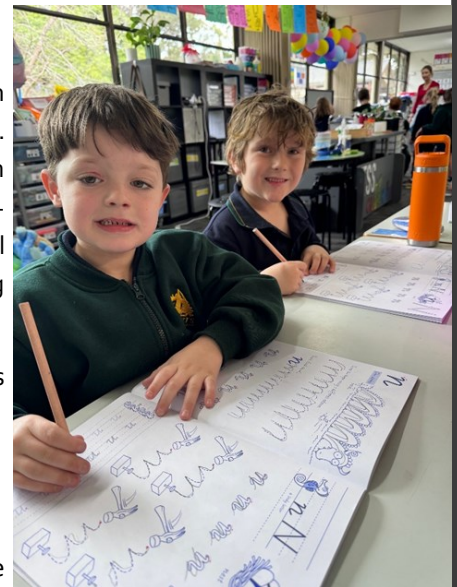
Please check your junk mail regularly to make sure you do not miss an important email. For more information you can visit [vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus](https://www.vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus).

### Bullying – No Way!

At Somers Primary School, we have a zero tolerance approach to bullying. Our Bullying and Harassment Prevention Policy outlines the strategies and programs in place at our school to build a positive school culture and prevent bullying behaviour. In responding to bullying behaviour, our school aims to:

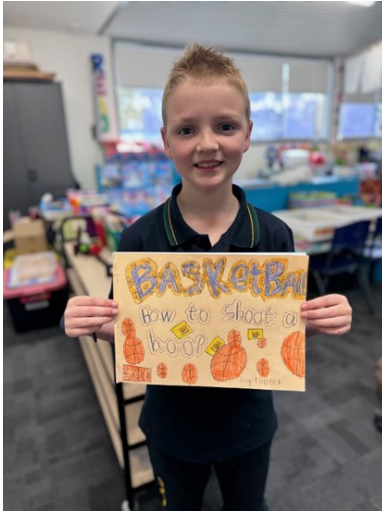
- be proportionate, consistent and responsive
- find a constructive solution for everyone
- stop the bullying from happening again
- restore the relationships between the students involved.

Our school acknowledges that school staff owe a duty of care to students to take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable



harm, which can include harm that may be caused by bullying behaviour.

In 2018 the Education Council of the Council of Australian Governments endorsed the following definition of bullying for use by all Australian schools:



*Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.*

*Bullying can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records)*

*Bullying of any form or for any reason can have immediate, medium and long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders. Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.*

Bullying has three main features:

- It involves a misuse of power in a relationship
- It is ongoing and repeated, and
- It involves behaviours that can cause harm.

Many distressing and inappropriate behaviours may not constitute bullying even though they are unpleasant. Students who are involved in or who witness any distressing and inappropriate behaviours should report their concerns to school staff and our school will follow our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy to respond.



Bullying prevention at Somers Primary School is proactive and is supported by research that indicates that a whole school, multifaceted approach is the most effective way to prevent and address bullying. At our school:

- We have a positive school environment that provides safety, security and support for students and promotes positive relationships and wellbeing.
- We strive to build strong partnerships between the school, families and the broader community that means all members work together to ensure the safety of students.
- Teachers are encouraged to incorporate classroom management strategies that discourage bullying and promote positive behaviour.
- In the classroom, our social and emotional learning curriculum teaches students what constitutes bullying and how to respond to bullying behaviour assertively. This promotes resilience, assertiveness, conflict resolution and problem solving.
- Somers Primary School encourages positive relationships between students in different year levels. We seek to empower students to be confident communicators and to resolve conflict in a non-aggressive and

constructive way.

- Students are encouraged to look out for each other and to talk to teachers immediately about any bullying they have experienced or witnessed.
- Our SWPBS programs outlines expected behaviours based on our shared value of Respect.

Students who may be experiencing bullying behaviour, or students who have witnessed bullying behaviour, are encouraged to report their concerns to school staff as soon as possible. Our ability to effectively reduce and eliminate bullying behaviour is greatly affected by students and/or parents and carers reporting concerning behaviour as soon as possible, so that the responses implemented by Somers Primary School are timely and appropriate in the circumstances. We encourage students to speak to their teacher. However, students are welcome to discuss their concerns with any trusted member of staff including Principal, Assistant Principal, and Integration Aides.

Parents or carers who develop concerns that their child is involved in, or has witnessed bullying behaviour at Somers Primary School should contact the school on 5983 5546 and speak to their child's teacher, Principal or Assistant Principal.



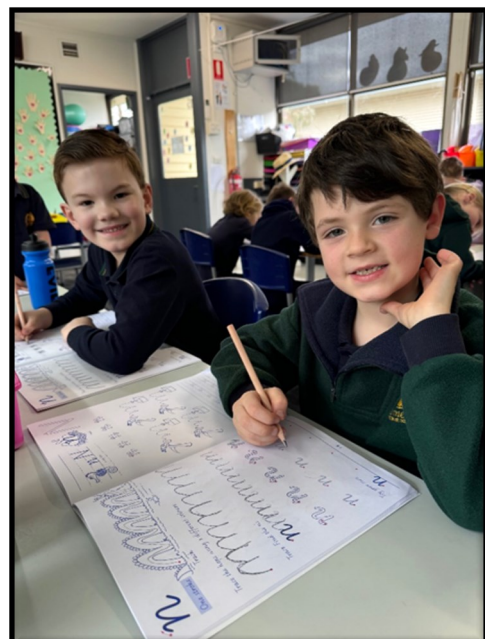
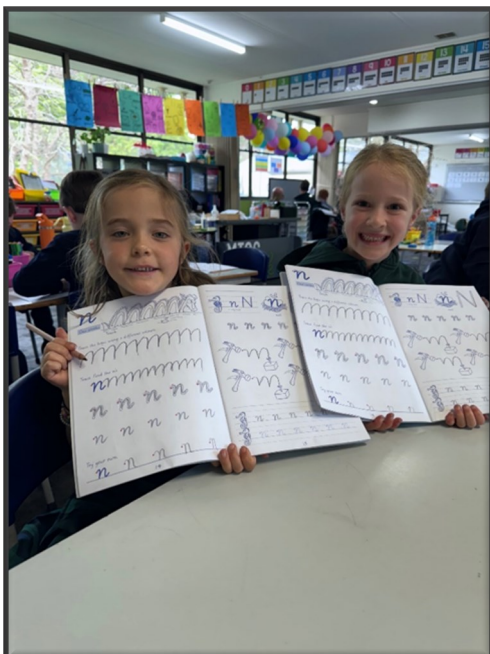
**Congratulations Ms Shemmell!**

Best wishes to our Prep A teacher Megan Shemmell who is getting married this weekend. We hope you have a wonderful day Megan and enjoy your honeymoon – we look forward to welcoming Mrs Sawyer back to school in the last week of this term.

*Regards,*

**Hugh Greer, Principal**

Email: [hugh.greer@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:hugh.greer@education.vic.gov.au)



## 2024 Term 3 Calendar Dates

<b>TERM 3</b>	
Mon 9th Sept	Year 4 Tech Titans Day at Western Port Secondary College
Weds 11th Sept	Ready Set Prep—3rd session (2.15-3.15)
Fri 13th Sept	Footy Day ( <i>students can wear their AFL, rugby or soccer sports gear or colours on this day</i> )
Mon 16th—Fri 20th Sept	Jnr School (P-2) swimming program
Fri 20th Sept	Students dismissed at 2.30pm for end of Term 3
<b>TERM 4</b>	
Mon 7th Oct	Term 4 commences
Weds 23 rdOct	Prep 2025 Transition (1st session) - 9.15am to 10.45am
Tuesday 5th Nov	MELBOURNE CUP DAY—PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Weds 6th Nov	Prep 2025 Transition (2nd session) - 9.15am to 10.45am
Thurs 7th Nov	Year 6 Life Ed "Talk About It" ( <i>notice will be sent home at a later date</i> )
Fri 15th Nov	Whole School Arts Fair Excursions ( <i>notices with further information at a later date</i> )
Weds 20th Nov	Prep 2025 Transition (3rd session) - 9.15am to 10.45am
Fri 29th Nov	Indonesian Day - activities and Special Lunch Day ( <i>notice will be sent home at a later date</i> )
Mon 9th Dec	STUDENT FREE DAY
Tues 10th Dec	Statewide Transition Day for all students transitioning to Prep and year 7 for 2025. Prep Transition from 9.00am to 11.00am ( <i>4th session</i> )
11th to 13th Dec	Year 5/6 Camp at Peninsula Outdoor Camp, Merricks
Mon 16th Dec	Year 6 Graduation
Weds 18th Dec	Grade 6 Big Day Out
Fri 20th Dec	End of Term 4—students dismissed at 1.30pm

## STUDENT BIRTHDAYS

### SEPTEMBER

Lola F, Sophia A, Sammy M, Grace E, Maisie M, Ollie J, Elodie L, Ruby R, Miles B, Tait H, Lara H, Hendrix M, Gilbert C, Gordon C, Bonnie L, Cora K, Samson W





## Runners Club



**Runners Club meets every Monday & Thursday**

**on the school oval from 8.15am - 8.45am**

(Arrive at any time from 8.15 onwards)

**Certificates are awarded to all runners**

**Medals for 100kms+ | Trophies for 200kms+**

(Parents/carers & younger siblings are welcome to join in)

## Community News



Please be advised that all Beleza retail stores will close at 2pm on Friday 20th September and will be closed for the first week of school holidays. All stores will return to their standard trading hours from Monday 30th September.

### CRIB POINT COMMUNITY MARKET

**Saturday 14th September 2024 (9am to 1pm)**

**At Crib Point Community House—7 Park Road, Crib Point**

- Hand-made products including; pens, candles, cards, jewellery, clothing, mosaics, skincare, bags, footy quilts.
- Recycled goods, plants
- Coffee Van & Devonshire Teas
- Hot Jam Donuts
- Bring the kids down to have fun on our Cribby Koala Treasure Hunt!

Proceeds go to the Crib Point Community House and community programs  
For further information email: [market@cpch.org.au](mailto:market@cpch.org.au) or phone 59 83 9888



# SOMERS PRIMARY SCHOOL

## OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE PROGRAM FOR GRADES PREP –6

*2024 Enrollments & Bookings are now open.*

### WHAT WE OFFER

Our OSHC service provides high quality affordable care that meets the Department of Education's National Quality Framework for primary school children. Our fun packed program includes a variety of craft, sports and other activities in a safe environment.

**PROGRAM HOURS: MONDAY—FRIDAY**

**BSC—7.00AM—9.00AM**

**ASC 3.30PM - 6.00PM**



### PROGRAM FEES

#### PERMANENT BOOKINGS

BSC -\$20.00 - ASC \$21.00

#### CASUAL BOOKINGS

BSC -\$21.00 - ASC \$23.00

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ENROLLING ,CALL 5983 5546 OR  
EMAIL

[somers.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:somers.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

Details are also on our website: [somersps.vic.edu.au](http://somersps.vic.edu.au)



FIND US ON FACEBOOK



# Community News 🤗



**FOLLOW ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM FOR UPDATES**

## Registrations Open

**\$125**

**UNDER 10'S, 12'S, 14'S AND 16'S**

**MIXED AND MPCA GIRLS**

**FAMILY DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE**

### Come Play With the Saints



Register on PlayHQ

[Balnarringcc.com.au](http://Balnarringcc.com.au)

**ENQUIRIES: CATRIONA 0429 370 736**







# ZEN DO KAI MARTIAL ARTS

*"The Best of Everything in Progression"*

Now taking bookings for a new  
"Kid's Karate Beginner's Class"

**Term 4 - 2024.**

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CLASSES EVERY WEEK FOR ADULTS, TEENAGERS AND CHILDREN.



[www.peninsulazdk.com](http://www.peninsulazdk.com)



**2025  
EXPRESSIONS  
OF INTEREST**

**MIXED TEAMS  
AUSKICK  
U8, U9, U10, U11, U12**

SCAN  
ME! >>>



# WESTERNPORT LITTLE ATHLETICS



## Westernport Little Athletics Free Open Night!

Come along and have a go at  
track and field events in a  
community that supports  
children doing their best!



11th October 2024  
5:00pm - 7:00pm



201 High St  
Hastings VIC 3915  
Australia



## CONTACT US



Westernport Little Athletics



[www.westernportlac.com.au](http://www.westernportlac.com.au)

Follow the  
QR code to  
register!

