

# Somers Primary School



## SPS NEWSLETTER

Term 3 - Issue 14 Thursday 19th September, 2024

### Principal's Report



*Dear Families,*

A huge thank you to everyone for supporting our students' learning and wellbeing this term. It's hard to believe that we are at the end of Term 3, and already planning for 2025!

Term 4 resumes on Monday October 7<sup>th</sup>. It will be a really busy term with some exciting things happening, including construction of our Basketball Court roof, the 2024 Somers Arts Fair (which will take place at Coolart Homestead on Sunday Nov 17<sup>th</sup>), our Year 5/6 Camp to Peninsula Outdoors in Merricks, our four-year School Review, Prep Transition, End of Year Concert and Year 6 graduation. I hope everyone gets plenty of rest over the holidays, because it will be a huge Term 4!

#### Improving Student Writing

Increasing the percentage of students performing above the expected level in writing has been a focus for our school this year, and we have set a target of greater than 25% of students achieving above age-expected levels in writing by the end of 2024.

Our end of Term 3 teacher judgment data shows a cohort average of 28% of students performing above age-expected levels in Writing. In our Prep cohort, 47% of students are being assessed by their teachers as being above the expected level in writing.

These results have been achieved through a strong focus on building teachers' shared understanding of the writing curriculum and standards, utilising assessment to identify student needs, explicit teaching of writing skills, consistent weekly structures, and ensuring students are emotionally



and cognitively engaged in writing by utilising writing contexts that are meaningful to our students, and helping students understand what they have to do to be successful.



Our NAPLAN results in writing this year indicate 86% of students assessed as being 'Strong' or 'Exceeding' in Year 3 (compared to 81% in similar and network schools) an increase of 33% compared with 2023. Our year 5 results also showed improvement. Importantly, no students in years 3 or 5 were assessed as "Needing Additional Support".

### Attendance

Across the school, our students are currently projecting 1.8 days of unapproved absence by the end of 2024. This is under our target of 2 days – we thank families for continuing to prioritise their children’s attendance, and avoid unnecessary days absent.

### Arts Fair Update

Our 2024 Arts Fair at Coolart on November 17<sup>th</sup> promises to be a huge event! Money raised this year will go towards ensuring our students have access to technology and literacy resources to support their learning at school. We ask that all families contribute to our fair each year as our major fundraising event. Early next term our roster will be accessible for families to indicate when and how they can help out on the day.

Tickets for the Arts Fair Launch Party will go on sale on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Go to <https://2024SAFLaunchParty.eventbrite.com.au> to purchase your ticket.

Thank you to the following businesses who are sponsoring the Arts Fair in 2024:



## 2024 ARTS FAIR SPONSORS

### Platinum Sponsors

Balnarring and District Community Bank Branch (Bendigo Bank)

Westernport Automotive Services

The Coast Real Estate

### Diamond Sponsors

Westernport Concrete Constructions Pty Ltd

Peninsula Eco Constructions

Ace Wall & Truss

CW PRATT Electrical

Changify

Bluescope Steel

### Gold Sponsors

Somers Residents Association Inc

### Silver Sponsors

Saltire Fire & Electrical

Sabi Landscapes

Rod Hannah and Associates

## Arts Fair Update (cont'd)

The Kids Art Show is also back in 2024, with three \$50 prizes for best in show in the P-2, Year 3-4 and Year 5-6 categories. This year's theme is Woodlands and Wetlands. Entries close Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Thank you to the Balnarring and District Community Bank Branch (Bendigo Bank) for providing these prizes.

Thanks to our wonderful committee of committed volunteers who continue to work so hard on planning this event.

## Thank you Bendigo Bank!

A huge thank you to Bendigo Bank who are funding the purchase of 36 new student laptops for our school this year, at a value of over \$17,000. We are extremely grateful of the support from the Balnarring and District Community Bank and value our ongoing partnership with them.

## P-2 Swimming

Well done to all of our Prep – Year 2 students who have been participating in our swimming program this week. Developing as competent swimmers is so important for our children, and our P-2 program is a key part of ensuring that our students develop the knowledge and skills they need to be safe around the water. Thanks to all of our staff who have assisted in the program organisation, and to our parent volunteers who assisted.

## Special Lunch Days

Recently our School Council have discussed family's interest in having access to a school canteen. Over the past 7 years, our school has, at times, had a provider who was able to offer a weekly lunch order service for students. In the past, these have been local businesses who provided this service to our students weekly. Unfortunately, our most recent lunch order provider was not able to return after the COVID pandemic. After our recent footy day, we have been discussing having a regular special lunch day with the support of some staff and parent volunteers, and we are happy to announce that we will be facilitating one of these special lunches per term. In Term 4, we will be having a special Indonesian Lunch Day, and this will take place on 29<sup>th</sup> November.

## Be SunSmart at School

Students are now required to wear their green broad-brimmed hats at school. Please ensure that your child has their hat ready to go for Term 4 (clearly labelled with your child's name). Hats are available for purchase from our office for \$15.



## 2025 Enrolments and School Transfers

We are currently preparing our structures for 2025. If you know of any new families planning to attend Somers Primary School in 2025 to contact us to arrange enrolment as soon as possible. We also ask any families who may not be returning in 2025 to inform us of this as soon as possible in Term 4.

## Parent/Carer/Guardian Survey

Thank you to our 96 families who completed this survey. Our school continues to achieve outstanding results on this survey, with our school outperforming similar schools, Southern Peninsula network schools and Victorian state means across all domains.

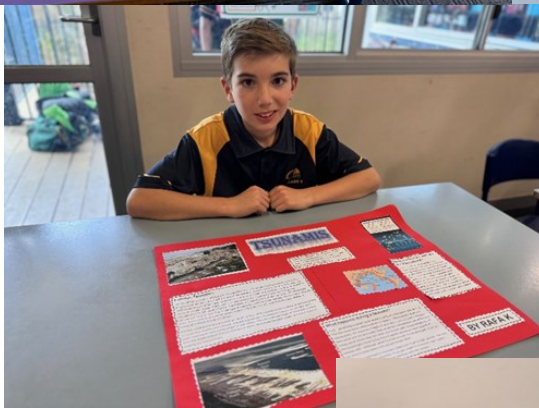
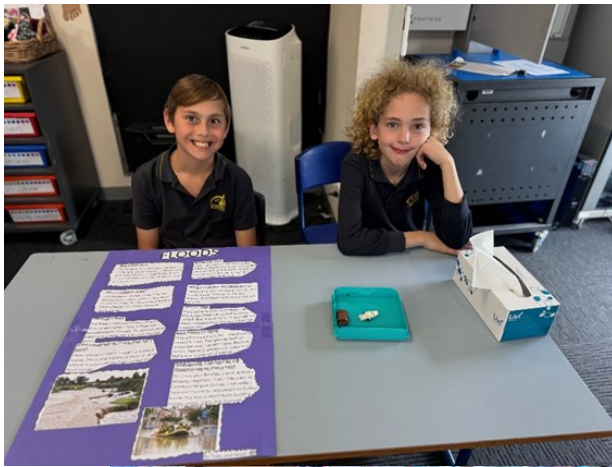
### Basketball Court Roof Update

Construction will hopefully begin on our roof at the start of Term 4. During this time, the Basketball Courts will not be accessible. We will offer an increased range of lunchtime activities in term 4 to ensure that students have plenty of play options during this time.

*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>	
Fri 20 Sept	Students dismissed at 2.30pm for end of Term 3
<b>TERM 4</b>	
Mon 7th Oct	Term 4 commences
Weds 9th Oct	Division Athletics (only involves a small group of students) Mornington
Weds 16th Oct	Year 6 ACCA Excursion
Weds 23 Oct	Prep 2025 Transition (1st session) - 9.15am to 10.45am
Tuesday 5 Nov	MELBOURNE CUP DAY—PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Weds 6 Nov	Prep 2025 Transition (2nd session) - 9.15am to 10.45am
Weds 6th & Thurs 7 Nov	Year 6 Life Ed "Talk About It" ( <i>notice will be home early next term</i> )
Fri 15 Nov	Whole School Arts Fair Excursions ( <i>notices with further information at a later date</i> )
Weds 20 Nov	Prep 2025 Transition (3rd session) - 9.15am to 10.45am Prep 2025 Parent Information session at 5.30pm
Fri 29 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

### OCTOBER

Madeleine H, Allie A, Edie J, Hannah J, Connor F, Jordan W, Mason S, Skylar H, Violet W, Charlie G, Ellie S, River G, Kodie F, Billy D, Hamish L, Hunter H, Archie M-E



# 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: [somersp.s.vic.edu.au](http://somersp.s.vic.edu.au)



FIND US ON FACEBOOK





## 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 12th October 2024 (9am to 1pm)**

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

- Face Painting, fun games, craft activities, lots of bubbles
- Hand-made products: candles, cards, jewellery, clothing, mosaics, pens, 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!
- Meet Paddy Platypus and enjoy the music!

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



**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.**

CALL

"KYOSHI" PETER SMEDLEY- 6th DEGREE BLACK BELT

0418 319 064

CLASSES EVERY WEEK FOR ADULTS, TEENAGERS AND CHILDREN.



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



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS PROGRAM

**\*\* Bookings & pre-payment essential \*\***  
Places are limited!

\$40 per session or \$35/session for multiple sessions  
Lots of fun coaching games to aid skill development  
Loan racquets available | Prizes awarded | Suitable for ages 6-15 yrs.

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Tues 24th September & Tues 1st October @ SOMERS Tennis Club 9:30-11:30am	Weds 25th September & Weds 2nd October @ BALNARRING Tennis Club 9:30-11:30am
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To register, contact Tony Withers  
0413 331 014, [witherstennis@hotmail.com](mailto:witherstennis@hotmail.com)



# 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!





## Somers Kids Art Show Woodlands & Wetlands

Submit your woodlands & wetlands themed artwork for exhibition at the Somers Arts Fair!

Enter up to two pieces (max A3 size) across drawing, painting, photography, printmaking & sculpture  
Submission fee of \$5 per piece

Submission dates Thurs 7th & Fri 8th Nov 8:30am - 9:30am @ Somers PS Art room

Prep-Yr 2 \$50 prize, Yr 3-4 \$50 prize, Yr 5-6 \$50 prize  
+ People's Choice prize for each age bracket



For enquiries please contact  
Art@somersartsfair.org

Proudly sponsored by

Balnarring & District  
Community Bank<sup>®</sup> Branch



**SOMERS ARTS FAIR**

# Launch Party & DJ Battle

LIVE LIKE A STAR, PARTY LIKE YOU'RE FAMOUS

DJ Kaza D   DJ Daddy   DJ Wizz   DJ One Night Only   De Jenerates

**Saturday October 26th at 7pm  
RW Stone Reserve, Somers**

Dress Code - DRESS LIKE YOU'RE FAMOUS!  
(prize for best dressed)

Tickets \$45 - Includes drink on arrival & snacks  
ON SALE FROM October 1st until sold out!

[2024SAFLaunchParty.eventbrite.com.au](https://2024SAFLaunchParty.eventbrite.com.au)