

# Somers Primary School



## SPS NEWSLETTER

Term 4 - Issue 16 Thursday 31st October, 2024

### Principal's Report



*Dear Families,*

It's been a very busy fortnight at Somers PS! Thanks to all of our students, staff and families for all of their hard work and engagement at this busy time of year.

#### **Somers Arts Fair**

It's only a few short weeks until our 2024 Somers Arts Fair! Thank you to amazing committee members who have been working so diligently to make this year's fair a success. We ask that all families contribute to our fair each year as our major fundraising event. Some important things to be aware of:

All classes will be on excursions on Friday 15th November. Please ensure you have returned your child's permission form.

We ask that all families contribute to the fair's setup, running or pack-up. To book your spot on the roster, go to <https://signup.zone/somers-arts-fair2024>.

The Somers Kids Art Show. All students are encouraged to submit their artworks to display at our upcoming arts fair. It is a beautiful way to celebrate their creativity. Submission dates are the 7/8th of November and students can enter up to 2 artworks for \$5 each. Sculpture, photography, drawing, painting and printmaking are all encouraged. \$50 prizes for each category proudly supported by Bendigo Bank.

Don't forget to purchase a wristband for your child so they can access unlimited rides and have their face painted on the day. Wristbands are \$16 and are available online at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/somers-arts-fair-wristbands-2024-tickets-1040236384027>.

Are you looking for another way to help with the Arts Fair? Donations of cakes, slices, biscuits etc. for the Bake Stall would be very much appreciated -please refer to the Bake Stall Flyer in this newsletter for further details.

Thank you to Kylie Rees and team for the successful Arts Fair Launch Party night last week. The night was lots of fun for our community, with the amazing DJs entertaining the "famous" crowd. The night raised over \$6000 which will contribute to the final Arts Fair fundraising total. Thanks to all that supported this event.

#### **2024 Tutor Learning Initiative**

Our 2024 Tutor Learning Initiative has now wrapped up. Thank you to our staff members Joc Hansen and Sophie Jessup who have been supporting our 31 students in this program for the past two terms. We are pleased that the Victorian Government will be funding this successful program again in 2025.

### **2025 Structures and Staffing**

We are currently busy preparing for 2025 and arranging our school structures. Our overall number of classes will remain the same next year, and we will continue to offer our specialist programs of Visual Arts, Science and Technology, Performing Arts, Physical Education and Indonesian.

Anneliese Arrott-Watt will be taking family leave from the start of 2025, and Anneliese will be replaced by Leanne Jacques.

Megan Shemmell will be transferring to Topirum Primary School in 2025. Megan is being replaced by Olivia Okey.

Jessica Skinner has accepted a position at Barton Primary School next year, and we are currently recruiting staff to fill this position.

Thank you to Jess and Megan for their work and dedication at Somers Primary School! You will be missed by our whole school community. We wish you both all the best.

Our MSL tutor Nicola Tucker will also be leaving us at the end of this year to focus on other areas. Thank you Nicola for all of your work supporting students in the MSL program. We are very excited to announce an expansion of this program in 2025, with our Learning Specialist Clare Munro now trained in Multisensory Structured Language intervention. In 2025 Clare will not have a classroom teaching load, but working to improve our Multi-Tiered System of Supports across the school, with a focus on improving classroom teaching practice, small group targeted intervention and support, and intensive support for students with a disability.

### **School Review**

This week we held our first day of our four-year School Review. Our school review panel consists of school reviewer Heather Norbury, Challenge Partners Joanne Barnes (Assistant Principal, Red Hill Consolidated School) and Marc De Ley (Principal, Topirum Primary School), Acting Senior Education Improvement Leader Sally Webb, Kirsty and myself.

Schools undertake a school review every 4 years to inform the directions of the school's 4-year School Strategic Plan (SSP). Schools complete a pre-review self-evaluation, then the school review panel considers the PRSE and undertakes additional fieldwork activities such as classroom observations, focus groups and interviews. The review concludes with a report proposing draft goals, targets and key improvement strategies for the school's next SSP.

The school reviewer also completes an assessment of the school's compliance with the Curriculum and Student Learning Minimum Standard. Schools' compliance with the other Minimum Standards for registered schools is also assessed.

On Tuesday, our review panel validated our school review and recognised our excellent results, positive school climate and ongoing improvement. The panel set some directions for further evidence gathering, which will take place on our second review day on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Computer Upgrades**

Thanks to Bendigo Bank for our 36 new computers! This year the bank has extended its Arts Fair Sponsorship, providing over \$17 000 to purchase new computers for our school. We have received these computers, and they will be distributed to classrooms over the next few weeks.

### **World Teachers Day**

Thank you to Bendigo Bank and Hastings MP Paul Mercurio for supplying us with morning tea and afternoon tea on World Teachers Day last week!

### **COLA Project**

Our first site meeting with the builders for the Covered Outdoor Learning Area took place this week. Construction will start over the next month and continue into 2025.

### **Remembrance Day**

Our school will be commemorating Remembrance Day on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Remembrance Day poppies are for sale now from the office – prices range between \$2 and \$5. Students will be laying a wreath at the Crib Point Cenotaph on this day, and we will also conduct a ceremony for students here at school.

### **Compass School Management System**

Over the next few months, our school will be transitioning to the Compass School Management System to enhance school communication, attendance marking, parent payments and more. From 25th November, 2024, we will be using Compass School Manager as our Parent Portal. Using our Parent Portal, you will be able to:

- View up-to-date class and school attendance information
- Approve or enter upcoming or past absences for your child
- Download, print and approve upcoming excursions
- Pay school fees, charges and contributions
- Update your registered email and mobile number (used for SMS alerts) details
- Access information regarding upcoming events and news

Future functions that we will introduce in 2025 will include:

- Accessing your child's Student Progress and Semester Reports
- Booking your Parent/Student/Teacher conferences

Our school will continue to use ClassDojo to share photos, celebrate student learning and achievements until further notice. From 25th November, please use Compass as the main communication tool with your child's teacher. After this date, teachers will no longer be checking messages daily on ClassDojo.

Parent will receive an email to explain how to start using Compass very soon.

*Regards,*

**Hugh Greer, Principal**

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

## Assistant Principal's Report

*Dear Families,*

### Class Placement 2025

Just a reminder that Class placement forms are due back to your child's teacher by Friday 1st November. If you have any questions about this process, do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

### 2025 Student scholarships for Grade 4 – Year 12

The Department of Education administers a range of scholarships on behalf of various trusts. Scholarships are available to students currently enrolled in Grade 4 to Year 11 in 2024 and students enrolled in Year 12 in 2024 who plan on undertaking tertiary studies in 2025.

Applicants for the scholarships are evaluated on their:

- academic achievement
- participation in school activities
- community involvement.

Scholarships are either one-off payments or available for the duration of the student's course/study. Scholarships support students and families to assist with the cost of education and engagement in further study at primary, secondary and tertiary level. Grade 4 to Year 11 scholarships are one-off payments between \$300 and \$1,500.

#### **John and Maud Askew Primary Scholarships**

- Grade 4 and 5 students valued at \$750 each
- Grade 6 students valued at \$1,500 each

#### **George Wilson Robertson Scholarships**

- Grade 6 students valued at \$1,500 each

Further information can be found at [Student scholarships | vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/student-scholarships)

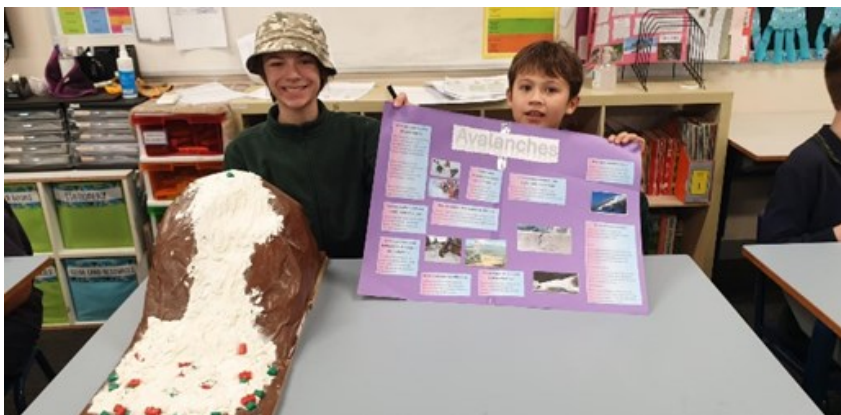


*Kind Regards,*

**Kirsty Egglestone, Assistant Principal**

**Email:**

[kirsty.egglestone@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kirsty.egglestone@education.vic.gov.au)



## 2024 Term 4 Calendar Dates

<b>TERM 4</b>	
Tuesday 5 Nov	MELBOURNE CUP DAY—PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Weds 6 Nov	Prep 2025 Transition (2nd session) - 9.15am to 10.45am
Weds 6th & Tues 19th Nov	Year 6 Life Ed "Talk About It" (please note change of date for 2nd session which is now on 19/11/24)
Fri 15 Nov	Whole School Arts Fair Excursions
Weds 20 Nov	Prep 2025 Transition (3rd session) - 9.15am to 10.45am Prep 2025 Parent Information session at 5.30pm
Thurs 28 Nov	District Triathlon ( <i>separate note will be sent home to those students involved</i> )
Fri 29 Nov	Indonesian Day - activities and Special Lunch Day ( <i>notice will be sent home soon</i> )
Thurs 5 Dec	End of Year Concert
Fri 6 Dec	Yr 5/6 Beach Activities
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 16 th Dec	Year 6 Graduation
Weds 18th Dec	Grade 6 Big Day Out
Fri 20th Dec	End of Term 4—students dismissed at 1.30pm

### NOVEMBER

## STUDENT BIRTHDAYS

Everly McD, Jimmy J, Lincoln S, Jacob S, Roy H, Ani G, Sienna S, Ryder L, Poppy C,  
Chloe H, Koa B, Casper M, Gypsie W, Finn 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)



Get fit & Have fun!



# 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





## 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](mailto:Art@somersartsfair.org)

Proudly sponsored by

Balnarring & District  
Community Bank® Branch



### CRIB POINT COMMUNITY MARKET

Saturday 9th November 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

# Arts Fair News



SOMERS ARTS FAIR  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November



## BAKE STALL



Are you looking for another way to help with the Arts Fair?  
How about baking something?

Last year's stall was a massive success- we sold everything!  
So, we're hoping to top that this year.

We would love any cakes, slices, biscuits etc. that you are able to contribute, including sweet, savoury, gluten free and vegan options.

We ask that all items are:

- packaged up and ready to sell (ie. on a tray, plate, box or bag)
- accompanied by a full list of ingredients
- free from anything that would require refrigeration eg. cream or cream cheese icing

Baked goods can be dropped off to the school art room on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November between 12-2pm.

If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact **Donna Wallace 0402 817 321** or **Shayna Gamble 0418 144 671** (a contact name and phone number must be provided for each item as per Government regulations).

Thank you.



# 2024 ARTS FAIR SPONSORSHIP



*Thank you to the following businesses and community groups who have sponsored our 2024 Arts Fair.*



Community Bank  
Balnarring & District



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