

Somers Primary School



SPS NEWSLETTER

Term 2- Issue 7 Friday 22nd May 2026

Principal's Report



Dear Families,

It has been a busy fortnight at Somers PS! Well done to all students who have been demonstrating our value of Engagement by participating in lots of different events at school, including:

- Our whole school participating in the school cross country last week at Stone Reserve
- 51 students representing Somers PS at the district cross country this week
- Our Environment Captains attending a Peer Teaching workshop in Mount Eliza with the Dolphin Research Institute this week
- Year 6 students assisting in our Somers First Steps program, where kindergarten students and their parents came to try our school.

Semester 1 Student Reports

We will be providing student achievement reports for Semester 1 this year as usual. The reports will be distributed on Compass on Tuesday 23rd June.

The reports will continue to provide important details about student learning attainment, but full descriptive comments may not be included as a result of industrial action taken earlier this term by the Australian Education Union.

We will, of course, be pleased to discuss your child's progress with you at our next parent-teacher interviews, scheduled for Wednesday 24th June. As always, you can also contact your child's teacher to arrange a meeting.



Our Learning Progress Conferences will take place on 24th June, with students attending only for the duration of their interview on this day. Normal classes will not be held for students in **Prep A, Prep B, 1A, 12B, 2B, 34A, 4A, 56A, and 56B.**

Sandra Christie will be on leave on this day, so students in **2A** will attend school as usual on 24th June. Interviews with Sandra will take place on **Wednesday 15th July**, with 2A students attending as normal on this day. You will be able to book these interviews on Compass later this term.

Curriculum Day – Friday 5th June

School Council has approved Friday 5th June as a student-free day. This is the Friday before the King's Birthday long weekend. Our staff will be engaged in professional learning on this day.



2026 Somers Arts Fair – Volunteers Needed!

Thank you to those parents who attended our first Somers Arts Fair committee meeting this week. We are looking forward to holding our Arts Fair on 25th October this year.



We currently need the following committee roles filled:

- BBQ Coordinator
- Marketing Coordinator
- Launch Party Coordinator

If you would like to volunteer for one of these roles, or have questions about the roles, please contact me at hugh.greer@education.vic.gov.au.

Jump Rope for Heart

A reminder that our Junior School Council Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser is now underway. Students have been skipping in PE and during their sport sessions in class and can earn some exciting prizes for their efforts.

Visit jumprope.org.au/parents to register your child.

Teaching Spelling at Somers PS

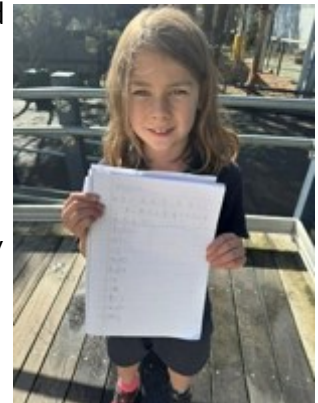
This year, our school has introduced a new approach to teaching spelling based on explicit teaching of phonemes (sounds), orthography (spelling conventions and rules), and morphology (understanding units of meaning, including prefixes, roots, and suffixes). In addition, students learn about etymology (the study of the origin and historical evolution of words).

Over the last few years, our school has developed a stronger approach to explicitly and systematically teaching graphemes and phonemes, with daily explicit instruction and revision of phonic knowledge and phonemic awareness for students in Prep, Year 1, and Year 2.

To supplement this, we are using curriculum resources called 'Phormes' to teach students in Years 3–6. As some of the content is new for our students, we have started at a lower level to ensure we are building solid skills in orthographic and morphemic knowledge. This means students are sometimes learning content at a lower year level to build skills they may not previously have been taught.

In addition, this year we are using a standardised spelling assessment developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research twice yearly to monitor spelling achievement and growth in Years 3–6 students' phonemic, orthographic, and morphemic spelling skills.

For more information about our school spelling program, please feel free to get in touch.



Kind Regards,

Hugh Greer, Principal

Email: hugh.greer@education.vic.gov.au

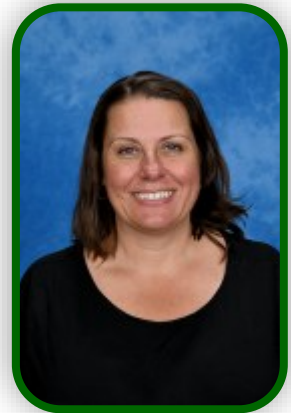


Assistant Principal's Report

Dear Families,

Mental Health in Primary Schools Program

The Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHIPS) program is a Victorian Government initiative that provides funding to all government and low-fee non-government primary schools. The initiative first commenced for some schools in 2023, with the final rollout occurring this year for schools in the Bayside Peninsula area.



The program is based on a successful pilot created in partnership between the Department of Education, Murdoch Children's Research Institute, and the University of Melbourne. Funding is allocated to schools to employ a Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader (MHWL) to implement a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing.

The Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader is typically a qualified teacher who uses their knowledge of classroom teaching practice to complement the school's existing wellbeing team. All Mental Health and Wellbeing Leaders receive comprehensive training and ongoing support.

This year, I am undertaking the MHWL role and am currently engaged in ongoing training and professional development. While this training is ongoing, the aim of the role is to:

- Develop and deliver professional learning to build staff capacity
- Review, plan, and implement a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing
- Support teachers to identify mental health concerns in the classroom
- Improve referral pathways for students requiring further assessment
- Embed mental health literacy across the school community
- Support teachers to implement effective mental health strategies in the classroom.



School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)

As previously communicated, Somers Primary School utilises the SWPBS approach to improve behavioural, wellbeing, and academic outcomes for all students. The foundation of this approach is heavily based on positive relationships, teaching and reinforcing positive behaviours, and providing assistance to students who may need additional support.

We reinforce expected behaviours and students demonstrating our Clear Values through Clear Cards.

If a student displays a behaviour of concern, the response is determined by the nature of the behaviour. Behaviours of concern in both classroom and yard settings are classified as low-level, high, or extreme. Consequences, where appropriate, are a reasonable reflection of the behaviour. For example, if a student litters in the yard, a reasonable consequence is being asked to collect nearby litter and place it in the bin.

	Low Level Behaviours – disruptions to learning and teaching
Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaking over someone • Calling out • Not completing learning tasks • Not following teacher instructions • Late to class • Distracting others • Wasting time • Not sitting in correct spot • Playing with toys during learning time • Not showing active listening • Out of bounds • Speaking rudely • Being disorganised • Moving around the school noisily

In the classroom, we respond to low-level behaviours using a Classroom Response Continuum. The response steps are as follows:

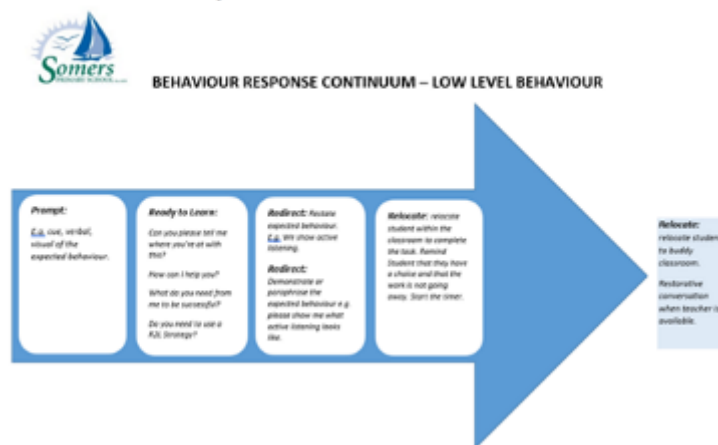
- Prompt — non-verbal cue or eye contact
- Ready to learn — “How can I help? What do you need to be successful?”
- Redirect and state the expected behaviour — “We show active listening.”
- Relocate within the classroom, with a timer implemented
- Relocation out of the classroom if the behaviour continues despite prior steps being implemented

Why do students need to be relocated at school?

- It allows other children in the classroom to learn without disruption.
- It allows the classroom teacher the opportunity to spend time teaching the curriculum to other students.
- It demonstrates to students that staff at Somers Primary School have a consistent approach to addressing inappropriate behaviour.
- The Restorative Practice program requires the student to reflect on their behaviour and explain what has happened by telling their story.

[Somers PS Behaviour Support Guidelines 2026](#)

Classroom Response Continuum Flow Chart – Low Level



Kind Regards,

Kirsty Egglestone, Assistant Principal
 Email: kirsty.egglestone@education.vic.gov.au

Physical Education

2026 District Cross Country



Well done to the students who represented our school at the District Cross Country event this week with outstanding effort and sportsmanship. Every student should be incredibly proud of themselves for giving their best and showing determination throughout the day. There were so many fantastic results across all age groups, and it was wonderful to see students encouraging and supporting one another. Most importantly, student behaviour was exceptional, with our team representing the school beautifully both on and off the course. Congratulations to everyone who participated, you should all be very proud of your achievements!

Ms Bannister



Library News

National Simultaneous Storytime at Somers!

On **Wednesday 27th May** millions of children will sit down in libraries and schools across Australia and New Zealand to read a wonderful story for National Simultaneous Storytime.

['Luna Roo' kicks off National Simultaneous Storytime 2026 - ALIA](#)

The official NSS 2026 book is **Luna Roo: The Kangaroo Baller**, written by Adam Jackson and Adrian Lloyd and illustrated by Jake Minton. The story follows Luna Roo, a spirited kangaroo, as she navigates challenges on the football field, emphasizing **teamwork, courage, determination, and self-belief**.

At Somers we will have a special reading at lunchtime with some fun creative activities for the students. All the libraries across the Mornington Peninsula will also be holding a reading at 11am on the 27th May for any younger siblings who may want to join in on the fun.

[Events - Mornington Peninsula Libraries](#)

Mrs Belinda Renouf





Student Birthdays

Congratulations to the following students who celebrated or are celebrating their birthdays in May and June!

May

Summer W, Mackenzie S, Flynn G, Ruby P,
Zave L, Finn M, Theodore S, Lenny H, Grace P,
Madelyn K, Ollie D, Zayley C, Zoe N,
Charlotte E

June

Paige C, Ezzy B, Pearl D, Max W, Eddie K,
Luna D, Imogen K, Adelaide B, Finn O, Xander F,
Jay H, Poppy S, Henry C, Ethan C, Macie C,
Ava C, Ella S, Noah D, Noah S, Harvey B

2026 Calendar Dates

Please note Calendar Dates will be updated each newsletter as new events are scheduled.

Events are also on the Compass Calendar.

TERM 2	
Wednesday 27th May	Horizons-3rd Session
Thursday 28th May	Reconciliation Activity Day at WPSC—Yr 4
Friday 5th June	Curriculum Day
Monday 8th June	Kings Birthday Public Holiday
Wednesday 10th June	Horizons-4th Session
Thursday 11th June	Winter Lightning Prem
Wednesday 17th June	Horizons-5th Session
Wednesday 24th June	Learning Progress Conferences Students only attend interview time. Students in 2A will attend all day.
Friday 26th June	Last Day of Term 2-Dismissed at 2.30pm

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

5th June - Curriculum Day
24th June - Learning Progress Conferences
26th June-End of Term 2
27th to 31st July Yr5/6 Camp WOORABINDA
30th to 31st July Yr3/4 Camp SOVEREIGN HILL



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

2026 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 -\$23.00 - ASC \$24.00

CASUAL BOOKINGS

BSC -\$24.50 - ASC \$26.00



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ENROLLING:

CALL: 5983 5546 OR

EMAIL: somers.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Details are also on our website: somersps.vic.edu.au



FIND US ON FACEBOOK



Community News

Crib Point Community Market

Where the Community Grows

June 13th

9am-1pm

'Thank a 1st Responder' Market

Come down, meet and thank members of our CFA, SES AMBULANCE AND POLICE.

FREE Jumping Castle for the kids.

Bring the kids down to enjoy our Cribby Koala Treasure Hunt

Handmade items: footy quilts, candles, jewellery, clothing, skincare, soaps, bags and lots more. Fresh produce. Plants. Upcycled goods.

Devonshire Teas. BBQ. Coffee Van

All proceeds go to the Crib Point Community House and community programs.

Location: Crib Point Community House, 7 Park Rd, Crib Point, Mornington Peninsula

Thank you, on behalf of Crib Point Community Market committee



COME & PLAY

- 15 week program - all player levels welcome
- Wednesdays: 4.15-5.00 pm
- 29 April - 19 August 2026
- Balnarring Netball Courts
- Kids aged 5-10
- Cost: \$180 includes a netball and t-shirt

More info: www.bdncc.com.au/netsetgo-1



2026 Kids' Story Writing Competition

Prompt: "The sound became louder & I realised it was ..."

Entries close July 26th

Full details and entry forms can be found in store or on our website www.farrells.com.au

PLEASE CONTACT BELINDA RENOUF AT SCHOOL FOR MORE DETAILS.

Year 7 2028 Enrolments Now Open

If you are interested in learning more about Padua's comprehensive curriculum offering, award winning VCE Vocational Major, exciting sports and performing arts programs, smaller class sizes, and vibrant learning spaces, we invite you to take a tour to see why one in four secondary school students on the Peninsula choose Padua College.

[Book a tour online](#)

www.padua.vic.edu.au/enrolment/college-tours

[Enrol now](#)

<https://enrol.padua.vic.edu.au/enrolment/start>

Enrolments close 29 May 2026





JOIN OUR NETBALL COMMUNITY!
UNDER 9s PLAYERS WANTED!
YEARS OF BIRTH 2017, 2018 & 2019

Come join the Crib Point Junior Netball Club!

Have fun! * Make new friends!
Be part of a team! ♥ Enjoy playing sport!

cribpointjuniornetball@gmail.com
Email us for more info!



The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc.

care empower contribute

Information Session

Mornington Peninsula CWA is looking for women to help establish our very own Hastings Branch!

Whether you're a home hobbyist, love baking, or are simply looking for companionship and a sense of community, come along and find out what we are all about.

Where: Hastings Library

When: 23 May

Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

If you're unable to attend but would like to stay informed, please email morningtonpeninsula@cwaofvic.org.au or contact Janet on 0425 734 119.

VICTORIAN Indigenous Tennis Carnival

Celebrate Community, Culture & Competition - Tennis Victoria warmly invites First Nations players, families and communities to come together for a day of tennis, connection and culture.

COMPETITION

- Adult Round Robin
- 18/U Singles
- 14/U Singles
- Green Ball Mixed Doubles

COME & TRY TENNIS

- Kids (5-12 years)
- Teens (13-19 years)

DETAILS

DATE: Sunday 24 May 2026

VENUE: National Tennis Centre, Melbourne Park

COST: FREE! Travel support available

BRING: Racquet (if you have one) and a water bottle

[CLICK ON THE IMAGE TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST](#)



It's not too late to order!

Now is your Second Chance!



Don't lose your precious memories!

Second Chance is the unique post delivery process for parents who missed the first chance to order school photos. With new packages options and reduced prices, our photos are **more affordable than ever before.**

Second Chance ordering is easy:

- Your child receives a bookmark with photo sample and a unique access key
- Visit our website and click 'Order School Photos'
- Enter your unique access key
- Select from our huge range of standard and customisable packages
- Finalise your order with one of our payment options
- Your school photos will be posted directly to your home!



Community News



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !

MORNINGTON PENINSULA KOALA TREE PLANTING PROJECT 2026

With your support, we'll plant over 30,000 indigenous trees in 2026, strengthening our biolinks and expanding vital koala habitat across the Mornington Peninsula.

Join us to save our koalas by planting 250,000 trees by 2030.



MP KC
Mornington Peninsula
Koala Conservation Inc.

Register now:
mpkoalas.org.au/events
mpkoalatreplanting@outlook.com
Scan the QR code

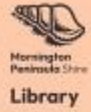


Thank You to our sponsors:



Donations can help us plant in our best and support our koalas. Every contribution makes a difference from www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/koalas

Library news and information



Storytime with Christine Coleman - Reseal Library
Saturday, May 16, 10am

Join us for a story time with Australian author and educator Christine Coleman as she reads her gentle bedtime book 'Your Special Garden'. This interactive session invites children and caregivers on a calming journey to create their own 'Special Garden', a safe, joyful place children can return to at bedtime to feel settled and secure.

Suitable for caregivers and children up to 12.

Free, bookings essential.

ChristineColeman.eventsforthe.com.au



National Simultaneous Storytime
Wednesday 27 May, 10am

National Simultaneous Storytime is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA).

Every year a picture book written and illustrated by Australians, is read simultaneously all over the country.

No need to book, just join us at any of our branches for a fun reading of *Luna Roo: the Kangaroo Bailer* - written by Adam Jackson and Adrian Lloyd, and illustrated by Jake Ninton.



Disney Stories Now Available on BorrowBox!

Whether you're a lifelong Disney fan or sharing the magic with the kids, BorrowBox has something for everyone.

From the icy wonder of Frozen and the ocean adventures of Moana, to the colourful world of Encanto and epic Star Wars tales, these stories are perfect for Disney Mums and Disney adults alike.

Enjoy a little nostalgia, spark young imaginations, or simply escape into a story you love.

mornington.borrowbox.com

Connect with us

morningtonpeninsula.libraries
[facebook.com/ourlibrarymornpen](https://www.facebook.com/ourlibrarymornpen)
library.mornpen.vic.gov.au

creativebug

Get creative for Mothers Day!
Hundreds of online craft tutorials for children and adults, free with your Mornington Peninsula Shire Library membership.



library.mornpen.vic.gov.au/craft



Ready to try something new?

Join Scouts

1st Balnarring Scout Group is welcoming new members to unlock adventure and start their Scouting journey!



1st Balnarring
Scout Group

Our Section meeting nights are
Joeys | ages 5-8 | Tuesday 5:30pm - 6:30pm
Cubs | ages 8-11 | Wednesday 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Scouts | ages 11-14 | Tuesday 7pm - 9pm
Venturers | ages 14-18 | Tuesday 7pm - 9pm

We meet at St Mark's, 1 Balnarring Rd, Balnarring

For more information or to join, please email
gl.1stbalnarring@scoutsvictoria.com.au



1800 SCOUTS
scoutsvictoria.com.au



Can you give us a hand to protect your community?

Somers is looking for help in a number of volunteer roles - full training and ongoing support is provided, so you can learn new skills to fulfil a vital role in your community.

CONTACT DANIEL 0402 105 229



Scan the QR code to find out how you can help.

