

Somers Primary School



SPS NEWSLETTER

Term 3- Issue 12 Friday 14th August 2026

Principal's Report



Dear Families,

Well done to all of our Year 3 to 6 students who participated in the Senior Athletics this week at the Westernport Athletics Track. Thankfully, the wet weather this week didn't impact our students' participation and enjoyment too much! Thank you to Jess Bannister for her organisation, and to all of our staff and parent volunteers who made this day memorable for students.



Motivating Students to Learn

At Somers Primary, our vision is that students are happy, engaged and making great progress at school. A key focus for us recently has been communication and clarity for students about the intended learning of a lesson, as well as the success criteria of the lesson (what students have to do, say, make or write in a lesson to be successful). At the start of the lesson, teachers use a visual and verbal prompt to communicate the learning intention and success criteria to students, and this is referred to throughout the lesson to help students self-assess and monitor their learning progress. At the conclusion of the lesson, teachers help students reflect on their progress towards the learning goal.



To gain feedback on student motivation, our classes conduct weekly circle time student feedback sessions where students can discuss what they are enjoying at school, things they are finding challenging and ideas for improvement. Our senior classes also conduct termly surveys to give feedback to staff on their perceptions of engagement at school. Staff then use this feedback to ensure that our curriculum is motivating and engaging for students.

School Garden Upgrade

We are really excited to see our School Garden Upgrade project getting started this week! The new garden will feature trellis entries (with an additional entry near the top toilet block), crushed rock paths, improved seating for students, a chicken run and coop, potting stations and increased plant diversity. We have a group of parents who regularly help out in the school garden. If you would like to be involved, please contact me via email and I will invite you to our WhatsApp group.





Principal's Report

Student Illness

A reminder that, to prevent the spread of illness, unwell students should not attend school. If children are displaying signs of ill health at school, we will contact parents to collect students from school. Thank you for supporting our school community to remain healthy.

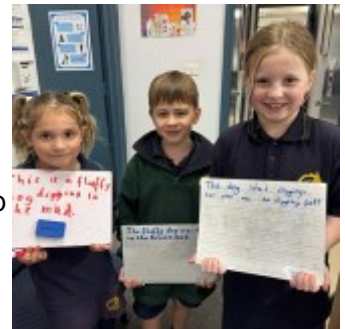
Year 1 Phonics Check

Next week, students in Year 1 will be assessed using the Year 1 Phonics Check. This short assessment shows teachers how your child is learning phonics. It helps teachers understand your child's phonics skills and plan what to teach next.

Phonics is an important part of learning to read and write. Children need to learn the sounds that letters and letter groups make and how to blend them to read words. Children then use this knowledge to 'decode' new words that they come across.

The Phonics Check assesses how Year 1 students read English words with different letter combinations. Class teachers will ask students to read 40 words aloud. Twenty of these words will be real words and 20 will be made-up words. Results of the assessment show teachers how well children are using their knowledge of phonics to read words.

Our school uses the Little Learners Love Literacy resource to explicitly teach phonics in Prep to Year 2. Students' decoding and encoding skills are then further developed as they progress towards Year 3 and beyond with daily Phormes explicit teaching in Years 3 - 6.



Planning for 2027

Soon we will commence planning for 2027. If your family is considering moving to another school in 2027, please let our office know by email somers.ps@education.vic.gov.au or call 5983 5546.





Principal's Report

Book Week – 24th to 28th August

Somers Primary School will be celebrating CBCA Book Week with a special Book Week activity day on Friday 28th August. Students can come dressed as their favourite book or character, and we'll be parading our outfits on the basketball court at 9:10am on this day. Parents and friends are welcome! Students will then be involved in multi-age classes with activities related to the CBCA Book of the Year books throughout the day.



Father's Day at Somers PS

On Friday 4 September, we will be celebrating Father's Day – dads, granddads and other special friends are invited to come for tea, coffee and a snack before school from 8:15–8:45am. There will be a special Students and Fathers/Friends game on the basketball court before school too! We will also be holding the Father's Day stall on this day. All welcome.

Junior Performing Arts Concert

This term in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2, students have been learning about music in Performing Arts. Students have been learning our Somers PS welcome song, as well as another song called *Minyan Ngabangka (What's in the Water)*. We are excited to invite families to come and watch our students perform on Thursday 10th September at 3pm. Our Prep–Year 2 students will be performing this song.



Kind Regards,

Hugh Greer, Principal

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

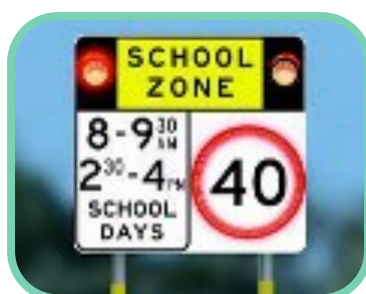


Student Birthdays

Congratulations to the following students who celebrated or are celebrating their birthdays in August!

August

Jacob J, Wyatt L, Elliot G, Grace H, Vinnie J, Phoebe R, Scarlett M, Connor K,
Tasman A, Hazel H, Harrison D, Finley K, Nancy W, Alice G, Edie F, Percy G, Henry B,
Willow K.



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 3	
Monday 24th –28th August	Book Week (Parade 9.10am Friday 28th August)
Wednesday 26th August	Junior Ranger Program
Thursday 27th August	Great Book Swap 8.30am - 9am and 3.30pm –3.45pm
Thursday 3rd September	District Athletics (Selected Students)
Friday 4th September	Father's Day Stall
Thursday 10th September	Junior Performing Arts Concert (Prep-2)



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



Somers Arts Fair



Community News 🤗

BALNARRING COMMUNITY CHILD CARE IS HOLDING IT'S ANNUAL

Cake Stall

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16TH
9AM-12PM

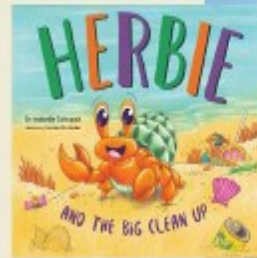
BALNARRING COMMUNITY CHILD CARE
3045 FRANKSTON/FLINDERS ROAD
(CENTRE SIDE GATE AREA)

*ALL MONEY RAISED GOES DIRECTLY BACK TO THE CENTRE



PETERSEN'S
BOOKSTORE

STORY TIME with Dr Belle Saturday 15th August 1pm-2pm



peninsulabooks.com.au/events

Library news and information



Children's Book Week
Wednesday 26 August, from
Surreyville Library
Thursday 27 August, from
Marrington & Reservoir Library

Join us for a special preschool storytime to help us celebrate **Book Week 2026**.

Dress up as your favourite book character and join us after a magical story, for a parade around the library to showcase your incredible outfit!

With free face painting before and after the storytime, it's a celebration full of stories, smiles, and creativity.
Free, no bookings required.

library.marrington.vic.gov.au/bookweek



Book Week:
Storytime with Toni D'Alia
Wednesday 26 August
Marrington Library

Join award-winning, bestselling children's author, Toni D'Alia, for a special Book Week storytime at Marrington Library. Toni will read her Children's Book Council of Australia shortlisted book, **Frogs Are Our Friends**, along with some of her other beautiful picture books. Families can also enjoy interactive songs and a themed craft activity.
Free, no bookings required.

library.marrington.vic.gov.au/bookweek



National Science Week 2026

Saturday 22 August
Reservoir Library - 3.30pm
Marrington Library - 10am

Join us for the **Twisted Science Show**, a fast-paced, 60-minute experience

packed with exciting demonstrations that bring science concepts to life, with plenty of predictions, surprises, laughter, and "WOW" moments. This interactive show encourages the audience to question, observe, and discover just how awesome science can be.
Free, bookings essential.

library.marrington.vic.gov.au/events

Connect with us

📧 marringtonpeninsula@library.vic.gov.au

📘 facebook.com/ourlibrarymarrington

📺 library.marrington.vic.gov.au

Learning to code has never been more fun!

First Code is a self-guided online software program for both adults and children (8+), offering an easy and fun way to gain a learning experience.

library.marrington.vic.gov.au/games



LOTE 4Kids

LOTE 4Kids offers thousands of digital audio-visual books in over 100 world languages, including sign language, all read aloud by native speakers.

library.marrington.vic.gov.au/lotekids

Seeds of Science Nurturing knowledge for all

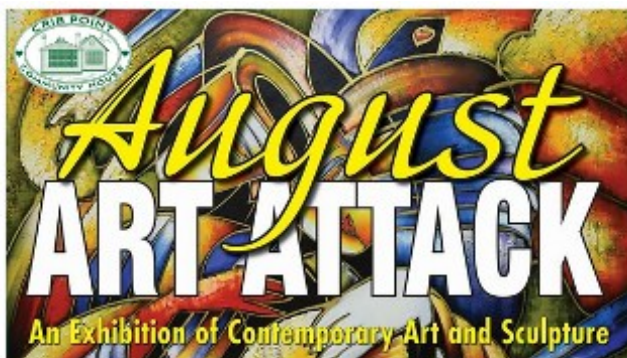
**national
science
week 2026**
15 - 23 August

An Australian Government Initiative

Inspiring
AUSTRALIA

Australian
Rural
Teachers
Association

Community News



ART SHOW

Crib Point Community House
7 Park Rd, Crib Point, Vic
Opening Night Friday 28th August 7-9pm
Admission \$20 inc. Wine and Light Refreshments

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Exhibition - Sat 29 - Sun 30
Time: 10am to 4pm
Admission \$5 * Under 18 Free

Contact us

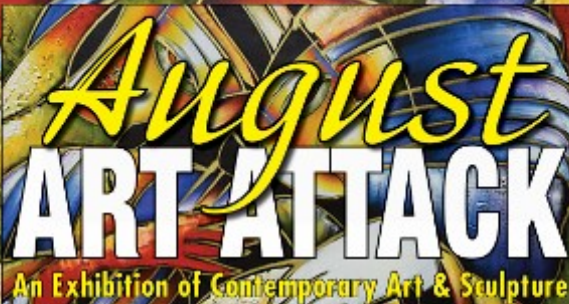
Web: AugustArtAttack.com

Email: AugustArtAttack@outlook.com

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram



Crib Point Community House Presents



CALLING ON ALL ARTISTS!!

Now Accepting Applications
For Paintings and Sculptures
Showcase Your Work
Prizes Awarded

Last Weekend in August

7 Park Road, Crib Point, VIC,

More information

Web: AugustArtAttack.com • FB: August Art Attack

Instagram • Email: AugustArtAttack@outlook.com

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.



Mornington Peninsula
Koala Conservation Inc.

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



Thank You to our sponsors:



Donations can help us plant more trees and support our koalas. Every contribution makes a difference. mpkoalas.org.au/donations/



Ready to try something new?

Join Scouts

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

Our Section meeting nights are
Joys | 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 Balmarring Rd, Balmarring

For more information or to join, please email
gl1stbalmarring@scoutsvictoria.com.au



1st Balmarring
Scout Group



1800 SCOUTS
scoutsvictoria.com.au