

Newsletter

Somerton Public School
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Term 1 – Week 9

Tuesday 24 March 2015

Ms Reid's Message

The weather has been hot & we are all looking forward to the holidays starting at the end of next week. Please remember this week we are reinforcing the rule of 'no hat no play', regardless if the students are playing in the undercover area or in the sun. Let's hope for a cool change soon & some rain to revive the spirits ☺

Thank you to Mrs Ormiston

for her wonderful effort in preparing an exciting event to celebrate **Harmony Day**

last Friday. This day is celebrated world-wide to

reinforce the importance of tolerance towards others & treating everyone with dignity & respect

regardless of their origins or culture. The students had wonderful time learning about the French culture through cooking, the Aboriginal culture through dot art, the German culture by undertaking a



German language & reading lesson with Mrs Hook, & the Chinese culture by learning & performing Tai Chi. All students participated in all activities & thoroughly enjoyed themselves as well as grasping understandings of the different cultures. Thank you also to Mrs Hook for preparing a fun lesson & teaching the students about her origins.



Farewell to Owen & Ian

Owen & Ian's Farewell BBQ is being held at the school this Friday afternoon commencing @ 5:00pm. Invitations have gone home with the students & been placed in the post boxes of Somerton PO for community folk. We are hoping for a big turn up of the community to farewell our two special friends. Please see attached invitation.



Easter Scripture Service

Our Easter scripture service this year will be on Thursday 2 April @ **9:30am**, the students will be walking to the church for a special Easter Service. All welcome.



Easter Raffle

Our Family Easter Raffle is coming together well. We have had some yummy donations but we still need more to fill our basket with goodies. It will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade on Thursday, 2nd April, the last day of term. Just a reminder... the parade starts @ **2:15pm** in the school grounds. Tickets have been sent home with the students to sell & could you please return them to school when they have been sold. If you are unable to sell the tickets, the tickets still need to be returned to school & accounted for.



NSW Election

The State Election is this Saturday 28th March. The school is a designated polling centre & will be open for voting from 8:00 am to 6:00pm.

Easter Hat Parade



Our Easter Hat Parade is being held in the school grounds on



Thursday 2nd April, the last day of term at 2:15pm. The students will be making their hats at school during that week with the help of their teachers. The students may like to bring an old hat to school that they can decorate, but this is not necessary!



Community ANZAC March

The Community ANZAC March is being held on Saturday 25th April starting at the school & progressing to Somerton Hall.

Lest We Forget.



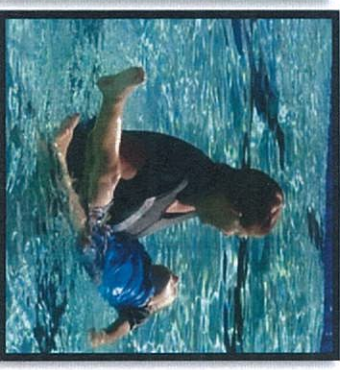
More information will be available at a later date. Somerton School has always played a role in this important event & I would like all students to be present in their school uniforms & march with the school. 2015 is an especially memorable year for the ANZAC commemoration as it is the 100 year anniversary of the Gallipoli landing.

Commemorative rosemary plants are available from Bunnings in Tamworth, Tamworth Nursery or Heemskerks Nursery if you would like to purchase one. The plant code at Bunnings is **3595896**.



Swimming on Fridays

Our last week of swimming is this Friday. We have had a very rewarding time with our swimming program. The improvement in the students confidence & survival skills from the time the program commenced to now is amazing, especially with the younger students. Our aim was not to teach the students to swim but to foster a confidence in themselves & develop the skills to be able to help themselves in tricky situations in water. Although some of the youngest students have not quite reached that stage, they are now happy to play & splash with water aids & with adults close by. At all times, the staff have stressed the importance of not going near the water unless there is an adult with them. The younger students are now moving around the shallow end of the big pool using noodles & boards, unassisted by the adults. The senior students role played being pushed in at the deep end & getting themselves back to the edge without panicking. All students were very confident in that activity. They also practised treading water & moving around in the deeper water unassisted. A very big thank you to Mrs Cupples, Miss Brechin & Mrs Ormiston for transporting the students every week to Gunnedah Pool. Also thank you to the parents who bought in booster seats for their students every Friday.



SCHOLASTIC

Book Club has gone home. **Issue 2, 2015** orders & payment must be returned to school by this **Friday 27th March 2015** in an envelope with your child's name clearly marked on it.



Weekly Focus Concept

This week's focus concept is another aspect of **RESPECT**:

What we can & cannot say.

As part of the social program in schools, a concept that is constantly taught in all classrooms is what is

appropriate to say in certain situations. This is something that is to be taught to the students as often this understanding does not happen naturally. Where some aspects of speaking are acceptable in some circumstances, in others it is not. Often we use the term



'manners' to cover this concept & used in accordance with 'respect' it is a necessity for the child to grasp to be able fit comfortably into society.

**School Assembly**

This week white merit awards were presented to:

Tiara Markwick Y6 &

Shannon Colley Y4

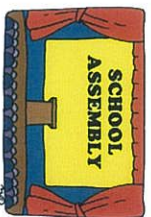
MOST IMPROVED:

Benny Markwick Y3 – working hard in spelling & reading

GOOD BEHAVIOUR:

Lacey Malone Y1 – working well in writing.

Congratulations students, we are very proud of your efforts.

**No Hat No Play**

As from next week we will be enforcing the rule that if students are not wearing a hat they will not be able to play, even if they are playing in the undercover area. Some of the students are coming to school without their hats & with the cooler weather the students are venturing out into the open playground to play in the sun.



This is a health & safety issue which all schools are following. We do not have spare hats at school, so parents could you please ensure your child leaves home with their hats so that they can enjoy their playing time with their friends.

Working With Students Check (WWCC)

The Department of Education & Communities requires that all staff & voluntary parent helpers have a Working With Students

Check (WWCC). Any volunteer helpers (this includes parents helping in the classroom, transporting students to out-of-school activities, etc) are eligible to obtain a WWCC at no cost. Please see Michelle in the office for more information & help with access the online registration.

To find out more & start your application please visit:

<http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-students/working-with-students-check/volunteers-&-students>

END OF TERM DATES:

Term 1 – Ends on Thursday 2nd April 2015

Term 2 – Staff Development Day (SDD) will be on Monday 20th April 2015.

Please note there will be **no staff** at school on Monday 28th April.

Students return on Tuesday 29th April.

Bullying knows no bounds

When cyberbullying hits home - what one mum wishes she'd done differently. Because most cyberbullying happens in the home, parents need to be aware of the technology that young people are using.

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/cyberbullying/when-cyberbullying-hits-home>

TERM 1 2015 DATES:

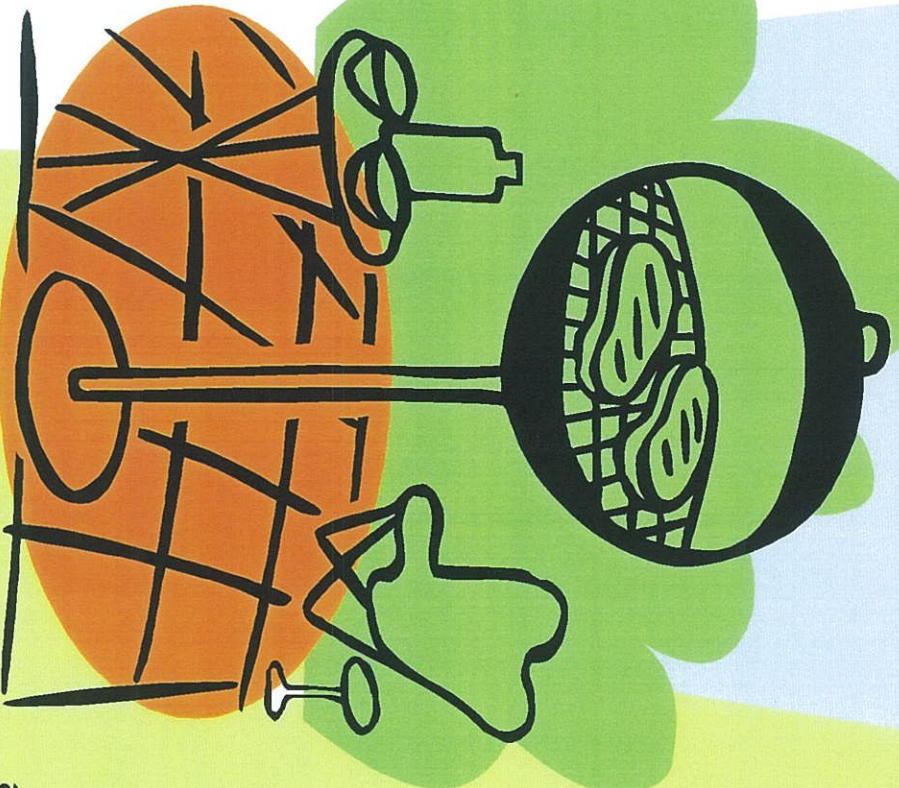
26 January Australia Day	27 Staff Development Day	28 Start of School Term for All Students Welcome Back 😊	29	30
2 February	3	4	5	6
9	10	11 9am-Small Schools Swimming Carnival (Werris Creek Pool)	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23 3pm Assembly	24 NDL- Kindy & Year 6 Photos	25	26 7pm Meet & Greet Parent Evening	27 Swimming “I want 2 be Day” Fundraiser
2 March 3pm Assembly	3	4	5 7:30pm P&C AGM Meeting - ALL WELCOME	6 Swimming
9 3pm Assembly	10	11	12	13 Swimming
16 3pm Assembly	17	18	19	20 Swimming
23 3pm Assembly	24	25	26	27 Swimming 5pm-Owen & Ian BBQ
30 3pm Assembly	31 Outback Patrol Visit	1 April	2 9:30am Easter Scripture Service 2:15pm Easter Hat Parade & Raffle	3 Public Holiday Good Friday Start School Holidays



Owen & Ian BBQ Farewell

Friday 27th
March 2015

@ 5pm
All Welcome



Venue: Somerton Public School
RSVP Somerton Public School
Ph: 6769 7520

There will be a BBQ sandwich for \$2.
Drinks will be provided

Somerton Public
School &
P&C Committee
would like to
extend an
invitation to the
Somerton
Community to join
us in Farewelling
Owen & Ian in
appreciation of their
service to the

Somerton
Community &
School.

