

Newsletter

Somerton Public School

Strive To Succeed

T: 02 6769 7520 F: 02 6769 7400

E: somerton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

W: www.somerton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au



Term 3 – Week 1

Tuesday 14 July 2015

Mr Reid's Message

Hi everyone – it is so good to be back at Somerton Public School ready to start Term 3. I look forward to catching up with the parents and friends in the very near future. Please feel free to drop in for a chat or just to visit the student in their classroom.



In the Classroom

Our classroom structure has undertaken some major changes this term. Due to the drop in numbers we have combined the two classes back into one class with Miss Brechin and myself team teaching the class.



We have designed learning centres where the students are able to work in different areas on the learning tasks set for their individual learning needs. We have a 'reading nook', a 'have-a-chat' corner, a 'creative writing' area, a 'publishing port', a 'games zone', the 'techno time' area, the 'iPad island' and more learning hubs set on the day to cater for the teaching / learning activities planned for that day. Miss Brechin and I are excited about this new structure and with anything new, we will be 'tweaking' it with the assistance of the pupils to make our classroom a more interesting and exciting place to learn. We would love it if parents would like to come and help in the classroom with activities where they feel comfortable in helping eg listening to reading, supporting students in individual or group activities.

Why not visit our Website:

<http://www.somerton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>

Nightly Reading Program

Our NIGHTLY READING

program will be continuing this term with the student taking home their individual reading register booklet home every Monday and returning it on a Friday. This is the only homework planned for the student. This will commence next week. The students are to read nightly either to themselves or to parents or a sibling, and then the material read and times are recorded in their booklet with a signature. Nightly reading is one of the most beneficial exercises a child can do to improve their reading skills. The more they read, the more confident they become and will want to read more. All learning stems from reading, so I urge parents and carers to encourage your student to read nightly for at least 15 minutes. Reading matter can take any form – novels, picture books, magazines, newspapers, comics, factual information etc. The students are able to borrow from our reading section if they wish. When the students return their registered booklet on Fridays they will receive a 'bluey' award if they have read every night. Just a reminder that the students have access to their Reading Eggs and Mathletics computer learning programs at home if you wish the student to use them. The activities on these programs reinforce their literacy and numeracy skills and are a part of their learning activities at school. If you need more information please ask the staff.



Monday Assemblies

Our regular Monday afternoon assemblies will continue every week on Mondays commencing at 3:00pm and concluding at 3:15pm. This is a special time of the week where the students are acknowledged for their work and effort by the teachers and their classmates. All parents, family and friends are welcomed to attend – the student love to see their 'special people' attend (and so do the staff!)



Cooking

Cooking will continue this term and will commence next week. This activity can be quite costly and we would appreciate if the students could contribute a \$1 every week which helps cover about half the costs. The school covers the remaining costs. You may like to cover the whole term by paying \$9 per student in one payment.



Student Tech Training Day

This Wednesday, Tiara, Ben, Tiarna and Charlotte will attend a learning day on using iPads at Attunga Public School. They will be travelling with Ms Reid, and we will spend the day learning how to take photos, movies and maybe even set up a web site. It will be a very interesting and informative day!



CWA Italy Presentation



This Thursday, the students have been invited to the annual CWA meeting at Somerton Hall. The theme is Italy and the students will be presenting a range of research and craft activities

centred on the food, buildings, culture and transport of Italy. They will also listen to a guest speaker and share morning tea with the ladies.

Annual Small Schools Athletics Carnival

Our Annual Small Schools Carnival is being held on Friday 31st July. More information will follow as the date draws closer. Students will be practising the athletic skills of running, jumping and throwing at school.



School Bus Times

The bus pick up and drop off will continue as normal. It would be great if we were able to organise a small bus to drop off and collect the students every day, but realistically I don't think this will be possible. I will be investigating every possibility to make it easier for the students, parents and staff and I will keep you informed. The only possibility at this stage is if the community of Somerton purchase a small bus and allows the school to use it, but with two school buses passing nearby our school every day, it would not be viable for the company to provide a small bus for the school as well. We need to work in with the bus company in regards to the other schools involved in using the buses. In speaking to the staff, they are happy to take the students to the bus stop every day to catch their bus. Due to the lateness of the bus pick up, we have structured our daily timetable to allow for this situation. The students are being taught the regulated amount of time each day. Rather than dismissing the student at 3:00pm and waiting for 45 minutes for the bus, we have extended their break times throughout the day by 15 minutes, and classes end at 3:15pm. If you like to discuss this further please feel free to contact me and we can discuss this further.



Sporting Schools Tennis Continues

This Friday we will be continuing Tennis Coaching with Craig Louis for the next 5 weeks. Students will need to continue to come to school in their sports uniform on Fridays.



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TERM 3 2015 DATES:

13 July Staff Development Day	14 Welcome Back Students! ☺	15 9:30am Playgroup Senior Students Tech Training Day @ Attunga PS	16 11am - CWA Italy Presentation (Somerton Hall)	17 Tennis coaching
20 3pm Assembly	21	22	23	24 Tennis coaching
27 3pm Assembly	28	29	30	31 Small Schools Athletics Carnival
3 August 3pm Assembly	4	5	6	7 Tennis coaching
10 3pm Assembly	11	12	13	14 Tennis coaching
17 3pm Assembly	18	19	20	21
24 3pm Assembly	25	26	27	28 9am - School Photos
31 3pm Assembly	1 September	2	3	4
7 3pm Assembly	8	9	10	11
14 3pm Assembly	15	16	17	18 Last Day Term 3 Happy Holiday