

Newsletter

Somerton Public School

Developing Respect, Responsibility, Resourcefulness

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Term 4 – Week 5

Tuesday 8 November 2016

Mr Reid's Message

We are officially half way through the term and Christmas is coming upon us very quickly. The students are working hard with their assessment tasks and classroom activities and they have begun practicing their items for presentation. Reports are under way and will be sent home in the last couple of weeks giving parents time to make contact with their child's teacher if they wish to discuss their child's progress throughout the year. Our new signs for the school have been erected on the highway and they look fantastic – let's hope many locals will see them and be encouraged to visit our school and see the great programs we have available.



Kinder Orientation

Our transition to school program 'Kinder Go' began last week with Braxton and Benji enjoying a fun morning in the K-2 classroom. Both boys enjoyed the book *Where is the Green Sheep?* by Mem Fox, painting their own green sheep puppet to take home. They also worked with Mrs Markwick in writing their names and in using play dough to make the letters "m, s and t". 'Kinder Go' operates every Wednesday morning 9:00-12:00 during November.



Thank You!

We thank Mrs Gallagher for her wonderful work with the students whilst Mr Clark has been on paternity leave. Mr Clark will be returning to school on Monday. We are so fortunate to have Mrs Gallagher be a part of our school community – her dedication and commitment to the students and their learning is of the highest standard.



Presentation Night 2016

Thursday: 1st December
commencing @ 6:00pm, followed by Carols.



Please see attached invitation for school family & friends and the Somerton Community.



P&C News

Meeting is now this week –
Wednesday 8th November,
commencing @ 5:30pm.

If babysitting cannot be arranged there will be a movie in the classroom for the children.

Unfortunately we had to postpone our meeting from last week to this Wednesday due to a clash of events for some people involved. Mrs Reid will be unable to attend this meeting as she will be out of the school on Wednesday (Newcastle) and Thursday (Tamworth).

Sincere apologies, however the circumstances are unavoidable. Mrs Stoker will be representing the staff and she will put forward the principal's report.

ZoosnooZ Excursion

The students had a wonderful time at the Western Plains Zoo on Monday 24th October and Tuesday, 25th October. They enjoyed mixing with students from other small schools, seeing the various animals from all over the world and camping in tents within the zoo surrounds. They learnt many interesting facts about the animals and did some great follow-up activities back at school.



Early Action for Success Forum

Last week our Instructional Leader, Mrs Stoker attended a forum in Sydney that celebrated the overwhelming success of the EAfS initiative over the past 4 years. The more than 500 Instructional Leaders and Principals, who attended, were given the opportunity to hear from schools who have successfully raised achievement in Writing, Comprehension and Numeracy. The state government has committed resources to continue this initiative including the appointment of Instructional Leaders for a further 3 years beginning in 2017.

Daniel Morcombe Day - Red Day

The students enjoyed dressing up in red to remember Daniel and it gave the staff the opportunity again to reinforce the importance of remaining safe and being aware of situations where they may feel uncomfortable and what to do if they find themselves in those situations. We raised \$21 to go towards this valuable educational program.

Community Sausage Sizzle!

... will be held again next Friday 18th November commencing at 1:15pm. All community members and families are welcomed to attend..



NSW Education Symposium

On 28 and 29th October our Instructional Leader Mrs Stoker was one of only 270 teachers in Government, Catholic and Independent schools across the state to be invited by the Minister of Education Adrian Piccoli to the NSW Education Symposium held in Sydney. Over the two days teachers listened to speakers explain what makes a high performing education system as well as speakers from industry talk about what 21st Century skills our students need in gaining employment in the future. Mrs Stoker was honoured to be chosen to attend this historic event and came away excited about the future of education in NSW.



Cooking

Please remember to bring your \$2 to help cover costs

K-2 Thursdays lunch (weekly)

3-6 Recess (fortnightly)-this week only cooking will be held on Friday as Mrs Reid will be out of the school on Wednesday & Thursday.



Playgroup

Come join us for some fun on Wednesdays 9:30am-11:00am.



SCHOLASTIC

Book Club has gone home.

Issue 7, 2016 orders & payment must be returned to school by **Friday 18th**

November 2016 in an envelope with your child's name clearly marked on it.



Weekly Focus Concept: Respect

We are constantly talking about respect at school towards everyone and everything. If you give respect you will receive respect – an important lesson in life.



Assembly Awards



Week 3

White Merit Award: Congratulations to Benny Markwick, Keisha Johnston and Max Daly for achieving a white merit award.

Terrific Award:

Keisha Johnston - Reading

Superstar Award:

Benny Markwick – Manners on camp



Week 4

Terrific Award:

Brendan Colley - Manners

Superstar Award:

Annie Hook – Application in all learning areas



OUR ZOOSNOOZ TRIP – by Naomi Evans Year 4

On Monday 24th October, Years 2-6, Mrs Reid and Paul travelled by mini bus to Dubbo Western Plains Zoo for a ZoosnooZ. We slept at Billabong Camp site and on Monday night we did a zoo walk.

Early the next day, we went for a walk in the Asian Forest. But before we did, we looked at a Gibbon Monkey family which is related to the Baboon monkey, but it has no tail. After that we looked at the white-handed Siamang monkey, which by the way was my favourite. He looked so cute that you could hug him, but he is vicious. His movement is swift – did you know he can swing through trees at 60km per hour? His noise sounds like a siren but he only does that when you leave because he wants you to come back and watch him do tricks.

His habitat in the zoo is an island in the middle of water. On his island he has a toilet tree which hangs over water. He has ropes to swing on, and if he did not live in a zoo he would be living in a jungle now.

He does everything for his wife. In the morning he gets up and checks the ropes for her. If he thinks they are unsafe he will pull them down and throw them in the water. He always lets her eat first. If one of the monkeys dies, it is likely the other one will die in days. If they put another one in with it, it will kill it. In monkey years he is 35 years old, but in human years he is 90. So it would be like your pop swinging through the trees. These monkeys are also very intelligent.

I totally recommend the ZoosnooZ and to see the monkeys to all schools, and anyone in particular. I had the best time ever; I wish I was still there. It was so much fun (and so were the tents!).

Well Done Naomi! ☺

TERM 4 2016 Dates

| Week | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|------|-------------------|---------|-----------------------|--|---|
| 5 | 7 Lunch order | 8 | 9 9am- Kinder Go! | 10 Library | 11 Sport Music & Drama 3-6 Cooking German 2:00pm Assembly Scripture |
| 6 | 14 Lunch order | 15 | 16 9am- Kinder Go! | 17 Library | 18 Sport Music & Drama German 2:00pm Assembly Scripture |
| 7 | 21 Lunch order | 22 | 23 9am- Kinder Go! | 24 Library | 25 Sport Music & Drama German 2:00pm Assembly Scripture |
| 8 | 28 Lunch order | 29 | 30 9am- Kinder Go! | 1 December 6pm Presentation Night & Carols | 2 Sport Music & Drama German 2:00pm Assembly Scripture |
| 9 | 5 Swim School | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 Swim School |
| 10 | 12 Lunch order | 13 | 14 | 15 Library | 16 Last Day for 2016 Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays ☺ See you in 2017! |

Mr Clarks has send through some beautiful photos of his little family and new son:



The formalities will commence at 6:00pm

@ Somerton Hall, Scotland Street on

Thursday 1st December 2016

*Family & Friends
are warmly invited to:*

Somerton Public School Presentation Night 2016

*Please RSVP by Friday
17th November 2016*



*Families of students & officials are supplied with supper on the night. Given community members, grandparents, aunts, uncles & friends attend, it would be greatly appreciated if families could please bring a plate of food to share (cakes, slices, sandwiches or snacks)
Thank You.*

Everyone is welcome to come along & join in with our end of year Celebrations
Acting Principal:
Toni Reid

Following to the official Presentations you are welcome to join us for the annual Somerton Community Christmas Tree & Carol Singing ♪



PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO THIS BEING A SCHOOL FUNCTION
ALCOHOL IS NOT PERMITTED