



THE GOORA GAZETTE



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educating hearts and minds

Ms Winston's Message

Warm Welcome

I would like to thank all of the students, staff and parents of Somerton PS for the warm welcome to the school.

It is a huge privilege to be your relieving Principal, and I look forward to getting to know everyone better and taking good care of this beautiful school!

A little about me...

I have been an educator for over 25 years, and have worked in a variety of schools and locations, including special education and early childhood education.



I come to Somerton Public School from Walgett Community College Primary School, where I was the Deputy Principal Primary and Deputy Principal Instructional Leader for the past 5 years.

I have 2 wonderful sons, Jacob (21) and Caden (12). Jacob works in a Before and After School Care Centre, and is studying animation at university.

Caden has started high school this year and loves Star Wars and Lego!

I have a gorgeous cat named Milo...but don't tell Mr Stripes!!!

Please feel free to call, email or come and see me at any time.



Cross Country

Good luck to Jye and Braxton who will be representing Somerton PS at the Zone Cross Country tomorrow!

We wish them all the very best for a great run!



National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week

Today is National Sorry Day, and the start of Reconciliation Week.

Students at Somerton PS will be engaging in activities throughout the week to develop their knowledge and understanding about Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week.

The Cockatoos have already made a start with a Sorry Day mindfulness colouring page!



From the classrooms....

Cockatoos' Call

We have had a wonderful 2 weeks of learning with a strong focus on 'natural' environments and appreciating the wonderful spaces we have in our school.

In writing, the Cockatoos have been exploring the 'art of persuasion' through writing a letter to our Somerton P&C to encourage some fun changes around the school.

Coming up... The Cockatoos are very excited to share these letters in the very near future. Once published these will be sent to the P&C for consideration, and shared on Seesaw.

POWER Time – The Cockatoos have been exploring the 'R' of Power – RESPECT over the past 2 weeks. We have discussed the importance of 'Keeping our hands and feet to ourselves' and all of the students shared some wonderful strategies that they can use if they ever feel overwhelmed, angry or sad. The second focus for the fortnight, was 'Being Inclusive and Welcoming'. The students enjoyed brainstorming ideas for how they welcome new students and visitors to our school, and also had great fun with the story 'The Rainbow Fish' in discussing that we all may look different, feel emotions differently or have different ideas, but we all can still show respect/kindness, and celebrate our differences in lots of ways.

'Living' the Science dream – The Scientists in the Cockatoo Classroom have been continuing their focus on living things. The past fortnight has found them investigating different animals and their characteristics, and learning about why these characteristics are so important in keeping animals safe and healthy.

During Maths, this fortnight the Cockatoos have been busy measuring the 'area' of different shapes and items in their school. They have explored the use of many different tools to measure area but the best fun was had when we used bodies to measure large items outside the classroom. This past week, has left us with a very small Cockatoos classroom, and we all hope that everyone is feeling healthy and back to their happy selves real soon.

Ms Winston, Mrs Knapman, Miss Clark, Mrs Markwick, Mr White and Mr Lalor all thank the Cockatoos for another wonderful fortnight of learning fun.

Ms Winston, Mrs Knapman, Mr White and Miss Clark



From the classrooms....

King Parrots' Chatter

Lunch Time Activities

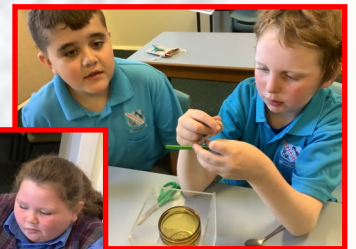
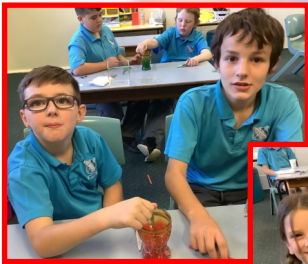
This term the students have been accessing Bagaay during their play times and having fun learning and teaching the game of Chess. All students have had the opportunity to spend some quiet time in this space where Mrs Markwick and Mr White have spent some time culling and tidying up the books. We now have many different sections for boys, girls and staff being able to access interesting high quality books. Thanks goes out to our wonderful SLSO's for putting the time and effort into making Bagaay a wonderful learning space.



King Parrots

WOW how the time has flown since Mr Stephens has left our school and Ms Winston has taken over the smooth running of Somerton. We have all settled into a routine with a lot of positive energy in and around the school.

King Parrots have been relishing in our STEM program, where they have been learning about a variety of different experiments from; teaching the infant class all about Skittle art, growing crystals and our latest, making puffy paint to paint our pictures with then placing them in the microwave to puff up their pictures. This experiment didn't go down too well as we think we need to use baking powder to make the mixture rise some more.



In class we have been learning how to upload items onto SEESAW and all family invites were sent out to parents so they can see what your child is doing in class and how well they are progressing. Have a look at them reading aloud to themselves.

Maths has been fun with the access of a program called, Prodigy. This program has many features where I can set assessments and see what they are having difficulty with. Giving me this feedback allows me to teach them what they don't know and improve their understanding. Students can access this at home to give them the skills they need to move on with their learning.

Students also have access to Typing Tournament which gives them the opportunity to increase their typing skills for their future in education. This program can be accessed at home where the kids can continue to increase their typing skills.

GOOD LUCK

We are extremely proud to wish out two King Parrots, Jye and Braxton in making it to the next stage in the Cross Country carnival. These two boys will be travelling to Nundle tomorrow to compete in their age races against many other schools to be able to move onto the North West carnival. We wish these two boys the best of luck tomorrow.

Mrs Penberthy and Mrs Markwick

Noticeboard

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Book Club

The latest Book Club catalogue is attached to today's newsletter. If you would like to purchase any items from the catalogue please complete the order form on the back page and return it to the school with the correct amount of cash or cheque by:

Monday, 7th June

Alternatively orders may be placed online at www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP

Book Club benefits Somerton Public School as every Book Club order placed earns us 20% (10% for home deliveries) of the order spend in rewards enabling us to purchase valuable education resources for our library.

Somerton P & C News

Hi everyone,

We are half way through Term 2, where is the time going?

I would like to say a **big welcome to Ms Winston** our new principal. The P&C look forward to working with you in supporting our school.

We have a P&C meeting coming up on the **7th of June at 4pm at the School**. This meeting we will be discussing our upcoming fundraiser the **Winter Pie Drive** and organising our involvement with NAIDOC week.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the **Mothers Day Stall**. The kids had loads of fun picking out gifts for their loved ones and we appreciate everyone's continuous support.

After our next meeting we will be posting a **summary of the minutes on our Facebook page**. If you aren't a member of the page please consider joining 'Somerton P&C'.

Stay warm in this chilly weather,

Emily Skinner

P&C Secretary





**Farewell
and All The
Best
Mr Stephens!**

