



THE GOORA GAZETTE



inside this issue



- *Principal's Message*
- *Welcome Back to Term 3*
- *Staff Development Day*
- *Covid-19*

- *Restrictions to School Site*
- *From the Classrooms*
- *Community Classifieds*



Phone 02 6769 7520
Fax 02 6769 7400
Mobile 0448 246 279
Email somerton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Web www.somerton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

educating hearts and minds

Ms Winston's Message

Welcome back to Term 3

I'm pleased to report that both students and staff are enjoying the new structure to our school day and having the school bell to keep everyone on time! There is a real buzz about learning, and reading is a priority this term. This will be further supported with the school receiving 130 free decodable readers from the NSW Department of Education.

Staff Development Day

Staff participated in 2 online modules of professional development during the Staff Development Day. These modules focused on Aboriginal Histories and Cultures and turning policy into action. We look forward to embedding more aspects of Aboriginal Education into our teaching programs.

Covid-19

Unfortunately, due to the ongoing Covid19 situation and restrictions, many of the planned events set for this term have either been postponed or cancelled. This includes our NAIDOC Day, Education Week Open Day and Parent/Teacher interviews.

Restrictions to School Site

A reminder that parents are not allowed onto the school grounds during school hours. If you need to collect your child/ren early, please call ahead and we will bring them out to you. The only exception to this is canteen on Friday. Also, please keep your child/ren at home if they display even the mildest of symptoms. This request is in line with current NSW DOE and



Health advice.

Let's keep everyone safe!

And now some better news...**P&C meetings can still go ahead** outside of school hours following Covid Safe practices; our Preschool to School transition program can still go ahead (starting later this term), and our Sporting Schools program (basketball) for Term 3 can also still go ahead!

Thank you to our wonderful P&C for organising the Fundraising Pie Drive. I am really looking forward to trying the yummy pies and treats I ordered!



From the classrooms....

Cockatoos' Call

A big welcome back to the Cockatoos classroom for Term 3. We hope everybody had an enjoyable holiday break, and the students are ready and excited to be back at school for our third term. Both Ms Winston and Mrs Knapman are extremely excited for what this term will bring.

Cockatoos Classroom Changes – Over the holidays, the Cockatoos teachers have been busy planning a few changes for learning. This term, the addition of daily 'warmups' (making our brains 'sweaty') have been added to both the Literacy and Maths sessions. The Cockatoos are loving the movement, and challenges this has brought to their learning each day so far. This gives the students a chance each day to practice common skills that are needed to be successful in these 2 learning areas.

Reading groups – daily reading is a big focus in the Cockatoo classroom, and we are very happy to welcome Mr White back to the Cockatoos classroom to help build on teaching team. Reading this term will have a strong focus on 'Reading strategies'; expression; and reading comprehension.

Writing – Currently, we are busy researching and writing about native Australian Animals in the Cockatoos classroom with 'Informative Writing' being our focus. The students are learning to compare the differences between information texts and their favourite imaginative texts e.g. The Wonkey Donkey, and The Rainbow Fish.

Homework – In line with the daily reading, writing and spelling at school, the Cockatoos will be starting to bring homework home as of next week... The Cockatoos will have the chance to 'celebrate their success' with their homework with dojos being rewarded for those students who bring their folders back each Friday and have completed their homework daily tasks.

Magnificent Mathematicians – in the Cockatoo Classroom our mathematicians have been busy learning about money, measuring mass, and 2D shapes and 3D objects. All Cockatoos have been tremendous

Drama/Art – this term the Cockatoos will be exploring Drama and Movement with a range of miming activities, acting/performing, and exploring the use of costumes. We will have some photo and video updates for you in the coming weeks.

Ms Winston, Mrs Knapman, and our classroom supporting teachers/ staff, look forward to a very busy, exciting and successful term 3.

Ms Winston, Mrs Knapman, Mr Lalor and Miss Clark



From the classrooms....

King Parrots' Chatter

King Parrots

This term has started off with some brilliant work and all have been striving to do their best and succeed in their learning.

We have started our new unit of work, discovering all about past heritage and how we go to today. Benji was the first to wear our Captain's outfit during art and all the kids were excited to have a go.

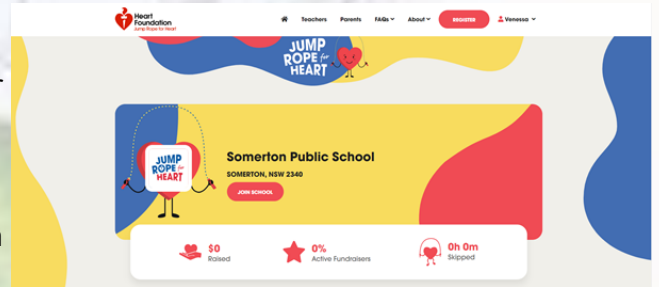
The King Parrots are also doing a fitness program in line with the Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser. We have been actively involved in learning how to skip and are waiting for the new ropes to be delivered.

Register your child to participate in this activity.

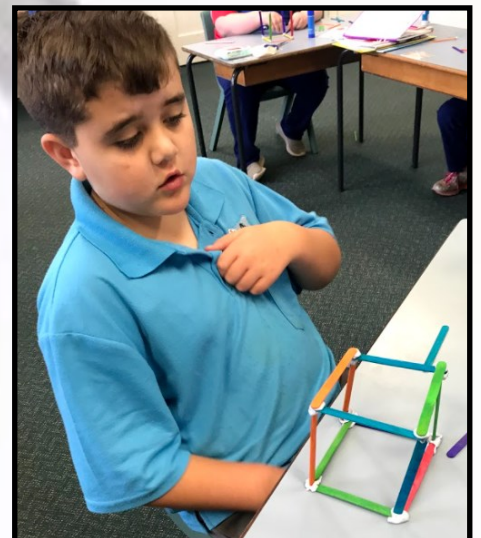
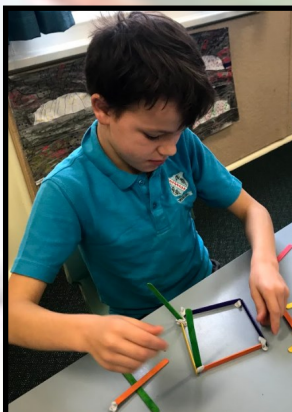
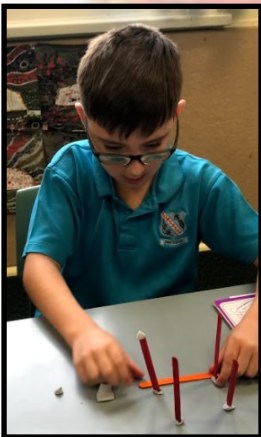
Even if they do not raise money, I will be putting up \$5 for each student who has a go at school.

Our school goal is \$200. I am sure we can get there.

Once again I will be using Seesaw to communicate with parents, especially with COVID restrictions back in place.



Mrs Penberthy and Mrs Markwick



COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

O'GRADY DRAMA
New England

CREATIVE KIDS
HUNTER NEW ENGLAND LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT

Civic Gunnedah

We don't just teach drama, we teach life

want to act? want to be on stage?
Boost self-confidence, communication and language skills. Self-development through drama!

**NEW CLASS
OPENING WEDNESDAYS!**

www.ogradydrama.com.au
email Ben for an info pack:
newengland@ogradydrama.com.au

Good for Kids good for life

RECIPE FOR A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP

Did you know that primary school-aged children need between 9 - 11 hours of sleep every night?!

Poor sleep quality and insufficient sleep has been associated with a range of physical and mental health problems that can impact on a child's health and development.¹

Here's some sleep tips to help make sure your kids are getting their zzz's...

- Have a consistent sleep schedule and bedtime routine to help your child relax and wind down each night.
- Switch off all screens (TV, tablets, computers, phones) an hour before bed, and no screens in the bedroom!
- Daily exercise and time outdoors promote good sleep. Make sure your child is getting plenty of physical activity throughout the day.



Check out more sleep tips at www.healthdirect.gov.au/sleep-tips-for-children

Good for Kids good for life

HEALTHY WINTER WARMERS

Here's a few ideas for healthy meals that are cheap, delicious, full of everyday foods and will keep you warm in winter!

- Soups – try pumpkin, vegetable, lentil, tomato or minestrone
- Toasted sandwiches – fill them with your favourite everyday fillings like baked beans & cheese or ham, cheese and tomato.
- Mini Pizzas – make them with English muffins or wholegrain wraps
- Slow cooker casseroles – pack them full of vegetables like potato, carrot, celery or pumpkin



Somerton Public School



Education

Somerton Public School
Milkmaid St, Somerton NSW 2340
6769 7520
E somerton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
W somerton-p.schools.nsw.gov.au