



THE GOORA GAZETTE



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educating hearts and minds

Ms Winston's Message

WOW! Week 4 and August already! The year is flying by...especially when we are all trying our best and learning so much. It has been an absolute pleasure to see our students making excellent gains in their academic, social and emotional learning since the beginning of term, which is quite fitting as last week was Education Week. The theme this year was life long learning. Attached are some photos of our students celebrating during Clubs. We went to the local park and then decorated face masks - a sign of the times unfortunately.

RFS Hazard Reduction Burn

The Rural Fire Service has notified us of hazard reduction burns in the local area commencing Thursday 5 August (weather conditions permitting). Whilst we will take all appropriate precautions to keep our students safe and well, **if your child regularly uses an asthma puffer can you please ensure they have one with them over the coming few days.** A flyer from the RFS in relation to the hazard reduction burn has been included in this newsletter.

Zone Athletics

Congratulations to Jye, Braxton, Jayden and Mia who have all qualified to represent Somerton PS at the Tamworth Zone Athletics Carnival later this month. Between them, they will contest 15 individual events and then join to be the Somerton Public School relay team!

To top this off...Jye was named Bective Senior Boys Athletics Champion; Braxton was named Bective Junior Boys Athletics Champion as well as breaking



the record for the Junior Boys Long Jump (previously held by former SPS student Nicholas Hook) and Mia was named Bective Junior Girls Champion.

What outstanding athletes we have!

Congratulations Jye, Mia and Jayden & Braxton!



Ms Winston's Message continued...

Absences

It is important to advise the school by phone / email if your child is going to be absent from school. This enables teachers to mark the roll appropriately and plan accordingly if it is to be a longer absence. Failure to explain your child's absence means the absence is marked unjustified / unexplained. We are investigating ways to make this a simple, straight forward process and keep our records accurately for auditing purposes. Watch this space!



Covid19 Protocols

Students who come to school with Covid19-like symptoms (runny nose, cough, sore throat, fever, aches and pains) will be sent home for the safety and well-being of all. Students who are sent home (or whose parents have kept them home) are required to get a Covid19 test and a negative result before returning to school. They should also preferably be symptom free. If symptoms persist due to sinus or seasonal allergies, a doctor's note giving clearance is required.

Should you be unable or unwilling to have your child Covid19-tested, they will need to stay away from



school for 10 days and be non-symptomatic for the 3 consecutive days before returning to school. Any student in this situation will be provided with a learn from home pack to complete if they are able to do so.

If you have any questions or concerns about Covid19 or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Winston or your child's teacher.

Decodable Readers and UNE's Soil Your Undies Project

The Department of Education has sent us 130 decodable readers to use in our reading programs. This is a welcome boost to our reading resources, and we look forward to making good use of them.

The University of New England has sent us some undies to bury! We are taking part in a science experiment that looks at the quality of soil in different areas. The more the underwear degrades over the experiment time...the healthier the soil! We are curious to see the results at the end! This activity will tie in nicely with National Science Week which commences on the 14 August.

Important Dates

- From Thursday 5 August **RFS Hazard Reduction**
- Week 4 - Week 6 **Year 1 Phonics Screening**
- Week 6 **Book Fair** (actual date TBA)
- **National Science Week**
- Friday 20 August **Zone Athletics** (TRAC)
- Week 7 **Book Week** (Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds)



From the classrooms....

Cockatoos' Call

The Cockatoos are settling into term 3 very well and enjoying the exciting changes in the Cockatoos' classroom learning structure.

Reading – All of the Cockatoos are enjoying their daily reading groups. They have shown huge efforts in reading each morning and great enthusiasm as they go through their sound and letter songs and actions each day. Our Years 2 and 3 students have been focusing on their skills in looking for facts/information as they read.

Writing – After reading/viewing a few stories read from space stations, we felt it was only fitting that we look at writing our own space related writing piece this week. The students have been imagining what it would be like to be a space astronaut and recording the items they would need to take with them, and what it would be like in space.

Homework – Wonderful work to those of the Cockatoos who showed great effort with their homework last week. It was fantastic to see that the students had been sharing reading and learning time with those at home. Keep up the good work Cockatoos!!!

The Cockatoo Mathematicians – Our Mathematicians have been hopping, jumping and leaping into their maths this week with some outside learning. Place value games, addition/subtraction team fun and measurement madness has been a world of fun!

Drama/Art – the Cockatoos had fun getting into character this week for some dress up and acting mini lessons. This coming week the students will start to explore self portraits using their creative 'character photographs'.

Ms Winston, Mrs Knapman, and our classroom supporting teachers/staff, thank the Cockatoos as always for a successful 2 weeks of learning. Let's keep growing our brains like Mojo! (Dojo Classroom Character).

Ms Winston, Mrs Knapman, Mr Lalor and Miss Clark



From the classrooms....

King Parrots' Chatter

The King Parrots have been extremely busy practising their skipping for Jump Rope for Heart. Most students have logged on and have started raising funds. We have received the new skipping ropes, however I don't think the jump rope for heart people realise how tall our kids are, as the new ropes are too short for our taller students.

The kids have managed to delegate their jobs and responsibilities weekly and they have been completing these diligently daily.

This week we completed an updated assessment for maths and all the students have managed to improve on their learning outcomes. The Prodigy program is working a treat as I can see what they are having difficulty with and we complete our teaching activities at the end of the lessons. The kids love this as they can immediately see their errors and understand how to move forward.

Homework is slowly moving on as I am receiving 50% of the work returned. This work is handed out Monday and due back Friday. This homework supports the learning we are completing in the classroom.

Mrs Penberthy and Mrs Markwick



Heart Foundation


JUMP ROPE for HEART

Earn a prize for the amount you raise!

- \$5000** Springfree Trampoline or Red Balloon voucher
- \$2500** Mobile Basketball
- \$1000** Jump Rope Showbag
- \$500** Bluetooth Speaker
- \$250** Wahu Wingblade
- \$100** Squeazy Popper Animal (Lucky Dip)
- \$60** Compression Sports Towel
- \$35** Mystery Skipping Rope
- \$250 BONUS PRIZE!** Activity Dice

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Somerton CWA

The CWA meet on the second Tuesday of each month at the Somerton Hotel at 10:00am.

All interested ladies are welcome.

For more information please contact:

Carol Bank (President) 6760 6250
or
Judi Swain (Secretary) 6743 1701

