Mrs Bishop’s Message

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2015
We are now accepting Kindergarten enrolments for 2015. Anyone who has children or neighbours & friends who are looking to enrol, can pick up an enrolment pack from the school. Here are some BIG benefits of small schools.

• Small schools offer a unique learning environment.
• Small schools offer the same curriculum as large schools. Younger students can learn from older students & all students are able to work at the ability level within the same class.
• There is lots of individual attention to student learning.
• We can access free sports program through the Active After School Communities Program.
• Our school is like one big family. Our students learn to play & mix with a variety of ages & our staff really get to know our students & their families.
• We get to mix with other schools. Examples include our Stage 2 & 3 excursions to Great Aussie Bush Camp & Canberra, Sporting Carnivals & Creative Arts - check out our gallery on our website to see the fantastic things we do here at Somerton PS.


If you or someone you know came through Somerton PS, we’d love to hear & share with others what you loved about your small school experience and maybe even what you are doing now. Send an email to our school email address: somerton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Canberra Excursion for Years 5 & 6
Mrs Bishop & our students leave Monday for the Canberra Excursion. You might like to check out some photos on our school website to see what’s happening while we are away.

Please Note:
Students from our school will soon be undertaking an education tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4) excursion to Great Aussie Bush Camp
This time has come to start to organise our Years 3 & 4 camp to Great Aussie Bush Camp. This camp will be held on Monday 1st September to Wednesday 3rd September. Your expression of interest & the $50 deposit is required by today, 10 June 2014 to secure a spot for your child.

Cupboards
The school has 2 old cupboards we would like to donate. If you are interested please contact the school.
**Alliteration**

Our class has been doing some alliteration with Mrs Price. Here’s some of the work the students have done:

- **Shannon** – ‘Slinky snakes are slithering slowly in the green grass. Snails sliding in slimy slush’
- **Hayley** – ‘The happy horse is eating hay. Hayley is hopping and hungry’
- **Annie** – ‘Lizards licks ladybug loosing lollies looking lazy in the licking line’
- **Benny** – ‘Four fat frogs flip flowers. Five fish feasting on fairies’
- **Jessica** – ‘Kittens are kind and cute’
- **Tiara** – ‘Pink pigs pinch plums. Pretty Parrots pluck pink pugs’

**Fill Needed**

The school is looking for some fill so we can put in a boat in our playground. If you can help or know of someone who can help, please contact the school.

**Canteen**

Mrs Jenni Chiswell (our School Chaplain) started our school canteen this week with some very enthusiastic helpers. Orders for lunch need to be handed in on arrival at school. Our menu is included again this week. Any suggestions are most welcome!

The canteen will operate on **MONDAYS & THURSDAYS** during lunchtime only.

**Food Items & Price List for this term are:**

- Creamy Chicken & Vegetable Soup - $1.50
- Cheese Toasties - $1.50
- Cup of Popcorn – 50c
- Cup of Fruit Jelly – 50c
- Apple Slinky – with own apple – 5c
- Buy apple – 30c

**Jenny Chiswell**

**School Chaplain**

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**P&C News**

Our next meeting is **Thursday 31st August @ 4pm**

at the school.

All school & community members are welcome.

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**Book Club**

Book Club has gone home. **Issue 4, 2014 orders & payment must be returned to school this Friday 20th June 2014 in an envelope with your child’s name clearly marked on it.**

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**For your Diary…**

**Stage 3 Canberra Excursion:** Monday 16th June – Friday 20th June

**Bective Athletics Carnival:** Friday 18th July @ Duri Public School

**P&C Meeting:** Thursday 31st August @ 4pm

**Stage 2 Great Aussie Bush Camp Excursion:** Monday 1st September – Wednesday 3rd September
Inter-Schools Horse Extravaganza

Catering for both primary and high school students

at the AELEC, Tamworth from

18 – 20 October 2014
(Saturday – Monday)

Programme to include:

Saturday: Working Horse Challenge (three patterns)
Sporting Events: Bend, Flag, Barrel, Pony Twist and Scadeho.
Twilight events include Opening Ceremony, demonstration of horseball and horse vaulting by NEGS students

Sunday: Ring Events: Hack, Rider, Handler, Child’s Hack and Pleasure Hack
Sporting Events: Pole Bend, Two Flag Race, Diamond Flag, Bottle Race, Bonfield Bounce
Twilight events to include 95 cm, 1.05 m and 1.15 m showjumping, “Woof and Hoot” Competition (judged on audience participation)

Monday: Dressage and Showjumping
All entries will be through www.anzacawards.com.au and close 1 September 2014.
Only the first 300 entries will be accepted.

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW – STAY TUNED!
GIVEAWAYS

UNDER 12 CLINICS 2014

The Best Coaches

Hockey NSW is back on the road with our 2014 Stick 2 Hockey U12 Development Clinics.

Sessions will be run by a current NSW State Coach and Regional Coaching Co-ordinator.

2013 more than 1,100 U12 players participated in the clinics and this year, we’re visiting even more Associations and hoping to meet even more young players.

The clinics are open to players of all levels born between 2002 and 2004. We’ll provide you a hockey stick if you’re starting out or for more experienced players, we’ll make sure we put you through your paces and leave with the skills to take your game to the next level.

COST: $53 per player (includes 4% transaction fee)

Every participant leaves with a Hockey NSW Player Pack which includes a drink bottle and bag.

HOW TO REGISTER: www.hockeynsw.com.au

Winter School Holiday Fun

Kreative Kids

Lake Keepit Holiday Camp

DO YOU LOVE CREATING THINGS? COMBINE ARTS AND CRAFTS WITH MORE TRADITIONAL AND FUN CAMP ACTIVITIES. LET’S SEE HOW CREATIVE YOU REALLY ARE THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!

30 June to 4 July
1st week of the Winter school holidays

7-12 years
$265.00

Private transport on this program only.

Our kids’ camps at Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre are designed and delivered by qualified instructors and focus on giving kids a taste of valuable life skills.

Through a range of fun and exciting activities, the kids are encouraged to grow and develop socially, make new friends and try new things.

Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre

For more information

Phone: (02) 6759 7603 or Fax: (02) 6759 7565
Email: lake.keept@communities.nsw.gov.au
Web: www.dsr.nsw.gov.au

Office of Communities Sport & Recreation
Active learning for life...

Sport and Recreation Centres support the development of children through outdoor experiential education and have been part of the school fabric for more than 60 years. Now part of the Department of Education and Communities, our programs are designed to invigorate and stimulate learning outside the school grounds.

Sport and Recreation Centres provide:

- Elven unique Centres, located in pristine natural environments, offering school programs designed to meet individual needs and learning outcomes. We provide everything from adrenaline-filled outdoor adventures to music, hand and performing and creative arts camps. We run sports performance clinics, specialist training programs and have more than 40 activities for the beach, water, snow or bush.
- Modified meals and activities to suit cultural, dietary and medical needs.
- Quality accommodation and facilities catering for students of all abilities and with teacher comforts.
- Experienced, qualified teaching staff skilled in designing programs that meet learning outcomes.
- Fully supervised activities and learning programs plus separate teacher accommodation, meal times and the chance to be part of the class. Not just the leader.

What our guests say...

"We are a camp for 3 year olds and we never leave. Children have a..." 
Teacher - Narrabeen Lakes Public School

"The facilities are excellent. The senior management are so great!" 
Teacher - Putney Public School

"Preparation for the week was perfect. The staff are fantastic" 
Teacher - Harbord Public School

"We are looking forward to trying something new and exciting this year." 
Teacher - Laguna Street Public School

"We are so happy with the arrangements for the kids and the stories..." 
Teacher - St Joseph's Primary

"Outstanding boys. Great food, professional staff..." 
Teacher - Northover College, Wycliffe's Public Prep.

"Every aspect of the camp was exceptional. The staff were great and everything was excellent." 
Teacher - Lismore High School

Call 13 13 02 or visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/camps
Cooperative learning environments are key to providing a positive and engaging learning experience for students.

Cooperative Learning

The benefits of cooperative learning are numerous:

1. **Enhanced Problem Solving:** Students learn to work together to solve complex problems, promoting critical thinking and innovation.
2. **Improved Communication Skills:** Through group discussions, students develop better listening and speaking skills.
3. **IncreasedMotivation:** Working in a team can make learning more enjoyable and motivating.
4. **Fostered Sense of Belonging:** Students feel more connected to each other and the learning process.
5. **Improved Academic Performance:** Research shows that cooperative learning can lead to higher grades.

The Importance of a Positive Learning Environment

Creating a positive learning environment is crucial for student success. A cooperative learning environment can:

- **Encourage Collaboration:** Students learn to work together effectively.
- **Foster a Supportive Culture:** A supportive classroom culture where all students feel valued.
- **Promote Engagement:** Engaged students are more likely to succeed.
- **Enhance Social Skills:** Students develop important social skills through interaction.

Incorporating Cooperative Learning in the Classroom

To effectively incorporate cooperative learning, teachers can:

- **Design Activities:** Create activities that require group collaboration.
- **Model Thinking:** Demonstrate cooperative learning strategies to students.
- **Provide Feedback:** Offer constructive feedback to improve group dynamics.
- **Celebrate Success:** Recognize and celebrate group achievements.

By implementing these strategies, teachers can create a cooperative learning environment that enhances student learning and engagement.