Ms Reid’s Message

Congratulations to Charlotte, Koby & Keisha who have welcomed their new baby brother, Jax.

Our first month at school has been productive and busy. All students are settling in well to their classes and are becoming familiar with their routines. The weather has been hot and we are all looking forward to the cooler months coming. All the students are wearing hats and have their water bottles, which is great to see. The Friday Survival and Confidence swimming lessons have been a bonus in this hot weather and are thoroughly enjoyed by the students and staff.

Home Reading

Home reading started off very busily at the beginning of the year but has started to drop off as the term progresses. Please encourage your child to borrow books from the home readers and the school library and read at home. Evidence shows that reading at home makes a huge difference to their learning at school and to their overall confidence to attempt classroom activities.

Staff Planning Day

On Thursday 3rd March the teaching staff will be having a Planning Day at school. Classes will go ahead as normal with Mrs Gallagher, our relieving teacher. The day is focused on examining the students assessment tasks, gathering data and planning future programs for the students, both on a class basis and individually, in literacy and numeracy.

Why not visit our Website:
http://www.somerton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

P&C News

The P&C annual AGM meeting will THIS Week, Thursday 3rd March @ 6:30pm in the common room.

We will be having a movie in the 3-6 classroom if parents need to bring their children. The meetings usually end at around 8:00pm so it is not a late night! All parents and community friends are welcomed to attend!

Responsible Pet Education Program

On Monday 7th March, we are having the Responsible Pet Education Program visit our school. The presenters will be using multimedia, role play, song and story to teach a wide range of concepts relating to ‘responsible pet ownership’ such as the importance of being safe around dogs. The production is free and is a necessary part of the students education as it deals with pets and how to behave around dogs that the students are not familiar with.

Clean Up Australia Day

Somerton Public School will be participating in the annual Clean Up Australia Day. We are holding ours on Monday 7th March. The students and teachers will be cleaning around the school grounds and Milkmaid Street as a part of our effort to keep Australia clean.
Best Start
This literacy and numeracy program is undertaken in all NSW Department of Education schools at the beginning of every year with the kindergarten students. It is an informative process allowing the teacher to plan learning programs for the students. Mr Clark has been very busy working with the students and has now completed the process. Letters will be sent to the parents of the kindergarten students explaining the outcomes and inviting them to visit the school to discuss their child’s progress.

Canteen Healthy Lunches
A big thankyou to Mrs Markwick for preparing the yummy lunches for the students on Monday and Tuesdays. Healthy ham salad plates, cheese toasties, wraps, beef mince stir-fry are a few of the delicious meals on offer. A popper and a jelly cup are included with the meal. And all of this for $2 – a real bargain. Thank you Mrs Marwick for creating our yummy menus and all your time and effort you give in preparing and serving.

YEARS 3-6 COOKING WILL BE THIS WEEK ON WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH!

Weekly Focus Concept – Social Awareness
Be aware of your behaviour and how you treat people in every social situation. Always remember manners, consideration and respect. Life can be a happy and pleasant experience if you keep these three things in mind 😊

Playgroup 2016
New mums and their children have been visiting our playgroup held every Wednesday in the school common room. Mrs Markwick is the co-ordinator who organises lots of fun activities for the littlies and a cuppa and snack for the mums. It’s a lovely social time for the children and the mums so if you know of anyone who would enjoy the morning, please spread the word.

Weekly Assembly
Congratulations to the following students:

Week 4
White Merit Award:
Macey Holden, Charlotte Heywood
Terrific Award:
Matilda Holden – trying in everything she does
Superstar Award:
Koby Heywood – a concentrated effort in class

Week 5
Silver Award:
Macey Holden – congratulations
Macey on achieving 5 merit awards
White Merit Award:
Benny Markwick, Macey Holden, Wade Holden
Terrific Award:
Wade Holden – excellent effort in spelling and reading
Superstar Award:
Sophie Hook – trying hard

Great Aussie Bush Camp 2016
This camp will be held on Monday 5th September to Wednesday 7th September 2016 for Years 3&4.

The cost will be $315.00. A note with a payment schedule has been sent home.

Canberra Excursion 2016
This excursion will be held on Monday 27th June to Friday 1st July 2016 for Years 5&6.

The cost will be $555.50. A note with a payment schedule has been sent home.
### TERM 1 2016 DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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| 6    | 29 Canteen | 1 March Canteen | 2 9:30am-11:30am: Playgroup | 3 Library | 4 Swimming  
Music  
Scripture  
2:30pm: Assembly |
|      |        |         |           |          |        |
|      | 7 Canteen | Canteen | 9 9:30am-11:30am: Playgroup | 10 Library | 11 Swimming  
Music  
Scripture  
2:30pm: Assembly |
|      | Responsible Pet Education Program | Clean Up Australia | | | |
| 8    | 14 Canteen | 15 Canteen | 16 9:30am-11:30am: Playgroup | 17 Library | 28 Swimming  
Music  
Scripture  
2:30pm: Assembly |
|      | Canteen | Canteen | | | |
| 9    | 21 Canteen | 22 Canteen | 23 9:30am-11:30am: Playgroup  
2:30pm - Easter Hat Parade | 24 Library | 25 Public Holiday  
Good Friday |
|      | | | | | |
| 10   | 28 Public Holiday  
Easter Monday | 29 Canteen | 30 9:30am-11:30am: Playgroup | 31 Library | 1 April Swimming  
Music  
Scripture  
2:30pm: Assembly |
|      | | | | | |
| 11   | 4 Canteen | 5 Canteen | 6 9:30am-11:30am: Playgroup | 7 Library | 8 Swimming  
Music  
Scripture  
2:30pm: Assembly |
|      | | Canteen  
12pm- Outback Scripture | | | |

### School Dates for 2016

**Term 1**  
Wednesday **27**th Jan (SDD)  
Thursday **28**th Jan (Students **1**st day) – Friday **8**th April  
(Easter: 25 March-28th March)

**Term 2**  
Tuesday **26**th April (SDD)  
Wednesday **27**th (Students Return)  
– Friday **1**st July

**Term 3**  
Monday **18**th July (SDD)  
Tuesday **19**th (Students Return)  
– Friday **23**rd September

**Term 4**  
Tuesday **11**th October – Tuesday **20**th December (SDD)
Deb Hopper, Occupational therapist is coming to Tamworth to present her ‘Just Right Kids’ workshop.

Deb has tailored a workshop specifically for parents that may have concerns such as:

- Behavioural difficulties
- Emotional meltdowns
- Self-regulation difficulties
- Concentration
- Learning difficulties at home and in class

If you have any of these concerns this workshop is for you!

Deb’s workshops are informative, hand on and practical.

The aim of this workshop is to help parents understand how all children process sensory information differently and how Occupational therapists can help, as well as what you can do at home.

This free workshop is a great opportunity to learn more about how children’s sensory processing can affect their day to day routines, play and concentration at school.

**Event details**

**Date:** Tuesday 15th March 2016  
**Cost:** free

**Where:** UNE Tamworth Centre-Peel House, 24 Fitzroy Street, Tamworth

**Time:** 5.30pm-7.30pm

Light refreshments will be provided

Registrations due by Monday the 29th February (please see attached)

**This workshop is supported by the New England Early Childhood Inclusion Grants**
Just Right Kids- Sensory processing Workshop for parents

Name:____________________________________
Child care centre/affiliation:________________________________________
Address:___________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
Phone:___________________________ Mobile_____________________
Email address:____________________________________________________
Dietary requirements:_____________________________________________________________

Please email or fax registration form to Milestones Early Learning Centre Oxley Vale

2 Conimbla Crescent, Tamworth, NSW 2340
Email: oxy@milestoneselc.com.au
Phone: (02) 67618100
Fax: (02) 67618500
THE AMAZING "ENVIRO" RACE

FRIDAY 18 MARCH @ BICENTENNIAL PARK - 5.30PM

- Open to ages 12 to 18  - FREE ENTRY
  Grab a partner & compete in pairs
  Complete a series of environment based physical & mental challenges!

DRESS UP THEME:
ANYTHING GREEN!

WIN LOADS OF GREAT PRIZES

To Enter: Simply log onto www.sustainablenorthwest.com.au and complete the entry form.
You must enter before March 14, 2016.
NO ENTRIES ALLOWED ON THE DAY

For more info email hello@sustainablenorthwest.com.au

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE FOR ALL ENTRANTS AFTER THE RACE

www.sustainablenorthwest.com.au