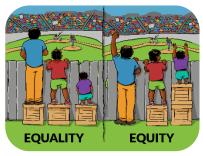
Week 7 – Principal Update

Building an Inclusive School: The Role of Adults in Fostering Belonging

At Somie Rise, we have worked very hard to create a culture of being a place where every child feels safe, valued, and included. Inclusion is not just about policies or accommodations, it's about the behaviours, attitudes, and actions of every member of our community. As educators, parents, and community members, we all play an important role in ensuring that every student, regardless of background or ability, experiences a true sense of belonging.



Modelling Inclusive Behaviours

Children learn by observing the adults around them, and inclusion starts with us. When we demonstrate respect, empathy, and understanding toward **ALL** students, we set the foundation for a culture of acceptance. Simple yet impactful actions – such as learning and using each child's name, engaging with students of all abilities, and avoiding exclusionary language – send a powerful message that everyone belongs.

Encouraging Positive Peer Relationships

As adults, we are responsible for fostering a school culture where differences are celebrated rather than seen as barriers. Encouraging students to collaborate in diverse groups, promoting cooperative learning activities, and facilitating friendships across backgrounds help build empathy and understanding. We must also guide children in recognising and addressing exclusionary behaviours when they arise.

Communicating with Care

The way we speak about inclusion matters. Whether in classrooms, at home, or within the broader school community, our words should reflect openness and encouragement. Addressing misconceptions, challenging stereotypes, and ensuring that discussions about diversity, equity, and inclusion are age – appropriate and constructive will help shape students' perspectives for the better.

Advocating for Equity in Education

True inclusion means ensuring that every student has access to the resources, support, and opportunities they need to succeed. This includes advocating for differentiated instruction, supporting students with additional learning needs, and ensuring that extracurricular activities and school events are accessible to all. By actively working to remove barriers, we create a more equitable and empowering learning environment.

A Collective Commitment

Inclusion is not a one-time effort, it is an ongoing commitment that requires the participation of the entire school community. By working together to create an environment where all children feel seen, heard, and valued, we pave the way for a more compassionate and inclusive future.

Thank you for being a part of our journey toward true inclusion.

Somerville Rise Primary School

Worwong Ave, Somerville, Victoria

ABN 26 851 624 924

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Friday 14th March 2025, Edition 7

2025 Somerville Family Fun Day

On Monday 10th March, the annual Somerville Family Fun Day celebrated it's 10 year anniversary. Being part of our community is one of the best parts of my job as Principal and I was so excited to be in attendance and celebrate the occasion.

With the help of our parent helpers and staff, our Year 6 students sold Zooper Doopers to raise funds for the Year 6 Graduation ceremonies. The stall raised just under \$600 for the day!

I loved meeting a number of potential students and catching up with our families and students that visited us on Monday! A huge thank you to Chris McLennan and Elisha Page for their tireless behind the scenes work and for setting up the day at 7:00am.

On behalf of our school community, I would like to thank the following parents, staff and students for the contributions to a successful day.

- Brooke Mackintosh
- James Morrison
- Elly Glaves
- Chrissy Davison
- Elisha Page
- Emily Harry
- Sophie B

- Nicole and Tyler S
- Kim and Annabelle K
- Chris, Hugh and Elliott Mc
- Tee B
- Merrissa C
- A Nikki W

I would also like to thank the following businesses and families in our community that donated to our stall.

- Somerville Family Day
- Bay2Bay Rentals
- Somerville Junior Football Club

- Ars Day and our visual arts program
- Beck Family
- McLennan Family

Annual Easter Raffle

Somie Rise – you have done it again! Our Easter donations were next level, and we are so grateful for everyone's donations! A huge thank you to Nicole and the fundraising team for creating our amazing prizes!

Tickets are available at the office for \$1 each! I have already claimed first prize but there are plenty of other prizes available for our community Θ

2026 School Tours

If you have any children starting foundation in 2026 or know anyone in our school zone, we would love to have them come and tour our school and see firsthand, the amazing work that is happening!

Keep living the dream!

Matt Jackson **Principal**



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What's happening at Somerville Rise Primary School!

Term 1 Week 8

Monday 17th NAPLAN – Year 3 & Year 5 Conventions of Language

Tuesday 18th NAPLAN – Year 3 & Year 5 Numeracy Wednesday 19th March School Council Meeting AGM – 5:30pm Friday 21st March Whole School Assembly – 2:45pm

Term 1 Week 9

Monday 24th March 2025 NAPLAN Test Window closes – Year 3s and 5s

Term 1 Week 10

Tuesday 1st April School Photo Day

Friday 4th April End of Term 1 – 2:30pm finish

Term 2 Week 1

Tuesday 22nd April First day of Term 2
Thursday 24th April 2025 Easter Hat Parade
Friday 25th April ANZAC Day Public Holiday

Term 2 Week 2

Wednesday 30th April School Open Morning – Foundation 2026

Friday 2nd May Glasses for Kids Program

Whole School Assembly – Leaders on the Rise April

#KeepYourEyesonSomieRise #2025EstablishingExcellence

At Somie Rise we value...







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