



Week 6 – Principal Update

Our Words Matter – Inclusive and Respectful Language

At Somerville Rise, we want every student to feel safe, valued and included. An important part of creating this environment is the language we use with one another.

Words have power. They can encourage, connect and build people up, but they can also hurt, exclude or make others feel unsafe. This is why we explicitly teach our students that respectful language is not simply about being polite — it is about recognising that everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

We are reminding students that language which targets or makes fun of another person's culture, background, gender, identity, appearance, ability or family is not acceptable at Somie Rise. Similarly, words or phrases that may be dismissed as "just a joke" can still have a significant impact on others.

This connects strongly with our school value of Kindness and our Golden Rules, particularly everyone's right to feel safe and respected.

Our approach is also about education. Children and young people will sometimes repeat words they have heard online, through gaming, social media, television, friends or elsewhere without fully understanding their meaning or impact. When this occurs, our role is to address the behaviour, explain why the language is inappropriate, support the student to understand its impact, and help them make a better choice next time. We ask families to support us by having conversations at home about the language children hear and use, including online. Some helpful questions might be:

-  What does that word or phrase actually mean?
-  How might someone else feel hearing it?
-  Would you be comfortable saying it in front of your family or teacher?
-  Is it kind, respectful and necessary?
-  What could you say instead?

Creating an inclusive school culture is a shared responsibility. By maintaining clear expectations and consistently modelling respectful language, we can help our students develop the empathy, understanding and responsibility they need to contribute positively to our school and the wider community.

At Somie Rise, kindness isn't just something we talk about – it's something we show in our actions and in our words.

If parents could discuss this further with their children it will go a long way of embedding these values in our school and in our community!

Somerville Rise Primary School

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Friday 21st August 2026, Edition 26

SunSmart Reminder

As part of student safety and our school Sun Smart Policy, Student and teachers are required to wear hats as of the 1st September each year. We have developed a little poem as a reminder for our families of the times when hats are to be worn.

1st of May Hats away. 1st of September, hats to remember!

Please ensure that school hats are in a presentable appearance. Any hats that have been modified by students will be confiscated. We appreciate your support on this matter.

Keep living the dream!

Matt Jackson
Principal



Teaching and Learning Update

Curriculum Overviews

This week the Term 3, Sprint 2 Curriculum Overviews for each year level were sent out via Compass. Within each document, you will see the 5-week learning focus for Reading, Writing, Mathematics and Personal and Social Capabilities. Classroom teachers have also included suggestions for how you can support your child's learning at home. In addition, the overviews outline the 10-week learning focus (Sprint 1 and 2) for Specialist classes, including Physical Education, STEM, Auslan, Visual Arts and Performing Arts.

At the end of Week 10, you will receive Sprint Feedback specific to your child. This report will provide an update on their progress across Reading, Writing, Mathematics and Personal and Social Capabilities, along with feedback on their effort and behaviour in all subjects.

Further information about assessment and reporting is available on our school website. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher.

Book Week

Next week is Book Week! It will be a wonderful celebration of books, reading and the joy of storytelling at our school! The week will include a special Book Week Parade on Wednesday morning in the Gym, followed by an exciting Book Week Performance in the afternoon. Students will also have the opportunity to explore and purchase books at our Scholastic Book Fair, held each afternoon. Throughout the week, we will celebrate the CBCA Book of the Year shortlisted books, encouraging students to discover new authors, characters and stories and share their love of reading with our school community. We look forward to making Book Week 2026 a fun and memorable celebration for everyone!

Why We Use Mini-Whiteboards

You may have noticed students using mini-whiteboards during lessons at Somie Rise. Mini-whiteboards are an important part of our explicit teaching approach because they allow teachers to quickly see what every student knows, understands and may need help with. Rather than relying on a few students answering questions, every student has the opportunity to think, respond and demonstrate their learning. This provides teachers with immediate feedback, allowing them to address misconceptions, provide additional support or extend learning in the moment. Mini-whiteboards also encourage active participation and ensure that all students are thinking throughout the lesson—not just the students who put their hands up!

Lauren Jelleff
Assistant Principal – Teaching and Learning

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What's happening at Somerville Rise Primary School!

Term 3 – Week 7 – Book Week

Monday 24 th August	Book Fair Opens
Wednesday 26 th August	Book Week Costume Parade
	Book Week Incursion
Thursday 27 th August	District Basketball
Friday 28 th August	Somie Rise Storytime 2:30pm in Room 7

Term 3 – Week 8

Monday 31 st August	Term 3 Sprint 2 Curriculum Overviews available
Wednesday 2 nd September	School Council 5:30pm
Friday 4 th September	Whole School Assembly – 2.45pm
	Somie Rise Storytime 2:30pm in the Room 7

Term 3 – Week 9

Monday 7 th September	District Athletics Carnival
	Art Show Spectacular, 3:30 – 5pm
Thursday 10 th September	Foundation Farm Excursion
Friday 11 th September	Somie Rise Storytime 2:30pm in Room 7
	Whole School Disco Fundraiser

Term 3 – Week 10

Tuesday 15 th September	F – 2 Where is the Green Sheep? Excursion
Friday 18 th September	Annual Footy Day Parade and Centro Visit
	Footy Day Hotdog Day
	Last Day of Term 3 – 2:30pm finish

Other Important Dates

Monday 5 th October – Curriculum Day #3 – Student Free Day
Monday 2 nd November – Professional Practice Day
Friday 18 th December – Curriculum Day #4 – Student Free Day

#KeepYourEyesonSomieRise #FromGoodtoGreat

At Somie Rise we value...



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Kindness

Curiosity

Creativity

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