



# The Weekly Blah

## Grade 4 out and about!



The Grade 4s have been learning about soil in Natural Science, so the children ventured outside to investigate the properties and composition of soil.

In English, the Grade 4 Minnaar class has been learning about Similes. They had to draw pictures to illustrate their work and these four girls were voted winners for doing the best work.

Congratulations Kelsey, Candice, Nadine and Kiera! They look as proud as Punch!

## ***How did that work?***

The Grade 2s enjoyed their trip to the Science Lab to participate in some exciting experiments. The level of enthusiasm showed we have some budding scientists in the making!



## ***Fun in the Dormouse Class!***

The Dormouse Class are learning about different occupations and last week Jaydon's Dad, Gavin, came to speak to the class about being a pilot. Next week they will be learning about Doctors and Nurses. In the meantime, Lilly, Erin, Samantha and Lexi are enjoying playing in the Doctors' corner.



## ***Cups and Trophies***

A reminder that we would like to start collecting in all the trophies and cups that were awarded for both academic and sports awards last year as well as any cups that have been awarded so far this year. If you have a cup or trophy at home, please will you bring it back to school and hand it in to Mrs Jardim as soon as possible. We will then organise the engraving of your name onto the trophy and start the preparations for this year's Prize Giving.

## ***School Uniform Shop Times***

During Term time the Shop is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 07h30 and 08h00 and between 13h00 and 15h00. Please use only the designated times.

## **HEADlines....**

### **Mr Johnny Bam**

Our school community was rocked as news of the passing of Mr Johnny Bam spread. The Bam family has been a part of the Somerset House family for many years as their four sons have passed through the school. Mr Bam also completed work for the school from time to time when building, drainage or earth moving projects required his skills. He was a friend of many parents and children in the school, and his happy and cheerful presence will be missed at the school events he loved to support. Our thoughts and prayers are with Nouleen, Jonty, David, Christian and Nielen.

### **Swine Flu**

We are watching developments carefully in our region at present. Cases were reported in Stellenbosch earlier in the week. Somerset College has reported that one of their parents has been diagnosed with the H1N1 virus. The World Health Organisation has indicated that school closure is ineffective in containing the spreading of the virus. It is however, very important that anyone diagnosed with the virus be quarantined until it is safe to return to school. We also need to be informed immediately if one of our children or family members contacts the virus. This will enable us to warn others of possible infection.

We listed the symptoms last week and will do so again. They include aches and pains, fever, fatigue, a runny nose, sore throat, vomiting and diarrhoea, and a high temperature. Please call the school if you need more information.

### **Vaccinations**

Our vaccination programme began on Wednesday with some very nervous looking Grade 7 boys starting off the process. Thanks to all parents who have made use of this service. The session this morning will have to be re-scheduled as Lisa More-O'Farrell was ill this morning. (Perhaps she needs to have an injection too!)

### **Parent Interviews**

By now you should have received back the parent interview reply slip, confirming the times of your appointments. You will have a 5-minute slot with each teacher. The times will be indicated by a bell. Please ensure that you arrive promptly and keep to the schedule so that the afternoon can run efficiently. The interviews will take place in the Simpson Hall. Tea and coffee will be available.

### **Blah sent out by E-Mail**

Please send the reply slips in as soon as possible. Thanks to all those that have already done so! It appears as though many of you would prefer to receive the newsletter by e-mail and this will certainly assist us in keeping our paper usage and printing-costs to a minimum as well as helping the planet.

**Chris Storey – Headmaster**

**head@somersethouse.co.za**

## ***Grade 7 Art Outing***

On Wednesday 29 July, the Grade 7 pupils went to the Hester Rupert Museum in Stellenbosch to see the amazing collection of South African Art displayed there. The museum was custom-built to house the art; it is climate-controlled and secure. An added extra was the Rodin sculpture exhibition which is on temporary display. It was a privilege to see these powerful artworks in such a lovely environment, and the Grade 7 pupils enjoyed their encounter with the large variety of works produced by very talented artists and sculptors. We hope that this has inspired them and added to their overall knowledge!

## ***Learning Support Centre***

During the July holidays Neil Ferguson and his team were hard at work refurbishing Huelin Cottage, which, in keeping with tradition, has once again undergone a transformation. The long-awaited Learning Support Centre has become home to Alison Rogers (Language Therapist), San-Marie Vosloo (Occupational Therapist) and Jenny Wates (Learning Support Teacher). The dream to provide these therapies at Somerset House became a reality last year. Now they have the correct facility in which to operate.



## ***From the Chairman of the Guild Committee***

Welcome back to another busy term!

A special welcome to the new parents who have just joined the Somerset House Family. This term marks the start of our planning for our annual Golf Day. As many of you know, this event has gone from strength to strength and become quite an event on the Somerset West social calendar.

We are aware that times are tough and as such have done everything possible to keep the costs of the golf and the evening event as low as possible while still covering our costs and making a little profit (which is, after all our aim – fund raising). We have, in the past, been overwhelmed by the generosity shown by parents and local business in support of this project and we hope that we can once again rely on your help. Remember, funds raised will not only go to the school but also to our MAD Outreach program and to our bursary fund.

You will be receiving a letter about the Golf Day and we look forward to receiving your replies and once again having a fully booked field.

**SO, KEEP FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER FREE FOR GOLF!**

Your support, as always, is greatly appreciated. Should anyone have comments or queries for the Guild please feel free to mail us on [guild@somersethouse.co.za](mailto:guild@somersethouse.co.za) or contact your Guild representative:

- Oakwood: Stephanie Forbes
- Junior Prep: Claire Hodge
- Senior Prep: Amanda Derksen

Many thanks

**John Mattheys and the Somerset House Guild Committee**

## ***Needed!***

The Pre-School require clean, empty 200ml Purity bottles. These can be delivered to the Pre-School or to the Administration office.

## ***Lost Property***

A reminder that the Grade 5s will be selling the un-marked Lost Property from 12h30 next Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> August. There are plenty of very good value items for sale – a good chance to top up your uniform. The proceeds of the sale will go to the Grade 6 MAD programme.

## ***Artists of the Week***

The Grade 4 pupils spent most of the second Term in Art making glove puppets, with some delightful characters making their appearance. Einstein, dragons, princesses, ostriches, wizards and really cool dudes are some puppets which are going to be used to stage puppet shows in Drama. Thank you to all the moms, grandmothers and other willing helpers who have helped to complete them. You have done a fabulous job! Well done to Alistair Christmas (ghost), Samantha Bihl (queen) and Nicholas Whatits (ostrich) for having their puppets chosen as the Artists of the Week. Their puppets will be displayed in the dining room.



## ***Towers of Hope***

On Saturday 5 September, some children from Somerset House will be participating in the **5c Towers of Hope Fundraiser** at Waterstone Village. This is to raise money for PATCH, which is the Helderberg Child Abuse Centre.



Thank you so much to all the families who have donated their 5c coins for PATCH. So far we have collected 13 515 coins! Well done to Steffen Engelman who managed to bring in 1138 coins. Let's see if someone can bring in more than that next week!



Congratulations to Mrs Brear who was the staff member that brought the most 5c coins!

Please come and see the tower at Waterstone Village on 5 September between 09h00 – 13h00.

## Newspapers

It was a little quieter in the car park early on Wednesday morning and the newspaper team found life less hectic. We can only assume that everyone is collecting madly for next week... Thanks again to all who join in and add to our totals.

	Weds 22 July	Weds 29 July	Class Totals
7W	2.9	5.5	8.4
7U	0.0	1.2	1.2
6dV	20.1	19.5	39.6
6M	10.5	10.5	21.0
5B	19.4	10.5	29.9
5C	14.7	16.8	31.5
4M	17.3	26.0	43.3
4vN	43.1	70.1	113.2
3P	12.0	3.5	15.5
3S	1.9	6.5	8.4
2P	17.8	11.5	29.3
2T	111.0	35.0	146.0
1dP	37.9	18.5	56.4
1R	22.3	39.9	62.2
<b>Weekly Total</b>	<b>330.9</b>	<b>274.9</b>	<b>605.8</b>

## Sports News

### MIGUEL REPRESENTS WP INVITATIONAL GOLF TEAM

Migael Slabber was recently selected to represent the Western Province Invitational U13 Golf Team. He played in an inter-provincial tournament at the Worcester Golf Club during the holidays. Migael was one of 6 players who represented the team during the tournament and his fine 9 hole scores of 44, 41, 42, 44 and 39, earned him an 11<sup>th</sup> spot overall out of 42 players as well as 1<sup>st</sup> position within his team. Congratulations, Migael. We look forward to hearing some more good news!



### CONGRATULATIONS, LUKE!

Luke Stephens took part in the South African Judo championships in Gauteng as part of the Boland team these holidays. Luke and his partner won first place in their division for the Kata demonstration, both receiving gold medals.



## **NETBALL AND HOCKEY VS DURBAN GIRLS COLLEGE**

Last week teams from Durban Girls College visited Somerset House for 1<sup>st</sup> team netball and hockey matches. We always enjoy having them over. They are very special friends of ours as we visit them when we tour KZN. The girls' hockey team had a tough game against them and both teams had ample opportunities to score. The half time score was 1 all. DGC had super strikers and our defence held them for some time before they managed to score a winning goal. The match was played in super spirit and we congratulate them on their win. Thanks to all our very special Somerset House families who hosted players from DGC on Thursday evening - the Du Plessis, Huysamer, De Villiers, Schulte, Dyssell and Kleinhans families. Your very warm and generous hospitality is always so appreciated.



## **HOCKEY VS LOCHNERHOF**

A total of twenty eight hockey matches were played last Thursday afternoon. It is always very exciting to see so many of our players from U7 – U13 representing one or other team on match days. Every single team is important to us and although positive results are always a bonus, the joy of watching children participate is very satisfying. We congratulate every player who was involved in matches on Thursday afternoon.



## HELDERBERG ZONAL HOCKEY and WESTERN PROVINCE INVITATIONAL

We congratulate a number of our senior players who have been selected for the Helderberg Zone as well as the WP Invitational Teams at both the Inter-Zonal Tournament as well as the Intra-Regional Tournament. Jana Huysamer, Frances de Villiers, Manga Sililo, Johnathan Sloane, Jeremy Ryall and Ian Weber will all be part of the Helderberg zonal teams. Congratulations to Garth Turner and Pierre du Plessis who were selected for the Western Province Invitational team. The Inter-Zonal Tournament takes place today at PP Smit Fields in Bellville. Here, both the Zonal and WP Invitational teams will be participating against teams from all the different zones within the Western Province. Next weekend the teams will make their way to Oudtshoorn (Girls) and George (Boys) where they will participate against Zonal teams from both Boland and South Western Districts. Jana was also recently selected as captain of the Helderberg Zonal Team, a fantastic achievement. We wish her and all our players the very best of luck!

## NETBALL RESULTS

- On Wednesday the U12 A team played a stunning match. Their timing and team work was outstanding and we are very proud of their performance. They beat Hendrik Louw with 9 goals to 6. The B team also did very well and intercepted many balls. They were unlucky to lose by one goal: 4 – 5. Congratulations and well done!
- The U10A netball had a challenging match, but they rose to the occasion and played beautifully. The match was played at a rapid pace and they matched their opponents well. Unfortunately they missed their opportunities at the goal posts and failed to shoot all the goals. They lost 7 - 3. The B team tried very hard, but they were outclassed and lost their match 12 - 1.
- The U8 girls played an exciting and challenging match, but unfortunately lost.
- The U7A team lost 0 – 1 and the U7B won 4 – 2. Well done, girls! You all played your best!

## *Programme for Week 3 ending Saturday 8 August.*

<b>WEEK 3</b>	Mon	3 Aug	14h45 15h00-18h30	Junior Prep Staff Meeting Grade 4 – 7 Parent/Teacher Interviews – no sport for U/9-U/13 Normal sport for U/7 & U/8 Helderberg Speech Eisteddfod all week
	Tues	4	15h00-18h30	Grade 4 – 7 Parent/Teacher Interviews No sport for U/9-U/13 Normal sport for U/7 & U/8
	Wed	5	14h00	Netball vs SWPS (A) – 2 x U/7 to U/13 Rugby vs Danie Ackerman (A) – 1 x U/7, U/8, U/9, U/10, U/11, 2 x U/13
	Thurs	6	10h10-10h30 12h30 From 13h30	Grade 6deV – D&T Day Karate Demo (grass in front of Grade1 & 2 classrooms) Lost Property Sale Hockey vs De Hoop (A) Girls – U7 x 3, U8 x 3, U9 x 2, U10 x 2, U11 x 2, U12 x 1, U13 x 2 Boys – U7 x 3, U8 x 3, U9 x 3, U10 x 2, U11 x 3, U12 x 2, U13 x 2
	Fri	7	09h30 13h10-15h00  14h30-16h00	Intra-Zonal Hockey Tournament (A) – 7 <sup>th</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup> August (Oudtshoorn / George) Letterland Tea at Oakwood Internal Chess Championship Matches – Junior, Middle and Senior Senior Prep Staff Meeting
	Sat	8		