



# *The Weekly Blah*

## **Grade 0 Squirrels go back in time!**



The squirrel class had loads of fun dressing up as part of our theme of 'Going Back In Time'.



Above: Mishka Westraadt, Ruth Benson, Andrea du Plessis, Caitlin Muggeridge, Sam Uys, Sebastien van den Hoogen, Nina Els and Dean Laubser as Hebrew children.

Left: Robert Underwood, David Kolisi, Nicholas Cilliers, Stevie Hendriks, Brigit Burger, Reece Aitken, Nicholas Lombard and Emma Forbes as Roman children in toga's.



David Kolisi, Brigit Burger and Robert Underwood.



Chinese children: Nicholas Cilliers, Sam Uys, Nicholas Lombard, Mishka Westraadt, Robert Underwood, Brigit Burger, Caitlin Muggeridge and Emma Forbes.



Daashay Reddy and Nicholas Cilliers as Roman slaves.

## ***Inter-House Spelling***

The Knockout Spelling Finals took place last week, with Moles joining in too! She could only spell "bone" and "woof" and was quickly knocked out of the running!



### **The winners were:**

- Grades 6 and 7: Brandon Tunnicliffe
- Grades 4 and 5: George Huysamer
- Grade 3: Rebecca Day
- Grade 2: Ziggy Schulte

### **The overall House spelling results were:**

- Lanner: 178
- Hobby: 173
- Peregrine: 167

## ***Music Concert Postponed***

Please note that the Music Concert and official opening of the Music Centre that was scheduled to take place on 8 September is now taking place on Tuesday 15 September at 18h30 in the Simpson Hall.

Dear Parents

Please ensure that you have a Somerset House sticker displayed on your windscreen. We are having difficulties with some parents not displaying stickers and then refusing to sign in. We will be clamping down on this and insisting that those that refuse to sign in are refused entry. Please assist us in creating a secure environment for our children.

Thank you for your understanding

**Neil Ferguson (Facilities Manager)**

## HEADlines....

### Heads Conference in Swaziland

I will be attending the SAHISA Conference in Swaziland from Sunday evening to Thursday next week. Guests include speakers as diverse as Dr Mamphela Ramphele who was Vice Chancellor of UCT and Peter Harris who has just won the Alan Paton Literary Prize. Our very own Mr John Thöle will also be presenting at the conference. Mr Codrington will be responsible for running the school in my absence and this would seem like a good time to come forward with problems and queries so that they are all solved on my return!

### ISASA Lunch / Speaker

The Independent Schools Association of South Africa will be hosting Mr Peter Cobb from America at Somerset House on Thursday next week. There will be approximately 50 Heads and Governors from other schools in attendance.

### Ex Robben Island prisoner visits Grade 7

We have been learning about our country's recent past and were very privileged to be visited by Mr Eddie Daniels who spent 15 years of his life as a prisoner on Robben Island. The pupils asked him questions about his life and The Struggle. They were amazed by his answers, and inspired by his integrity and clear vision of right and wrong. His lack of bitterness is reminiscent of his prison mate, Nelson Mandela. I am very grateful for the time he took to visit us and for leaving such a strong message with our Grade 7 children.

*"I am the master of my fate; I am the captain of my soul."*



Chris Storey – Headmaster

[head@somersethouse.co.za](mailto:head@somersethouse.co.za)

## Newspapers

The main car park is certainly THE place to be on a Wednesday morning. Even more newspaper, magazines and paper were delivered and the "sorting crew" had their hands full. The wheelbarrow was close to flying across the car park and we are happy to report that both orange bins are full to the brim! We can definitely make the 3 tonne mark by the end of term – do we go for 4?

	5 Aug	12 Aug	19 Aug	26 Aug	2 Sept	Class Totals
7W						
7U	21.0	15.8	7.0	10.2	8.7	71.0
6dV			3.0	59.7		63.9
6M	34.8	9.0	139.7	43.9	45.2	312.2
5B			4.0	43.5	3.0	71.5
5C	17.8	22.4	2.0	25.4	20.0	117.5
4M	7.1	13.3	7.0	10.6	40.0	109.5
4vN	19.2	24.1	32.0	8.0	25.0	151.6
3P	13.1	32.3	5.1	19.7	113.5	296.8
3S		17.2	1.0	3.0	3.0	39.7
2P		25.0		41.9	9.0	84.3
2T	24.4	10.0	21.0	19.1	62.6	166.4
1dP	8.6	170.6	61.6	57.0	105.0	548.8
1R	20.6	13.0	14.5	42.8	35.2	182.4
<b>Weekly Total</b>	<b>196.6</b>	<b>398.7</b>	<b>313.4</b>	<b>520.8</b>	<b>521.2</b>	<b>2556.4</b>

## **Artist of the Week**

Vincent van Gogh's beautiful paintings of sunflowers were the inspiration for our Grade 4 "Sunflower" pictures. The Grade 4s had to sketch and paint a still-life of sunflowers, paying close attention to the shapes and forms they saw in front of them. We also spoke about using complementary colours to create a vibrant colour scheme. Moya Smith is the Artist of the Week for her beautifully resolved painting.



## **Grade 2 Experiments!**

The Grade 2s have had a wonderful time this term doing different experiments. Each week five children got an opportunity to impress their friends by doing an experiment of their choice for "Show and Tell". We have seen eggs change into bouncing balls, volcanoes of foam erupting, elephant's toothpaste ooze out of a jar and many more interesting and exciting experiments. It has been great fun and we have all learnt a lot!



## **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.

## Music Eisteddfod Results

Congratulations to all our musicians who excelled in the Helderberg Eisteddfod. We are very proud of you! Special mention must be made of Dara Steingazsner who won the Solo Piano Section in her age group and Juleah Ritsen and Simoné Malan who won their age group for Piano Duet. Juleah and Simoné were also invited to perform at the Prestige Concert.

2009 Eisteddfod Results - Piano	
Zac Fagan	Gold Plus, Cum Laude, Cum Laude
Marais Kruger	Gold Plus, Cum Laude,
Megan McEwan	Gold Plus
Kelsey de Haas	Pass
Sarah Ribbans	Cum Laude
Antonie Small-Smith	Cum laude
Eltanin James	Pass
Chris-Jan Kruger	Pass
Natasha Furness	Pass
Lara Schulte	Pass
Jana Huysamer	Pass



## Puppet Shows!

Good times were had by the Grade 4s in Drama class this week. Using their very own handmade puppets that they made in Art last term they performed their shows to the class. Fun was had by all!



## ***The Music Department welcome fellow staff for a visit!***



Staff members were all invited to new Shelters Music Department last Thursday.

### ***Message from the Guild Committee***

Dear Parents

By now you will have received our Golf Day raffle sheet. We are hoping to generate as much enthusiasm and excitement as we did last year. We once again have five magnificent prizes thanks to sponsors Smeg, Zevenwacht, Taj hotels, Elgin Valley Adventures, Patricia Greatorex Jewellery and Waterworld Strand. We have substantially reduced the price of the tickets this year to make it easier for the children to participate and sell. There is also a competition for the most raffle tickets sold. The class selling the most raffle tickets will be treated to a morning at Waterworld in the Strand. All that we can say is GOOD LUCK and sell, sell, sell!

Preparations for the Golf Day are underway and excitement is building as the day draws near. We have some fun hole-sponsors secured and some great prizes. There are still one or two spots available should anyone still be keen to play. If you would like to play please contact Amanda Derksen on [aderksen@telkomsa.net](mailto:aderksen@telkomsa.net).

A gentle reminder to all those parents who generously offered to assist with donations and prizes - we have started collecting these and they can be dropped off with Kirsty Jardim at the Administration Office during school hours. We would like to get these in as soon as possible.

Thank you again for the support and best of luck to you all with the raffle.

**John Mattheys and the Guild Committee**

### ***Sports News***

#### **CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2009**

Our Chess Championships for 2009 came to an end on Tuesday when our finals were played. Thank you to the parents who joined us for this exciting occasion.

Congratulations to the following children who triumphed over the rest in this competition.



	<b>JUNIOR CHAMPS</b>	<b>MIDDLE CHAMPS</b>	<b>SENIOR CHAMPS</b>
Runner Up	Ziggy Schulte	Jordan Haantjes	Johnathan Sloane
Champion	Solomon Johnson-Hill	Marcus Nel	Pierre du Plessis

## WEST COAST TOUR

The U11 netball team accompanied the U12 and U13 teams on an overnight West Coast Tour last weekend. The interaction between the age groups was great with great respect shown towards each other at all times. The weather was superb and Langebaan Lagoon perfect with no wind! The netball was extremely competitive, with Saldanha Primary, Curro – Langebaan and Van Riebeeck Strand displaying good netball skills. Although Somerset House U11B team succumbed to the pressure of their opponents, these schools were not able to defeat our U11A team. Well done to all our girls for their discipline, competitive spirit and positive attitude. This certainly is the best way to end a season! The U12 netball girls had a wonderful time – running on the beach, cheering on the bus (with Mrs de Villiers as Cheer Leader), trying to stay up all night and playing their hearts out on the netball court. The best part of the tour was 'skits' on Friday night when the U12s entertained the rest of the touring group with their amazing performances. "The Jackson" was an instant success with Ashlea as lead performer. This item became famous and the U12s will always identify with these powerful dance moves. Our B team entertained us with American Idols and proved to be very talented. Unfortunately the staff items lacked serious finishing touches, but hey – they gave it their all when performing "the ducky dance!" Our girls used these hidden talents on court the next day, but unfortunately they were outplayed by a very strong side from Van Riebeeck Strand. We all had a terrific time on our first



netball tour ever!  
A big thank you to Mr Storey, Miss Mac, Mrs Underwood, Mrs de Villiers and Mrs Bouah for organizing the tour and for preparing the teams.

## BRIDGE HOUSE FESTIVAL

Our U8 teams did extremely well and played six matches. They won three, lost two and drew one. They had well-executed passes, great goals and excellent sportsmanship. Well done! The U10A netball team played superbly, winning all three of their games! The U10B team also played well and won two of their three games. A super end to our netball season - well done to all the players and thanks to their parents for transporting them to Bridge House!

## SPORTS PROGRAMME FOR LAST FEW WEEKS OF TERM

For the last few weeks of term please follow the Sports Programme which has been sent home today. Activities include Winter Sport Photos, Soccer, Cricket, Netball matches vs Moms and Inter-house soccer matches. If your child has an outside activity on a particular day and the new school activities clash, we understand your situation and they may be excused from school activities. The aim of the last few weeks of the Term, is to have FUN!

## BOLAND U14 HOCKEY

You may have read about Chris Hawkrige and Shaquile Demas' success on the hockey field recently. They were both selected for the Boland U14A Hockey Team. Chris and Shaquile competed in an inter-provincial tournament in Grahamstown from 7 to 10 August. Their team performed particularly well winning their pool stage of the Tournament, followed by a semi-final. They came up against WP in the final - a real hum-dinger. Both teams applied pressure, only to be absorbed by good defence. Sadly WP managed to penetrate the Boland defence in the last minute of the game, winning 1-0. Boland therefore ended second out of fourteen regions, a result to be very proud of. Congratulations boys, we are proud of your achievements and motivation to step up out of the primary school comfort zone, to compete with the big guns from high school. It was also great to see Dylan de Nysschen, a past pupil, selected for the same team. Congratulations Dylan!

## “I GOT A FEELING, THAT TONIGHT’S GOING TO BE A GOOD NIGHT”



The Black-Eyed Peas once again provided inspiration for the Boys 1<sup>st</sup> Team hockey last Friday night. As last year’s winners of the Kenridge Primary Day/Night Tournament, we had only one aim; to win it again! We finished top of our pool, thanks to wins over Kenridge B, El Shaddai, Bastion and Panorama and a draw with Brackenfell. Goals were scored by Shaquile and Jeremy, with Michael, Garth and Pierre each getting a brace. From there we progressed to the semi-final, where we took on Gene Louw. Shaquile scored two cracking goals, putting us in the final against the fancied Kenridge A side.

The final was typical of finals; huge pressure and no margin for error. We definitely made them play our game, but failed to capitalize on this domination. Finally, Michael managed to deflect one goal in, in the 13<sup>th</sup> minute. Kenridge A then attacked us with all they had. Their two strikers (one of whom was the leading goal scorer) both had silky skills, but we somehow managed to keep them out and prevented them from getting a shot off. Ian only had to make one save (he managed to keep a clean sheet the whole tournament) and that was testimony to the dogged determination of our defense; Migael, Jon, Pierre and Nic. The final whistle went, arms were raised, a couple of “whoo-hoo’s” rang out, and the title was ours once again! Well done to Shaquile for getting the team sportsmanship award and to Garth for getting player of the tournament. Those awards aside, it was a great team effort and the boys can once again be proud of their efforts this season, both on the hockey field and off.

## **WEEK 8: Programme for week ending 11 September 2009**

Mon	7 Sep	08h10-10h10 12h30-13h00 14h30-15h30 14h30-16h00 14h45 18h00	<b>Altered Sport Schedule until end of Term – Programme sent out today</b> Junior Prep Play Rehearsal Junior Choir Practice Supervised Prep: Mrs Bouah Senior Choir Practice Junior Prep Staff Meeting Somerset College Evening with Mr D Campbell Grades 4, 5 and 6 Parents
Tues	8	10h30-11h30 14h30-15h30	Junior Prep Rehearsal Supervised Prep: Mrs B Brear Netball vs Helderberg Primary (H) – 1 x U8, 1 x U12/13 Indoor Hockey vs Helderberg Primary (H) – 1 x U12 Girls and 1 x U12 Boys
Wed	9	13h00-16h15 19h00	Winter Sports Photographs Creative Evening at Oakwood
Thurs	10	07h45 08h30 10h00-13h00 12h30 13h10	Staff Meeting Grade 2s leave for camp at Simonsberg ISASA Heads’ Meeting (Cloetenburg) Whole Prep School “Family” Lunch Netball: Daughters vs. Moms
Fri	11	08h10 09h00 09h00-10h10 12h30  13h30-16h30 14h30-16h00	Assembly: “Storieskip” Royal School Music Exams Junior Prep Rehearsal Rugby, Netball & Hockey vs Umhlati Touring side - 1 <sup>st</sup> Teams (hosting) Inter-house Chess Championships Senior Prep Staff Meeting Grade 2s return from camp
Sat	12	08h00	Bridge House Rugby 7s at Bridge House U9, U10, U11, U12, U13 x 1 Team