



SOMERSET HOUSE

Volume 4

The Weekly Blah

The Dormice have settled in!



After a hard day's work in the Dormouse Class - Helen, Maddi and Stefani take some time out to chat on the climbing frames while Shirley and Samantha enjoy playing in the sandpit.

Not just a school ~ a way of life

Music, Music, Music!



The Music Department is a hive of activity, with more than thirty new beginners on different instruments. The children are all very excited and every one of them is already able to play simple pieces on their instruments. Well done to all our budding musicians!

Uniform Shop News

The uniform shop will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 07h30 to 08h15 in the morning and from 13h00 to 14h30 in the afternoons. Mrs Noleen Jansen will only be available at those times.

The teal peak caps have arrived and are on sale for R50 each.

Guild Welcome.....(in place of Headlines for this week)

A hearty welcome back to parents, pupils and staff alike. One can hardly believe the first month of the new year is at an end and we are already into February. We would like to extend a special word of welcome to all new pupils and their parents and also to the new staff joining us this year. We are sure you are all going to be valuable members of the Somerset House family.

For those new parents who don't know what the Guild Committee is all about, here is a brief overview. We are a group of seven parents elected annually by the parent body at the AGM. We are responsible for fundraising activities at the school as well as for being the parents' liaison at the quarterly Guild meetings with teachers and the Board of Governors.

We would like to remind parents that we represent you and are elected by you. So please use us as a sounding board for ideas, constructive criticism and guidance. In an attempt to make the Guild Committee more accessible to the parent body we have a pigeon hole in the Staff dining room at Cloetenburg. Please feel free to pop any correspondence, for our attention, into it. We also have our own e-mail address (guild@somersethouse.co.za) and our own web page on the school's web site where we can update you on our activities and news.

The Guild Committee can only be as successful as its parent body and we rely heavily on you all for your time, support and feedback. Class Moms and Dads are an especially important resource to us and many a Guild event owes its success to their hard work. We are thus looking forward to working with you and getting to know you throughout this year.

Over the past few years the annual Food and Wine festival has become a popular school event but with the tightening of liquor laws it was decided to give it a face-lift and start the year off with a fresh new event - the Somerset House Family Fun Day. Please keep the 14th March free for an afternoon full of fun, food, games, stalls and activities. We will keep you posted with tempting tidbits as to what you can expect.

In conclusion, we wish you all a wonderful first term and hope you share in our excitement for the rest of the year.

John Mattheys - Chairperson of the Somerset House Guild Committee

Lost Property

The Grade 5 classes have taken over the Lost Property Box!! Hopefully the days of a box overflowing with named and unnamed items of clothing is over!!! The box will be emptied during the week and any offending items will be stored in the depths of the Grade 5 classrooms.

On Tuesdays the children will hand any named items, that have not been collected, to their owners – and will keep a log of how many items any individual has `lost`. Once someone has had three named items returned to them, they will be seen by Mr Cod in his office where some organisational guidelines will be handed out!

Any un-named items left at the end of term will be sold off or donated – and any proceeds will go to charity. Well done the Grade 5s for taking this on – and for being proactive.

Mr Cod

Artists of the Week



Vicky Young-Pugh and Garth Turner in Grade 7 are the Artists of the Week for their beautiful ink studies of shoes.

The Grade 7s are investigating line and tone in various mediums.



Required for the Art Room

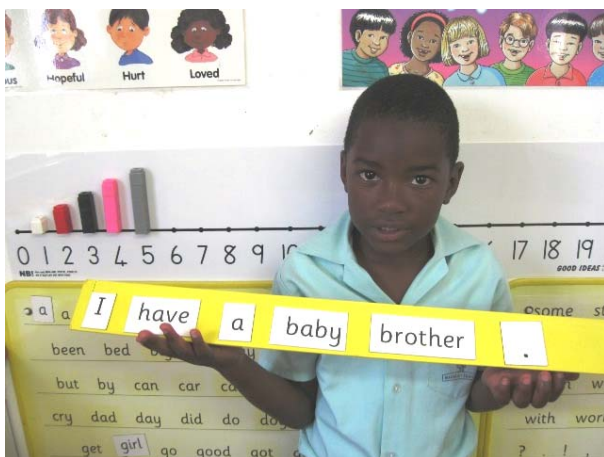
This year our theme for Art is “Magic Moments” and we will be incorporating a lot of recycled items into our work. We would like to ask for your help by collecting the following:

- Plastic lids (large and small)
- Tuna tins
- Interestingly shaped plastic bottles
- Clear water bottles
- Beads
- Hosepipe or clear tubing
- Magazines

These can be delivered to the Art Room.

Grade 7 take on recycling

Some of the Grade 7s have taken on the challenge of the recycling programme at school. A group of 13 boys have chosen to spend time and effort in this area and they will be running the school’s recycling programme with a view to achieving an Eco Flag as part of the Eco Schools Scheme. For many of the boys this will form part of their Leadership Programme requirements. The newspaper competition that ran last year has not yet started, but newspapers can be deposited at school and stored in the room next to Mr Cod’s office. Watch this space for further announcements – but in the meantime our thanks go to the boys for their involvement.



Congratulations!

Maanda in Grade 1 became a proud ‘Big Brother’ this week and we used the opportunity to learn some new break-through words. Congratulations Maanda!

Sports News

Indoor Hockey

Somerset College's Indoor League got underway on Monday evening and will run for the next five weeks.

Our A team played their first match against Beaumont and displayed classy hockey, beating Beaumont 4-0.

Our B Team played an exciting match against Somerset College and managed to take control of what was a tight game, beating them 3-2. Our Girls Team also played their first match against Somerset College Acorns. The team took some time to settle down, scoring only 1 goal in the first half, before really getting stuck in and scoring a further 3 goals in the second half. A great team effort and a super start for our Somerset House teams. Well done!



First Round of Western Cape Swimming Trials

Last Saturday, nine of our swimmers participated in the first round of the Western Cape Swimming Trials at the Bellville Municipal 50m Swimming Pool. The best swimmers in Cape Town were present and it is no surprise that the level of swimming was outstanding. Somerset House's flag flew high as a number of our swimmers swam brilliantly to earn some excellent results:



Ash Rutherford

- 1st 200m Individual Medley
- 2nd 100m Freestyle
- 1st 50m Backstroke
- 1st 100m Breaststroke
- 1st 100m Backstroke
- 2nd 50m Butterfly

Dara Steingaszner

- 1st 50m Breaststroke
- 1st 100m Breaststroke
- 4th 100m Backstroke

Megan McEwan

- 1st 50m Breaststroke

Lara Schulte

- 4th 50m Breaststroke

Antonie Small-Smith

- 4th 50m Breaststroke



Field Event Finals

Our field event finals took place on Monday afternoon and our finalists competed in long jump, high jump and shotput. A number of exciting events took place with two records being broken in shotput. The first record was broken by Sabrina Potgieter who managed a distance of 6,80m (old record 6,53m) and the 2nd was by Ché February and Michael Burke who both reached 7,84m (old record 7,34m). There was also great excitement at the High Jump where Liam Wrightson and Michael Burke battled it out for top honours. Both Liam and Michael cleared 1,28m which was just short of the record of 1,30m. Congratulations to all those who competed.





Inter-House Fever

Our House Captains and Cheerleaders have been hard at work preparing their teams for our first inter-house event of the year, Inter-House Athletics, which takes place this afternoon. Children must please return to school at 15h30 and meet their teachers at their classrooms to get their name labels. They then meet their House Captains before the 'walk-on' parade at 15h40. The first events start at 16h00 and we hope to be finished by 19:00. The final event of the day will be a whole house relay, a first at Somerset House. This promises to be quite an

event. All pupils from Grade 1 to Grade 7 will be involved during the course of the athletics meeting. We are looking forward to a fun-filled afternoon and evening.



u11 vs. u10 Cricket Matches: 3 & 4 February 2009

After a number of practice sessions, it was very good this week to put the teams together in preparation for the 'real thing' next week. It is always quite a task for the Under 10s to take on the Under 11s – but they did so this week with tremendous enthusiasm and some very good cricket. On Tuesday it was the turn of the B teams to do battle. The 10s batted first and managed to score 69 runs in the allocated 20 overs. There was some good batting from Liam Botha and Richard Hansen. The bowling attack was led by Grant Jansen, who took 3 wickets. The 11's took to the crease and were quickly a wicket or two down following some good bowling by Richard Hansen. The innings was saved by Matts Wahl scoring a quick 22 before retiring to allow the others to bat. Everyone was able to bat and all of the 10s bowled. A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon's cricket, with the Under 11s winning – but the 10s gaining much confidence.



On Wednesday the A teams lined up and the 11s batted first. The first four – Daneel Raats, Jordan Haantjes, Marcus Nel and Michael Burke – scored rapidly before retiring or being bowled! Che February and Jordan Robb continued in the same vein, with Jordan scoring two massive sixes!! Daniel Adams batted well and the team ran out of overs with a total of 154. With quite a daunting task facing them, Migali Giagas and George Huysamer walked to the wicket. What a joy it was to watch both boys enjoy their game and play some stunning shots. The 11s provided quite an onslaught of accurate and fast bowling – but both batsmen made mincemeat of it. They both retired, but returned later to make 16 and an unbeaten 33 respectively. The remaining batsmen stuck to their ground, but the bowling and dramatic catching skills of Che February, Michael Burke and Marcus Nel proved too much, giving the Under 11s a deserved victory. Their fielding was very sharp and the

bowling was excellent – Michael Burke achieving one of his goals for the year, which was to take three wickets in an over. Congratulations to all the boys who played – it is great to see the potential in these age groups.



WEEK 5: Programme for week ending 13 February 2009

MONDAY 9

14h30-15h30

Supervised Prep: Mrs D Sullivan

19h15-19h45

Indoor Hockey - Somerset House Falcons vs SWPS (Girls)

19h45-20h15

Indoor Hockey - Somerset House vs Somerset College Acorns (Boys)

TUESDAY 10

14h30-15h30

Supervised Prep: Mrs E Pienaar

14h30

Cricket vs Gordon's Bay - U/11B (H) & U/13C (A)
vs Rhenish – U/10A (A) & U/13B (H)

WEDNESDAY 11

08h00

Moms' Prayer Group – all welcome

14h00

Mini Cricket vs Beaumont (A) – 1 x U/8, 2 x U/9 teams

Cricket vs Dr Joubert - U/11A (H) & 1st XI (H)

15h00-16h30

Beaumont Athletics Meeting – Grade R to Grade 2

THURSDAY 12

11h00-12h30

Senior Choir - Valentine's Outreach

FRIDAY 13

10h30-12h30

Assembly: Lauren Thompson

Grade 6 MAD Valentine's Day Outreach

15h30

Inter-schools Athletics Meeting (Bridge House)

Athletes leave at 14h00

SATURDAY 14

Western Cape Swimming Trials – individual swimmers