



The Weekly Blah



Family Time at Somerset House



The families consist of a Grade 7 “parent” with Grade 1 to 6 children making up the remainder of the group. The object of this initiative is to promote friendship and positive contact across the grades.

After watching the entertaining Dog Show in their family groups, each family found a tranquil, shaded spot where the family mum or dad discussed the value of showing respect to one another in our school. This was followed by a picnic-style lunch. Thank you Grade 7s for leading the discussions in your families.

Not just a school ~ a way of life

Fieldmice

Theo van der Westhuizen has a variety of animals at his home and he brought one of his many chickens to school to show the class. The children all got a chance to hold the chicken and Jamie Morris, Matthew Eames, Theo and Michael Hale pose with the well-handled and very patient chicken!



On Tuesday the nursery school had pancakes and after waiting for what seemed like a very long time, Jessica Hogg and Erin Paine thoroughly enjoyed eating a piping hot pancake.



Gr 3's - Ons Leer Lekker!

Links: Die Graad 3's het gedurende hulle Afrikaansperiode lekker toebroodjies gemaak. Hulle het gesmul aan nuwe woorde soos *grondboontjieberotter* wat die tonge lekker geknoop het!

Onder: Hulle het die toebroodjies baie geniet.



Ons beplan in die toekoms ander praktiese lesse soos "Ons maak tee" ens.

As we say in English, "knowledge begins in *experience* and not in *words!*"

Groete

Mev Sullivan en Mev Pienaar

HEADlines...

"In the end, there is no program or policy that can substitute for a mother or father who will attend parent-teacher conferences, or help with homework after dinner, or turn off the TV, put away the video games, and read to their child. I speak to you not just as a President, but as a father when I say that responsibility for our children's education must begin at home."

Excerpt from President Barack Obama's Address to a Joint Session of Congress

When Mrs Brear read the above excerpt to the staff recently, it struck a chord with all of us. We live in an instant world, and yet not all things can be bought or acquired. Sometimes we need to stop and think about what really makes the difference in our children's lives.

Thank you to the Fire Fighters

The Grade 7s have been working on natural disasters in Social Science and the recent and ongoing fires in the Helderberg have served as a reminder of how powerful natural forces can be. It also allowed us to empathise with the many fire-fighters who have worked so hard and tirelessly to protect our communities from the fire. As a school, we thank them for their commitment and bravery.

Family Fun Day

You will see an advertisement below for this exciting event which will soon be happening at our school. The Guild are working hard to deliver an event which will be both family orientated and fun. Please support this initiative by bringing friends along too. It promises to be a great afternoon and evening out.

Chris Storey – Headmaster

head@somersethouse.co.za

Dear Parents

We hope by now you are getting excited about the Family Fun Day. Here is a little more info to whet your appetites.

- Laser Quest
- Fun Photo Booth – have wacky photos taken with family and friends
- Waterworld – don't forget your costume
- The Fun Day Raffle
- Somerset House Newlands – watch the Stormers take on the Lions in style
- The Wacky wines stall
- Dunking booth – guess what? You may be able to take aim at a few teachers too
- Beautiful kiddies' goodies from Baby Inc
- The Ocean Basket's seafood stall
- The Champagne and Oyster bar
- A fantastic cooking demo and wine tasting by Vergelegen's renowned chef Henico Grobelaar
- Hand-painted linen by Ritzwood Cottage
- Neverland crèche – for supervised fun for the 2-6 year oldsand much, much more!

And not to be missed . . . !

Challenge your peers, siblings and parents by entering the *Amazing Race* taking place on the day at 16h30.

See the accompanying entry form for details.

John Mattheys
Chairperson – Somerset House Guild Committee

Future Attractions from the Music Department!

Please diarise the following important dates:

- Tuesday 3 March – Friday 6 March: **Art Exhibition**
- Saturday 14 March and Saturday 15 March: **Backsberg Orchestral Weekend**

Art Exhibition

Formal invitations went home to invite you to come and have a look at the beautiful art presented by Danté Art and Framing Gallery. Background music by our own Somerset House music students will be provided on the opening night. Please come and support this worth-while project - the first of our fund-raising initiatives to raise money to buy a Grand Piano for Somerset House!

Backsberg Orchestral Weekend

A group of our musicians is going to participate in the annual orchestral weekend when musicians from a number of schools get together and form a Junior Orchestra and Senior Symphony Orchestra.



They rehearse on Saturday and Sunday and then perform at a sunset concert at Backsburg on Sunday evening.

This is a wonderful experience for them and an evening worth attending! Details to follow shortly. The photographs show some of our musicians who will be performing at the Art Exhibition.

Artist of the Week

Dara Steingaszner in Grade 5 has created a beautiful drawing of “The Magician” which is truly magical! Her drawing is clear and she uses the space in her picture well. It is also highly imaginative. Well done, Dara!

Grade 5 Lost Property Campaign

Grade 5s are collecting and redistributing the named ‘Lost Property’ on Tuesdays. There is, however, an increasing amount of unnamed items of clothing. These are sorted and put into boxes which are on display outside the Grade 5 classrooms. Any items that are still in the boxes by 21st March will be sold off during the last week of term. The boxes contain the following: 5 pairs grey shorts, 2 green jerseys, 2 white jerseys, 19 grey socks, 11 white socks, 6 swimming towels, 4 pairs girls’ sports shorts, 4 pairs boys’ sports shorts, 4 pairs takkies, 1 pair Crocs, 2 pairs flip-flops, 3 ½ pairs black shoes, 5 white hats, 7 house/sports T-shirts, 1 rain-coat, 1 swimming costume, 5 pairs goggles, and a variety of casual clothing. As you can see, an increasing amount of unnamed clothing!



Sports News

Circuit Athletics Championships

Many of you may have been following the progress of two of our athletes, Liam Wrightson and Nicholas de Villiers. They both represented the Helderberg Athletics Team on Saturday when they participated in the Circuit Athletics Championships which was held at Blue Downs Stadium. Liam and Nick were competing against top regional athletes and competition was tough. Despite this, they performed superbly with Nick earning a 3rd place in the Boys U12 Long Jump and Liam a 4th Place in the Boys U11 100m. We await the list of athletes to see who has been selected to represent the Kuilsriver Zone at the WP Championships on Saturday 7th March at the University of the Western Cape. We congratulate both Liam and Nick for their wonderful achievements thus far.



Liam in action at Helderberg Champs

Western Cape Swimming Team

Congratulations to Antonie Small-Smith, Megan McEwan and Ash Rutherford who have all been selected to represent the Western Cape Swimming Team at the SA National Aquatic Championships to be held in Germiston on the 6th and 7th of March. This is a wonderful achievement of which we, as a school, are extremely proud.

Early-Morning Swimming

A number of team swimmers have been training in the mornings. Team swimmers are invited to join these water babies on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 07:00 - 07:40.



Boys' Relay Gala

The Boys' Swimming

Team swam in a relay gala held at Beaumont Primary last week Thursday. The boys swam well and we were proud of the fact that we were the only school without a disqualification. They were close on the heels of Beaumont and managed to be placed fourth. The points were as follows:

De Hoop	113
Rhenish	101
Beaumont	96
Somerset House	94
SWPS	63
Beaumont B	22

Cash Picked up in Car Park

Jessica Meissner picked up some cash in one of the car parks on Tuesday 24 February and handed it in. The rightful owner may collect it from Mrs Viljoen's office.

Cricket Results U8 (A)

Somerset House vs Hendrik Louw on 18th February 2009. Somerset House batted first and scored 53 runs with Luke Eames (14) Ziggy Schulte (12) and Jannick Klein (11) being the main contributors. We then bowled Hendrik Louw out for 19 with Samuel Raats and Ziggy Schulte doing the damage with two wickets each. Somerset House won the game by 34 runs.

Mini-Cricket World Cup Grade 1's

During the last two weeks our Grade 1 pupils played a Mini-Cricket World Cup tournament during their practice time. We saw teams like England, West Indies, India and Australia play against each other. Well done to England for winning the tournament.



(The only way England will ever win!!) Editor

Below: Grade 1s sporting their new Baker's Mini-Cricket World Cup tournament T-shirts



LEFT: *England*

From left to right: Jonathan Harley; Daniel Louis; Yvonne Huysamer; Stephen Williams; Carel Mans; Stuart Campbell (absent)

Boys U13B cricket vs Somerset College

Raging fires in Somerset West have been causing much concern. On Tuesday the 24th February, our cricket side caused a few fires of their own. Rijk (39) and Harlon (11) gave us an absolutely smoking start! After 4 overs of flaying the bowlers to all parts of the ground, Somerset House was on 42 runs. Each batsman that followed focussed on stoking the fire and attempted to dominate the bowling. This we did very successfully, with Garth (35), Rohen (14) and Nic (17) all continuing the destruction. We ended on 171 from our 25 overs.

We then had our turn in the field, where Rijk, Nic, Kyle, and Michael blazed through the College batting line-up. Fielding was superb and spirits were high. Tactical shoe analysis from the 'keeper and slip cordon' kept everyone entertained and the opposition bemused! The end of the game was brought about by Harlon with 1 wicket from 1 ball, giving us victory by 131 runs. Playing with fire is a dangerous activity - on the cricket field it's encouraged!

Well done boys!

Under 11 Cricket

On Monday the A team hosted Somerset Methodists Under 11s. We batted first and managed very effectively to score 150 for the loss of only 3 wickets. Our fielding and bowling was not good; some 23 extras were given away and we lacked accuracy on a consistent basis with our bowling.

The A's played Hendrik Louw on Wednesday and it was a very different performance. Some excellent batting from Daneel Raats (24) and Marcus Nel (52) along with Michael Burke (17) and Cassius Vlok (17) gave us a 159 total. Our bowling was much improved; the combined opening attack of Michael Burke and Matheu Quinn took 5 wickets in the first 4 overs. Some slick and tight fielding took us to a well-deserved victory.

The B team travelled to Macassar to play against Marvin Park. We batted first and did well to last the 20 overs, scoring a total of 40. Joshua van der Merwe was top scorer with the bat; "extras" was the overall top scorer! Grant Jansen and Joshua opened the bowling well and with some slick fielding from Jason Benson, two early wickets were taken. Unfortunately the opposition was too strong and they scored 45 by the 9th over. It was, however, a much improved performance from the team – and yet another thoroughly enjoyable afternoon of B team cricket. Well done!

1st XI Cricket

Our 1st XI Cricket team has started off well this term by winning their first three matches relatively easily. Special mention has to be made of Dylan de Haas, who has shown great skill with his left-arm orthodox spin. He has managed to bowl his overs at under 3 runs to the over for the last three games. On the batting side, a special mention has to be made of our captains, Jonathan Sloane and Migael Slabber, both of whom have managed to score 50 runs or more. Jonathan scored 63 against DR Joubert and Migael scored 52 against Somerset Methodist. Well done to both boys on reaching this wonderful milestone!

Here they are both receiving the Gallow Trophy from last year's 1st XI Captain and WP U13 opening bowler Dylan de Nysshen.



Tennis Results

Results of matches played this last week are as follows:

U11A Girls vs De Hoop A won 2 – 1

U11B Girls vs Beaumont A lost 0 – 3

U11A Boys vs De Hoop A won 2 – 1

U11B Boys vs De Hoop C lost 1 - 2

U/13 A Girls vs Lochnerhof lost 4 - 2

U/13 B Girls vs Hendrik Louw lost 3 - 0

U/13 A Boys vs De Hoop drew 3 - 3

U/13 B Boys vs De Hoop lost 3 - 0

WEEK 8: Programme for week ending 7th March 2009

MONDAY 2

14h30-15h30 Supervised Prep : Mrs B Brear
17h15-17h45 Indoor Hockey - Somerset House Falcons vs Somerset College Sentinals (Girls)

TUESDAY 3

13h30 Gala vs Kenridge (A)
14h30-15h30 Supervised Prep : Mrs Z Penny
14h30 Cricket vs Loreto – U/10A(H) & U/13C (H)
18h00-20h00 Opening of the Art Exhibition for the Grand Piano Fund

WEDNESDAY 4

08h15 Moms' Prayer Group – all welcome
08h30 Grade 0 & Grade 00 Big Walk on Strand Beach
09h00 Grade 000 Big Walk & Teddy Bear's Picnic at school
10h00-18h00 Art Exhibition for the Grand Piano Fund
14h30 Mini Cricket vs Temperance Town (A) – 1 x U/9 Team
14h15 Cricket vs De Hoop - U/10B (H) & U/13D (A)
vs SWPS – U/11A(A) & U/13A(H)

THURSDAY 5

10h00-18h00 Art Exhibition for the Grand Piano Fund
14h30

SH TEAM	OPPOSITION	VENUE
Girls U11A	Lochnerhof A	Lochnerhof
Girls U11B	BYE	
Boys U11A	Beaumont A	Somerset House
Boys U11B	Beaumont B	Somerset House
Girls U13A	Somerset College A (2 Players Only)	Somerset College
Girls U13B	Lochnerhof B	Lochnerhof
Boys U13A	Somerset College A	Somerset House
Boys U13B	Beaumont B	Beaumont

15h00 Helderberg Hockey Meeting (Somerset College)

FRIDAY 6

08h00 ASSEMBLY : Miss T Micklewood
10h00-18h00 Art Exhibition for the Grand Piano Fund
10h30-12h30 MAD Outreach for Grade 6s (Simpson Hall)

SATURDAY 7

08h00 Hendrik Louw Mini-Cricket Day – 2 x U9 Teams
