



The Weekly Blah

Soccer Fever hits Somerset House!



Soccer Fever has definitely hit Somerset House as more and more of our pupils are expressing their excitement in different ways. On Thursday 10 June the whole school will be celebrating with various activities happening throughout the day. A full programme was sent home last week. Activities include a full school Assembly with some exciting events: Grade 6s doing the 'Wave the Flag' dance, an Oakwood activity, Grade 0 Soccer Matches and Grade 1 – 7 Inter-House Soccer Matches, Pupils enjoying a Family Lunch with their Grade 7 'parents', the 'One Bounce' Competition and Grade 7 pupils vs. Staff Indoor Soccer match. More and more Somerset House families are also flying flags on their cars with pride and we encourage all our families to do so. Family and friends are invited to join us next Thursday for an exciting build up to the 2010 World Cup.

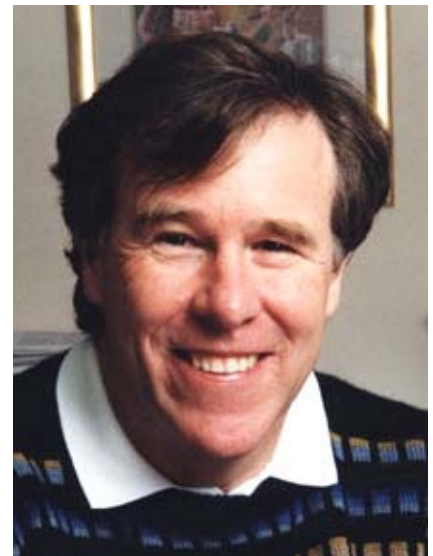
Football Friday for Grade 2s !



HEADlines...

Professor Tim Noakes at Somerset House AGM

World Sport Science authority Prof. Tim Noakes will be our guest speaker at our Guild AGM this year. He will be speaking specifically about school sport and giving his views on what constitutes healthy best practice. This will be a very informative and worthwhile presentation and we look forward to seeing as many parents there as possible. The AGM will follow directly after his presentation and will allow for an update on school activities by the Chairman of the Board, the Chairman of the Guild and myself. This is usually not a long meeting.



Website – no updates.com ☹

Following the theft of Tracey du Toit's computer last week, no web updates have been possible as the website was 'hosted' on her machine. Whereas the hardware has been replaced, it is not as easy to replace the software connected to the website. This newsletter is our largest ever as a result. We hope we will be up and running soon.

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Aftercare on Friday

With the start of the World Cup next Friday we would like all our Staff to be present at a meeting after school, and then to go home. Please make alternative arrangements if your child is normally in Aftercare. If this is not possible please let us know.

Tree Trimming

With recent storms we again suffered some tree damage, with one rather large oak limb falling in the playground. We will be pruning and shaping trees around the campus during the holiday to ensure that our trees are as safe as possible. We have all our trees professionally checked annually. One oak tree will have to be cut down altogether as it is completely rotten. This is always sad, but safety is obviously our first concern in these instances.

Chris Storey – Headmaster

head@somersethouse.co.za

Tessellation

The Grade 1s learnt about tessellation of shapes. They found out that hexagons can form a tessellated and interesting patterns with no overlaps or gaps between the hexagons.



Pirates, Princesses and a Fifa Fairy!

The Grade 00 Classes were learning about the letter 'P' last week. They had a Princess and Pirate Party on Friday and were even visited by the 'FIFA Fairy'!



World Cup Puppet Show

On Tuesday the Oakwood children were treated to a spectacular puppet show on the Soccer World Cup.



This was no ordinary puppet show and the children had to get involved in the production!



Contribution from Bystander: Winter Sports

There was a positively icy wind blowing strongly at Somerset College, with wiser parents huddled in thick winter coats, while others, perhaps less wise – shivered. Meanwhile the children in only their thin sports clothes seemed oblivious. But the horses' heads were held high, nostrils flared, as they pranced proudly, seemingly enervated by the swirling gusts.



The sky was leaden, the light dim, the cloud halfway down our mountain, two crows buffeted. Then it started. At first just a drop, then harder and colder until the rain lashed down, mingled with harsh hail. Now the horses were no longer prancing. Heads were down, tails whipped by the stinging rain, coats glistening, wetly.

And so, being the heroes that we undoubtedly are, we made a stoic dash for the pavilion and the warming teas and coffees, sausage rolls and cakes, always so liberally provided by the College. So easily did we leave our dearly beloved offspring to fend for themselves and endure their watery fate in the torrential deluge.

But then Saturday morning woke bright and washed clean. Already on the drive to Rhenish the beauty was quite stunning. The last leaves still just clinging to the tired vines gave us great slabs of colour, of crimson, russet, gold and palest yellow, contrasting vividly with the now bright greens of nature. Then the turning in towards Rhenish and the low sun shining through the Pin Oaks creating a myriad sparkling shades of autumn, with, in glorious counterpoint, as ever in May, the single, delinquent, cherry tree in full, heady bloom – as if snubbing its nose at winter.

A little later, on the touch line, the weak, near horizontal rays started to warm, although their glare forced eyes to squint narrowly and spectators to move into the deep shade still thrown by that oh so low sun, where the cold wind blew, biting – cruelly.

So celebrate our Cape winter, the wonderful contrasts, the constant changes of mood, the variety. And celebrate our sport as a reason to brave it and experience it in all its moods. Pity the poor Vaalies who delude themselves into believing that their non-weather, of six months of lifeless, dry, throat-catching-skin-cracking-eye-itching predictability, constitutes the finest climate in the world!

(Bystander is an anonymous contributor to our Weekly Blah from time to time)

A plea...

At peak traffic times Dickens Avenue becomes blocked very quickly if vehicles are waiting to turn right into Lourensford Road. Please could all drivers turn left onto Lourensford and “go round the block” to get back to the Mountain Road traffic circle – it would make a huge difference to the peak traffic flow. Many thanks.

Car Stickers

Our Security Guards have been instructed to be very strict about permitting only cars with stickers in without signing in. Car Stickers are available from our Administration offices. Please assist us in making this a safe school.

Prayer group

The Parents' Prayer Group meets every Thursday morning at 08h00 in the Archives Room. Everybody welcome!



Grade 3s are Proudly South African!

The Grade 3s made their South Africa Flags this week by tearing coloured paper out of old magazines. (As always - we like to recycle!)

Remember –hot red sun at the top – cold blue see at the bottom!



Newspaper collections

A new leader this week! Timon and the recyclers of my class, 6C, have clearly risen to the challenge and managed to bring in just less than half a tonne to put them into the lead! There is only one more week to go... pressure mounting, excitement at fever pitch and questions being asked by the auditors. "White Van Man" and "White Bakkie Man" - your classes need you!!

Class	Weds 14 April	Weds 28 April	Weds 5 May	Weds 12 May	Weds 19 May	Weds 26 May	Weds 2 June	Total
7M	65.8	12.9			15.6	8.0	3.0	105.3
7W	7.0	31.0	7.5	14.0	10.0		34.0	103.5
6C	104.6	76.0	35.0	53.0	107.0	110.0	410.3	895.9
6M	24.3		7.0	14.5	7.0		26.0	78.8
5B	40.6	4.5	5.2	10.2	122.2	67.9	35.9	286.5
5K	55.3	37.8	11.5	34.0	35.0	79.1	86.4	339.1
4M	28.0	28.8		10.5	17.0		51.6	135.9
4vN	16.2	29.9	30.3	32.7	36.2	12.0	41.2	198.5
3P	70.9	9.5	8.0	16.2	13.9	41.9	8.9	169.3
3U	13.4	40.0	14.5	18.5	38.7	17.0		142.1
2P	48.8	108.8	16.5	28.7	8.0	78.9	82.4	372.1
2T	231.9	121.5	69.6	179.2	149.7	56.3	9.6	817.8
1dP	17.9	56.4	3.0	10.5	13.0	27.3	19.5	147.6
1R	5.0	8.5	4.0	7.1	8.0	4.5	45.0	82.1
Weekly Total	729.7	565.6	212.1	429.1	581.3	502.9	853.8	3874.5

Well done to all and a special thanks to the Grade 5 team of Migali, Luke, Nishal, Andries, Francois and Richard H who ensured fair play and honesty and ran the show this week - thank you. We are looking forward to a real action-packed next Wednesday morning...

Artists of the Week

The Artists of the Week are Lauren de Waal, Daniella da Costa, Jaden Bouah and Christopher Young-Pugh in Grade 1 for their beautiful paintings / pastel drawings of "Cats." Well done to our budding young artists!



Sports News

CONGRATULATIONS ALEX!

Alex van der Merwe in Grade 5 participated in his first Cape Town Dance Eisteddfod recently. The *Stepping Out Academy of Dance* entered a combined Hip Hop group of Seniors and Juniors. It was an exhilarating performance in front of a packed audience at the Sea Point Civic Centre. Their performance earned them a Silver Award. Unfortunately no cameras were allowed during the performance. Their next performance is planned for 9 June 2010 at Artscape Theatre.

2010 MOUNTAIN BIKE INTERSCHOOLS AT HELDERBERG FARM - TERM 3

Next term will see the start of the Inter-Schools Mountain Bike Challenge with a new venue - Helderberg Farm, which will mean some exciting new trails. Start time will be 14h30 and the cost will be R10 per entrant per cycle. For more information contact Jennifer Cilliers 0826007384 or cilliersj@telkomsa.net. Please make a note of the following dates:

- 16 July
- 6 and 20 August
- 3 and 17 September
- October dates to be confirmed at a later date.

GRADE 5s GET STACKING

Sport Stacking is an exciting individual and team sport where participants of all ages and abilities stack and un-stack 12 specially designed cups in pre-determined sequences with amazing precision and dexterity. Competitors race against the clock for individual times and compete head to head in team relay events. When pupils Sport stack they are crossing the 'midline' of their bodies and developing new connections in their brains. It also teaches patterning and sequencing which are fundamental skills required for reading, writing and arithmetic.



Sport Stacking helps train the brain for sports and other activities where the use of both hands is important, such as playing traditional ball sports or playing a musical instrument.

Our Grade 5s recently had the opportunity to experience the excitement of speed stacking. Please visit the website www.speedstacks.com for a sneak preview of this exciting activity. A set of Speed Stacks costs R150, this includes a CD which gives clear instructions of various sequences and challenges.

The sets come in various shades and colours and special glow-in-the-dark sets are available at R160. Should anyone wish to order a set of Speed Stacks, please contact Miss Mac.



HOCKEY VS BEAUMONT

On Monday our senior hockey teams got the opportunity to catch up on their league hockey matches which they missed earlier in the term. Super hockey was played and our 2nd teams started the afternoon off in style. Although our Girls' 2nd Team were the stronger team they were unfortunately unable to score and drew the match 0 – 0. The Boys' 2nd Team played a great team game and won the match 2 – 0. The Girls' 1st Team struggled to score in the first half although they camped in Beaumont's circle. They did, however, manage to take advantage of short corners in the second half and won the match 3 – 0. The Boys' 1st Team also played a good game, however Beaumont managed to score against the run of play. Somerset House continued to pressurise and were rewarded with a fine goal. The match ended at 1-all. Our 1st Teams are in action this weekend at the Bridge House Festival and we wish them luck!

HOCKEY VS SOMERSET COLLEGE

Last Thursday a total of 21 Somerset House hockey teams braved somewhat chilly conditions to play hockey matches against Somerset College. The teams who played earlier in the afternoon were fortunate enough to play in dry conditions however the 1st and 2nd Teams had to play their matches in the icy rain. The Boys' 1st Team and Girls' 2nd Team matches were eventually called off 5 minutes into the second half as light was fading and conditions were becoming rather dangerous. Nevertheless, teams enjoyed their afternoon with Somerset House winning more than half the matches played. Congratulations to all our teams.

RUGBY VS SOMERSET WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL

Last Monday afternoon our U8 and U9 rugby teams played practice matches against SWPS. Our boys played good, supportive rugby and it was good to see that they are displaying the skills taught during our practice sessions. Our teams stood up well against the opposition and scored a number of well-executed tries. Some of the individual players who stood out were CJ Slabber, Travis Norris, Jake and Mike van Zyl in the U8 group and Joshua Kondonis, Teghan Hindmarch and Kai Greig in the U9 group. Well done to our boys.

RUGBY VS SOMERSET COLLEGE: 26 MAY

Our U9 team started the game well by scoring a try from the kick-off. This paved the way for a host of tries scored by various team members and the support shown to each other, was heart warming. Many good tackles made by the opposition were nullified by our good support of each other, as the boys managed to keep the pressure on the opposition, by keeping the ball alive and off-loading it to players in a better position. Somerset House won comfortably by 35 – 5.

The U11B side had a complete turn-around from their dismal performance last Wednesday by beating their opposition by 34-0. Our boys defended well and set up a good attacking platform for our players to play from. Good attacking contributions were made by Troy Harris, Richard Milton, Nic Whaits and Gary-Paige Mattheys and William Hall was superb on the defense.

The U11A side started well and managed to score three tries before the half time whistle. This was done by good interlinking play between backline and forwards - putting the opposition under pressure and forcing them to make mistakes. Unfortunately the second half was not as good as the first and our boys allowed the opposition to score three unanswered tries in the latter part of the game. Mention has to be made of Brett Roberts who played with so much spirit and determination and managed to force many turn-over ball situations, which led to Francois Harley and Zac Fagan, both scoring two tries. Somerset House managed to win the match by 24-17. Well done to all our boys.

RUGBY VS SOMERSET COLLEGE 31 MAY

On Monday 31 May our U13 boys played a rugby match against Somerset College. We started off well with a few good breaks in the early stages of the game, but unfortunately did not manage to convert all this positive play into points on the board.

Our boys played much better than they did against Rhenish but some rustiness in handling was evident as the match wore on. The college scored and took control of the game. A few lapses in concentration also resulted to one or two tries slipping through without any significant resistance. I am, however, proud to say that the boys did their best to the final whistle, but were disappointed with an outcome that they knew could have been different. We lost the match 27-0.

On Wednesday 2 June our teams played some matches against Lochnerhof. Our teams played against B and C sides and were evenly matched by their opponents. Our U9B side played against Lochnerhof U9C and lost their match 0-5.

Our U11B side played very entertaining rugby against an U11B/C from Lochnerhof. Our boys supported each other well with our forwards working hard, managing to create good opportunities for the backline to attack from almost every corner of the field. The U11B team won their match by 22-5.

Our U13 boys played against the U13C side from Lochnerhof and managed to execute the type of rugby that was lacking on Monday against College. Our boys took on the opposition and although they were playing against a C-side, had their work cut out for them from the first kick off. It took a while for our forwards to become dominant in the game, but this was achieved through some hard running and good support play from all the boys in the team. Although the final score of 24-7 might suggest an easy game, nothing is further from the truth, as it is not a true reflection of the hard work that our forwards had to put in to take control of this match. This created a good platform for our back line players to run with more purpose and determination and, in return, also created more opportunities to cross the advantage line therefore putting our forwards on the front foot. Well done boys on a good result.

PROGRAMME FOR SOCCER DAY: THURSDAY 10 JUNE

TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
08h15 – 09h30	Grade 000 - 7	Simpson Hall
	Whole School ~ Sings Waka Waka	
	Oakwood ~ Item	
	World Cup ~ Interesting Facts	
	Best Goals Ever	
	Wave the Flag (Grade 6 Drama Group)	
09h30 – 10h00	Grade 0 Soccer Matches	Webb Field
09h30 – 10h30	Grade 1 – 4 Inter-House Soccer Matches	Various Fields
	Grade 5 – 7 Grade Activities	Classrooms
10h30 – 10h45	BREAK	
10h45 – 11h55	Grade 5 – 7 Inter-House Soccer Matches	Various Fields
	Grade 1 – 4 Grade Activities	Classrooms
12h00	FAMILY LUNCH	
12h30	Grade 1 – 7 Diski Dance	Naburn Meadow
13h00	GRADE 1 – 3 HOME TIME	
	Grade 4 - 7	Simpson Hall
13h00 – 13h30	One Bounce Competitions (Grade 1 – 7 Finalists)	
	Staff vs Grade 7 Pupils – Indoor Soccer Grade 7 Girls vs Staff Grade 7 Boys vs Staff Groundstaff vs Teaching Staff	
13h30 – 14h30		
14h30	GRADE 4 – 7 HOME TIME	

SOCCKER FEVER: ONE-BOUNCE FINALISTS

	GIRLS			BOYS		
	FINALISTS	GRADE		FINALISTS	GRADE	
1	Chloe Sanders	1	1	Nicholas Lombard	1	
2	Jessica Mathews	1	2	Arden Scholtz	1	
3	Chloe Smit	1	3	Nicholas Cilliers	1	
1	Kayla Coetzer	2	1	Carel Mans	2	
2	Stephanie Bihl	2	2	Munnik Huysamer	2	
3	Yvonne Huysamer	2	3	Travis Morris	2	
1	Julia Robb	3	1	Samuel Raats	3	
2	Cecile du Preez	3	2	Kai Greig	3	
3	Josefine Hjalmer	3	3	Luke Eames	3	
1	Rochelle Roos	4	1	Greg Bolus	4	
2	Marga Wahl	4	2	Brett Roberts	4	
3	Vera-Lynne Smit	4	3	Joshua Raats	4	
1	Kelly Landon	5	1	Antonie Small-Smith	5	
2	Megan McEwan	5	2	Grant Jansen	5	
3	Kelsey de Haas	5	3	Migali Giagas	5	
1	Faye Tunnicliffe	6	1	Liam Wrightson	6	
2	Katya Schulte	6	2	Cassius Vlok	6	
3	Josephine Cooper	6	3	Matheu Quinn	6	
1	Emma Demes	7	1	Harlon Greig	7	
2	Maria Small-Smith	7	2	Phillemon Masango	7	
3	Emily Dyssell	7	3	Steffen Engelmann	7	

WEEK 9: Week ending 11 June 2010

Mon	7 June	14h30 14h30	Normal Sport Practices JP Staff Meeting Royal Schools Music Theory Exams
Tues	8	14h30 14h45 15h05 15h20 15h40	Hockey vs De Hoop U13C Boys (A) U13B Girls (H) and U13 Girls 6-a-side (H) U13B Boys (A) U13A Girls (H) U13A Boys (A) Normal Sport for all except U12 and U13 not in matches
Wed	9	07h45 14h00 – 16h00 19h00	Exco Meeting Girls Hockey 1 st team practice match v Zonal team (H) Guild AGM (Simpson Hall)
Thurs	10	From 08h15	World Cup Soccer Day Whole School involved in various soccer activities
Fri	11	10h00 11h15 11h45	End of Term Assembly School closes Full Staff Meeting