



Volume 23

SOMERSET HOUSE

6 August 2010

The Weekly Blah

Oakwood Mad-Hatters!



Joseph, Allen, Natalie and Chiara enjoyed wearing their hats at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party last Friday. Miss Hodge and Anna have the same taste in hats!



Not just a school ~ a way of life

The Ladybirds' turn to be Shopkeepers!

The Ladybirds had their turn to be "Shopkeeper" on Friday and were really pleased with their new aprons, made to match their baking hats.



(Above) Danelle van Niekerk, Siena Williams, Matthew Kemp, Zara Els and Tishal Prag.

The children were really spoilt for choice with all the delicious cupcakes to choose from!

From the Guild Commitee

The third term is moving along swiftly and before you know it, it is **that** time of the year again. It is time to clear your calendar, pull out all the stops and support, take part in and contribute to the Somerset House Golf Day! This project serves as one of the main fund raisers of the Guild. We have, in the past, been overwhelmed by the generosity shown by parents and local businesses in support of this project, and we hope we can once again rely on your help. 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. Please take note of the following:

1. Golf Day: Friday 22 October 2010
2. First meeting for Class Mums to co-ordinate: Thursday 12 August 2010 (Staff Dining Room)
3. Contact Person for bookings: Amanda Derksen
aderksen@telkomsa.net
Tel: 021 851 0488
Cell: 083 300 4385

Many thanks

The Somerset House Guild Committee

Costumes to Donate

The Attic Moms are looking for dressing-up costumes or props that you are willing to donate. They would be greatly appreciated. Please drop off at Kirsty Jardim's office.

Collect your platters

There is still a considerable number of bowls and platters in the Simpson Hall kitchen. If you have sent a plate of eats during the course of last year or this year – please check if you have your platter or bowl. You may contact our Catering Manager, Robyn Rautenbach, on rautenbachr@somersethouse.co.za.

Day 23 of 40 Days of Prayer

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. (1Timothy, Chapter 4, Verse 12). The Parents Prayer Group meets every Thursday at 08h00 in the Archives Room.

HEADlines...

Congratulations to the Eisteddfod participants

Participation in the Eisteddfod is voluntary, yet you would never think so! Masses of children have put themselves forward for this and have achieved brilliantly. The level does not matter as much as the development of confidence in being able to stand up in front of peers and strangers to perform. I think every one of you is a star and I congratulate you most sincerely on your achievements.

Coffee with the Headmaster

I am grateful to the parents who attended the coffee morning yesterday. Mrs Selb again asked the most questions and will be receiving her prize soon. On a serious note, it is an opportunity to discuss issues openly and hopefully achieve insight into the inner workings of the school. It certainly assists me in understanding parental concerns. You are most welcome to attend the next one, next term. You can even arrange a special occasion if you cannot wait until next term!

Diversity Workshop for Parents

A group of parents will be travelling to Bridge House on Tuesday morning to participate in the discussion on diversity. We cannot claim to be a high quality school until our numbers are more representative of the reality of our nation. I am grateful to the parents who have committed to this as we start a process that will culminate with a meeting being held at our school later in the year.

Messages to children and teachers

Please bear in mind that we have no intercom system, so when Administrative Staff are asked to deliver messages to children, an office and a telephone are unattended. Messages for teachers can be e-mailed directly to the teacher, whose address follows a specific formula: surname + first letter of first name@somersetshouse.co.za. For example, Pam Roberts is: robertsp@somersetshouse.co.za.

Photographs

We would love any copies of photographs you may have of children, school activities, sports matches etc. which we could use for the newsletter, school magazine and marketing materials. If possible, please send photos on CD, DVD or Flashdisc in the highest resolution possible.

Admissions

For 2011 planning and budgeting purposes, it is important for us to obtain a clear indication of the number of pupils that will be leaving us at the end of the year. If you intend sending your child(ren) to another school next year, the deadline to submit a term's notice is at the start of the 4th Term (5 October), but if you are able to advise us sooner, it would be appreciated.

Chris Storey – Headmaster

head@somersetshouse.co.za

Artists of the Week

The World Soccer Cup has come and gone, but the enthusiasm and spirit still remains with the Grade 7s and inspired their beautiful “Makarapa” designs. These are drawn in pastel on black paper and they glow with beautiful colours and designs that are totally original. At the moment these designs are being translated into 3D Makarapa hats and we await the results with interest. Well done to Sinead van Eeden, Ashley Smithers, Kirsten Meiring and Phillemon Masango for particularly striking drawings and for being chosen as the Artists of the Week. All the Grade 7 designs are being displayed in the children’s dining room at the moment, so please come and have a look and be inspired!



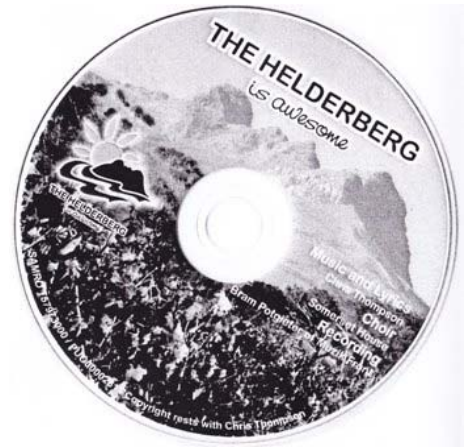
Newspaper collections

Another absolutely beautiful morning this morning - and yes, it is getting lighter in the mornings! The Grade 5 newspaper crew were in fine form this morning. We had a new wheelbarrow driver (as well as an illegal, unlicensed driver!). Even Mr Storey was put to work by the team and we were honoured by the first visit from the very officious and official auditor from Grade 5 - she has even threatened to drive the wheelbarrow next week! It was good to see the competition hotting up: this week the Grade 2s from Mrs Penny’s class brought in the most - very closely followed by my class! Another great morning - thanks to all who helped! ~ Mr Cod

Class	Weds 14 July	Weds 21 July	Weds 28 July	Weds 4 Aug	Total
7M	45.0	7.0	7.0		59.0
7W	2.0	11.2	37.5	23.0	73.7
6C		225.9	175.7	67.8	469.4
6W	19.0	26.3	41.8	16.0	103.1
5B	27.2	24.2	122.6	10.7	184.7
5K	60.8	47.0	4.5	26.0	138.3
4M	7.5	46.5	18.0	6.5	78.5
4vN	45.4	20.0	4.1	16.0	85.5
3P	20.0	43.5	44.5	66.4	174.4
3U	8.2	5.7	70.2	17.5	101.6
2P	59.0	32.0	20.8	76.9	188.7
2T	67.2	43.3	205.5	64.9	380.9
1dP	44.0		7.0	32.0	83.0
1R	20.0	2.1	7.0	24.1	53.2
Weekly Total	425.3	534.7	766.2	447.8	2174.0

The Helderberg is awesome!

In December last year a group of Grade 6 and 7 children from our school were invited to a recording studio in Paarl, where they recorded an original song called "The Helderberg is Awesome", composed by Chris Thompson. This was part of a project to advertise the Helderberg and everything it offers tourists visiting our beautiful area. The song has been repeatedly played on Radio Helderberg and has become known to many people in the area. The following children were part of this singing group: Natasha Furness, Ashlea Rutherford, Maria Small-Smith, Emma Demes, Rijk Diepeveen, Justin de Nysschen, Rhys Williams, Chris-Jan Kruger, Emily Dyssell, Johnathan Sloan, Nicola Sloane, Vicky Young-Pugh, Brandon Tunnicliffe, Klara Kleinhans, Abigail Samuelson and Georgie Day. The song is on a CD single and is on sale at Music Moods.



Cum Laude for STOMP! (Cup Fever)

22 of our Grade 6 and 7 pupils took part in the Music Entertainment Eisteddfod which was held at Lochnerhof last Friday. Congratulations on the excellent results obtained, as well as the great spirit that was evident amongst all participants! Well done to Dara Steingaszner and Faye Tunnicliffe who obtained a Cum Laude for their duet, 'Electricity', as well as to our group of Grade 7s who appeared in Cup Fever as the street children. They were also awarded Cum Laude for their excellent rhythmical performance. Although it is excellence we strive for as musicians, it is the process, the magic and the enjoyment of the performances, which counts the most.

Real Stars

If anyone ever said that standing up in front of a room full of eyes staring at you and performing was easy, they are mistaken. However 25 of our children did exactly this, and showed all of us that with a little bit of enthusiasm, confidence and a whole lot of nerves, we can do just that.

The following children took part in the Helderberg Speech Eisteddfod last week Hazel van der Watt, Keegan Lord, Nicholas Williams, Rebecca Day, Gary-Paige Mattheys, Emma Newton-King, Kiera van Eeden, Megan McEwan, Thomas Mudge, Zac Fagan, Rosalyn Trafford, Michelle



Gelderblom, Sabina Botha, Tamika Bramwell, Courtney Lord, Neil Devine, Connor Paine, Michael Burke, Marcus Nel, Katya Schulte, Calvin Durr, Emily Dyssell, Maria Small-Smith, Ash Rutherford and Emma Demes. They participated in various categories including Solo Poetry, Mime, Characterisation, Dramatised Prose, Prepared and Unprepared Reading. They are all to be congratulated on their excellent results ranging from Silver Plus to Cum Laude. We are incredibly proud of all the children who took part in the Eisteddfod. Well done!

MAD Outreach Tereo Boys Group

Tuesday morning dawned sunny and sparkling - the perfect day for a spot of gardening! A group of Grade 6 boys set off to spend the morning at the Tereo Mission School, teaming up with their Tereo counterparts to do some landscape gardening. The boys had to get stuck in with spades, forks and even a pickaxe, much to the joy of the kids and the horror of the mums present! Luckily we can report no fatalities! The children created some stunning flowerbeds, thanks to the generous donation of plants and compost as well as expert advice from Norman and Erna Nel, a mature tree to provide shade at the



jungle gym from Ant Hilliard at Habitat trees on the R44, and some back-breaking work from the boys. The joy on the faces of the little ones at Tereo when they planted a border of pansies for springtime is something that none of us will soon forget. Plans for a vegetable patch were hotly discussed, with much talk of giant cabbages and carrots, so I guess they will be back there very soon for another rewarding session of outreach.

Learning ADDventures Workshop for 11 - 15 year olds.

Dave Pughe-Parry of Living ADDventures is visiting Cape Town in September and has offered to present a workshop designed for children with ADHD. The course is suitable for all 11-15 year olds as it is about attitude, various study techniques and learning to FAIL FOR SUCCESS.

Date: Thursday 16th September 2010

Time: To be advised (3 hours plus a 30 minute feedback session to parents)

Where: Somerset House

Cost: R300 per student (R225 for each additional sibling).
Cost includes comprehensive notes.

For further information please contact Mrs Jenny Wates – watesj@somersethouse.co.za
Visit www.ladd.co.za for more information about Dave.

Sports News

GRADE 1 and 2 SPORTS DAY AT BRIDGE HOUSE

On Tuesday the 17th August ALL our Grade 1 and 2 pupils will be bussed off to Bridge House to enjoy a fun afternoon of sport. The girls will play both hockey and netball and the boys will play both hockey and soccer. All pupils will play with their grade and not in age groups. Should your child be involved in external activities on a Tuesday afternoon, please could you try to make arrangements to free them up on the 17th. It promises to be an exciting afternoon and parents are most welcome to come along and support. This is a new event that has been organised and therefore does not appear on the calendar. We hope to make it an annual event with both schools taking turns to host it.

NETBALL NEWS

- The U7 netball team enjoyed participating in their first Mini-netball Tournament on Saturday, and can be very proud of their achievements. They played against strong opposition and stood their ground, winning one match and very narrowly losing the other two. They experienced first-hand what it feels like to represent your school, use the skills taught to help your team and have good fun in the process. Well done, girls!
- The U12 netball teams played good netball against our opponents, Somerset College on Wednesday. They demonstrated good attacking and defending skills and communicated well with each other throughout the match. The B team secured a convincing 8-6 win while the A team succumbed to their opponents in the last few minutes and unfortunately lost 8-9. Well done to all the girls!
- Both the U11A and B teams played really well The weather was superb, the spirit was excellent and it was a pleasure to umpire these matches! The games were played at a furious pace and saw some accurate passing, good footwork and tenacious defense. Well done girls for sticking to your game plan; we are proud of all of you. The U11A team won 4-3 and the U11B team drew 4-4.

Saturday 31 July 2010

On Saturday our U7, U8 and U9 rugby teams took part in a Mini-rugby festival at Gordon's Bay Primary. Our U7 team played with a lot of determination and the highlight of the morning was the match against Fanie Theron, whom they beat convincingly. The U8 team also played with a lot of determination. They won two of their four matches and lost another match with a narrow 2-3 score-line. Both these teams have the ability to play good, constructive rugby when they put their minds to it and play together.



Our U9 team was very unfortunate, as their numbers diminished by the hour with boys who were just too sick to play, forcing us to withdraw some of them from the starting line-up. Unfortunately our opposition seemed to be at full strength, even when they took players off to match our numbers. Having said all of this, our boys had a good outing and at stages showed that they can be counted on when the going gets tough. Well done boys!

Wednesday 4 August 2010 vs Danie Ackerman Primary.

Both the U7 teams won convincingly and demonstrated that we can pass and play together as a team from a young age. Our U8 team unfortunately did not fare as well, as they were on the receiving end of two little "lightning bolts" that, according to their coach, have managed to score at least 6 tries per match between the two of them this year! My team for the day was the U9B team, who managed to play constructive, supporting rugby throughout the match. They were focused and supported each other from the first whistle.

Team	Result
U7 Stormers	SH won 8-5
U7 Bulls	SH won 11-0
U8 Lions	SH lost 0-12
U9 Spears	SH lost 2-6
U9 Sharks	SH won 5-3
U11B	SH lost 19-0
U11A	SH won 15-0
U13A	Draw 15-15

Their defensive pattern in the first half was very good and they managed to defend their goal line successfully. The U9 team unfortunately did not fire from the first whistle and they allowed our opposition to score three easy tries early in the match. Later on in the game we managed to claw our way back and had a much-improved second half. On the senior front, the U11B started off well by attacking the opposition line at will and dominating the possession. It will be good for them to reflect on the game and realise that they had the bulk of the possession and only gave away scoring opportunities to the opposition through careless passing and half-hearted cleaning at the rucks and mauls. The highlight of the afternoon was the way in which our two senior teams in the school played their rugby. Both the U11A team and the U13A played against opposition who were not scared to run hard with the ball. A benefit to both our teams was their discipline and the manner in which they played their counter-attacking options. Boys like Keegan Ahern, Alex van der Merwe and Zac Fagan are to be commended for the way in which they ran with guts and determination. Both these teams should also be commended on their supportive play and the way in which they “switched on” at the right moments.

BADMINTON

There hasn't been much of an interest shown to come and play Badminton on a Tuesday evening. Parents and pupils are reminded that sessions start at 18h30 and courts may be booked for half an hour at a time. The booking sheet appears on the Bailey Board. Come along and have some fun! Racquets are available, so no more excuses please, parents!

CHESS VS LOCHNERHOF

Congratulations once again to our Chess team who continue to impress us with their results. Mr Taylor is obviously doing a fantastic job with them. They played against Lochnerhof Primary and won 4 boards to 1. Our teams will be doing battle with Beaumont this afternoon. We wish them the best of luck!

WEEK 5: Week ending 14 August 2010

Mon	9 Aug		Public Holiday – National Women’s Day
Tues	10	morning 15h00	Helderberg Eisteddfod - Piano - all week Diversity & Transformation Presentation - Bridge House (Parents and Staff) Staff Forum Meeting
Wed	11	07h45	Exco Meeting Rugby Matches v Rusthof (H) Netball Matches v Dr Joubert (H)
Thurs	12	08h10 11h00	Class Mums Meeting (Staff Room) “Hooked on Books” – whole school Hockey Matches v Grabouw and Dr Joubert (H)
Fri	13	13h30 14h15 18h00	ISMA “Front of House” Meeting at Elkanah House – Parent Volunteers in Admin Offices Under 13 Hockey - WP Qualifying Tournament, Radloff Park Chess vs Hendrik Louw (A) – 3 Teams SP Staff Meeting Matric Tea (2005 Grade 7s)
Sat	14		Helderberg Eisteddfod – Piano Rhenish Mini Hockey – U7 and U8 Boys and Girls

Please Note

The Administrative and Finance Staff will be attending a presentation on “How to Delight your Customers with Positively Outrageous Service” on Friday 13 August. There will be volunteers manning the telephone and Admin office. Your understanding and patience will be appreciated!