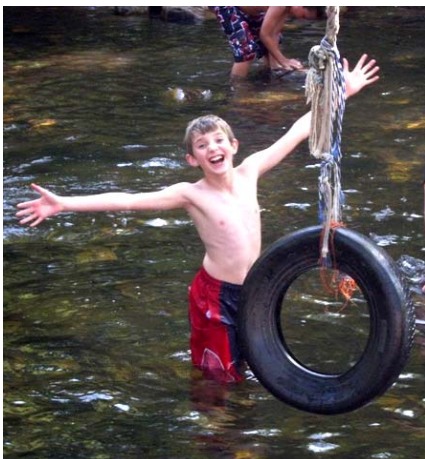




The Weekly Blah

Grade 3 camp to Jonkershoek!



The Grade 3s pulled out of the car park having packed the bus to capacity! On arrival at the venue in Jonkershoek, we were thrilled to see our friend from our previous camp, Brian, and two of his crew. An abundance of activities kept us on our toes and certainly increased our appetites! Luckily Mrs. Pienaar and Mrs. Underwood are secretly expert chefs and kept our tummies full! A late night was had by some and an even earlier morning followed (!), but high spirits prevailed and we enjoyed ourselves right to the very end. After a jam-packed two days, we boarded the bus heading back to school – an opportunity to catch some shut-eye before another fun-filled weekend!

Not just a school ~ a way of life



Junior Prep Buddy Bags

Please remember that the deadline for Grade 1, 2 and 3 children to bring their contributions for the Buddy Bags is Monday 8 November! These items will then be packed into bags and sent to Lwandle Baptist Church Crèche where they will be distributed to underprivileged children. We aim to brighten the lives of 50 needy children with 50 exciting Buddy Bags.

Access Discs

If you have an Access Disc – you can use this to enter at the Drama Street entrance without using the buzzer. Access Discs can be obtained from the Deputy Bursar, Judith Hanekom.



Walk for Breast Cancer Awareness

Five Staff members and a parent completed the 5 km walk for Breast Cancer Awareness: From left: Caron Botha, Vanessa Weber, Sandy Hawkrige, Mandy McIlroy (and Pumba), Caroline Hodge and Gillian Connell.

HEADlines...

Founders' Day

Mrs Cora Haydock and her husband, George left England in January 1947 on a ship bound for South Africa. In 1948 the doors of Somerset House were opened in Dirkie Uys Street. There were seven pupils and enrolment grew to fifteen by the end of 1948. In 1951 the school moved to its present address, then known as Oatlands Farm, where it has remained to this day. 62 Years on and over 430 children now enjoy school in a unique environment where the old is acknowledged and the new is embraced. The effort required to start a place of learning should never be underestimated. We are therefore very grateful to Mr and Mrs Haydock for their vision, determination and courage. The impact that this small school has made over the years has been immense and it is our responsibility to ensure that we continue to prepare children for their role as future citizens and leaders.

Summer Uniform

We hope that the worst of the winter weather has passed and so we move into summer uniform from Monday 8 November. Please ensure that your child has a hat at school at all times.

Kreepy Krauly in Pool

This is a special request to all parents and pupils who have access to the pool. The Kreepy Krauly is not to be removed from the water under any circumstances. Our filter and pump system is being damaged as a result and this is an expensive problem to deal with because of the size of our pumps. We ask for your co-operation in this matter.

Boot Camp for Women

Adventure Boot Camp for Women is a four-week outdoor programme that offers fitness instruction, nutritional counselling and motivational training packed with fun and energizing activities designed to help you reach your fitness goals. Somerset House will be the venue for one of these programmes and Somerset House parents qualify for a discounted rate. Visit the website on www.adventurebootcamp.co.za. Brochures are available from Mrs Jansen's office.

Chris Storey – Headmaster

head@somersethouse.co.za

Newspaper Collection

A somewhat more serene morning this week...not sure why? Perhaps the looming clouds, perhaps the pre-Christmas blues, perhaps a sign of more hoarding going on for the final few weeks of collecting? The Grade 5 team are, as ever, efficient, smiling, hard working and even Miss Weights and Measures is more relaxed. The team of "bin fillers" were more than a little distracted this week by a wealth of golf and soccer magazines that came in - which were clearly more exciting than shoving paper into the bins! Some interesting driving from the wheelbarrow team - this week it was more of a taxi than a newspaper carrier. Another very happy morning doing what we enjoy doing!

Class	Weds	Weds	Weds	Weds	Total
7M	13.0	13.6			26.6
7W	9.5			6.0	15.5
6C	176.0	38.0	5.4	8.0	227.4
6W			17.9		17.9
5B	53.1	14.9	317.5	20.2	405.7
5K	17.0	62.7	6.0	43.7	129.4
4M	50.0	13.5	50.0	10.0	123.5
4vN	50.8	18.6	17.3	8.0	94.7
3P	12.6		14.8	43.1	70.5
3U	14.2	3.4	15.0	31.2	63.8
2P	19.0	12.4	24.0	11.2	66.6
2T	62.3	185.4	66.8	38.8	353.3
1dP	6.9	33.5		22.6	63.0
1R	1.0		15.6	21.7	38.3
Weekly Total	485.4	396.0	550.3	264.5	1696.2

Grade 2 Camp to Simonsberg!

Last week the Grade 2s went on their first school camp. Their worries were soon forgotten as they enjoyed all the fun and exciting activities at Simonsberg!

Many experienced 'foofie sliding', rope swinging and rafting for the first time. Well done, Grade 2s. You made us very proud!



Junior Prep Spelling Competition winners!

Congratulations to Carel Mans and Ziggy Schulte in Grade 2 for winning the Junior Prep Spelling Competition this year. Well done boys. We are proud of you!



Founders' Day Tree of 'Greenspiration'

One of the many trees at Somerset House has been selected as the unique Founders' Day 'Tree of Greenspiration'. Children and staff have been collecting bottle-tops which have been recycled to create this special tree for our celebrations today. Next week, the Blah will feature photos of the children adding special leaves containing messages, poems, slogans and stories about their plans to preserve the earth.

Grade 1 Outing to the College of Magic!



The Grade 1s went to the College of Magic where they took part in a hands-on lesson about Colour and Light.



Sports News

TENNIS NEWS

- On Friday and Saturday our U11 and U13 tennis teams participated in the Rhenish Doubles Tournament in Stellenbosch. The format was a Round Robin tournament, with which our pupils are quite familiar. The method of play was Doubles and Mixed Doubles which was a bit challenging initially for the U11 teams. Our teams certainly tried their best and their play improved as the tournament progressed. The sessions were quite long as they played a Pro-Set (consisting of 8 games) but this did not discourage any of our pupils from playing their best tennis. Well done to each and every girl and boy who played at this tournament - especially those who offered to play competitive tennis for the first time as some of their peers had other tennis commitments. Thank you to staff members and parents who offered their time, support and encouragement to all the pupils.
- On Thursday, our U13B Girls' team played against Strand Aces at Strand Tennis Club. The girls played in very windy conditions and it took a while for them to realize that they could use the wind to their advantage. Although our confident girls played well, it was the Strand Aces team that won on the day. Our girls put up a good fight and it was inspiring to watch both teams play with such determination. Well done to Anya, Brigitta, Ingrid and Sophie.
- The U11 Girls beat Lochnerhof (B) 6-0 and the U11 Boys beat Somerset College 3-0.



CRICKET NEWS

The past weeks have seen the 2nd XI playing matches against Rhenish and Eikestad. We had some decent batting displays (Jordan R 37* and 15*, Che 15 and Brad 15) and our other batsmen made decent starts but then proceeded to throw their wickets away just as they were getting settled. Our bowling has been very effective up front, which enabled us to put the opposition under pressure (Matheu 3/7, Bradley 0/7, Greg 2/16 and Jordan 0/16). The question then begs to be asked: How did we manage to lose both these games, especially in our second match where we had the opposition at 24/6? The answer is summed up in four words. Dropped catches and extras! We have dropped 6 catches and conceded 67 extras in two games. What this means is that we have given the opposition 6 extra chances, a minimum of 67 extra runs and 67 extra balls as a result of wides or no balls. This has allowed them to put pressure on us without doing anything...and we have paid the price!

Our last match this season was against Somerset College. We went in to bat and had an opening partnership of 29 (Greg 8 and Luke 15) for the first wicket. We lost a couple of wickets before Brad and Matheu (13*) put on a 28 run partnership. This gave us a total of 89/6 which looked 30 runs short of a defendable score. Enter our bowling attack! We soon had College on 26/4 and all we had to do was keep the run rate down and the game was ours. Some great batting by a College pair put the pressure back on us and it was game on. Our bowlers bowled a great line and length and this together with some positive and sharp fielding (three run outs) kept us in the game. "Boys...keep tight!" Our bowlers' figures were: Matheu 3/21, Daniel 1/15, Dyllon 0/13, Brad 2/14, Greg 1/8 and Jordan R 0/9. In contrast to our last two matches, we only conceded 15 extras. College finished on 81/9, giving us victory by 9 runs. It was a nail biter that went right down to the last over. Well done to the whole team on an outstanding performance. You guys can all afford to feel proud of your part in this exciting victory 😊

U11 CRICKET - A TEAM V BEAUMONT: WEDNESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER

We have probably all heard of the famous Rudyard Kipling quote about the wolf, "For the strength of the Pack is the Wolf, and the strength of the Wolf is the Pack". It's one of those quotes that always gets thrown about when one is referring to teamwork and how good it is to work together, communicate, help each other etc. I suspect that rather too often we might say to ourselves something along the lines of "Here we go again, Mr Cod rambling on about teamwork and how important it is." or "Oh yes, let's work together and see what happens" or even "Oh yes, I can't be bothered."

Well, the U11A Cricket team - and indeed most of the Under 11 squad for that matter - have listened and they were very much the "pack" and the "wolves" this afternoon in their match against Beaumont. The "pack" was the team; we fielded first with George Huysamer as pack leader. Yes, he was chief wolf, but his pack certainly rallied around him and worked as a true pack. There was no snarling amongst the wolves, there were no selfish wolves that did their own thing - there was one pack which hunted with efficiency, pride, skill, teamwork and communication. The individual wolves bowled accurately or caught catches well or stopped certain boundaries effectively; indeed, the wolves encouraged and praised each other for their efforts - and it was the pack that benefited! The opposition were all out for 32 runs in 8 overs.

The pack gathered and chief wolf worked at the batting order. Initially he went for giving some of the weaker wolves a chance - but soon realised that it would be better for the pack as a whole if he and an experienced wolf took to the crease. So, George and Zac opened the batting. Their performance was wonderful; if one wants an example of "how to do it right" then one needed only to have watched this pair. The two wolves working together for the pack and in 6 overs of extremely efficient hunting, it was all over - 33 runs in 5.5 overs without loss - and the whole operation complete in just over an hour.

This afternoon was a very fine performance and yes, the result is part of that success - but surely not the most important part of the game? I think the pack won the day and the strengths of all the individual wolves won the day for the pack. So, when Mr Cod does go rambling on about teamwork and all those things - perhaps he does have a point - or is he a wolf in disguise?

INTER-SCHOOLS MOUNTAIN BIKE RIDE

The last ride for the year was held on Friday the 8th of October at the Helderberg Farm. The results were as follows:

- U7 Boys: 1st Nicholas Cilliers
2nd Nicholas Lombard
- U9 Boys: 1st Matthew Cilliers
- U11 Girls: 2nd Jessica Meissner
- U11 Boys 3rd Kai Heimann

The overall Results for the Inter-schools Series (5 rides in total):

- U7 Boys: 1st Nicholas Cilliers
2nd Nicholas Lombard
3rd Jake Love
- U9 Boys: 1st Matthew Cilliers
3rd Daniel Love
- U9 Girls: 2nd Josefina Hjalmer
- U11 Girls 1st Jessica Meissner



A total of six schools participated in the Series this year. Well done to Somerset House who came second overall with 262 points behind Beaumont's 300 points. This is a great achievement!

INDOOR HOCKEY

Our U12 Indoor Hockey League came to an exciting end on Monday evening. All 8 participating schools played a cross pool play-off.

Our girls team played against Somerset College in a nail biting semi-final. The scores were level at 4 all after full time and we had to go to penalty flicks. Each team selected 3 players to flick. Moya Smith made some superb saves in goal and Sarah Wilmans flicked a bullet into the bottom left corner of the goalbox to score the deciding goal. Somerset House won the flicks 1-0 and earned themselves a spot in the final. The final was just as exciting and was played against Somerset West Primary. They were leading 3-2 with less than two minutes to go, when we managed to score after some fantastic team work. Scores were now 3-3 with 15 seconds to go when we were awarded a penalty corner. The rule states that penalty corners must be played even if the time is up. As the clock ticked to full time, Somerset House systematically executed a fine corner with another superb flick by Sarah, again being the deciding factor ~ we won the final 4-3. The sheer determination of the entire team and the ability to mark the opposition's key players, allowed



Somerset House to emerge victorious. Congratulations to the entire team ~ Moya Smith, Anya du Plessis, Sarah Wilmans, Katya Schulte, Ingrid Badenhorst, Anne Turner and Faye Tunncliffe.



The Boys' U12 team played some super hockey on Monday evening. The semi-final against Somerset College was a very tight game with College eventually coming through 4-3 in the closing seconds of the game. We played SWPS in the 3rd/4th place play off and the teamwork and fine hockey came to the fore; we won 4-2 to finish 3rd overall. This was a tremendous learning experience for the boys and I think they have taken much from the event; there is lots of potential for the future and boys' hockey at Somerset House is looking very exciting.

WEEK 6: Week ending 13 November 2010

Mon	8 Nov		JP Charity Day No Sport for Grades 6 and 7 - all week
Tues	9	14h30 14h30	Cricket Matches v Temperance Town - U10A (H) Cricket Matches v Dr Joubert - U11B (H)
Wed	10	13h20 14h15 14h15	Mini Cricket v Beaumont - U7 x 3, U8 x 3, U9 x 2 (A) Cricket Matches v Danie Ackermann - U11C (H) Cricket Matches v Rhenish - U11A (H)
Thurs	11	16h00	Exams for Grades 6 and 7(Simpson Hall) Cricket vs Lochnerhof - U9 Hardball (H) Full Board Meeting
Fri	12	17h00	Exams for Grades 6 and 7(Simpson Hall) Night League Cricket vs HH Club Juniors (Radloff Park)
Sat	13		