



Volume 9

SOMERSET HOUSE

12 March 2010

# *The Weekly Blah*

## ***Teddy Bears' Picnic!***



The Grade 00 classes really enjoyed their Teddy Bears' picnic last Friday!

*Not just a school ~ a way of life*

## News from the Grade 0 Owl Class



Sam, Ethan and Marwin doing some important work in their 'office'!



Amy and Louise enjoy some time with the cuddly toys!



Damica and Maddi cool down with some water play on a hot day.



Khati enjoys a good book!



### ***Mud glorious Mud!***

Nothing quite like mud on a hot, sunny day to help keep cool! The children in the Grade 000 classes really enjoyed getting muddy, whilst keeping cool, in mud puddles.



## DEPUTY HEAD*lines*.....

### Parent/Teacher Interviews...

Thanks go to all the Junior Primary teachers who have been involved with Parent Interviews this week. I am sure that these have been very helpful and useful meetings. As always, you are welcome to chat to the teachers - they are available at the beginning and end of the day, or please feel free to make an appointment with them if necessary. The Senior Primary interviews take place on Monday and Tuesday afternoons in the Simpson Hall. Again, if you feel that the 5 minute slots are too short, please do make arrangements with the individual teacher to meet separately.

### Grade 4 Camp...

It was great to go to Simonstown on Monday evening to visit the Grade 4s at Rocklands. There was a tremendous buzz around the campsite and it was clear that the children had had a busy and very fulfilling day in and around the town. Mrs Cod and I enjoyed a delicious braai, cooked by Mesdames van Niekerk and Minnaar and we left as the Grade 4 equivalent of Simon Cowell was about to cast verdict on the "Idols" performances. There were quite a number of lessons from the camp that have needed to be taken on board by the children; basic manners and behaviour have been re-visited and the ability to work together and be kind to each other has been emphasised. I sincerely hope that lessons have been learned and that the camps next term will continue to teach life skills to all the children.

### Sport...

It has been quite a couple of weeks recently as far as our children have done in the wider Provincial and National sporting arena...

- 2 Boland surfers
- 1 South African cycling champion
- 1 South African swimming champion
- 1 South African swimming silver medallist
- 6 Zonal Tennis players
- 6 cricketers still involved in final rounds of area trials
- 3 Western Cape Swimmers

and we've even got some staff members going for gold and attacking Sunday's Argus cycle race. Results to follow... These are very impressive achievements, especially from a school of our size! We are all very proud of our sportsmen and women. Well done to all!!!

**Richard Codrington – Deputy Headmaster**

[codringtonr@somersethouse.co.za](mailto:codringtonr@somersethouse.co.za)

### ***Orchestral Week-end***

A group of Somerset House musicians took part in the Combined Orchestral Concert at Somerset College on Sunday evening.

Back: Brigitta Selb, Joshua van der Merwe,  
Timon De Freitas and Emma Thöle  
Front: Jessie-Lee Diepeveen, Kayla McCulley

Absent when photo was taken: Marais Kruger and  
Simoné Malan



### ***School Shop Trading Hours***

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 07h30 to 14h30

## Recycling

It was extremely quiet this morning in the main car park! The Grade 7s were on the river and no "White Van Man". I can only assume that everybody is hoarding ready for the final week of collecting this term. Hopefully the orange bins will be emptied by then - ready to receive the huge amounts of paper that are needed to topple Grade 2 Penny from pole position!

Class	Weds 20 Jan	Weds 27 Jan	Weds 3 Feb	Weds 10 Feb	Weds 17 Feb	Weds 24 Feb	Weds 3 Mar	Weds 10 Mar	Class Totals
7M	4.7	53.3	47.0	9.0	17.3	13.9	129.0		274.2
7W	22.0	7.0	2.0	4.8	27.8	6.5	58.0		128.1
6C	24.7	62.5	80.2	32.5	2.0	26.0	69.0	42.0	338.9
6M	10.0	28.3	25.0	15.9					79.2
5B	83.8	73.2	39.1	6.0	29.5	21.4	62.4	7.1	322.5
5K	21.0	85.0	50.9	10.0	11.6	35.8	15.0	22.9	252.2
4M	60.3	8.5	25.8	15.0	13.0	33.0	77.8	10.0	243.4
4vN	11.8	15.4	11.1	23.1	6.2	6.3	3.0	7.3	84.2
3P	51.2		6.2	21.6	26.6	39.5	57.2	6.9	209.2
3U	6.5	13.8	8.8	33.1	3.5	50.0	247.8	12.2	375.7
2P	50.8	75.6	168.3	171.1	153.3	20.5	43.9	18.0	701.5
2T	97.6	79.1	56.0	43.2	38.1	68.2	42.9	65.5	490.6
1dP	64.3	2.0	9.9	13.8	84.1	153.0	105.0	27.5	459.6
1R	18.3	7.0	1.0	7.0	9.0	2.0	7.2	22.5	74.0
<b>Weekly Total</b>	<b>526.9</b>	<b>510.7</b>	<b>531.3</b>	<b>406.1</b>	<b>422.0</b>	<b>476.1</b>	<b>918.2</b>	<b>241.9</b>	<b>4033.2</b>

## Contribution from Bystander: The Kite

Some words are easy – some more difficult.

Take friendship, for example. It seems easy, but all too often it's devalued and used to describe something that's really just acquaintance. No, true friendship is hard. It must surely be nurtured and then, just maybe, can grow into something that is strong enough to survive tribulation and time.

Here's another word that seems easy but is even more difficult. Love. Passionate, certainly, but again, all too often confused with a hedonistic gratification of the moment. But love, like friendship, if nurtured can grow into the most powerful and enduring force and, when linked with true friendship, the most formidable of bonds.

School. That's another one – maybe not quite as complex as the others but nevertheless more so than it might seem. When, from the outside, we think of school, what is it that we see? Buildings, grounds, children. But there's another whole dynamic – that of the teachers. But who's to say who the teachers are and who the learners?

Now, last Thursday evening was bright and sparkly after the morning's showers, a strong, blustery wind whipping around the school – an ideal evening for flying a kite – and that's exactly what was happening in the middle of Naburn Meadow. Two teachers together flying the kite he'd made earlier in the club. First him and then her and then, sitting together in the meadow, making fine adjustments time after time until at last their kite swooped and soared wildly.

Was it a great kite? Bystander doesn't know. But what he does know is that he witnessed an idyllic example of those two difficult words and a fleeting glimpse of the life behind the formal face of teaching. Or is it learning together?

*Bystander (28 February 2010)*

## ***Fun Day***

Congratulations to **Laiken Mattheys** for winning the Fun Day raffle. We hope she enjoys the hamper! We were very lucky to have some superb craft stalls at the Fun Day this year. As many of you may not have had the chance to shop at these stalls due to children rushing you off in all directions we would like to thank them by supplying you with their details so you can follow up with them if you saw anything you liked.

### **Skinkids:**

- Locally manufactured sun screen
- Contact Dot Milton 0824465157 or [dot@milton.org](mailto:dot@milton.org)

### **Tea from Heaven**

- Delicious Jam Tea
- Contact Nouleen Bam 082 897 4703 or [Johnny@bamco.co.za](mailto:Johnny@bamco.co.za)

### **Diva Me Up**

- Bling for young and old
- Contact Chantal Topp 08282555556 or [chantal@topp.co.za](mailto:chantal@topp.co.za)

### **Janey Bear**

- Build-a-Bear and dolls clothing
- Contact Jane Hendry 021 853 0046 or 072 404 5945

### **Kikoi stall**

- Imported Kenyan Kikois
- Contact Belinda Danckwerts 021 851 3174 or [Belinda@capelands.co.za](mailto:Belinda@capelands.co.za)

### **De Trafford Wines**

- Fine wines
- Contact Rita Trafford 082 551 0446 or [rita@detrafford.co.za](mailto:rita@detrafford.co.za)

### **Lebanese Delights**

- Lebanese cooking classes, herbs and spices
- Contact Ghenwa Steingaszner 021 847 1987 or [ghenwa@ege.co.za](mailto:ghenwa@ege.co.za)

### **Cab clothing**

- Wrap-around dresses
- Contact Caroline Bradshaw 021 851 2952 or [mw-mike@mweb.co.za](mailto:mw-mike@mweb.co.za)

### **Honey Bee Crafts**

- Crafts, paintings and jewelry
- Contact Heather Lord 021 851 3936 or [honeybeecrafts@hotmail.com](mailto:honeybeecrafts@hotmail.com)

*Once again many thanks to all of you for making the Fun Day so special and successful!*

## ***Artist of the Week***

The Grade 3 theme 'Washing the Car' brings to mind soap suds, splashing and hosepipes which can be great fun in the hot, sultry weather. Our three artists: Julia Robb, Freddie Cooper and Daniel Love have created wonderfully descriptive paintings which show it can be fun to help out!



## **MAD Outreach – Tereo Boys**

Our selected MAD outreach group, Tereo boys, joined us last week for a walk and a treasure hunt in the Nature Reserve. It was a blisteringly hot day, but that did little to dampen the spirits of these exuberant little boys. The Tereo boys arrived just after 10h30 and immediately piled out of their taxi-bus to start a soccer game and enjoy the freedom and beauty the Nature Reserve offers. This was followed by a brisk walk through the lower reaches of the Helderberg. The boys learned about the Hottentot Holland Mountains and several of the Fynbos species around them. When we returned to the gardens, the MAD moms (and dad!) had set up a wonderful treasure hunt. Four groups of boys, each named after one of our local soccer teams, set off on 4 different routes to find treasure! They had a detailed map to follow, and had to collect 6 sets of treasure before they could stop and enjoy their well earned feast! The smiles on the faces said it all! 24 exhausted but happy boys traipsed back to their separate schools, filled with lots more stories to tell.

## **Sports News**

### **SOUTH AFRICAN SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Last weekend three of our girls participated at the South African National Aquatic Championships. Megan McEwan participated in the Girls U11 50m and 100m Breaststroke events, Joselyn Brazer swam in the Girls U12 50m Backstroke and Ash Rutherford swam in the Girls U13 200m Individual Medley, 50m, 100m and 200m Backstroke. Please see their results below:

<b>Swimmer</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Time</b>
Ash Rutherford ☺ SA CHAMP	200m Individual Medley	6	2:44,05
	50m Backstroke	9	35,96
	200m Backstroke	4	2:38,45
	100m Backstroke	1	1:13,14
Megan McEwan	50m Breaststroke	13	45,52
	100m Breaststroke	19	1:43,85
Joselyn Brazer	50m Backstroke	2	36,20

Special congratulations to Ash Rutherford who won the Girls U13 50m Backstroke and is therefore the South African Champion in this event and to Joselyn Brazer who won silver in the



50m Backstroke and is therefore the 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest in this event in South Africa. Certainly an amazing achievement, of which we, as a school, are phenomenally proud! Please see a photo of our medalists in next week's newsletter. Ash is away on the Orange River this week and was therefore not available for 'snapping'.

Dara, Joselyn and Megan show their support for Ash!

## SIX PLAYERS SELECTED FOR THE HELDERBERG ZONAL TENNIS TEAMS

We are very proud of the fact that six of our players have recently been selected for the Helderberg Zonal Tennis Teams. Rosalyn Trafford, Kiera van Eeden, Migali Giagas and George Huysamer were all selected for the U11 teams. Sinead van Eeden and Ash Rutherford have been selected for the Girls U13 team and Emma Demes is the first reserve. This is an amazing achievement for our school, considering that 8 schools participate in the trials and only 8 pupils are selected for each team. These players will be competing in an inter-zonal tennis tournament which will be held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March. We congratulate them and wish them the best of luck! As Ash and Sinead are currently away on the Orange River, we will publish a photo of our super tennis players next week.

## SA ROAD CYCLING CHAMPS

Greg de Vink took part in the 10km time trial and 30km road race held in Klerksdorp recently. He came 4<sup>th</sup> in the time trial. In an exciting finish to the road race, Greg managed to outspurt the rest of the group to take the gold medal.



## TENNIS RESULTS

The U11 Girls Tennis Team must be congratulated for beating De Hoop 6-0 last Thursday. Special mention must be made of Rosalyn Trafford who not only played excellent tennis to beat her opponent 6-0, but more importantly displayed sportsmanship, good manners and friendliness throughout the match. The Boys team beat Beaumont 6-0. Well Done!

## SPORT NEXT WEEK

A reminder that all U7 and U8 pupils continue with their current sports programme up to and including Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Please see the amended programme for the U9 – U13s on the website. ([www.somersetshouse.co.za](http://www.somersetshouse.co.za))

## WINTER SPORTS PROGRAMME

The Winter Sports Programme is available on the website. The programme starts for all pupils on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April. You will notice that the U9s sport takes place from 13h30 – 14h30 on a Monday and Tuesday. Their sport is therefore included in their academic day. Should a pupil not wish to participate in both sports on offer this season, they will have supervised prep. time in their classrooms from 13h30 – 14h30 on the day that they are not involved in practices. We remind our parents that it is compulsory for all our pupils to participate in at least one sporting code each season.



## BOLAND SURFING

Congratulations to Dylan Smit and Bradley Roberts who were recently selected for the Boland Surfing Team. Dylan will compete in the Boys U8 section and Bradley in the Boys U13. Both surfers will take part at the South African Grommet Games which is to be held in Port Elizabeth during the school holidays. We are very proud of your achievements! Congratulations and all the best for the up-and-coming Inter-Provincial Competition.

## CRICKET NEWS

On Wednesday 3 March we played a cricket match against SWPS and they elected to bat first. Our bowlers were spot-on from the first ball and we created good pressure which

their batsmen succumbed to by losing wickets at regular intervals. One of the outstanding bowling performances of the day was that of Michael Burke, who managed to get a hat-trick (getting three wickets in three consecutive balls). As if this was not enough, Michael also scored 31 valuable runs during our batting innings. Well done to Michael and the boys for winning their match by 7 wickets!



## WEEK 10: Week ending 19 March 2010

Mon	15 March	15h00 15h00 – 18h30	<b>Normal Afternoon Sport for U7 and U8 all week</b> <b>No School Sport U9 - U13 today</b> Zonal WP Rugby Trials (SWPS) – U12 Parent / Teacher Meetings
Tues	16	14h30  15h00 15h00 – 18h30	<b>No School Sport U9 - U13 today except Matches</b> Cricket vs De Hoop B – U10A (H) and U13B (A) vs Beaumont C – U13C (A) Zonal WP Rugby Trials (SWPS) – U13 Parent / Teacher Meetings
Wed	17	08h15 13h10-14h00 14h00  14h00-15h00 14h00-16h00 14h00-14h15 17h30-18h30	Maureen Fell Support Group for Parents (Staff Room) Girls U9 Hockey and Boys U9 Rugby Cricket vs Lochnerhof B - U13D (Radloff Park) vs Strand Moslem - U11A (H) and U13A (Radloff Park) Girls U10 and U11 Hockey (Naburn Meadow) Girls U12 and U13 Hockey Trials (Naburn Meadow) Junior Prep Staff Meeting Beginners' Music Concert (Simpson Hall)
Thurs	18	12h30 13h40-14h30 14h30-15h30 14h30-16h00 14h30-16h30	Family Day Lunch Girls U9 Netball and Boys U9 Hockey Girls U10 and U11 Netball / Boys U10 and U11 Rugby Boys U12 and U13 Rugby Trials Girls U12 and U13 Hockey Trials
Fri	19	10h00 11h15 11h45	End of Term Assembly School Closes Full Staff Meeting
Sat	20	All day	Miniatures' Auction (Simpson Hall) Viewing from 08h00 to 10h00 – all welcome!