



Volume 14

SOMERSET HOUSE

6 May 2011

The Weekly Blah

An Eggciting Day!



Not just a school ~ a way of life

An eggshilirating and eggciting day was had for the Library Birthday this year when we celebrated Easter and Eggs in all sorts of different variations. As always, each class came up with something artistic, original and beautiful. What more could one ask for?



Headlines....

Diversity – What should our school be doing?

One of the single greatest challenges facing us as a nation remains our ability to come to terms with diversity. As a school in South Africa in 2011, what should we be doing to ensure that our children are able to play a positive and constructive role as citizens in the future? Please join us and share your thoughts as we listen to what YOU have to say on this important topic. The workshop on Tuesday will be facilitated by Melanie Burke and will start at 09h00 sharp. You are most welcome to join us for some refreshments at 08h30. We look forward to seeing as many parents there as possible.

Mrs Annie Hugill appointed as new Educational Support Co-ordinator

I am delighted to be able to inform the Somerset House family that Mrs Annie Hugill will be taking over responsibility for the Educational Support Centre from the beginning of Term 3. She is moving back to Somerset West from Botswana with her two children, who will also be joining the school. Annie brings a wealth of experience in Special Needs Education to Somerset House and I look forward to working with her in the future. I wish her everything of the best as she takes on her new role. Welcome!

Extra food being brought to school

One of the things that has always made our school different from other schools is the fact that food is provided. Not only is there always fruit available throughout the day, but sandwiches are also available at the kitchen during the afternoon. It is therefore absolutely unnecessary for children to bring extra food to school even on days when late sport is being played. I would like to ask that the school's request, to not bring food to school, be respected as it is unfair and confusing to those children who **are** obeying the school rules.

Examinations

Our Grade 6 and 7 pupils will be writing examinations from the 2nd to the 7th of June. Learning how to prepare for, and write, examinations is a process and it is hoped that by experiencing this at primary school level our children will be better prepared for what they will inevitably face in high school. Although we encourage our pupils to take their examinations very seriously, it is important to remember that the process represents a learning opportunity and is not one to be feared. I wish all our pupils everything of the best as they prepare in the coming weeks.

Chris Storey – Headmaster

head@somersethouse.co.za

Mothers' and Daughters' Tea *Saturday 14th of May*

Dear Mothers and Daughters

Come to Somerset House on Saturday the 14th of May to enjoy a wonderful mother and daughter tea (grandmothers welcome) from 10h00 to 12h00 for only R30.00 per person. There will be an exciting raffle and

lovely things to buy. Book your place before Monday the 9th of May by contacting me at michelle@gelderblom.co.za or 083 262 3362. Anyone wanting to sell things of interest to mothers and daughters should also book their display before Monday the 9th May. You can book a display by contacting me.

This event is being organised by Michelle Gelderblom as part of the Grade 7 Leadership Programme.



Newspaper Collections

Three weeks of collecting and already more than a tonne of paper collected and recycled – many thanks to all who weigh, label and sort the papers. Last term's winners (Grade 5K) have eaten their delicious cupcakes and are now only just in the lead this term. It was a quiet morning and, for whatever reason, only the skeleton crew were at work! Looking forward to seeing all the Grade 5s who do not have Choir or Music helping out next week. Two volunteer Grade 2s (Robert and Ethan) were back and helped move the bags – thanks! Lots of chat; lots of banter and lots of good deeds being done!

	Weds 13 Apr	Weds 20 Apr	Weds 4 May	Total
7M	13.5		18.6	32.1
7W			14.4	14.4
6C	58.5	10.0	20.0	88.5
6W	32.0	48.5	24.0	104.5
5B	23.1	21.0	54.1	98.2
5K	108.1	36.7	60.2	205.0
4M	25.7	13.0	11.5	50.2
4W	2.0	10.5	7.0	19.5
3P	3.4	28.1	49.3	80.8
3U	34.7	82.5	69.8	187.0
2P	43.0	93.3	68.1	204.4
2T	16.2	16.7	10.5	43.4
1dP		4.0	2.0	6.0
1R	37.8	15.6	39.0	92.4
Weekly Total	398.0	379.9	448.5	1226.4



After-Hours at Oakwood...

.... the school has gone to the hens!

Artists of the Week

"Flying on a Peacock" is the subject of these beautiful Grade 3 pictures. Well done to C.J.Slabbert, Kirsty Richards, Amy Hanne and Andrew Whaits for their imaginative paintings. We are very proud of you!





Reptile Show

The Junior Prep recently enjoyed a visit from the Cape Town Reptile Park. They learnt a lot about creatures that slither, slide, creep and crawl. Those who were brave enough (including Mr Storey) got to feed and hold snakes, lizards and iguanas. All agreed that reptiles are amazing creatures!



Music Concert

Well done to all our Beginner musicians who participated in their first music concert. About 60 children performed on recorder, flute, violin, guitar, piano and keyboard. They have done exceptionally well and we are very proud of them.



Jersey Drive!

How many old jerseys do you have at home? Why don't you help the Early Act Committee by bringing your old jerseys to Somerset House so we can donate them to underprivileged people in your community? The closing date is 23 May.

~ Nicola Carter and Ellie Viljoen

News from the Bees and the Ladybirds!

The Grade 000s had a wonderful, fun-filled day walking around the field 4 times as part of their Big Walk and Teddy Bears' Picnic.



Ssshhh.... It's a secret....

...don't tell the mums, but the Ladybirds have been busy getting their presents ready for Mother's Day!



Sports News

MINI RUGBY VS. RHENISH PRIMARY		
Team	Score	Comment
SH U8 Lions Somerset College	15 1	Both teams played outstanding rugby, building up phases and keeping the ball alive at all times. Our boys supported well and their defensive tackling was of a high standard. Well done!
SH U8 Cheetahs Somerset College	16 0	
SH U9 Spears Somerset College	5 1	Well done to our boys. They are coming to grips with the new positional play and we hope to see them improve weekly.
SH U9 Sharks Somerset College	6 0	Well done also to CJ Slabbert for an outstanding match attacking and scoring various tries.



SA SURFING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Vera-Lynne and Dylan Smit competed at the South African Grommet Surfing Championships during the holidays. Congratulations to both of you and to Vera-Lynne for earning 2nd spot overall in her age group. We are proud of your achievements.

NETBALL RESULTS: WEDNESDAY 4TH MAY 2011		
Team	Score	Comment
SH U10 A vs Sir Lowry's Pass	Won 7-0	The U10 team played an excellent match on Wednesday. Although the Goal Shooter and Goal Attack had to adapt to shooting their goals into higher, lopsided and un-netted rings, they still managed to win. This does not reflect the tenacity of the opposition, but our girls were neither daunted nor intimidated and they played like true netball stars. Well done to Jacqui Ekermans who stepped up to the plate to be our shooter. She played very well!
SH U11 A vs Sir Lowry's Pass	Lost 0-4	A good display of effort but sadly not enough teamwork which resulted in the opposition having the advantage. Well tried, Girls! Keep up the good effort.
SH U12 A vs Sir Lowry's Pass	Won 9-3	A phenomenal start to the season with excellent teamwork displayed! Well done, Girls!
SH U13 A vs Sir Lowry's Pass	Won 8-5	The Under 13s played with determination and excellent teamwork. They made use of the knowledge they have gained at practices, to their definite advantage – well done girls! You were awesome!

WESTERN PROVINCE RUGBY AND HOCKEY TRIALS

A number of senior players have been in action at various Western Province Trials this week. On Thursday afternoon, Marcus Nel and Liam Wrightson attended the second round of rugby trials in Stellenbosch and Katya Schulte, Sarah Wilmans, Anya du Plessis, Moya Smith, Che February and Michael Burke were involved in skills tests for the Western Province Hockey trials which took place in Pinelands. After Thursday's hockey skills test results, some players may be invited to attend the second round of WP Hockey Trials on Friday afternoon at SACS and UCT Astros and hopefully some will make it through to the final round which takes place this Sunday at Hartleyvale Stadium, also on Astro turf. The next round of rugby trials takes place next week. We congratulate these players for making it this far and wish them well for the trials ahead.

WEEK 5: Programme for the week ending 14th May 2011			
Mon	9 May	14h35	JP Staff Meeting
Tues	10	09h00-10h30	Diversity Workshop at Somerset House UNISA and Trinity College Music Exams (Stellenbosch) Netball v Danie Ackermann (H) U10, U11, U12 x 2
Wed	11		Netball v Rhenish (A) U8 – U13 Rugby v Rhenish (A) U7 x 2, U8 x 2, U9 x 1, U11 x 2, U13 x 3
Thurs	12	16h00	Hockey Matches v Rhenish and Impendulu (H) Full Board of Governors Meeting
Fri	13	13h30 14h15	Chess Matches v SWPS (H) – 2 teams SP Staff Meeting
Sat	14	08h00	Beaumont Chess Tournament (A)