



The Weekly Blah

MAD Christmas Party!



The year is coming to an end and it was time for the Grade 6 children to say a sad farewell to the children from St. Paul's School. They wrapped the year up by organising games for their friends to play and then sharing a picnic lunch with them before being blessed by the beautiful singing as they sang a song as a farewell gift. The memories made are irreplaceable ones which will be treasured for many years to come. Yes, at Grade 6 level, a huge difference can be made!

Not just a school ~ a way of life

Thank you to all the Grade 6 children for all their hard work in organising the games for the children and buying useful gifts for the children. We also truly appreciate the efforts Mrs Rautenbach and her team have put in to providing snacks every time the St Paul's children came over. Mr Amm and his crew were a great help on Tuesday, erecting the gazebos to create some shade for the picnic. And last, but definitely not least, a huge thank you to all the MADults who unfailingly help with the events as 'crowd control' - all your efforts and support are greatly appreciated!



Still on the MAD front, but with a slightly different twist to it, there have been a number of mums and a granny who have faithfully gone to St Paul's School to work with the Grade 1 and 2 children. They took time out of their busy schedules to organise activities to keep the children stimulated and make

sure they were learning fine motor, maths and literacy skills. I know the class teacher for the combined Grade 1 and 2 class appreciates the time she could then spend focusing on only one grade, even if it was for a short period of time. Well done on the valuable contribution you have made in their lives, and for all the hard work and effort you put in to making the new programme a success!

Grade 3s learn about Organs in the Body

The Grade 3s worked in groups researching organs in the body. They enjoyed learning interesting facts about their bodies, and presented what they had learnt to their classmates.



Donation to Chilanga

Somerset House recently donated a Pick n Pay voucher to the value of R599 to Sally Kluth from Chilanga Riding School - our Pick 'n Pay 'cash back points' for the year. This money will be used to buy party packs for their Christmas party for the children.

HEADlines...

Carol Service

I would like to thank the Grade 1 pupils who participated in the Carol Service and our choir who led the singing so well. It was great to see so many parents there and all in all it was a very special event.

JP Awards Ceremony

Congratulations to all the children in the Junior Primary Phase who earned such amazing awards on Wednesday evening. The performances of the choir and the classes were superb and you can all afford to feel very proud of yourselves. Well done all Grade 1 to 3 children!

Reminder ~ Senior Primary Award Ceremonies

The Senior Primary Awards Ceremony is a formal event and all children from Grade 4 to Grade 7 must attend. Please note that if siblings are going to attend, they must be seated with their parents. We hope that you will enjoy this ceremony with us.

No Aftercare next Wednesday

Please note that all the Staff will be finishing early on the final day of school. There will therefore be no Pre-School or Prep School Aftercare next week on Wednesday. We thank you for your understanding.

Term 1 - 2012

Our Termly Calendar will be finalised by the end of Week 1 of next term. There are however a few important dates to be aware of in advance:

- Wednesday 11th January 08h00 Term starts
- Thursday 12th January 18h00 Parent Information Evening for JP (Grades 1 - 3)
19h30 Parent Information Evening for SP (Grades 4 - 7)
- Thursday 19th January 18h30 Cocktail Function for New Prep School Parents
- Friday 20th January 16h00 Inter-House Athletics

Final Assembly and Reports

Our final assembly will take place on Wednesday at 10h00 and should finish by 11h00. This is a very special event for our Grade 7s as we take leave of them at their final assembly at Somerset House. Grade 7 parents are invited to join the staff for refreshments at the Pavilion after the assembly. All Grade 1 to 7 pupils will be given their reports to take home on Wednesday. Reports cannot be handed out earlier.

Chris Storey – Headmaster

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Photos

If you have taken photos of Somerset House children in any part of their school life, we would be most grateful to get copies of those photos, which can be given to Tracey du Toit on flash disc, CD or DVD. Many thanks!

Newspaper Collections

That's it!! The bins are full for the last time this term – even the new cheek-by-jowel positioning of the orange igloos could not slow down the Grade 5 team. Almost 4 tonnes of paper have been processed by the crew this term, giving us a staggering total of 20.6 tonnes for the year! And every sheet of those 20 tonnes has been weighed, noted, checked, transported and squeezed into the unforgiving orange igloos. This has all been

	Wed 2 Nov	Wed 9 Nov	Wed 16 Nov	Wed 23 Nov	Wed 30 Nov	Total	Pos
7M		13.9			33.8	57.2	
7W	72.8	4.8	1.8	10.5	17.0	130.0	
6C	65.2		20.2	3.0	12.5	147.0	
6W	1.5	5.0	71.2	27.7	10.5	173.5	
5B	33.6	50.8	31.5	50.0	83.0	396.8	
5K	36.5	2.3	18.9		29.0	237.7	
4M		28.5	7.9	4.4	58.6	181.6	
4W	29.8	2.0	2.0	4.1	9.3	60.9	
3P	16.0	5.0	23.4	3.9	378.7	605.9	2
3U	84.6	141.2	103.5	19.6	75.5	512.6	3
2P	85.0	27.0	62.1	98.8	301.0	1010.5	1
2T	20.5		34.9	15.7	37.2	178.9	
1dP	9.0	2.8	51.1	2.0	54.4	137.4	
1R		32.0	39.6	12.5	25.8	152.1	
Weekly Total	454.5	315.3	468.1	252.2	1126.3	3982.1	

done every Wednesday, come rain or shine – and always with a smile. It has been done by a group of stalwart volunteers who have given of their time willingly and because they can! My thanks to the EarlyAct team of Nicola Carter and Ellie Viljoen for all their hard work at “the front desk”, to the crew of Grade 5s and the occasional youngster from Grades 1 or 2 for all their labours – and the jokes and the smiles. Nigel Rank and Aidan Knott have been put to work too - thank you chaps! It has been worth it; “Non nobis solum” – “Not for ourselves alone” has been lived out by these children – well done and thank you!!

The winning class this term, with a massive 1010.5 kgs is Grade 2 Penny. Mrs Cod has baked and the fairy cakes are on the way!!! Well done to you all.

Artist of the Week

The Artists of the Week are **Tamika Bramwell** and **Michelle Gelderblom** in Grade 7 for their imaginative self-portraits. Their artworks are beautifully drawn and painted and are exciting to look at. Well done.



Sport News

DAY NIGHT CRICKET TOURNAMENT

Our 1st Team Cricket boys have been involved with the Somerset West Cricket Club Day/Night Cricket tournament for the last few weeks of this term. Our boys did well during the Round Robin section, and qualified for the finals against Somerset College on Saturday 26 November. Unfortunately for the boys our match was abandoned after only 3 overs, when the lights at Radloff Park failed to operate correctly and it became difficult to play under the conditions.

The match was re-scheduled for Tuesday afternoon and it was played at Somerset College on the Siebrits field. Somerset College won the toss and elected to bat first. Their 'pinch hitter' Danie Janse van Rensburg, started like a house on fire and managed to score 27 runs off the first few overs. Our bowlers fought back well, applied more pressure and managed to slow down the scoring rate of College drastically. At a stage it seemed as if we were going to have to chase 140 runs or more, but consistent pressure by the bowlers and fielders, led to College trying to scramble runs which led to a flurry of wickets towards the end of the innings. Our boys can afford to feel great about the manner in which they restricted College to only 116/6, and with a bit of luck going our way, could have held onto an important catch or two as well. Our batting started off a bit too slowly, but we managed to score the necessary runs with relative ease. We did, however, make some serious blunders by not putting more pressure on the fielding side, running our two's or taking the single at the end of the over, most likely as we felt confident that the final onslaught during the final few overs would be sufficient. Well done to Marcus Nel who batted very well scoring 55* runs and for also being selected as the batsman of the tournament, scoring 190 runs in 5 innings. Unfortunately for our boys, College leg-spinner and bowler of the tournament, Charlie Butt, bowled two immaculate overs at the death, leaving us 7 runs short of the College total.

Well done to all our boys who have played so hard during this season and for all the extra time and effort they have spent taking part in this tournament.



MASTER'S SWIMMING COACHING for Parents

Jean Degenaar will be coaching the Strand Masters swimming group at Somerset House from the 12th December to the 12th January on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 06h30 – 07h30. Any Somerset House parents wanting to join this group can give Jean a call on 0727781690 for further details.

THE BAIL FESTIVAL: U11A, B AND C vs SOMERSET COLLEGE: SAT 26TH NOV 2011

The Bail Trophy Festival is now one of the traditional events towards the end of the fourth term, and it is a chance for all the Under 11 age group cricketers to play for their age group and school without the older age groups stealing the show. This year's festival was played in absolutely the right spirit, and, as a result, cricket was the overall winner. The three teams compete for the Bail Trophy, which contains the ashes from the burning of the very original bails that were used when the festival started in 2009. This festival is a chance for full participation to mix with excellence within the same sporting arena. This year, as always, the arena was looking superb – three wonderful turf wickets to play on, with the C team being honoured with the best track at the College on the Vineyard field. There was much excitement in the build up to the day – 33 eager cricketers were ready, Under 10s with Under 11s, A players with C players – but all together as one.

The mighty C team – the Dream Machine – was on the Vineyard Field and captain Yakshin Bhowon decided to bat first. The runs were slow in coming – we seemed to be afraid of hitting the ball hard! Ross Hainsworth livened up the proceedings with a quick 13, before being bowled. By the end of the 20 overs we had scored 61 runs. We started our defence very well, with some tight bowling – Rochelle Roos especially so, with three overs for nine runs in her very first cricket match - and some good fielding. But College's batsmen proved too strong, and by the 16th over, they had reached and passed their target. In good Bail style, we finished off the 20 overs, allowing all the College players the chance to bat and all our team who wanted to, the chance to bowl. 1 – 0 to College.

The B team battle took place on the Siebrits Oval and Captain Kieran Wrightson lead his team to the field to start with. Our fielding and bowling were superb. Troy Harris' 3 overs, five runs for two wickets and Julia Robb's three overs for eight runs and two wickets went a long way towards keeping College at bay. "Catches win Matches" certainly applied here, and by the end of a great spell in the field, College had scored 57 runs. Our batting was dominated by Julia Robb and Luke Augustine who rose to the challenge and launched themselves at the College bowlers. They rapidly put on a partnership of 51, giving us victory by the 16th over. 1 – 1 the score.



The huge Taberer Oval was the venue for the two A teams to play out their battle. On paper the teams were very even, and as the game unfolded, so it proved to be. Captain Brendan Venter led his team to the crease first and against some very strong bowling, things started off slowly. College's bowling was tight and of good line and length. Our run rate was slow and we eventually finished on 643 with Greg Bolus adding 12 and Brendan Venter 14. The team took to the field confidently and also bowled well and fielded tightly. Two early wickets from Brendan soon had College under a bit of pressure. Lamon Theron's spell of five overs, eight runs for two wickets, added further pressure on the batsmen. But with two wickets in hand and a good few overs to play, College reached 65 for the loss of eight wickets. 2 – 1 to College.

So the Bail Trophy returned to College until next year, with the original ashes still intact and Under 11 cricket and sportsmanship being the real winners. Again, many thanks to Somerset College for being very much part of this trophy and for helping make the day the very special day that it is!

GRADE 6 VS GRADE 7 GIRLS' CRICKET MATCH

Our annual Grade 6 vs Grade 7 Girls' Cricket match took place recently with two matches being played, one on Naburn Meadow and one on the Webb Field. All girls are encouraged to participate in this event and great fun was had by all. Congratulations to the following girls who won special awards after their matches:



WEBB FIELD MATCH	
Best Grade 6 Bowler	Jessica Hale
Best Grade 6 Batsman	Erin Williams
Best Grade 7 Bowler	Emma Thöle
Best Grade 7 Batsman	Sabina Botha
NABURN MEADOW MATCH	
Best Grade 6 Bowler	Shannon Morgan-Wilson
Best Grade 6 Batsman	Rozie Trafford
Best Grade 7 Bowler	Faye Tunncliffe
Best Grade 7 Batsman	Faye Tunncliffe

The scores from the two matches are added together to determine the winning grade. Special congratulations to the Gr 6s who won the 2011 encounter by 7 runs.



SPORT

The inter-house relay gala which takes place today is the final sporting event for the year. No sport practices will take place next week. The 1st term sports programme for 2012 will be available on the website early next week.

The School shop will be open during the following times:

- 8 and 9 December 2011 from 08h30 – 13h00
- 9 and 10 January 2012 from 08h30 – 13h00

Class Parties at WaterWorld ~ Monday 5 December

Children must please come to school dressed in their Phys Ed Clothes with their swimming costumes underneath. Don't forget to pack in hats and towels!

Grade 1, 2 and 3 Children	Grade 4 and 5 Children
08h30: Depart from Somerset House 09h00: Children arrive at WaterWorld 10h45: Children depart from Waterworld 11h15: Children arrive back at School 12h15: Lunch 13h00: Children go home	10h15: Depart from Somerset House 10h45: Children arrive at WaterWorld 12h30: Children depart from Waterworld 13h00: Children arrive back at School 13h15: Lunch 14h30: Children go home
Grade 6 and 7 Children	Children arrive at school at the normal times and buses will transport them to and from their Class Parties. There will be a number of teachers at each session to supervise the children. Please note the collection times for the different Grades. There will be no sport or Supervised Prep on this day, but Aftercare will be available.
11h15: Lunch 12h00: Depart from Somerset House 12h30: Children arrive at WaterWorld 14h15: Children depart from Waterworld 14h45: Children arrive back at School and go home	

WEEK 9: Programme for the week ending 10th December 2011

Mon	5 Dec	08h00 13h00 14h30 14h45 16h00	Class Parties - Children come dressed in Phys Ed clothes with swimming costumes on underneath. Normal School Day start Grades 1, 2 and 3 to be collected from school Grades 4 and 5 to be collected from school Grades 6 and 7 to be collected from school No Sport Sports Coaches Function (Pavilion)
Tues	6	12h30 19h00	Oakwood Christmas Party Family Day Lunch No Sport SP Awards Evening (Simpson Hall)
Wed	7	10h00 11h15	Final End of Year Assembly (Simpson Hall) School closes
Thurs	8	08h30	Full Staff Meeting and Work Day
Fri	9	08h30 – 13h00	Staff Work Day
Sat	10		