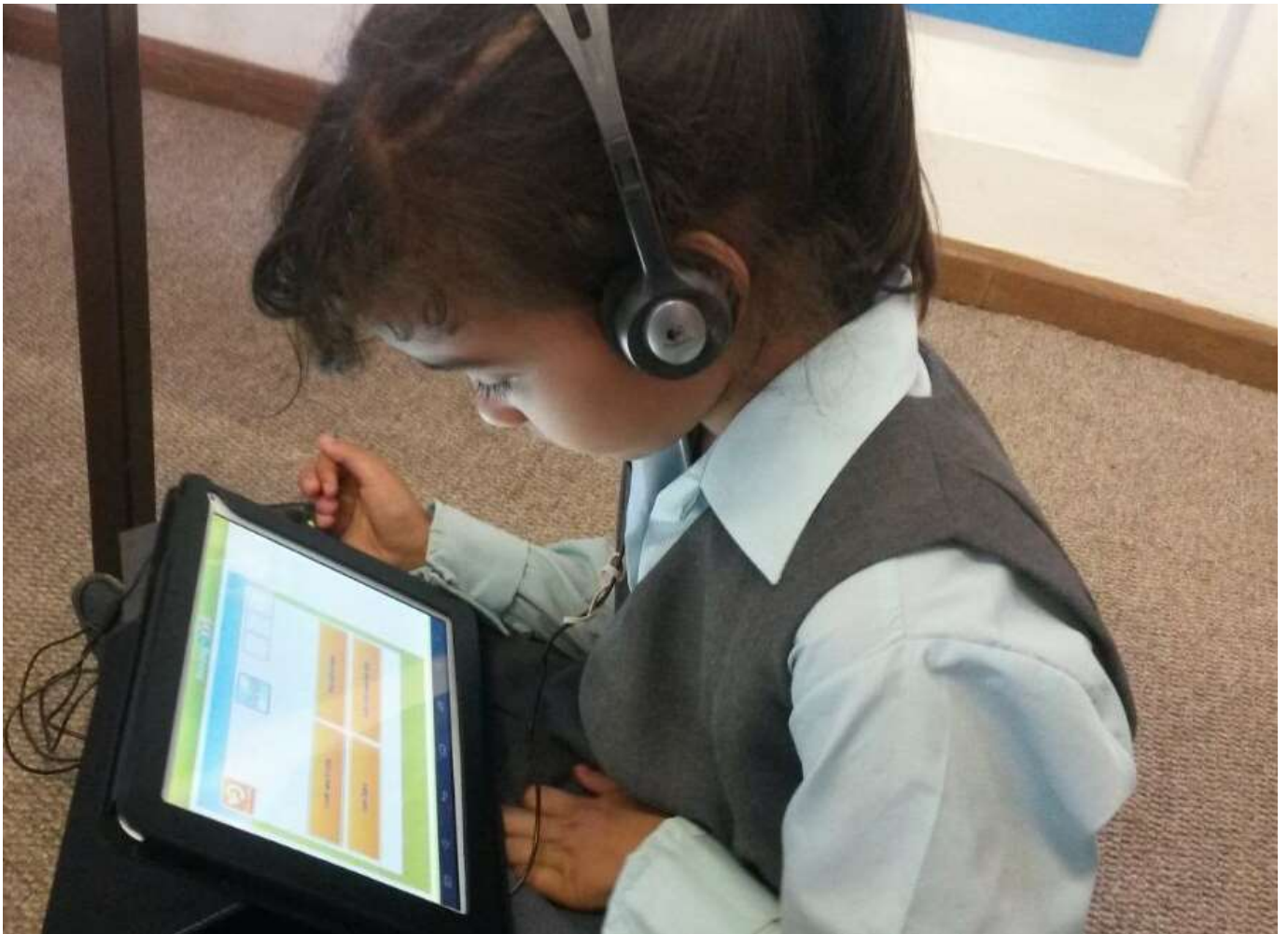




The Weekly Blah

Grade 1s enjoying Reading Eggs!



Learning to read is a priority in Gr1 and it was with much enthusiasm and excitement that they could use the school tablets to access a new online reading programme called Reading Eggs. The children loved using the headphones with the tablets and we were super impressed with their ICT and reading skills that had to be thrown together!

Hospice Cycling for life



Longer than the Argus, kinder than the Epic and more fun on a bike than the average cycle race - this is the Helderberg Hospice Cycling for Life 2015 to be held on Friday and Saturday 15 and 16 May at the Simpson Hall at Somerset House, starting at 6pm on Friday until 6pm on Saturday. For the sixth consecutive year, sponsored teams of cyclists will compete over 12 and 24 hours to clock up the most kilometres raced, on a trainer in one day. Many riders across the categories ride in memory of loved ones, while standing in solidarity with those currently undergoing treatment or receiving Hospice care. Teams of 3, 6 or 12 riders take up the challenge to transform energy into money, with each team undertaking to raise a minimum of R3600 to ensure that the special care of Helderberg Hospice can continue to be made available to all in our community.

This year's event boasts an Extreme category for the third time, in which teams (or individuals) will take on the challenge to ride for a relentless 24 hours! Bikes are placed on trainers with computerised speedometers, and cyclists pedal their way through a gruelling day of stationary competitive kilometres. Hi-octane music, big screen TV, delicious food to power leg-pumping action and spot prizes throughout the day keep the energy and enthusiasm levels up. Riders of all levels are welcome to be part of this remarkable race.

You are invited to be part of this amazing event by either entering a team or providing financial sponsorship to support those who ride to sustain the dedicated care of Helderberg Hospice! We will use our newsletter, website, Facebook page and other social media available to us to promote our sponsors, as well as in correspondence to the participants. We offer sponsors the opportunity to display banners and distribute advertising material at the event, and will run a slide show on the big screen displaying the sponsors' logos. The MC will also mention our sponsors by name during the day.

Contact Patricia McNaught Davis at 082 731 5736 or on patricia@helderberghospice.org.za for more information.

A Thousand Cranes : SP Play

Play rehearsals are coming along nicely and we are very excited as our performance date draws closer. Every child from Grade 4-7 needs to bring a string of 20 paper cranes to Drama before the middle of June. Go on YouTube if you struggle, and get your whole family involved to fold cranes for peace. Write your message of peace, fold it into a crane, string it together and bring your 20 peace cranes to school. They will be used by you in the play. Get folding! Roziya is one of the first children to bring in her string of 20 peace cranes. Well done!



HeadLines...

We were wrong! - Change to SP Sport Arrangements for Term 2.

In an attempt to minimise time wastage and lessen the number of children spending time in aftercare and supervised prep in the afternoons, the sport department was asked to adapt their programme accordingly for this term. Unfortunately, the plan has not worked as intended and we have ended up with children experiencing less sport time and the problem of more children in supervised prep while waiting for their sport sessions to begin. Despite good intentions, the plan has simply not delivered the desired outcome. We will therefore be reverting to our old programme and will do what we can to minimize inconvenience with the intended changes. I apologise for this change.

Details will follow in the coming week and this **change will be effective from Monday 11 May**. We will be insisting that all children waiting for sport or other lessons are in aftercare or supervised prep.

Again, I apologise for the change in these arrangements.

Swimming Pool Refurbishment

I am very grateful to Mr Delf Amm and Mr Garth Whaits for the time and thought that has been put into the pool refurbishment project. The pool is now 25 years old, and although it was very well built, it was in need of substantial maintenance. The whole filtration system required replacement, which was carried out three years ago. This year we were able to take on the lining which was required as the concrete surface had become pitted and cracked. The work has proceeded well and it is being refilled now. We are fortunate to have an engineering skill set on our Board of Governors in the form of Mr Whaits who has guided this process for the last three years. Many thanks. We are looking forward to using this fantastic facility in the spring!

Chris Storey – Headmaster

head@somersethouse.co.za

Bank Account

We are in the final stages of moving the School's banking from FNB to Nedbank, after having run both concurrently for a year now. Please be advised that we will be **closing the FNB accounts on 30 June 2015**. We kindly request that all payments going forward are made to the following account:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Account Name | Somersets House Preparatory School |
| Bank | Nedbank, Somerset West |
| Branch Code | 198765 |
| Account Number | 1060774976 |
| Account Type | Cheque |
| Payment Reference | Family Surname & School Account Reference Number |

Should you have any queries in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact Michelle Barnard (micbar@somersethouse.co.za). Thank you all for your assistance in making this a smooth transition.

Hockey Block Shirts

If your child has out-grown a hockey block shirt (or two or three), or you have an extra one – please donate these items to the School 2nd Hand Shop. There are new pupils who urgently need block shirts while we wait for the new hockey shirts to be returned from the suppliers.

School Uniform – Winter Uniform

Please note that as from Monday 11 May, children will only be allowed to wear their WINTER uniform.

Swimming Pool Upgrade

We are very busy refurbishing our swimming pool which has had very little structural maintenance done over the last 25 years. Various leaks and system inefficiencies materialized over the years and this led to high maintenance costs and constant effort expended to ensure the water quality for our swimmers. The much-needed refurbishment was a necessity. This is the final stage of the upgrade project which started in 2012 with the installation of an efficient filtration system powered by variable speed pumps. Since the last week in March this year, we have seen lots of digging, chopping up, paving removal, glass fibre work, resin applications, tiling, and the installation of a new underground reticulation piping network. The motto has been 'out with the old and in with the new!' At one stage the pool had a large tent structure fitted to ensure the work went ahead without a hitch. Here are some pics of the progress



We are confident that this work will be completed within the next 4 weeks and that we will have a brand new pool, ready for the coming season after the winter rains.

The Rubbish Returns...

Congratulations to Mrs Mendes' Grade 7s who are this week's worthy winners, with 62 kgs of paper being brought in for the GIs. Good to see the SP leading the pack!! The damp and wintry start to Wednesday morning clearly put off some of the regular contributors and it was a very quiet session. The GIPs huddled under the tree for shelter, chatting about all sorts – particularly how the rain affects hair styles!! The W&M team took refuge on the Shelters verandah and enjoyed the Junior Choir's singing.

Another very happy morning – but we do need more paper...

Please, please, please label your packages with the **HOME ROOM CLASS and WEIGHT (kgs)**.

Those with no name or weight cannot be added

into the totals. **Please also do not drop off packages after 07h55.** It is too late then to process them and we have to be down at Cloetenburg at 08h00. **Please be on time...!!!**

| 2015 | Weds 15 Apr | Weds 22 Apr | Weds 29 Apr | Class Totals |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 7A | 6.7 | 4.6 | 2.5 | 13.8 |
| 7M | 6.6 | 4.0 | 62.0 | 72.6 |
| 7R | | 8.0 | | 8.0 |
| 6C | 11.0 | | | 6.3 |
| 6M | 6.3 | 20.2 | | 31.2 |
| 6O | | 5.6 | 5.0 | 10.6 |
| 5B | 113.2 | 5.9 | 8.5 | 127.6 |
| 5vG | | 9.5 | | 9.5 |
| 4C | 17.5 | 29.5 | | 47.0 |
| 4M | 12.7 | 42.8 | 10.0 | 65.5 |
| 3P | 31.8 | 69.1 | 29.0 | 129.9 |
| 3R | 31.0 | 81.4 | 6.0 | 118.4 |
| 2dP | | 15.9 | 4.0 | 19.9 |
| 2T | 16.0 | 38.5 | 27.0 | 81.5 |
| 1B | | 23.5 | | 23.5 |
| 1H | | 12.6 | 4.0 | 16.6 |
| Weekly Total | 252.8 | 371.1 | 158.0 | 781.9 |



Artists of the Week

Celine Scharrighuisen, Amy More O' Ferrall and Ashley Hingeston in Grade 2 have been chosen as the Artists of the Week for their beautiful and colourful renditions of the "Gingerbread House". I really like the way they have used their imagination and the care they took with their pictures. Well done!



News from the Dormouse Class

The Dormouse class have enjoyed learning about Safety at home and at school.



Performer of the Week

Congratulations to Jarrod van der Poll who is the Performer of the Week for his amazing commitment to the Play.



Music Assembly

Last Friday the Gr 1-7 children were treated to a selection of songs from all the different Time periods from Middle Ages to Modern times and songs of different genre by Opera singer, Shirley Sutherland, and her accompanist. The performance ended with some brave Gr 7 boys showering the performance area with flowers to show their appreciation!



Sports News

HOCKEY VS LOCHNERHOF

Our first hockey league matches of the season were played against Lochnerhof Primary last Thursday. Our U7 – U12 teams were in action and we enjoyed a mixed bag of results. Congratulations to our U8 girls and U9 boys who did particularly well winning most of their matches and only drawing one. Our next league fixtures take place next Thursday against De Hoop Primary at Somerset House.

HELDERBERG ZONAL HOCKEY TEAM

A number of our pupils recently participated in the Helderberg Zonal Hockey Trials.

We congratulate the following players who have been selected for the Helderberg Team and have been invited to the WP Hockey Trials which take place on Friday 8th May and Sunday 10th May.

| GIRLS | BOYS |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Ruth Benson | Ryan Botha |
| Stephanie Bihl | Munnik Huysamer |
| Yvonne Huysamer | Nicholas Lombard |
| Maya Williams | James Royden-Turner |



HELDERBERG ZONAL NETBALL TEAM

Congratulations to Ruth Benson and Lauren Venter who were both selected for the Helderberg Zonal Netball Team. They had another successful trial on Wednesday afternoon at Fanie Theron Primary in Kraaifontein and have been invited back to the next round of Metropole East Trials which will take place next week. Very well done girls and all the best for the next round of Western Province Netball Trials.



HELDERBERG ZONAL RUGBY TEAM

Four of our senior rugby boys have been selected for the Helderberg Zonal Rugby Team and are currently involved in area trials with the hope of being invited to the WP Trials. Congratulations to Jake Love, Nicholas Cilliers, Jordan Heymans and Daniel Mudge. We wish them well for the next round of trials which takes place this afternoon.



ERIN & BEN WIN MEDALS AT THE WP JUNIOR LEAGUE GALA

Erin Kelly and Ben Leysens competed at the WP Junior League Regional Swimming Championships at Strand Pool last weekend. The Gala included approximately 230 swimmers from the four regions within Western Province. Both swimmers swam exceptionally well. Ben won a bronze medal in the 50m Backstroke and was placed 4th in the 50m Butterfly and 100m Freestyle, a wonderful achievement. Erin also had a wonderful gala winning three bronze medals for the 50m Backstroke, the 50m and 100m Breaststroke. Congratulations to both swimmers, the hours and hours you have put into your training has paid off, what a lovely way to end the season!



Week 4: Programme for week ending 10th May 2015

| | | | |
|-------|-------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon | 4 May | | |
| Tues | 5 | 07h45 | FinCo Meeting |
| Wed | 6 | from 13h45 from 13h45 14h45 | Rugby Matches v Sir Lowry's Pass (H) Netball Matches v De Hoop (H) Health & Safety Meeting |
| Thurs | 7 | 07h45 from 13h45 | ExCo Meeting Hockey Matches v De Hoop (H) |
| Fri | 8 | 08h10 13h30 13h40 15h00 – 18h00 | JP Mothers' Day Music Assembly (Haydock Hall) Chess Matches v Hendrik Louw (A) SP Assembly (Haydock Hall) U13 WP Hockey Trials First Round (Hartleyvale Stadium) |
| Sat | 9 | 08h15 09h00 – 11h00 | Chess Tournament (Beaumont) Oakwood Mummy's Market Day Hockey v De Hoop: U12A Boys & U12B Girls |
| Sun | 10 | 09h00 – 12h00 | U13 WP Hockey Trials Second Round (Hartleyvale Stadium) |