

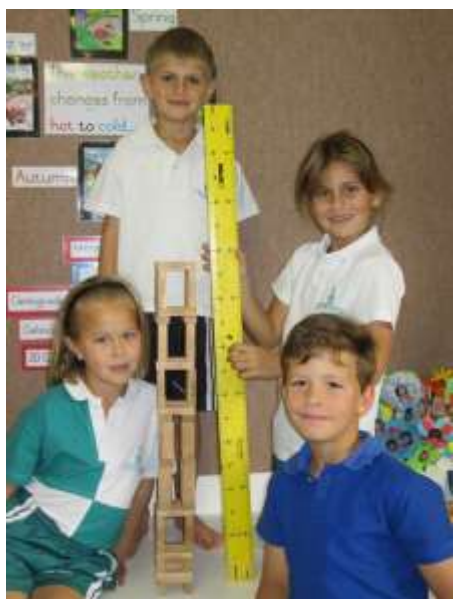


The Weekly Blah

Grade 2 Critical Thinkers!



The Grade 2s put their thinking skills to the test last week as they worked in groups to solve planning and measuring challenges. Among other things, they had fun with tangrams, Moziblox, codes and Planx. It was great to see such promising little critical thinkers at work!



The Rubbish Returns...

This week Mrs Bouah's Grade 5s brought in the most paper - much of it tied up with lots and lots and lots of string! This proved quite a tricky problem for the GIPs as no-one had a knife and the knots were too tight! The answer was to shake the bundle to pieces and then load the newspaper. Imagine the scene...the boys of The Crew doing a new style of dance or battle with these bundles; some of which were very heavy; some of which imploded instantly, spreading paper all over and some of which refused to respond to any of the treatment! Was lots and lots of fun though! Other than that, it was another quiet morning on the paper front – discussions about the forthcoming rugby, mountaineering practice on the newly emptied GIs and a load of general nonsense....

- 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 29 Apr	Weds 6 May	Class Totals
7A	2.5	5.5	19.3
7M	62.0	4.3	76.9
7R		31.0	39.0
6C			6.3
6E			31.2
6M	5.0	19.2	29.8
5B	8.5	58.1	185.7
5vG			9.5
4C			47.0
4M	10.0		65.5
3P	29.0	11.4	141.3
3R	6.0	29.1	147.5
2dP	4.0		19.9
2T	27.0	13.9	95.4
1B			23.5
1H	4.0		16.6
Weekly Total	158.0	172.5	954.4

HeadLines...

It is a girl! Congratulations Mrs Trollip

We are very happy to hear about the birth of Ashley, Lee-Ann Trollip's first child. She was born late yesterday afternoon weighing 2.9kg. Lee-Ann is obviously away on maternity leave at the moment and we wish her a happy and fulfilling time ahead as she comes to terms with motherhood. Congratulations to Lee-Ann and her husband, Eugene.

Condolences

We were saddened to receive news that Mr Delf Amm's brother, Brian, passed away this week. Our thoughts are with him and his family as they come to terms with their loss.

Sport Tour for all Grade 6 and 7 pupils

We traditionally tour the Eastern and Southern Cape every second year with Girls hockey and netball while the boys play rugby. The girls tour sees them travelling to Mossel Bay and Port Elizabeth while the boys play in Mossel Bay and Oudtshoorn before meeting up in George before coming home. We have committed ourselves to taking every Grade 6 and 7 pupil for the first time so that every child can experience a sport tour in either their Grade 6 or 7 year. We are hoping that this will be a highly successful venture and I wish our sport department every success with this initiative.

Parent Supporters Fleece Top

Congratulations to the Guild and in particular, Murray Williams, for organising this fantastic supporters garment for Somerset House parents. I hope that many parents will get behind the One Team motto and wear their top with pride. An advert including a picture is presented elsewhere in this newsletter.

Congratulations, Dhanial!

Dhanial Schultz has been awarded a scholarship to attend Somerset College from 2016 in Grade 8. She is an extremely talented pupil and we are thrilled with this achievement for her. Well done, Dhanial!

Mother's Day

We wish all our Moms a happy Mother's Day this weekend. Our Oakwood moms are being treated to a special day tomorrow up at Oakwood. This is the first time this event is being held on a Saturday, thereby allowing all working moms to join in more easily. There was also a special assembly for our Junior Primary first thing this morning. The children sang to their moms and set the tone for what we hope will be a weekend of spoiling.

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 accounts 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	Somersethouse Preparatory School
Bank	Nedbank, Somerset West
Branch Code	198765
Account Number	1060774976
Account Type	Cheque
Payment Reference	Family Surname & School Account Reference Number

School Uniform – Winter Uniform

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

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 the cranes together and bring your 20 peace cranes to school. They will be used by you in the play.

2nd Hand Toys

We have had a request for 2nd-hand toys (in good condition). If you have any that you are willing to donate - please deliver them to Tracey du Toit's office at your earliest convenience.

Artists of the Week

"Eating an Apple" is the title of these interesting linocut prints created by the Grade 6 pupils. Well done to Chloe Saunders and Nicholas Cilliers for their clear, descriptive drawings and their good cutting technique. The balance between black and white, positive and negative areas in their pictures contributes to the strength of their artworks.



Performer of the Week

Congratulations to Emily Van Steenberghe who is the Performer of the Week. Emily has been folding paper cranes in her spare time and has created strings of beautiful cranes. Thank you for your commitment and dedication to the play.

Congratulations, Natalie!

Natalie Gelderblom has been selected to attend a Smart Living course offered by the Two Oceans Aquarium. The course is a multi-sensory approach to the study of marine and terrestrial environments. The course aims to increase an awareness of what positive actions can be made to protect our environment, develop leadership and social skills, and encourage students to study further in marine or environmental sciences. We wish her the very best as she starts the course this weekend.

Congratulations, Gordon!

Gordon Morrison competed in the Vocal Division of the Performing Arts National Championships as part of the Western Province Team which was held in Rustenburg. He sang four items and won three medals - two Bronze and one Silver. Well done!



Technology means learning and fun!

The Grade 3s had great fun learning about “rounding off to the nearest 10”. It was so exciting to have the opportunity to learn while playing games on the school’s new tablets!



The Grade 3R class enjoyed trying to get the best score while working on the new “Learn Pads”. They were challenged to master the 3, 4 and 5 times table by getting full marks as quickly as possible. The real challenge was to better their own score every time.



MAD Outing

On Thursday the Grade 6 students went to St Paul's Primary School. We sang songs and we played drums on coffee containers. We did Afrikaans crosswords and turned pictures into words. It was loads of fun. My absolute favourite was the skipping! Our buddies are amazing at skipping - some skipped on their hands and even on their bottoms! Going to St Paul's was a lovely experience and I can't wait to visit again. (By Ruth Benson)

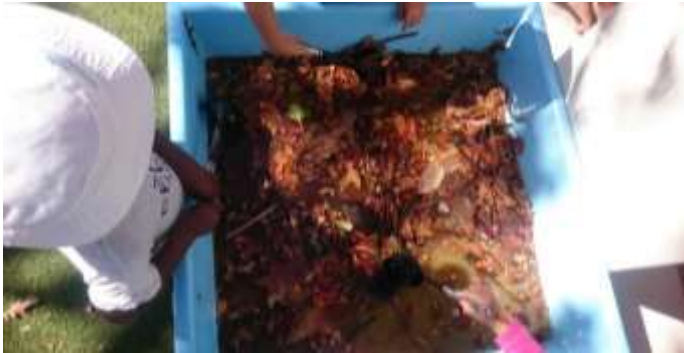


Last Thursday the Grade 6s went to St Pauls Primary for MAD. We split into our homeroom groups and my group to our first activity, Afrikaans. We went into the classroom and sat down with our buddies. The classroom was very different to ours at Somerset House. There was no whiteboard - only a chalkboard, and they do not have the technology that we do. We did an Afrikaans booklet that had some crosswords, some 'solve the codes' and other activities. Then we went to the drumming activity. We used the tables and some empty coffee containers as drums and we did some rhythms and sang songs. Then we went outside and did some skipping. The St Pauls girls were outstanding at skipping - they annihilated us! They went so fast and they even did it on their hands! It was amazing! I had so much fun at St Paul's and I can't wait for next time (I just need to practise my skipping first!). (By Allegra Bouwer)



Oakwood News

The Oakwood children have been experiencing a lot of sensations this term - from rolling on large exercise balls on the grass to mixing and smelling spicy autumn soup and playing with squishy spaghetti! They have explored in the bushes on the Webb Field during free play time and worn blind folds as they felt their way through a tray of materials. Now the question is...what next?



News from the Fieldmouse Class

The Fieldmice are getting ready for Mothers' Day! Lily and Yara were spotted getting the theme table ready for all the moms visiting for the special Mummy Market Day on Saturday.



Attention all loyal Somerset House Sports Fans!

The Guild Committee is extremely excited to introduce Supporters' Tops to the Somerset House family! These are intended for parents to wear at all SH sporting events - home or away - to both keep you warm and show your support! You'll notice the slogan "1 Team", which unites every sporting endeavour and every single participant in one team under our proud Somerset House name. The tops are fleece, with a centre zip, and are made by a company which already produces many Somerset House uniform items. A plain example is available to see at Mrs McCulley's office. To order your Somerset House Supporters' Top, please complete the order form which will be sent out next week.

1 Team!



IT Training

The ladies who look after the cleaning requirements of our school are undergoing IT training at school to enhance their skills base. Excitement was very evident at their first training session with Mrs Charmaine Roynon! We know that these new skills will come in handy in time to come.



Sports News

MEDAL MANIA

These 5 Somerset House girls competed on Friday in Paarl for the Medal Mania gymnastics competition.

They did so well, resulting in Cloé Appolis and Erynn Gouws receiving bronze medals and Sophia-Mara Franke, Amelia Ackerman and Sarah Oscroft getting silver medals overall for their performance in level 1.

NETBALL VS DE HOOP

Our netball girls played their first league matches yesterday afternoon against very strong teams from De Hoop Primary. We must commend our girls for their fighting spirit. Last year our teams did exceptionally well in the B League so we decided to enter the A League this year, and we expect to come up against tough opposition. However, we felt that this change was necessary in order for our children to improve.

Our U7 and U8 girls are still very young and have a lot to take in regarding the various skills needed and the rules of the game. We ask that parents please be patient and trust the coaches. When they feel your child is ready to play in a match, she will be given the opportunity to do so. Your support in this regard will be most appreciated.

Congratulations to all our teams and coaches. Our netball has come a long way over the past few years and we are proud of the improvement our teams have made.



NETBALL TOP SCHOOLS COMPETITION

We wish our U12 and U13 A Netball Teams the best of luck as they compete in the Circuit 6 Top Schools Competition at Somerset College on Monday afternoon. This is the first time in many years that our senior teams will be competing at this event.

RUGBY VS SIR LOWRY'S PASS

Our rugby boys played their first rugby matches for the season against Sir Lowry's Pass Primary. They were somewhat timid at first, but once they got stuck into the task at hand played very enterprising rugby with the results showing great potential. Our U7 boys played their first-ever matches and managed to draw with their opponents. Though they did find defending the opposition's ability to run and step at pace a bit challenging, once they started going forward in defence, they managed to stop many of the opposition's attacks. Both our senior teams, the U11A and 1st XV, were in control of their matches for most of their game, but some slack defence and a few careless mistakes saw the opposition capitalise on their errors.

Results were as follows:

- U7A drew 5-5
- U8A lost 0-25
- U9A drew 5-5
- U11A lost 5-7
- 1st XV lost 12-19



TRIALS UPDATES

Congratulations to Lauren Venter and Ruth Benson who have both advanced to the next round of WP U12 Netball Trials. Nic Cilliers competed at the WP U13 Rugby Trials this week although still U12. Whilst Nic has not gone through to the next round, we are proud of his achievements.

The next round of WP U13 Hockey Trials take place at Hartleyvale Stadium today and on Sunday. We have eight players participating and we wish Yvonne Huysamer, Stephanie Bihl, Maya Williams, Ruth Benson, Munnik Huysamer, Ryan Botha, Nic Lombard and James Royden-Turner the very best of luck!



REVISED EXTRA-MURALS PROGRAMME

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, the Extra-Murals Programme has been revised for the U10 – U13 children and will start on Monday 11th May. The changes do not affect the U7 – U9 pupils. A hard copy of the programme was sent home on Wednesday and is also available on our website. The new programme reverts back to our U10 – U13 pupils having two practices each week. If your child is not able to attend one of the practices due to prior commitments, kindly e-mail Miss Mac sport@somerset-house.co.za so that I can notify the coaches concerned. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by these changes, but hope that they in essence, will be positive changes for the sports department.

Week 5: Programme for week ending 16th May 2015

Mon	11 May	from 08h10 from 13h45 15h00	SP Play – Rehearsals Start of Revised Sports Programme U12A & U13A Netball : Top Schools Competition (S/College)
Tues	12	08h15	Grade 5 Outing to Two Oceans Aquarium, Cape Town
Wed	13	from 13h45 from 13h45 18h00	Rugby Matches v Danie Ackermann (H) Netball Matches v Lochnerhof (H) Guild Meeting
Thurs	14	from 13h45 19h00	Hockey Matches v Somerset College (H) Wine Thieves (Cloetenburg)
Fri	15	10h30 13h30 13h30 from 17h00	JP Assembly (Haydock Hall) Grade 6 “Music around the World” (Haydock Hall) Chess Matches v Christmas Tinto Primary (H) Helderberg Hospice Cycle for Life – set up and 24hr start (S/Hall) Staff night away
Sat	16	from 06h00	Staff Training Helderberg Hospice Cycle for Life (Simpson Hall)