



The Weekly Blah

Grade 5 Aquatic Dioramas



The Grade 5s have been learning about Aquatic biomes. To re-inforce this learning, they were given an opportunity to recreate an aquatic biome of their choice. Here we have several diverse dioramas made by our boys and girls.

Grade 2 'Show and Tell' and Experiment!

The Grade 2s enjoyed presenting their Show and Tell orals to the class this week. They could choose to share anything on the topic of 'Hot and Cold'. We were treated to amazing experiments, learnt about some interesting creatures that live in extreme heat or freezing temperatures and also about hotels made of ice. We heard about fun in the snow, bubbling hot springs and ice festivals - with sculptures as big as two rugby fields! Well done, Grade 2s – your orals were awesome! Later on in the week, we did experiments to show the effect of heat on food. We used all our senses to observe the changes. The best part was eating the popcorn! (Blah Editor's note: "I agree!")



Deputy HeadLines...

New Security Hut...

You may well have spotted another new building which appeared this week at the Drama Street gate! This is a new security hut for a guard who, from next week, will be on duty from 06h30 to 18h30 Monday through to Friday. This now means that all the three entrances to the school campus are attended during the day time and which will clearly help increase the visible security of the school.

Welcome to winter...

It now seems that winter has decided to arrive, bringing with her the much needed rains and not so much needed winds – along with the skills of accurate weather forecasting from our Sports Department! We do consult a variety of online weather sites before making any decisions about cancelling or postponing sport practices or matches - it is not an exact science at all and we try to balance the 'waiting for it to clear up' with the 'letting parents know' – but things do change, and normally the sun will come out when rain is supposed to fall and the forecast gale force winds become a rather gentle breeze! We will not make a decision to cancel sport until 12h15, unless it is very clear that sport cannot go ahead. If we have matches away at another school, it is up to them to make the decision to cancel or not. We do, however, contact opposition schools early in the morning of a fixture and discuss the conditions with them. I ask, therefore, if you could wait until 12h15 before calling to find out what is happening. We record a message on the Sports Line (079 861 7245) and we put a message onto the Website, too, to advise whether practices or matches will be going ahead or if alternative arrangements have been made.

Senior Primary Play

I spent a good deal of time with the SP children at their play rehearsal earlier this week – and what a pleasure it was! The play is coming together very well, under the ever watchful and creative eyes of Mrs Blanckenberg. I'm not quite sure how she does it – or come to that, how the children do it... To be able to picture the final version of a play with a cast of 166 is quite a skill. All I am certain of, is that we are in for a real treat when the show opens on Tuesday 23rd June. Congratulations to Mrs B and all the cast – keep up the good work!

Richard Codrington – Deputy Headmaster

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The Rubbish Returns...

It was a bumper Wednesday up in the car park and around the GIs. Mrs Roberts' Grade 3s have clearly been hoarding and were given the signal to bring it all in on Wednesday. A huge 225kgs from them puts them well on top of the leader board and setting a tough challenge for Mrs Bouah's Grade 5s, who are lying a somewhat distant second! The all-girl Crew was on top form! The WBDs scuttled to and fro, much noise and giggling warning all of their presence! W & M welcomed the visitors, checked the bags and recorded them all with a smile. The GIPs filed and sorted as quickly and as noisily as the rubbish arrived – magazines were checked out, articles read and boxes squashed...

All jolly good fun and much enjoyed by us all!

2015	Weds 20 May	Weds 27 May	Class Totals
7A	1.2		22.7
7M	12.2		91.2
7R	4.0	17.4	97.2
6C	9.7		16.0
6E			41.7
6M		58.4	96.7
5B	55.5	20.0	303.5
5vG		23.0	48.3
4C	49.0	37.7	133.7
4M			101.5
3P	3.3	26.7	215.8
3R	25.2	225.3	411.5
2dP	3.7	6.0	29.6
2T	35.0	7.0	147.4
1B	32.9	13.8	80.2
1H		18.9	38.5
Weekly Total	231.7	454.2	1875.5

Performer of the Week

Congratulations to Dhania Schultz who is the Performer of the Week for receiving four Cum Laudes at the Stellenbosch Eisteddfod for Afrikaans Poetry, English Poetry and Monologue Dialogue.

Artist of the Week

The Grade 5 pupils have completed paintings which are based on their English literature book, 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'. It is a wonderful book full of adventure and mystery; it evokes amazing images and these paintings have been inspired by it. Well done to Aneeka Rhoda and Samantha Paine for their beautiful paintings!



SP Play – A Thousand Cranes

Please keep the paper cranes coming!! Rehearsals for the senior prep play, A thousand Cranes, are underway.

Details regarding ticket sales will be communicated soon.

Tablet Integration Showcase

On Tuesday 26 May, we held a tablet integration showcase in the Knowledge Centre. Fourteen teachers from five schools attended to see how Somerset House has integrated tablets into teaching and how this works with our BYOD system. The participants were given the opportunity to experience what Somerset House is doing on, and with, tablets.

Beginners Music Concert

Bravo to about 50 beginner musicians who performed at their very first music concert at Somerset House last week. What a pleasure to see how much progress they have made in such a short time. A big round of applause to you!



Biokenetics Screening

Please note that the Biokenetics Screening Tests (for the children whose parents have granted permission for this testing) will now take place on 8 and 9 June, and not next week as advised previously.

Leadership Programme

18 Somerset House pupils took part in a Beach Clean-up on the 17th of May organised by Natalie Gelderblom as part of the Leadership Programme. Natalie Gelderblom says: "I feel strongly about the environment and feel that more people should be involved in keeping it clean. I am also currently busy with the 'Young Biologists' course at the aquarium and one of the requirements for this course is to organise a clean-up of a river or beach. The course has taught me about the environment and how important it is to look after it."



News from the Ladybird Class (Grade 000)



The Ladybird Class are all “Proudly South African” and showed it this week with all their interest in their flag, anthem and Big 5 animals. Three little girls enjoyed helping to clear away the autumn leaves outside our classroom, proving the saying that “many hands make light work”.



Traffic Department visit Oakwood

The Oakwood children were treated to a visit from the Traffic Department last Thursday. After having an interactive presentation about road safety, they were allowed to go into the parking lot and inspect the vehicles. This was the highlight of the morning! Watching the different blue light signals and hearing the sirens blaring, caused much excitement amongst the boys and girls. The Traffic officers were impressed with the Oakwood children's general knowledge of road safety - so well done boys and girls!



Sports News

RHENISH HOCKEY FESTIVAL

Eight of our U19 and U12 hockey teams participated at the Rhenish Hockey Festival last Saturday. Matches were played against Rhenish, Eikestad and Vredenburg. Our A Teams won most of their matches convincingly while our B Teams, who also played against some A Teams, showed their true fighting spirit and never, for a moment, gave up. Well done to all our players!

WP SWIMMING TRIALS

A strange time to have the WP Swimming Trials as it is "off season" now, but nevertheless, six of our swimmers: Erin Kelly, Ben Leysens, Eric and Kristin Böhmert, Dani Blythe and Gabi Callow participated at these trials which were held at the Strand Municipal pool last Sunday.

It was a challenge for them to know just how well they were doing in the various races as heats were arranged according to qualifying times - this meant that they swam against boys and girls of all ages in the same race. We await the official results - the top 8 swimmers in each event will qualify for the Western Cape Trials. Congratulations to all our swimmers for giving their best efforts at this early stage of their training programmes. We will keep you posted regarding their results, should anyone qualify for the next round of trials.

CHESS VS HENDRIK LOUW

Our U9 and U13 chess teams played matches against Hendrik Louw last Friday and played exceptionally well. The U9s won 4 boards to 2. The U13s won 5 boards to 1. Well done to all our players!

NETBALL VS BEAUMONT

On Wednesday there was an excellent display of netball by Somerset House girls and their opponents, Beaumont Primary. Excellent passing and defending skills were demonstrated but the win went to the more determined teams. Well done to all our girls for the consistent effort demonstrated throughout the matches!

RUGBY VS GORDONS BAY

On Wednesday, our boys played rugby matches against Gordon's Bay Primary. They played hard, competitive rugby, but were met by boys who were much bigger than them. Some of the results do not reflect the courage of our boys. The younger players had some mixed results and narrowly missed some wins. Our Warthogs played for the first time this season in a very hard match. There were some good performances – like the all-round play of the captain and eighthman, Josh Cox, as well as the defensive efforts of our scrumhalf, Ryan Botha.

Results for the matches:

- U7 Stormers lost 0-20
- U8 Lions won 25-15
- U8 Bulls lost 10-25
- U9 Cheetahs won 15-10
- U9 Sharks drew 5-5
- U11B lost 0-27
- U11A lost 0-7
- Warthogs lost 5-17
- 1st XV lost 0-33

Week 8: Programme for week ending 6th June 2015

Mon	1 June	10h30 – 13h10 14h45	JAG Bullyproof Presentations JP Staff Meeting
Tues	2		
Wed	3	from 13h45 from 13h45	Rugby Matches v Somerset College (Home) Netball Matches v Hendrik Louw (Away)
Thurs	4		No Hockey Matches
Fri	5	10h30 13h40 14h30 15h00	JP Assembly SP Assembly SP Staff Meeting Hockey Festival organised by Munnik & Yvonne Huysamer
Sat	6	08h00 – 14h00 09h00 – 11h00	Board Strategy Meeting Oakwood Daddy Do'nut Day