



The Weekly Blah

Book Day!



We often talk about a book coming to life, but on Friday, 12 June, a whole library added life and excitement to Somerset House! The school was transformed into a fiction fantasy – every booklover's dream! Students (and teachers!) dressed up as their favourite characters, and we had Harry Potter talking to Fancy Nancy, Little Red Riding Hood laughing at Dumbledore and even Katniss was seen chatting to Cinderella! Our Dr Seuss-themed day was a huge success with almost R53 000 spent on 620 books,, chosen by the students themselves, for the Knowledge Centre.

More than a school ~ a way of life.

Apart from the excitement of choosing their own books, the students enjoyed a day packed with interesting activities. Each class decorated their classroom door as a book cover and one class even had time to rewrite and perform a fairy tale as a rap! The family groups also had a string of activities to complete, ranging from taking group selfies, decorating a hat, to recording an extract from a Dr Seuss poem on a LearnPad! Of course, no event at Somerset House is complete without a special treat, and this year, we were treated to Moosegoose Burgers and specially decorated 'Cat in the Hat' cupcakes!



HeadLines...

Book Day

An incredible effort by all our families! The total of R53 000 completely exceeded all our expectations and we have been able to purchase 640 new books for the Knowledge Centre. Thank you to all our parents for your generosity. Thank you to all the children for your enthusiasm in dressing up so wonderfully on the day. Dr Seuss would have been proud! Thank you to all the staff who made this event possible. What a team effort!



Superb Pupil Leadership

In the recent pupil survey, one parent made a comment about the need for a strong leadership programme in the school. The Non Nobis Leadership Programme has been in place since 2008, and for an example of just what this programme can deliver I would urge all parents to read the article on the *Grade 7 Leadership Programme Hockey Clinic* later in this newsletter. My congratulations to Yvonne and Munnik for the brilliantly organised and very appropriate event that they initiated. These are the “problem solvers” and “independent thinkers” that we need in our country!

Outstanding Mathematics Performances

We are incredibly proud of our Mathematics pupils who did so well in the Horizon Mathematics Competition for 2015. To have the top girl out of 8700 participants in the Western Cape is indeed a massive achievement! Please read the article on this which also appears later in this newsletter.

End of Term

We close for the winter holiday next week on Friday. Final assembly will be at 09h30 and the children will be allowed to go home at 11h15. We hope to have all reports complete by then, providing load shedding does not cause too much disruption!

Chris Storey – Headmaster
head@somerset.co.za



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the Hurd family (Samuel, Grade 5 and Callum, Grade 1) on the birth of Leila Grace!

Notice Period when leaving Somerset House

Please take note that a full term's notice is required if your child is going to leave Somerset House at any point. This enables us to notify other families on our waiting lists. Although written notice must be received on the first day of Term 4 for children leaving at the end of this year, we would be most grateful to receive notice as early as possible so that we can plan effectively for 2016.

Artists of the Week

These lovely bird puppets have been completed by the Grade 4 pupils. Well done to Lyle Botha, Allen Rautenbach and Emily van Steenberghe for being chosen as the “Artists of the Week”.



Yet more Rubbish...

Mrs Roberts' Grade 3s took their lead even further this week with a lovely 93.1 kgs being delivered – lots of hoarding going on there! With only next week to go, there is going to have to be some serious deliveries of paper if any other class is to catch up! The all boy Crew was superb, coping admirably with the cold and dark of Wednesday morning. Cardboard boxes were wrapped around some to help keep warm, and much chatter helped pass the time quickly. So, one week to go...please gather all your paper and let's make it a bumper week!

2015	Weds 3 June	Weds 10 June	Weds 17 June	Class Totals
7A	4.6	2.2	2.3	31.8
7M	3.8	2.7	2.5	100.2
7R	8.0	7.0	8.0	120.2
6C				16.0
6E				41.7
6M			48.3	145.0
5B	8.0	30.0	8.0	349.5
5vG	54.2	3.8	13.4	119.7
4C	6.5		27.4	167.6
4M	4.2	12.7	22.7	141.1
3P	60.2		18.7	294.7
3R		20.5	93.1	525.1
2dP		3.5		33.1
2T		9.0	14.0	170.4
1B	48.4		25.3	153.9
1H		13.2	27.6	79.3
Weekly Total	197.9	104.6	311.3	2489.3

Drama Performer of the Week

The Performer of the week is Selena Leitch (Grade 4C). Selena has worked very well in preparing for the SP Production. She listens to the instructions and has such a lovely stage presence. She sings with confidence and enthusiasm and she performs with a lovely smile. Well done, Selena.

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Robots invade Grade 1!

There was much excitement and creativity in the Grade 1 classrooms this past week when the children were faced with the challenge of making a split pin robot and then giving it a personality. The names of the robots ranged from 'Metal Head' and 'Neutron' to 'Giggles' and 'Sparkles'! Some of the robots had powers of shooting out fire to fight crime whilst others could make rainbow flowers. The children loved talking about their robots and then had a go at writing sentences to describe them. What a fun challenge!



Horizon Maths Awards

On Friday evening, our top ten Maths students attended the Horizon Maths Competition prize-giving.

Over 8700 students participated in this event and we are proud of our excellent results.



Five students came in the top 200 and another five were in the top 100 students in the Western Cape. Congratulations to Stephanie Bihl for coming fourth overall. She was the top scoring girl, which is a remarkable achievement!

Uniform Shop News

We are excited to announce that the brand new Oakwood Long-Sleeve Smiley T-Shirts have finally arrived, and can be purchased from the Uniform Shop for only R100! One of our Ladybirds, Elsie Aarvold, couldn't wait to show it off!

The Uniform Shop will be open as follows during the holidays:

- Thursday 16 July 2015 from 08h30 to 15h00
- Friday 17 July 2015 from 08h30 to 15h00
- Monday 20 July 2015 from 08h30 to 15h00



Sports News

CONGRATULATIONS!

Chloe Niehaus and Chakara Blake, both students of the Gail Hattingh Ballet School, recently took part in ballet exams. Chloe received a Silver Award for the American Academy of Ballet Grade 1 exam and Chakara Blake earned a Silver and two Highly Commended Awards for Grade 3.

**GRADE 7 LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME
HOCKEY CLINIC**

As part of the Leadership Programme, one has to complete a series of tasks, one of these tasks being the organising of an event. Together with my brother, we decided to combine our love for sports with the criteria we were given. On the 5th of June 2015, we organised and put together a hockey tournament that was held on Somerset House’s mini astro. We invited boys and girls from Ikwezi Hockey Club to participate in the tournament against the Somerset House children. Eight teams participated in what was a fun-filled, yet competitive, afternoon of hockey. Altogether the day was a huge success with plenty skill on show. It made a huge difference in all of our lives.

Yvonne Huysamer



I had the pleasure of being at the above clinic and would like to commend Yvonne and Munnik for their wonderful organisational skills. Besides the opportunity to play some great hockey, each child also received a little goodie bag with refreshments. Yvonne and Munnik also organised for all their friends to bring old hockey equipment to the clinic which was handed over to the coach of Ikhwezi Primary. These items will definitely make a difference in these young people’s lives. Congratulations, Yvonne and Munnik, and thank you to all our Somerset House children who donated equipment. A most enjoyable afternoon was had by all. ***Miss Mac***



HELDERBERG ZONAL HOCKEY

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been selected to represent the Helderberg Zone at various hockey tournaments.

HELDERBERG ZONAL A TEAM	HELDERBERG ZONAL B TEAM
Maya Williams	Carel Mans
Ruth Benson	Nic Cilliers
Andrea du Plessis	
Ryan Botha	
Nic Lombard	
James Royden-Turner	

The A Team will be participating at the Inter-Regional Tournament in George from 28th June – 1st July, and the B Team, at an inter-zonal tournament at Hartleyvale on 31st July and 1st August. Well done!



Week 11: Programme for week ending 27th June 2015

Mon	22 June	08h30 – 10h00 10h00 – 11h30 11h30 – 13h10	No sport for Grades 4 to 7 – all week SP Play – Full Dress Rehearsal Make Up & Costumes Full Dress Rehearsal Photographs
Tues	23	08h10 – 10h10 10h30 – 13h10 19h00	SP Play – Full Run Through SP Play – Technical Run Through SP Play – Evening Performance
Wed	24	19h00	Netball v Trinity House: U13 A & B (H) Hosting 14h45 – U13B; 15h30 – U13A SP Play – Evening Performance
Thurs	25	16h00 19h00	No Choir Practice SP Play – Matinee Performance SP Play – Evening Performance
Fri	26	09h30 11h15 11h30 12h00	Final Assembly (Haydock Hall) Term ends Full Staff Meeting Senior Staff Meeting
Sat	27		