



The Weekly Blah

Haydock Series Event 1: Mousai



What a start to this new parent initiative in the Haydock Hall! The trio of musicians were top class and the finale of Bohemian Rhapsody was the cherry on the top. My thanks to Elzahn, Rolene and Marelize for the superb performance! The hall was beautifully decorated and the Guild Team must be congratulated on a brilliantly organised event. We look forward to many more to come.

Chris Storey

Back with the Rubbish!



The boys of the Crew were marvelous this morning! Greeted at 07h30 by a huge pile of paper left by the early birds, they quickly set to work. First task was for W&M to record all the weights – and some pretty dodgy and dubious weights were spotted too! W&M has called for the official scale to be brought in next week for the first time for many months. So, beware – the ORS will be in use next week; make sure all the weights are accurate!!! A few spots of rain fell this morning and instantly the boys dived under their impromptu portable rain shelters (see photo). Happily the rain did not last long – quite a relief as most of The Crew could not see out from their shelters! Mrs Thöle’s Grade 2s have continued their good work and have taken over pole position from the Grade 4s – well done indeed! Mrs Cod is busy getting ready to bake the cupcakes for Mrs Roberts’ Grade 3 winners from last term – don’t panic, they will be ready soon...

2015	Weds 29 July	Weds 5 Aug	Class Totals	Position
7A		10.0	10.0	
7M			0.0	
7R			0.0	
6C	40.0	12.0	52.0	
6E			0.0	
6M		15.0	15.0	
5B	9.2	50.1	69.3	
5vG		5.0	5.0	
4C	24.8	12.5	55.3	
4M	58.3	22.0	230.2	2
3P	12.5	34.0	66.0	
3R	138.3	27.5	175.8	3
2dP	7.0	5.9	32.2	
2T	111.0	155.6	266.6	1
1B		40.6	45.1	
1H	55.3	20.1	93.3	
Weekly Total	456.4	410.3	1115.8	



Well done, Natalie!

Natalie was selected to participate in a “Smart Living” course hosted by the Two Oceans Aquarium. The course included aspects of Conservation and Marine Biology, held over several weekends. Natalie received a Diamond Certificate Award and book prize for the student with the highest achievement, averaging 90%. She now automatically qualifies for the next course. We are very proud of her achievement.

Headlines....

Where does teaching of skills for University begin?

I subscribe to a site called “The Conversation” which hosts opinion pieces written by academics from around the world. Of particular interest are the comments on education issues and the most recent of these I thought worth printing in our newsletter. The article spoke of what capabilities were required in order for a person to be considered “ready” for university. A summary of the main points of the article is shown below:

1. Being able to make well-reasoned, informed, critical, independent and reflective choices about post-school study;
2. Having the academic grounding for chosen university subjects, being able to develop and apply methods of critical thinking and imagination to identify and comprehend multiple perspectives and complex problems;
3. Having curiosity and a desire for learning, having the learning skills required for university study and being an active inquirer with a questioning disposition;
4. Being able to participate in groups for learning, working with diverse others to solve problems or complete tasks;
5. Being able to form networks of friendships for learning support and leisure. A capacity for mutual respect and dignity. Valuing diversity and being able to show empathy;
6. Having confidence in one’s ability to learn; and,
7. Being able to understand, read, write and speak confidently in the language of instruction.

www.theconversation.com

Although the list is about “university readiness”, numbers 3 to 7 are very much a concern of a forward thinking prep school and are constantly being discussed and developed, especially at the senior end of the school. We measure our progress through surveying the parents of our past Grade 7 pupils each year. The survey of the class of 2014 has just been completed and the results again show that our leavers have been well-prepared for the challenges that they have met at secondary school. These results will be released soon.

Chris Storey – Headmaster

head@somersethouse.co.za

We have some Budding Engineers in Grade 3!



These children used their “Golden Time” to show off their engineering skills in the Grade 3 classroom.

Golden Time is earned when work is completed satisfactorily and there is still some time left in the lesson.

Grade 1 Explore Sea Life

Grade 1 furthered their learning of sea creatures this week when they visited the Two Oceans Aquarium and were treated to a hands-on lesson in a special classroom. The children were able to touch a starfish, sea urchin and sea anemone and thoroughly enjoyed this experience. They were taught lots of interesting information and thoroughly enjoyed a walk through the aquarium observing all the wonderful creatures. Lunch at Green Park was another highlight as the sun shone brightly and all energy levels could be released. What a wonderful outing for Grade 1!



Performer of the Week

Congratulations to Leo Strydom who is this week's Performer of the Week! Leo wowed us in the Drama lesson this week and we encourage him to keep up the good work!

Artist of the Week

Congratulations Ryan Botha and Tannah Spooner for your imaginative self-portraits. I loved the way you used your paint and the colours you mixed. Well done!



Sports News

CONGRATULATIONS!

At the PSI National Tournament, the Foxes team, including Marwin Hodel and Mikey Royden-Turner, won the bronze medal.



WELL DONE, ARDEN.

Arden, captain of the Vasco da Gama U12s and his team took part in a three day tournament at Rygersdal during the school holidays. Most of the top soccer teams from Cape Town participate in this tournament, and Arden's team managed to win a silver medal.

AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE FOR HUNTER!

Hunter Mitchell was fortunate enough to be selected as a 'Flag Bearer' when the Springboks took on the All Blacks at Ellis Park, in Johannesburg, on the 25th July. He was extremely brave in front of a sell-out of crowd of over 62000 spectators in very cold temperatures, but had an experience he will never forget. He was also very lucky to spend the previous afternoon (proudly wearing his Somerset House rugby jersey), at the All Blacks 'Captains Run' where he managed to pick up some valuable tips and chat with the team, including his rugby hero, Richie McCaw. The picture is of his godfather, Dr Nic Gill, who is the Strength and Conditioning Coach for the All Blacks, and Richie McCaw.



ZONAL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Last weekend, Carel Mans and Nic Cilliers represented the Helderberg Zonal B Hockey Team at the Inter-Zonal Hockey Tournament which was held at Hartleyvale. Matches were played against teams from the various zones within Western Province. Unfortunately Carel and Nic's team battled to score goals and ended in 4th position overall; however, it was a wonderful experience for both boys.



METROPOLE EAST CHESS TOURNAMENT

Last weekend our U11 and U13 Chess Teams participated in the Metropole East Top Schools Chess Tournament which was held at Beaumont Primary. Both our teams played exceptionally well, with the U13s winning overall and the U11s coming 2nd. This is a wonderful achievement and means that our two senior teams take the top two positions from all primary schools within the Metropole East area. Our U13 team has now been invited to the WP Top Schools Tournament which takes place on Saturday 15th August. Congratulations to Mr Taylor and all our chess players for their wonderful achievements.





NETBALL MATCHES

The netball teams had the pleasure of playing two matches this week against strong opponents, Somerset West and Gordons Bay Primary.

The girls played with much enthusiasm and demonstrated excellent effort and perseverance in all the matches played. "1Team" was definitely evident. Well done to all the girls who played matches this week, keep up the great effort!



CONGRATULATIONS!

Well done to Sarah Stenslunde, Sophia-Mara Franke and Amelia Ackerman who all recently received medals at a gymnastics competition!

RUGBY MATCHES

Our boys played rugby matches against Marvin Park on Wednesday. Our junior boys were under pressure from the start, and it was difficult for them to deal with the nimbleness of the opposition. Our U11 boys had a great start and scored within the first 5 minutes. Our boys are to be commended for their knowledge of the rules and the way in which they played. The score was 12-0 after halftime, but after a good



passage of play our boys were trailing 12-14 with a few minutes to spare. Our boys returned the kick-off deep into the opposition half putting their backline under pressure – this resulted in them scoring a well-orchestrated try from dominant forward play. Our First XV and Warthogs were kitted out in the new tour rugby jerseys and they seemed to be inspired by the 1Team logo on their backs. The Warthogs played very well and led the match 5-0 with 3-4 minutes to go before a lapse in concentration saw them allowing the opposition to score two quick tries within that time. The Warthogs lost their match 5-12. Our First XV was met by a team who has been undefeated for the season and they fielded two WP Craven week B-team players. Our boys were very determined to improve on their last match and they played like Trojans. We set up good defensive lines from the start and executed our defense brilliantly. Although our boys were outsized physically, in this contest, the size of their hearts were bigger and the desire to win even greater. Our forwards created a good platform for our backline players to create running opportunities, and, when it mattered most, our boys exploited the opposition's disregard for the off-side line perfectly - scoring 3 forward tries in the match. Well done to our boys!



Week 4: Programme for week ending 15th August 2015

Mon	10 Aug		Public Holiday – Women's Day (9 th Aug)
Tues	11	15h30	Somerset College General Knowledge Quiz (A)
Wed	12	from 08h30 11h30 – 12h30 from 13h45 from 13h45	Trinity College Music Exams (Shelters) Grade 3 Singing Eisteddfod (PV High School) Netball Matches v Dr Joubert (H) Rugby Matches v Sir Lowry's Pass (A)
Thurs	13	from 13h45 19h00	Hockey Matches v Ikhwezi & De Hoop (H) Wine Thieves
Fri	14	07h45 09h00 from 13h30 14h30 – 15h30	Facilities Meeting Hooked on Books Assembly Chess Matches Grade 7 Singing Group Rehearsal (Haydock Hall)
Sat	15	08h00	Play Workshop at Micklefield School, Cape Town Kenridge Hockey Tournament (Stellenbosch Astro)