



Volume 03

6 February 2015

SOMERSET HOUSE

The Weekly Blah

Grade R - Having Fun while Learning!



Action, action, action at Oakwood! There are lots of new things to see and do in Grade R! Free play on the field has led to cartwheels, exploration of nature and soccer games. Baking has been messy, tasty and fun! We've spent time enjoying swimming lessons and exercising in Phys Ed, taking trips to the Knowledge Centre in the Big School, discovering "Jolly Phonics", playing with friends and learning in new ways every day!

More than a school ~ a way of life.



HeadLines...

Inter School Triangular Athletics

After having won the Inter-School Shield for a record 6 out of 7 times, we were humbled on Wednesday by Bridge House and Somerset College who were just too good for us on the day. I was very proud of our children, all of whom gave their best. Our spirit was superb and our cheerleaders, captains and staff were brilliant. The result we will need to work that little bit harder next year in order to recapture the shield. Well done to the whole team!

Dickens Avenue Pedestrian Gate to be closed

The pedestrian gate on Dickens Avenue has up until now been used by parents and staff as a convenient entrance from the street which bypasses the main gate. As this gate is unmanned, it is impossible for us to control access. Staff and parents are reminded that this gate will no longer be available for general access as from Monday 2 March 2015. The gate will not be removed as it will continue to be included in our emergency plans as an escape route according to our evacuation procedure, should we have to evacuate children and staff from the campus.

Smoking on School Grounds

Parents are reminded that in terms of the Tobacco Products Control Act, 1993 (Act No 83 of 1993), schools are classified as 'no-smoking zones'. We ask parents to abide by this ruling so that we comply with the legislation.

Dogs on Campus

All members of staff and parents are reminded that, when walking their dogs on the campus, to please pick up their pets' mess and dispose of it properly off the campus. This ruling is there to ensure that we leave the campus in as hygienic a condition as possible. Dogs are often seen being walked by owners who have no means with them of disposing of any mess that their dogs might make. Kindly bring a plastic bag with you when you walk your dogs on the campus. We would not like to prohibit this popular pastime because of the minority not abiding by this ruling.

Chris Storey – Headmaster

head@somersethouse.co.za

Drama Street Gate

Please note that the Drama Street gate is opened remotely by a member of staff. If you arrive before 07h10 there may not be anybody to open for you yet! For early-morning practices, choir sessions etc. you can also use the Oakwood entrance or the Dickens Avenue entrance which are manned by security guards.

Congratulations, Jessica Matthews!

The production of "Annie" at the Playhouse has been dubbed the best-ever production by our local Play House theatre - most people ever in terms of attendance and most revenue generated by a single production! In recognition for her role as "Annie", Jessica Matthews received 3 nominations at the HH Dramatic Society Awards Evening held on 17 January and she, along with her "Annie" counterpart from the Brooklyn cast, were delighted to be awarded the Best Junior Performances.

On March 23rd the prestigious Cape Amateur Theatre Awards (CATA) are to be hosted in Cape Town. To receive a nomination for the CATA awards is a big honour, and Jessica is both humbled and thrilled to have received a nomination in the category of Best Junior Performance. To the great delight of the HHDS, "Annie" received a nomination for Best Play / Musical. CATA representatives attend all amateur theatre productions in the WC and make their recommendations independently of the individual dramatic societies.

Advertisements and Marketing

In everyday life we are bombarded by advertising, whether it is on television, billboards, phones or calls from companies. At Somerset House we try to limit this as much as possible, and we are therefore prescriptive about the advertising that takes place at the school - anyone wishing to advertise a service or product are welcome to advertise in our fortnightly 'Advertiser'. Please e-mail advertiser@somersethouse.co.za for more information. Furthermore, we ask that no flyers are distributed and no posters are displayed without the school's written permission.

Newsletter Hard Copies

Just a reminder that you will only receive a hard copy of the weekly newsletter if you have sent an e-mail to info@somersethouse.co.za to specifically request this.

Address Lists and Confidentiality

We have sent out address lists to parents so that you will be able to contact one another. It is very important that this information is not used for any other purpose. We do not allow the data to be used for advertising or business purposes and we ask that this is respected

Rubbish from the Green Igloos

It was the turn of the Grade 5 Ladies to be The Crew this week and what a great job was done! There was lots and lots of cheery banter, non-stop chatting and much giggling – and it was all quite loud!! Almost no training was required and very quickly the whole recycling machine was in full running order. The WBDs and their 'Watchers' drove beautifully and there were no reports of capsizing or load shedding (unlike Eskom). The GIPs were wonderful, speedily packing the 560kgs of paper and leaving the site spotless. W&M recorded and checked the packages carefully for any sight of potential cheating and all was very good in the car park. Well done Ladies!

With 60 kgs more than last week making just over a tonne in the first two weeks, hopefully the threat of GI removal is now over. Let's see if we can keep this momentum going for the term.

2015	Weds 28 Jan	Weds 4 Feb	Class Totals
7A	5.7	5.8	11.5
7M	26.8	10.8	37.6
7R		64.3	64.3
6C	78.6	55.3	133.9
6M		8.5	8.5
6O		8.5	8.5
5B	10.3	107.4	117.7
5vG		44.3	44.3
4C	95.8	18.2	114.0
4M	29.1	27.0	56.1
3P	14.7	31.5	46.2
3R	21.9	30.2	52.1
2dP	36.2	9.0	45.2
2T	153.6	71.0	224.6
1B		46.5	46.5
1H	22.8	21.0	43.8
Weekly Total	495.5	559.3	1054.8

There is still a keyless, lonely padlock lurking in Mr Cod's office from last week...

- 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...!!!**

REMEMBER, YOUR LOCAL GI NEEDS YOU!

Sports News

INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS

We had an amazing afternoon / evening of athletics last Friday at our Inter-House event. The field was decorated with yellow, red and blue little people everywhere. The house captains and cheerleaders were superb and the skill on the track was exciting to see. We had two new records on the track and congratulations go to:

- Girls U8 Esther Benson 80m 13.31 s (Previous Record 13.63)
- Girls U10 Catherine Louis 100m 15.92 s (Previous record 16.22)



We were able to congratulate our top athletes in each age group at prize giving. These athletes' points are added from the field events, long distance events and track events. Congratulations to the following athletes:

AGE GROUP	NAME
Grade 1 Girls	McKenzie Mack
Grade 1 Boys	Tristan Rautenbach, Lyle Thomas & Liam Smith
Grade 2 Girls	Esther Benson
Grade 2 Boys	Nicholas Oscroft
Girls U9	Julia Brown
Boys U9	Awsten Kelly
Girls U10	Jemma Boettger
Boys U10	Michael Royden-Turner
Girls U11 - Junior Victrix Ludorum	Lara Pardemann / Zenade October
Boys U11 - Junior Victor Ludorum	Joshua Middleton
Girls U12	Lauren Venter
Boys U12	Nic Lombard
Girls U13 - Victrix Ludorum	Stephanie Bihl
Boys U13 - Victor Ludorum	Josh Knox
WINNING HOUSE	Peregrine
SPIRIT TROPHY	Lanner

Special thanks to our Guild for their wonderful support on the refreshment side of things. Thank you, too, to all our parents for their support and participation on the evening. We have never had to have four parent races before! You guys were great, thank you! All in all, it was a lovely evening and we thank you for sharing it with us.

A special thanks must also go to Downings for so generously ensuring that all our children enjoyed some shade during the event!



INTER-SCHOOLS ATHLETICS TRIANGULAR

Our SH Athletics Team competed at the annual Inter-schools athletics Triangular against Bridge House and Somerset College on Wednesday afternoon. Sadly we didn't have our best year, and although our athletes tried their very best, we ended in 3rd place overall. We did have a number of super performances and we will be able to acknowledge on these once we receive the full set of results.

Special mention must be made of our U8 Girls: Esther Benson, Keisha Leibrandt and Ashley Hingeston who made a clean sweep for Somerset House in their Girls U8 200m event. Jolly well done, girls! Congratulations to our captains: Steph Bihl and Josh Knox as well as our cheerleaders Mikayla Boettger, Dhania Schultz, William Christmas and Mathias Smith, who did an amazing job all afternoon. The spirit in our camp was superb right until the very end.

Congratulations to Bridge House who won the event this year.



SUMMER LEAGUE HOCKEY

Eight local primary schools are currently participating in the Summer Hockey League. The girls are playing Astro matches at Somerset House and the boys are playing Indoor Hockey up at Somerset College. Our Gr 6 and Gr 7 hockey teams got off to a flying start. Our Grade 6 and 7 girls played matches against Gordon's Bay Primary and won 3 -1 and 11-0 respectively. Our Grade 6 and 7 boys played against Beaumont in their first round. The Grade 6s won 9 – 0 and the Grade 7s won 6 – 1. A super start for all our teams! Well done to all the players.

SH GIRLS SERVE THE SA NATIONAL PLAYERS

Last Sunday, some of our senior hockey girls had the privilege of being ball girls for the International Test Match between South Africa and Belgium. It was a lovely experience for them and they did a super job. The girls also got the opportunity to meet and spend some time with some of their favourite national players, including Jade Mayne, our local SA player from Somerset West. Jade also captained the national side on a number of occasions during the course of the Summer Series at Hartleyvale. Tests were played against Chile and Belgium. SA won the test match 1 – 0 on Sunday. Well done girls!



METROPOLE EAST CHESS TRIALS

Good luck to all our pupils participating in the first round of WP Chess Trials this weekend. We are holding thumbs for you and hope all goes well.

Week 4: Programme for week ending 14th February 2015

Mon	9 Feb	14h30	JP Staff Meeting U12 & U13 Summer Hockey League: U12 & U13 Boys - bye 18h30 – U12 Girls v SWPS (S/House) 19h00 – U13 Girls v SWPS (S/House)
Tues	10	14h45 14h45 14h45	Swimming Time Trials Cricket v Gordon's Bay : 1 st XI (A) Cricket v SWPS : U11B (H) ; 2 nd XI (A) Cricket v Beaumont : U10A (H); U12A (A)
Wed	11	13h40 from 13h45 14h45 18h00	No Clubs – Senior Choir Practice with Lize Mynhardt Mini Cricket Matches: Boys v Hendrik Louw (H); Girls v Applewood (H) Cricket v Gordon's Bay : U11A (A) Guild Meeting
Thurs	12	from 15h00 19h00	Tennis Matches Wine Thieves
Fri	13	10h30 12h30 13h00 13h00 18h30	No SP Assembly JP Assembly (Haydock Hall) Valentine's Family Day Lunch School closes SP Staff Meeting & JP Maths Training Lize Mynhardt in Concert under the Oaks
Sat	14		