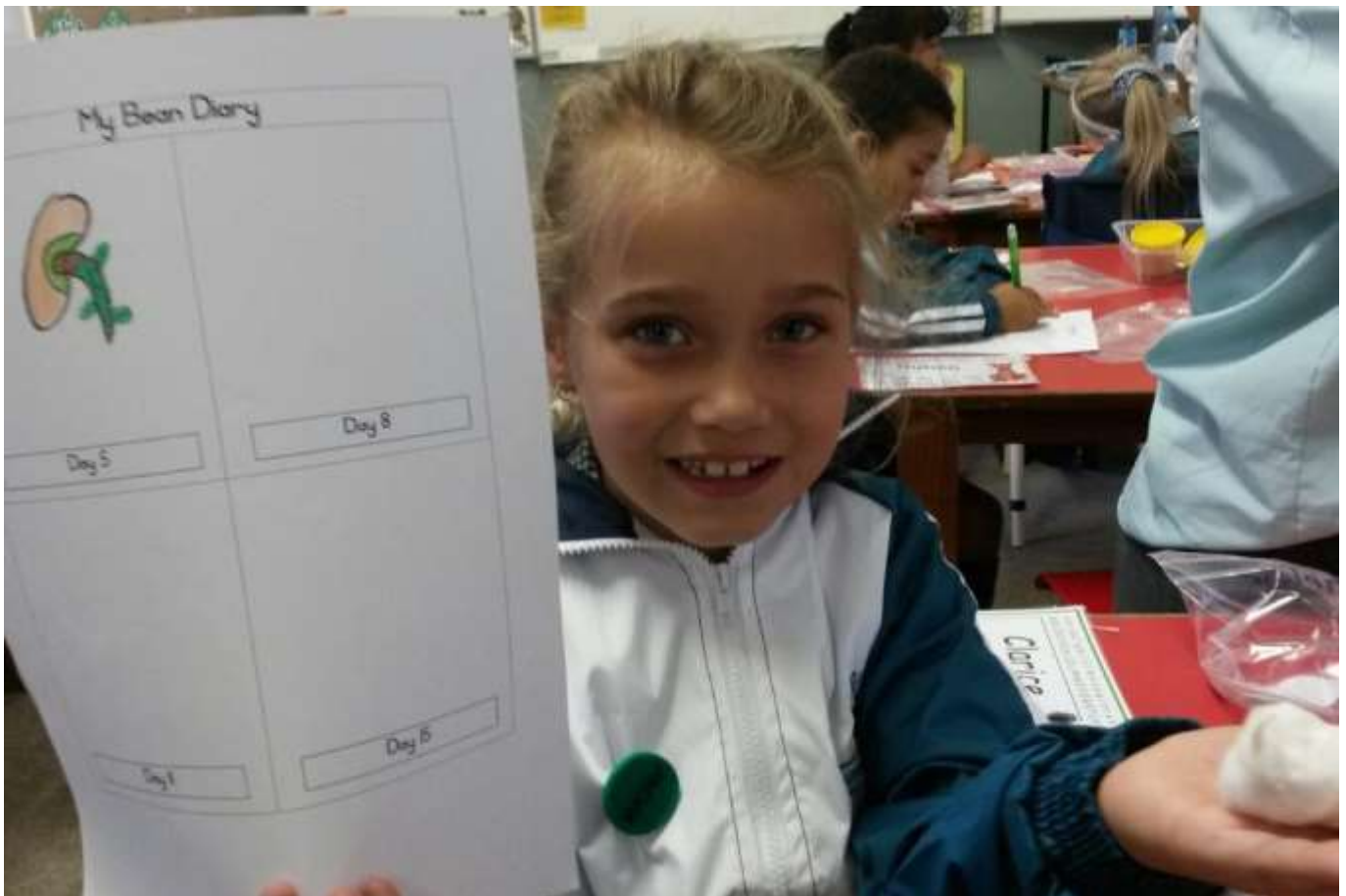




# The Weekly Blah

## Grade 1s Growing Beans!



Grade 1 planted some magic beans this week. After reading Jack and the Beanstalk, we were interested to see how beans grow. We planted them in some cotton wool and are looking forward to watching the beans grow.

We have a bean diary to record the growth of our beans.

We also predicted that the bean in the cupboard would NOT grow!



## Talented Mathematicians!

These talented Grade 7 Mathematicians took part in the annual International Maths Competition hosted by Elkanah House. It was a gruelling first round, so we will wait in anticipation to hear how they did. This competition identifies the top mathematical thinkers in the country, who then go on to compete at an international level. The standard is extremely high, so we're very proud of our pupils for rising to the challenge and making such an enthusiastic effort to participate.



## HeadLines...

### State of the Nation and the state of our thinking

In Grade 6 and 7 Thinking Skills classes over the past two weeks we have been discussing the State of the Nation Address and the possible strategies that would be employed by the parties involved. Being able to think ahead of a situation and understand the possibility of various scenarios is an essential skill.

On the positive side, our children have shown mature insight and understanding of the issues at hand. Sadly, their predictions regarding the actual event materialized last night and as a country we were particularly poorly served by many of those in power.

I do, however, wish to compliment our pupils on the mature manner in which we have been able to discuss these issues in class. Some Members of Parliament could learn much about tolerance and understanding, strategy and debate. Well done, Grade 6 and 7! You have my vote!

### Welcome Miss Tracy Elliott

Miss Elliott will be joining Somerset House as of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March to take over from Mrs Orlopp. This will give her the opportunity of going on the Grade 6 Camp with her class and should be better as far as continuity of teaching is concerned for the Grade 6 and 7 Mathematics pupils. We hope that she will enjoy a long and happy stay at Somerset House.

### Lize Mynhardt Concert tonight

We are holding thumbs that the weather is going to be kind to us this evening. Lize who finished third in the National Idols Competition last year began her music career at Somerset House and we are extremely excited about her coming back to perform for her "home" crowd.

Chris Storey – Headmaster

[head@somersethouse.co.za](mailto:head@somersethouse.co.za)

## Art

Tomily, Esther and Alessia in Grade 2 are busy mixing beautiful colours for their paintings of the Gingerbread House. We look forward to seeing them completed in the next week or two.



## News from Grade 00

What fun the Fieldmouse Class had making funny faces, drawing and spending time in the imaginative play area!



## Congratulations, Betty!

This week, Betty, the Security Guard who usually works at the Oakwood entrance to the school, got married! Many thanks to the parents and staff who so kindly contributed towards making this a very happy celebration! Betty was very touched to have received such a generous surprise!

## Rubbish from the Green Igloos

A much quieter week at the GIs allowed for a more relaxed approach to GI packing! As shown in the photo below, the GIs were explored in detail and from every angle by the Gentlemen of The Crew. The WBDs generally coped well with some extra heavy loads, apart from one Rookie driver who was in charge of his WB when it capsized in the middle of the car park 'ocean'. Thankfully the South Easter was not around to add to the chaos and some friendly, helpful onlookers helped put the WB on a more even keel. After three collecting weeks, Mrs Thöle's Grade 2s are in the lead by quite a margin, with quite a battle brewing up between some of the Grade 6, 5 and 4 classes. There's a long way to go yet before we get to the cupcake stage – keep on hoarding and delivering on a Wednesday. Well done to all involved and a huge thank you to The New Crew for their enthusiasm and energy so early in the morning!

2015	Weds 28 Jan	Weds 4 Feb	Weds 11 Feb	Class Totals
7A	5.7	5.8	3.1	14.6
7M	26.8	10.8	3.2	40.8
7R		64.3		64.3
6C	78.6	55.3		133.9
6M		8.5	2.0	10.5
6O		8.5		8.5
5B	10.3	107.4	9.6	127.3
5vG		44.3	7.5	51.8
4C	95.8	18.2		114.0
4M	29.1	27.0	122.6	178.7
3P	14.7	31.5	8.1	54.3
3R	21.9	30.2	2.7	54.8
2dP	36.2	9.0		45.2
2T	153.6	71.0	79.1	303.7
1B		46.5		46.5
1H	22.8	21.0	5.3	49.1
<b>Weekly Total</b>	<b>495.5</b>	<b>559.3</b>	<b>243.2</b>	<b>1298</b>



**REMEMBER, YOUR LOCAL GI NEEDS YOU!**

## Spotted in the Dining Room this week!

Mr Storey and Mr Codrington were both spotted in the dining room this week during the Junior Prep lunch time - Mr Storey – deep in conversation with a group of Grade 2 girls, and Mr Codrington dishing out praise and house points for green slips!



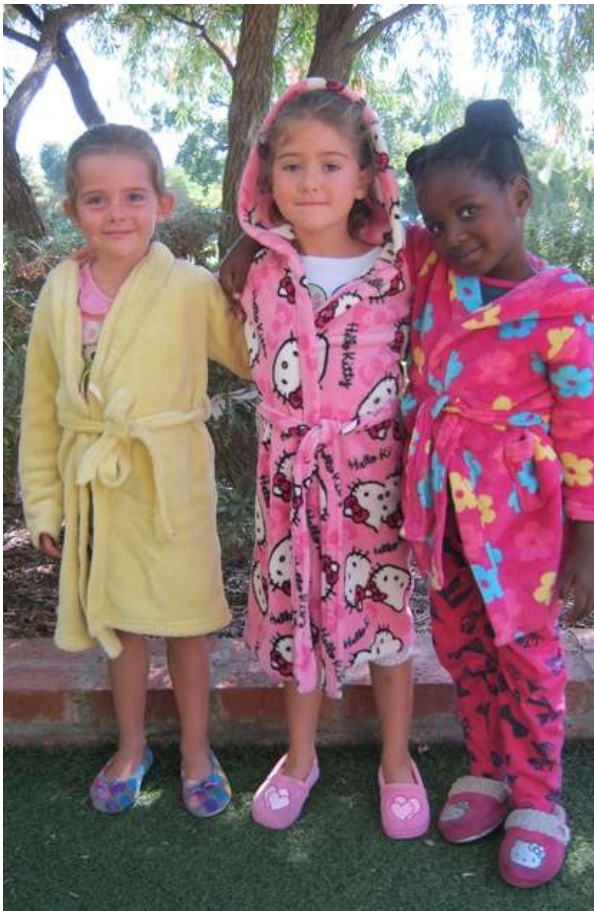
## Oakwood Baking

All the Oakwood children have enjoyed the baking sessions on a Friday while learning lots about weighing, measuring, stirring, mixing and, of course, tasting!



# Grade R Pyjama Day!

The Grade Rs had so much fun coming to school in their pyjamas on Wednesday!



# More news from the Grade R classes

There are so many new things to do in Grade R! The children have experienced some wonderfully creative art projects, attending Junior Prep Assemblies in Haydock Hall, celebrating those who receive WOW badges, ICT lessons and much more!





## Music News

**Beginner music groups:** We are very excited to have a new generation of musicians at Somerset House who are starting to learn violin, recorder and piano. The music department wishes you many hours of happy music-making. We hope that your homes will be filled with glorious music!



**Performers of the week:** The Music Department would like to honour the individuals who work very hard at perfecting their instrumental playing. We applaud your hard work and dedication and are proud to announce Young Muso's - the Performer of the Week Award recipients. Congratulations!  
Week of 30 January: Tishal Prag and Kayla Lucke  
Week of 6 February: Sebastian and Nicholas Morkel  
Week of 6 February: Danelle van Niekerk and Rowan Curtin

## Somerset House at Large!

Join us on our first hike of the year. All children must be accompanied by parent/s or willing responsible adult/s.

**Date:** Sat 7 March  
**Time:** 13h00  
**Distance:** ± 6 – 8 km  
**Duration:** 3 - 4 hours

**Meet:** At Ou Kraal on Boyes Drive, Kalk Bay (+/- half way along Boyes Drive on a sharp bend)

**Rating:** moderate, a good amount of uphill at the start

**Children allowed:** with parents/ responsible adult

**Dogs:** This a long walk so only sociable dogs that can handle distance. Please remember to bring water and a bowl for them as there is no water on the route and of course poop bags please! **A TMNP is required for dogs.**

This walk has spectacular views of False Bay from the mountain. The first stretch is uphill and has little shade. Once we reach the Spes Bona Forest there is shade where we will have a rest and tea / refreshments.

### Important information:

- Quality, comfortable walking shoes are essential. Avoid cotton socks – they can cause blisters. Sports or hiking socks are fine.
- Bring plenty of liquids (1 ½ - 2 litres). There is water on the mountain, but not fit to drink.
- Nutritious snacks are preferable.
- Sun hat and sunscreen is essential.
- Asthma pumps or allergy medication must be packed.
- Queries? Contact Charmaine Roynon: [charoy@somersethouse.co.za](mailto:charoy@somersethouse.co.za)



# Sports News

## CONGRATULATIONS, NIKHIL

Nikhil Prag participated in SA Kids Golf on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of February, and came 4<sup>th</sup>. Well done, Nikhil! We are very proud of you.



## METROPOLE EAST CHESS TRIALS

Seven of our pupils participated in the first round of the WP Chess Trials on Friday and Saturday last week. We are delighted to announce that four of them have been selected for the

Metropole East Chess Team and will be participating at the WP Trials on 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> March.



AGE GROUP	ATHLETE	RESULT AT TRIALS
Girls U9	Nina Smith	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Boys U11	Keanu Coetzer	1 <sup>st</sup>
Boys U11	Sam Chemaly	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Boys U13	Joshua Cox	4 <sup>th</sup>



## SUMMER ASTRO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Our Grade 6 and 7 Girls played round two of their Astro league matches against Somerset West Primary on Monday evening. Both teams played good constructive hockey and won their matches 8-0 and 6-0 respectively. Their next matches will be tough games against Hendrik Louw on Monday at 17h30 and 18h00. The boys had a bye this week and look forward to their next round of matches against Hendrik Louw on Monday.

## SWIMMING

Our swimming time trials took place on Tuesday for all our U8 – U13 pupils; the top 6 children in each stroke in each age group qualify to train with the SH Squad. The compulsory boys' practices will take place on a Monday from 15h35 – 16h30 and for the girls - Wednesday from 14h45 – 15h30. However, there will be no squad practices next week due to galas on both Monday and Wednesday. Pupils who have qualified in the top 6 positions are also invited and encouraged to train privately with Jean Degenaar on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday late afternoon. For further info, please contact Jean [degenaar@absamail.co.za](mailto:degenaar@absamail.co.za) or 072 778 1690. Her rates are fantastic and this is a wonderful service that she offers to our swimmers at Somerset House. All time-trial results are available on our website. We have three galas next week:

- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Boys Relay Gala 15:00 – 16:15 (Beaumont)
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb - Girls' Relay Gala 15:00 – 16:15 (Somerset House)
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb - SH Championship Gala 15:00 - 17:45 (Somerset House)

## UNDER 11 A & B CRICKET - TUESDAY 10TH AND WEDNESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

The opening matches both went very well for the Under 11 squad this week. The Dream Team welcomed Somerset West Primary to Naburn Meadow on Tuesday. SWPS batted first and managed to make a total of 72. Some sharp fielding resulted in three run outs and a brilliant catch. Our batsmen took to the crease, but unfortunately some misunderstandings resulted in early run outs. The mid-order batsmen came to the wicket slightly earlier than expected, but a solid innings from Michael Hale, Michael Brown and Matthew Eames put us back on track. The winning runs came in the sixteenth over – well done to the Dreamers!

The A-team travelled to Gordon's Bay for their opening game and were asked to bowl first. Spinners Liam McCulley and Sebastian van Schalkwyk led the attack and two early wickets fell quickly, ably assisted by wicket keeper, Luke Herholdt's, stumping. There was a slight lapse in the fielding for a while, allowing Gordon's Bay to add on a good number of runs, finishing with 97. Our batting was very ably led by Sam Chemaly (48\*) and Liam McCulley (19), helped by 'extras'! Some lovely running between the wicket and some beautifully placed boundary shots were enjoyed and appreciated by the crowd. Sam scored the winning runs in the sixteenth over, fractionally short of his own half century.

Two very enjoyable afternoons of Under 11 cricket – thank you gentlemen!

## U8 CRICKET

On Wednesday the very excited U8 Girls' Cricket Team played their first match of the season against Applewood. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity they got to bat, bowl and field. Applewood batted first and our star bowler was Esther Benson who bowled a wicket maiden! We had some big hitters and managed to score more runs than our opposition and so won the match! Our star batsman was Annabelle Hamel. Well done to all the girls on a great team effort and good sportsmanship - we were very proud of you!



## HELDERBERG EAGLES U13 CRICKET TEAM:

On Thursday we received the news that six of our senior cricket boys have been selected to the Helderberg Eagles Cricket team and Zonal squad. We wish them well as they now are entering the WP Cricket Trials selection process and will be taking part in matches against District teams from all over the greater Cape Town. The boys who are selected to the Eagles team: Munnik Huysamer, Jonathan Harley, Travis Norris, Carel Mans and Andrew Whaits. Cruebelle Diko has also been included in the Zonal squad and will be practising with the team.

## LINDSAY DE KOCK SWIMS 8 MILES FOR PINK DRIVE

This past weekend, one of our music staff, Lindsay de Kock, participated in the Midmar Eight Mile Charity Swimming event. The Midmar Mile is the largest Open Water Event in the world and, as such, is divided into eight events. Being invited to participate in the Eight Mile Charities, one is committed to raising a large amount of money, and the swimmer has to swim in all eight races. Lindsay has now swum for PinkDrive for three consecutive years, raising money for mobile mammography vehicles, education and testing and early detection of all female and male specific cancers. In total she has swum in excess of 42 crossings at various Midmar Mile events. This is a wonderful achievement for a very good cause. Congratulations, Lindsay!



## Week 5: Programme for week ending 21<sup>st</sup> February 2015

Mon	16 Feb	08h00 14h30 15h00 from 16h00	MADults meeting (Cloetenburg) JP Staff Meeting Boys' Relay Gala (Beaumont) U12 & U13 Summer Hockey League: 16h00 – U12 Boys v Hendrik Louw (S/College) 16h30 – U13 Boys v Hendrik Louw (S/College) 17h30 – U12 Girls v Hendrik Louw (S/House) 18h00 – U13 Girls v Hendrik Louw (S/House)
Tues	17	14h45 14h45	Oakwood Pancake Day Cricket v Caldicott School (UK) : 1 <sup>st</sup> XI (H) Hosting Cricket v Applewood : U11B (H); 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI (A)
Wed	18	from 13h45 14h45 15h00	Mini Cricket Matches: Boys v Somerset College (H) Cricket v De Hoop : U11A (A); 1 <sup>st</sup> XI (A) Girls' Relay Gala (H)
Thurs	19	from 15h00 16h00	MAD Outreach with St Paul's Primary (H) Tennis Matches : (H) & (A) Board of Governors Meeting
Fri	20	08h00 10h30 15h00	SP Assembly (Haydock Hall) JP Assembly (Haydock Hall) SH Championship Gala 1 <sup>st</sup> XI Cricket hosting Milkwood School
Sat	21	08h00 08h30 08h30	District Athletics Championships (Blue Downs) Cricket v Milkwood School : 1 <sup>st</sup> XI (H) Somerset College Entrance Tests (A)