



# REFLECTIONS OF THE WEEK

TERM 1 WEEK 8 (8 MARCH 2024)

## JUNIOR PREP SHOWCASE



Once a term, parents are invited into the Junior Prep classes to peruse and share in these spaces in which their children spend most of their days. It is a wonderful opportunity for the children to brag with their books and share their work. It allows for some quiet, reflective time together while acknowledging the progress the children are making. The children in the JP are diligently building foundational skills that will set them up for success, both in the near and distant future. These skills take time and persistent effort and we are grateful to the parents that took time to share in the process of celebrating their child's work and enquiring about their classroom spaces and routines.



## A QUIET MOMENT

At our busy, productive school where quiet moments are rare, it was wonderful to catch the children quietly diving into their newest library books. The class was still for quite a while and when it was time to pack our books away to work, the children begged for more reading time – any teacher’s dream. Needless to say, their wish was the teacher’s command. While some continued to read, others quietly set about creating some bookmarks to ensure they could save their place. It was a special moment that had to be captured!



## TECH SUPPORT!

Mr Presence is doing a wonderful job of teaching our Grade 7 techies how to set up for an assembly. Max had the wiring under control in no time!



## PAST PUPIL, JESSICA PENGELLY, VISITS SH

We received an exciting phone call from a past SH family this week, to see if they could pop in. Jessica and Donella Pengelly and their mom, Julia, popped in on Tuesday morning. It was great to see them again and to show them around our beautiful campus. They loved coming back and were exciting to still experience the warm fuzzy feeling one gets, when spending time on our campus and watching our children play. Both Jessica and Donella are fantastic swimmers and to this day, still hold records at our Championship Gala. Donella still has 2 records standing and Jessica has 4. We were delighted when Jess asked if she could pop back on Wednesday to have a training session in our beautiful pool, the place where her dream started all those years ago. Jess also trained with Mrs Loots with Coach Santa at the Strand Municipal Pool, back in the day.

Jess broke her first South African age group record at 13 years old and won her 1st senior National title in the 400m Individual Medley at 14. She qualified for the Beijing Olympics in 2007 in the 400m IM and went on to break the SA National Record in this event. Jess won the South African Most Promising Swimmer of the Year in 2007/2008 and the SA Senior Victrix Ludorum in 2009. Jessica still holds SA Age Group Records in the 400m IM as well as All African Short Course Records in the 800m and 1500m Freestyle Events.

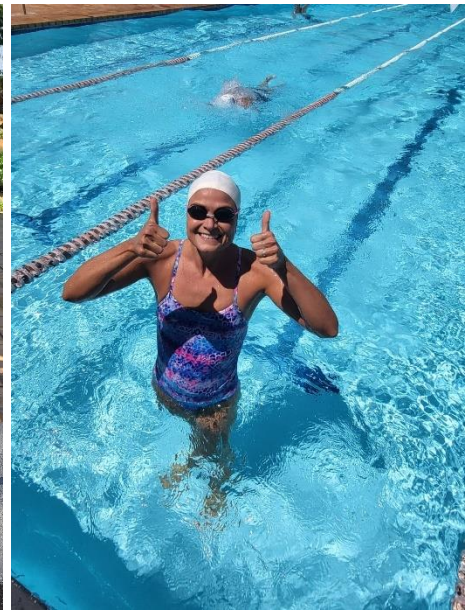
Jessica took clearance from South Africa in 2014 and qualified for the Australian Swimming Team and competed at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. I believe that Jess is the only swimmer to have represented both South Africa and Australia at International events.

To say that we are phenomenally proud of Jess and all her achievements is certainly an understatement. Having her come back at Somerset House where it all began is indeed a huge privilege for us. We invited our Grade 7 squad swimmers to join Jess at the pool and challenged them to try and beat one of Jess's long standing records. Despite a great effort, they remained untouched, and this emphasizes the quality of swimmer that Jess was when at Somerset House and the mark she made in her teens.

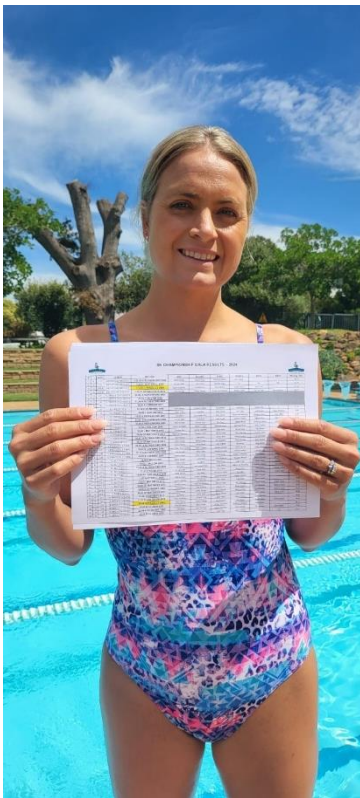
Thank you to Jess and Donella, for taking the time to visit us. We love having our past pupils back and we get even more excited to see their reactions to our beautiful campus and positive buzz around our school.

We wish Jess the very best as she ties the knot with Mark Wallace, brother of Bobby Wallace, who also attended Somerset House. They will be getting married on the farm in Elgin this weekend. We have no doubt that Jess will make a most beautiful bride. They will then be returning to Perth, Australia which is not their base.





Dear Somerset House family  
Chase your dreams, work  
hard and believe in yourselves.  
Be the best you can be!  
Jessica Pergelley.



## BRAAI DAY!

Children and staff alike enjoyed the delicious braai-meal on Thursday. Thank you, Mrs Rautenbach and team!



## PSI INDOOR HOCKEY

A number of our pupils have been participating in the PSI Indoor Hockey Trials and we congratulate those who have been selected to participate in the Inter-City Tournament this weekend. The girls play at the Wynberg 2 Military Base on Saturday and the boys at UCT Indoor Centre on Sunday. We wish them all the best of luck!

U12 Boland Foxes Grey Team

Nicolas Coolen  
Skyler October  
Mason Siljeur  
Rijk van Galen  
Harry Downing  
Zahra Staples  
Lily Herbertson

U12 Boland Foxes Black Team

U13 Boland Foxes Grey Team



## TENNIS NEWS

Our U11 tennis teams were in action last week. Our girls played indoor matches against Rhenish Primary. Emma Gielink, Ava Govender, Leah Reyneke and Alera Janson took on the mighty Rhenish and were exposed to some tough matches. Congratulations to Alera who won her singles match 4 – 1. Rhenish won the other singles matches and the doubles to win the day. Our Boys U11 also played against Rhenish and although they put up a great fight, did not manage to absorb the pressure from their opponents. Well done to Tyler Bothwell who won a great singles match 4 – 2 and to Tyler and William Bolton who put up a great fight in a tight doubles match, but just lost 4 – 3.

# POTGIETER GALA

Somerset House had the opportunity to participate in the Potgieter Gala at Somerset West Primary School on Thursday, February 29. This gala gave our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> ranked swimmers the opportunity to participate in an individual events gala. Our swimmers swam exceptionally well, winning 21 events, coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in 24 events and 3<sup>rd</sup> in 18 events. Two swimmers were entered per event. We are extremely proud of all our swimmers. We have had far more galas this term than in the past, including a number of individual as well as relay galas. We are proud of their performances across the board and thank these children for their commitment.



# MICROPHONE MONDAY

In an effort to share weekend news in a quick and efficient way a microphone is passed around the Grade 3 class. The tradition is a firm favourite and the children enjoy sharing highlights about their weekend. If they feel a little unsure, Mrs Jones will often prompt an interview and they quickly get chatting – nothing like a microphone to add some creative flair to the speaking opportunity.



# EXPLORING THE WORLD THROUGH OUR SENSES

This week, our Grade 00s were busy exploring the world through their five senses. From what they see to what they taste, each sense helps them learn and grow in unique ways. Our Mice love looking at colourful pictures in books and discovering new things around them. We took the children on a blindfold walk outside to experience what it feels like to not be able to see. They all expressed that it felt quite scary to be 'blind'. We discussed how our senses keep us safe and how to look after our eyes and ears. We also used this opportunity to listen to all the different sounds around us on the playground. The Grade 00s had a wonderful time testing their tastebuds and learning about how our tongue can tell us if something is salty, sweet, sour or bitter. We had fun trying to guess what we were going to taste by using our sense of smell first. We all use our senses to experience the world around us and this is particularly important for our youngest pupils. Every day we plan our learning experiences to incorporate all five of our senses and it is exciting to watch our children explore and learn through their senses. Here are some ways to encourage sensory experiences while learning at home:

- Draw your child's attention to different smells and tastes in the kitchen.
- Take some time to smell the plants and flowers when on a walk in the park.
- Use different malleable materials (playdough, slime, rice etc.) to practise name writing and talk about the various textures using enriching vocabulary.
- Play 'I-Spy' in the car or at the dinner table.



# GRADE 4 ISIXHOSA

Once more, the isiXhosa class this week was filled with joy as the pupils are still exploring the culture. We delved into the various ways isiXhosa children in rural areas entertain themselves, including crafting toys from clay found along riverbanks. The children then had an opportunity to create their own figurines from playdough, resulting in a delightful and impressive display of creativity.



# FLOWER TEAM AT WORK

This week the “Flower Team” were educated about corms and how to plant these little gems in the correct way. A whole bed has been kept aside for flowers and we are really excited to see the growth of the Italian Pastello Ranunculus; Amadine French Chamallow Blush Rananculus and Italian Rosa Rananculus; to name a few. We encourage all Somerset House parents and pupils to pop into the Sustainable Garden and spend some time connecting with nature.



# CONGRATULATIONS, JASON !

Jason Griessel, U9, participated in the Cape Town Chess Trials this past weekend. He performed very well scoring 4.5 out of a possible 6 points for his matches (winning 4, drawing 1 and losing only 1 match). These fabulous results ensured that Jason has ended in 5<sup>th</sup> position from all the U9s in attendance and has earned his WP Colours for Chess. Huge Congratulations Jason, we are very proud of you!



# GIRLS 1ST HOCKEY TEAM: PV HOCKEY CAMP

Our Girls 1<sup>st</sup> Hockey Team attended a 3-day Parel Vallei Hockey Camp last weekend. Our team enjoyed 20 different skill stations presented by highly qualified coaches, as well as 5 matches. Our results were as follows:

- Vs Parel Vallei U14B            Won 2 – 0
- Vs Lochnerhof U13A           Won 1 – 0
- Vs La Rochelle U14A          Lost 2 – 0
- Vs Paarl Girls U13A           Lost 4 – 0
- Vs Hermanus U13A            Won 2 – 0

This was a wonderful way for our team to kickstart their hockey season. Our girls were fantastic, both on and off the field, and were acknowledged at the prize giving for being the most disciplined team from all activities covered. We are super proud of all of you and wish you the best of luck for the season ahead.



# ALL ABOUT EDDY ELEPHANT

The little Bees (Grade 000) have enjoyed learning the different Letterland characters and this week they loved learning all about Eddy Elephant. They enjoyed singing the Letterland song as well as spotting all the different words that start with the letter "e" in the picture dictionary. After learning the song "Elephant has Wrinkles" they all happily participated in different activities at the tables from reading books about elephants, building puzzles, sequencing elephants and balancing eggs and elephants on different objects.



# NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Ava Govender had fun jamming away to Freddy Mercury during her drum lesson and there was great excitement as Jordan (Grade R) had his first violin lesson.



## GRAAD 1 STORIE TYD

In ons Graad 1 klasse is storie tyd 'n gekoesterde weeklikse gebeurtenis waar ons kinders bekend gestel word aan die vreugde van lees. Hierdie sessies dien as 'n grondslag vir hul geletterdheid reis, en vonk entoesiasme vir boeke en storievertelling. Wanneer Kwartaal 3 aanbreek, neem hulle hul eerste stappe in die lees van hul eie stories, wat selfvertroue bou en hul begrip- en woordeboekvaardighede uitbrei.



# NETBALL VS STRAND MOSLEM PRIMARY

Our netball season started with matches against Strand Moslem Primary on Wednesday afternoon. Although we haven't had much practice time, our U9 – U13 teams gave their all and although most of the results did not go our way, our girls had fun playing netball again. Our results were as follows:

NETBALL RESULTS	
U9	Won 5 – 0
U10	Lost 6 – 2
U11	Lost 6 – 2
U12	Lost 8 – 5
U13	Lost 12 – 7



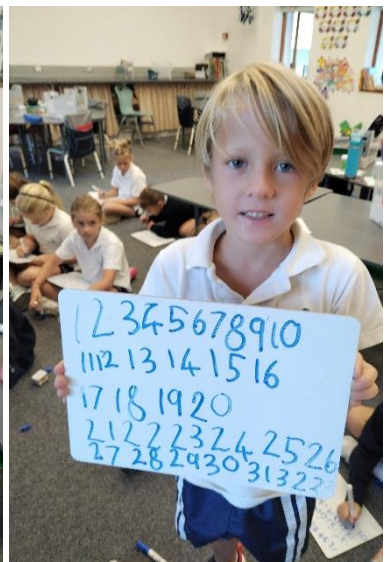
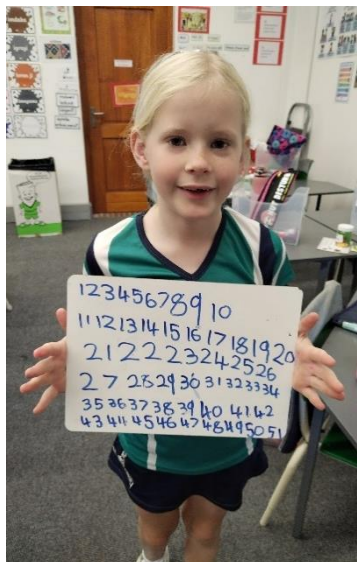
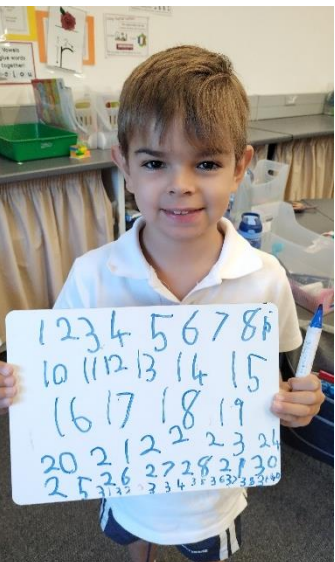
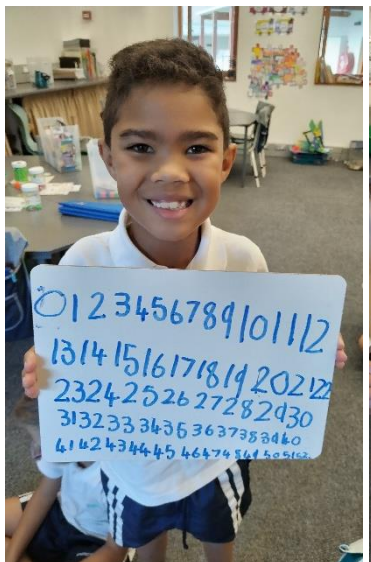
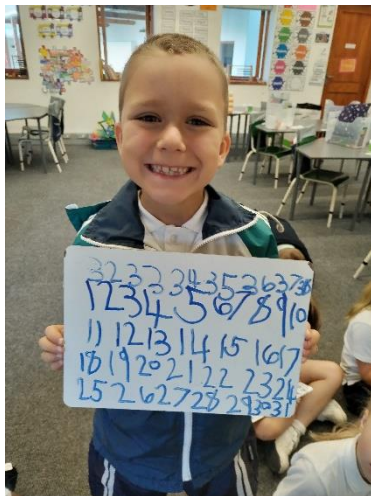
# GRADE R EMERGENT READING SKILLS

Drawing a cat flying a kite was a fun challenge. The children were very creative in their attempts and the results were impressive. They felt very smart reading the sentence, as this week we focused on the letters c and k.



# GRADE 1 NEWS

We are so proud of how far we can write numbers.



# CRICKET

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## MINI CRICKET

Both our girls and boys mini cricket teams played matches against Beaumont on Wednesday afternoon. The girls played at Somerset House and the boys at Beaumont. We had a mixed set of results, please see below for details. The U7 girls lost the toss & Beaumont chose to bat first. We have shown a great improvement in our fielding and bowling and played a competitive match.

- Total score: Somerset House – 34 runs
- Total score: Beaumont: 39 runs with Somerset House losing by 5 runs
- Best Bowler: Raphaella Koutsis
- Best Batter: Elle Rynhoud

The U8 girls lost the toss and Beaumont chose to bat first. Our fielding has improved but we gave away too many runs from bowling wides. Best bowler was Emma Bernard. We batted well but unfortunately didn't make enough runs... We lost by 22 runs. Best batters on the day were Asia Hartley and Emma Bernard.

The U9 girls demonstrated great teamwork, scoring 41 runs in their batting innings. Noteworthy improvements were seen in both fielding and bowling. This was a well-rounded performance from our girls. It was a very close affair and could have gone either way. Beaumont managed to score 40 runs with SH winning by 1 run. Very well done girls!

- Best Bowler: Maya Malherbe
- Best Batter: Lia Parenzee

The U7 Boys also played their final match against Beaumont Primary on Wednesday. We batted first and scored 49 runs, with Owen Lumsden scoring an awesome 12 runs off his 6 deliveries faced. Unfortunately, we gave away a number of extras due to wide deliveries bowled. Beaumont scored 69 runs and therefore won by 20 runs. Well done to them. Our players of the match were Owen Lumsden and Logan Heinze.

The U8 Cobras ended their first term's cricket with a bang. Bowling first we restricted Beaumont to just 17 runs, taking 3 wickets along the way. In our batting innings, we gave our all, running quickly between the wickets and protecting our wickets brilliantly. In the end, SH scored 53 runs to win the match comfortably. Best bowlers were Milan Porter (1 wickets for 1 run) and Nicholas Harpur (1 wickets for 0 runs). Best batsmen were Milan Porter (10 runs) and Malakai Leibrandt (12 runs).

The U8 Titans lost the toss and went in to bat against Beaumont. SH managed an amazing 48 runs. The boys had a great 2nd innings, fielding was slow but the bowlers showed great enthusiasm. It was an exciting encounter, we managed to restrict Beaumont to 43 runs, SH won the game by 5 runs. Well done Boys!

- Best Bowler: Adam Savant taking 2 wickets
- Best Batsman: Luke Leibrandt with 11 runs

In their final match against Beaumont, the U9 Titans encountered a challenging day on the field, managing to score only 29 runs. However, despite the tough competition, the team maintained a resilient "not give up" attitude throughout and found enjoyment in the game. Mark Goldsmith emerged as the best batsman, while Liam Fraga showcased his skill as the best bowler.

The U9 Cobras finished their season unbeaten after a convincing win against Beaumont. The boys lost the toss and went in to bat first. They started fast but lost a few wickets at the end of the innings resulting in a respectable score of 35. The boys' bowling performance was the best of the season.

They restricted a strong Beaumont side to only 22 runs with almost everyone taking wickets. The standout batsman was Jack Bind scoring 10 runs from his over and our best bowler was Ben Graham taking 4 wickets. Congratulations Boys, this certainly was an impressive performance!



### U11A CRICKET VS BEAUMONT

The U11A team played Beaumont for their last game of Term 1. SH won the toss and elected to bowl, knowing they had a lot of work to do facing a strong batting lineup. Opening bowlers Harry and Leo did well to keep the run rate down. Zach and Brodie were our top bowlers for the day. Beaumont ended on 153 after their 20 overs. Zach and Harry opened the batting, but wickets began to fall. Harry Ryder being consistent through the innings carried his bat to the end. Scoring 29 off 47 balls. Our boys were unfortunately bowled out in the 17th over.

### 1<sup>st</sup> X1 CRICKET VS BEAUMONT

Our final game of the term was against a strong Beaumont team. Congratulations to Skyler October, who earned his 1<sup>st</sup> team cap. SH lost the toss and were sent in to bowl first. Our bowling was looking really good and we did not give away many wides. Beaumont did well, rotating strike and keeping their wickets. It was great cricket all round. Nicci then came in to bowl and took 3 wickets in his first over for 1 run, a fabulous performance. Beaumont took advantage of the last 5 overs, despite our disciplined bowling attack. They ended on a massive 209 for 5 wickets.

Somerset House then went in to bat and Chris was outstanding. We built some good partnerships but then we lost a wicket, and then another one in quick succession and just didn't manage to gain momentum. Our batting strokes were decent however we just didn't manage to build too many good partnerships. We ended up with 93 runs in the end, falling short to a great Beaumont attack. Congratulations to Christopher Havinga, who scored 43 runs. Although ending on a loss, our team has played some good cricket this term, showing some great skill and character.



Well done Boys!