



TERM 3 WEEK 9 (15 SEPTEMBER 2023)

MATHEMAGICIANS!

Earlier this year, 84 000 Grade 4 to 7 pupils across the country entered the South African Mathematics Challenge 2023. This number was whittled down to 16 000 for Round 2, which was written in May. For the third and final round, only 100 pupils for each Grade made the final cut.

We are so proud of the 8 Somerset House pupils that wrote the Final Round in Cape Town last Thursday. What an amazing achievement! They attended a workshop before knuckling down to give it their all in their final challenge papers. We eagerly await their results!

Well done to Sophia Castleden, Nicolas Coolen, Liam Allwood, Thomas Niehaus, Adrian Bands, Olivia Castleden, Jonathan Coolen, and Nicolas Roberts-Meyer on flying the Somerset House flag high!



Sophia Castleden



Nicolas Coolen



Liam Allwood



Thomas Niehaus



GIRLS 1ST HOCKEY TEAM WIN BRONZE MEDALS AT THE WP TOP SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT

Our Girls 1st Hockey Team participated in the WP Top Schools Tournament which took place at Western Province Cricket Club last Friday afternoon. Participating schools included: Beaumont, De Hoop, Herschel, Durbanville, Gene Louw, Rustenburg, Sweet Valley, Kenridge, Panorama and Somerset House.

The teams were divided into two pools for the initial round-robin stage of the tournament. Somerset House was in a pool with Kenridge, Rustenburg, Beaumont and Panorama. We won 2 matches, drew 1 and lost 1 and with the points earned, ended top of our pool and therefore qualified for the semi-finals.



We played our semi against Gene Louw Primary. This was a tough match and although we absorbed a lot of pressure, Gene Louw managed to score a few minutes from full time, to qualify for the final against Durbanville Primary. We then played in the 3rd and 4th playoff against Kenridge Primary. Again, a tough match with both teams having scoring opportunities. The match ended in a draw, which saw us going to showdowns for a result. Strikers Mikyla Jordaan, Adrian Johnson and Cassidy Scrace stepped up to take the showdowns – which start on the 23yard line and the Strikers have 8 seconds each to try and score. All three of our players remained composed and managed to beat the fast approaching goalkeeper. Taylin Hilliard-Lomas, our super star goalkeeper, managed to defend 2 of Kenridge's strikers successfully, with only one of them scoring. Somerset House therefore won the showdown 3 – 1.

It was a very exciting tournament and a wonderful way for this team to end off what has been a most successful year. Congratulations girls, you flew the SH flag high and we are very proud of you.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

The University of the Witwatersrand Mathematics Competition (WMC) began in 2018 with the aim of promoting Maths in Southern Africa. We participated against formidable schools from the rest of South Africa and several African nations, including Rwanda, Nigeria, Namibia, Mozambique, Malawi, Liberia, and Botswana, where our pupils showcased their mathematical prowess.

UNIVERSITY OF THE
WITWATERSRAND,
JOHANNESBURG



Among the multitude of entrants, 20 of our pupils have been selected for the final round - an accomplishment that fills Somerset House with immense pride.

Somerset House entered two categories. Our finalists were:

Middle Primary Finalists:



Safaa
Abass

Sophia
Castleden

Nicolas
Coolen

Caleb
Hare-Bowers

Duncan
Jones

Mackenzie
Nelson

Robert
Terheijden

Tristan Van
Rensburg

Upper Primary Finalists:



Adrian
Bands

Gabrielle
Benvenuti

Aidan
Burger

Olivia
Castleden

Daniella
Clayton

Jonathan
Coolen



Taylin
Hilliard-Lomas

Aneiran
Manickum

Gabriel
McClatchey

Nia
O'Carroll

Nicolas
Roberts-Meyer

Cassidy
Scrace

We wish all our pupils the very best as we await their results!

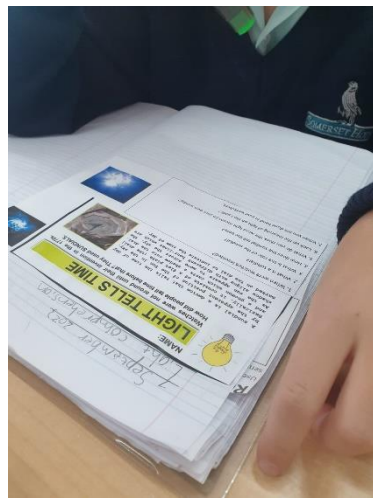
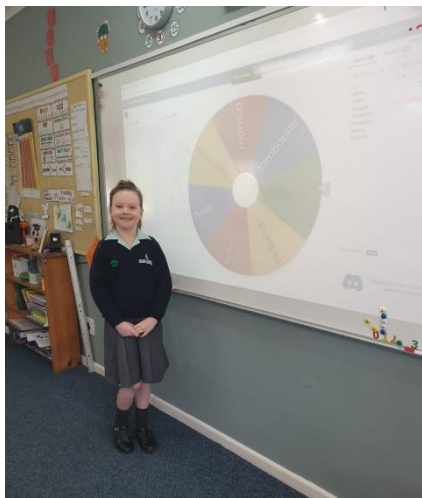
CHOIR FESTIVAL

We were blessed with a wonderful evening of choir singing. It was so good to host a choir festival again after the pandemic, with Somerset College, Newberry House and Curro Somerset West joining us for the evening. A massive congratulations to all the choirs who participated – especially to our SP choir who were the stars of the evening (my unbiased opinion). A huge thank you to our Jazz Ensembles, Jazz Band and Marimba Bands, who, with their vibrant and polished performances helped to make the evening run as slick as a whistle. Many teachers gave up time to assist with the logistics on the evening – thank you too! A special thank you to Bea Geldenhuys who spruced up our foyer and stage area – thank you for adding a touch of class to our festival.



BE THE TEACHER

In Grade 3 Baines, the children have been given the opportunity to BE THE TEACHER. They had to put together a lesson plan, comprising of an introduction, a brain break, a body and a conclusion. We have had some really incredible lessons so far and very brave new 'teachers'. I am so proud of the effort these children put into their experiences.



PHYS ED

A day of sunshine in between all the rain allowed our Grade 1s to have so much frisbee fun outdoors in Phys Ed.



ADDITION IN GRADE R

The Grade R children have been developing their Mathematical language and learning the operations of subtraction and addition, through a range of practical games, using concrete objects. Recently they have been exposed to the correct way of writing an addition sentence. They had a lot of fun rolling dice to make their own addition sums and then working out the totals.



DRAMA

When both halls are occupied and the wet weather keeps us indoors, we keep ourselves busy with the wide and fun variety of board games in our Knowledge Centre.



WATER-POLO

On Monday afternoon our U13 girls travelled to Rhenish to play a friendly match and prepare for the upcoming McKenzie Cup, which will be taking place at Reddam House this weekend. The girls were fantastic considering the limited time that they have had in the water recently. We are really looking forward to the tournament this weekend and I have no doubt that the learning opportunity will be massive.



BOYS 1ST HOCKEY TEAM – WP TOP SCHOOLS



We wish our Boys 1st Hockey Team the very best of luck as they participate in the WP Top Schools Hockey Tournament at WP Cricket Club today. Due to expected loadshedding this evening, the tournament was moved to a 12:00 start. Our boys will be playing round-robin pool matches against the following schools: Kenridge, SACS, Durbanville & De Hoop. We wish our boys the very best of luck!

FOOTBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

When starting football this year, we knew that the kids would love it, but we certainly did not have very high expectations regarding their position in the league. We have been blown away and would like to congratulate Robyn Johannes, our head coach, as well as Mr Ncaphayi and Coach Luks for the wonderful work they have done with our players.

We are super excited to share the news that both our U9 and U11 teams won the Helderberg League! This is an awesome achievement for Somerset House and we are very proud of our coaches and players. Nine schools participated in the leagues this year, and our U13 team came 5th. The top 3 positions in the leagues were as follows:

	U9	U11	U13
1 st	Somerset House	Somerset House	Curro Somerset
2 nd	Curro Somerset	Curro Somerset	Hope & Light
3 rd	Hope & Light	Hope & Light	Generation



CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS

Our top 4 chess players in the Junior Primary, Middle Prep and Senior Primary faced each other in the Chess Championship Semi-finals on Wednesday afternoon. The below players participated in the knockout stage of the Championship.

All our chess players had an opportunity to play Inter-House matches this week. Matches were played in the Junior Primary, Middle Prep and Senior Primary phases. Thank you to all those who participated in the matches, the names in bold won the match and qualified for the finals. The results were as follows:

JUNIOR PREP	MIDDLE PREP	SENIOR PREP
Milan Porter vs Daniel Porter	Jean le Roux Vs Zachariah Brown	Nicholas Roberts-Meyer Vs Simon Wiehahn
Jason Griessel vs Jack Carolin	Corbin Hilliard-Lomas Vs William Graham	Thomas Niehaus Vs Aneiran Manickum



SOAPY BUBBLY WATER FUN!

The Grade 000 children loved the beautiful sunny weather on Wednesday and really enjoyed washing and cleaning all the different sand toys.



HOCKEY, NETBALL & TAG RUGBY VS PARENTS

We would like to thank all our parents, friends, siblings or significant others who joined us for hockey, netball or tag-rugby matches against their children this week.

This is always a highlight on our calendar and we appreciate you all taking the time out of your busy schedules to join us.





CONGRATULATIONS, JAYDE !

Jayde Botha continued to excel in her gymnastics this year, this time in the Level 8 Acrobatics at the Western Cape Championships. Jayde and her partner came 2nd overall and have qualified to go through to the SA Gymnastics Games in Johannesburg on the 6th & 7th October.

PADEL TOURNAMENT !

On Wednesday, 13th of September, I hosted the Inter-House Padel Competition at Lourensford Estate as my organisational task for the Leadership Programme. We were so lucky with a beautiful sunny day! The winners of the doubles padel round robin on the day were:

- Grade 4&5 Girls Peregrine
- Grade 4&5 Boys Hobby
- Grade 6&7 Girls Peregrine
- Grade 6&7 Boys Peregrine

Thank you to all of the players who competed – I hope you all enjoyed the day!

Liam Hughes (Grade 7)



FROM OUR LEARNING SUPPORT CENTRE:



What is..... Central Auditory Processing Disorder?



Children with Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD) have a hard time hearing small sound differences in words. It is not a hearing loss or a learning disorder, but rather it means your brain doesn't "hear" sounds in the usual way.

Children with CAPD have difficulty with:

- Understanding language, especially if someone is speaking fast or in the presence of background noise.
- Following directions, especially multi-step directions.
- Learning new nursery rhymes, songs, and languages.

A child with CAPD may:

- Misinterpret messages.
- Say "What?" often.
- Respond to messages inconsistently or take a long time to respond.
- Struggle with academic tasks, such as reading and spelling.



Tips to help your Auditory Processing Disorder child at home



Be understanding & compassionate – to eliminate frustration for both the child and parents.

- Ø Maintain eye-contact by having your child face you to get their full attention, when you are speaking to them.
- Ø Speak slowly and clearly.
- Ø Try to keep instructions short, or break them down into smaller, simpler parts.
- Ø Check your child understands what you have said by asking them to repeat what you have said. Rephrase the instruction if need be.
- Ø Limit TV time - children with CAPD need a very quiet environment, especially when doing tasks that may require listening, focused attention and or concentration.
- Ø Add visual reminders and organizers, such as a graphic organizer. If your child has half a dozen things to do to get ready for school, rather than rely on a spoken instruction, parents can actually have a chart with the visual representation of each task. A similar schedule can also be used at school, for the activities pertaining to the school day.
- Ø Use an FM system in the classroom to cut down on background noise, this recommendation is made by an audiologist.
- Ø Reduce background noise, like the humming of a computer.
- Ø Reduce the echo in the room by adding absorbent materials to hard surfaces, such as a rug.

Should you have any questions or concerns don't hesitate to contact your nearest Audiologist or Speech Speech Therapist to assist you.



CHOP STICKS!

On Friday something new popped up on the menu – Chicken Chow Mein! The children loved it, especially as they were able to use chopsticks in the dining room for the first time!



GRADE 4

The Grade 4s launched their Geometry Unit, by displaying their understanding of parallel, perpendicular, and intersecting lines.





VAN GOGH SUNFLOWERS

This week the Grade 00 classes learned about the artist Vincent van Gogh. This Dutch artist was famous for a series of sunflower paintings that showed how beauty can be found in all the different phases of a sunflower's growth. The children had to be keen listeners and observers to duplicate one of Van Gogh's sunflower paintings. We discussed the various techniques he used and worked hard at mixing the right colours, using thicker paint, and using his impressionist style of short paintbrush strokes. The children loved this activity and were incredibly proud of their final products. The teachers were also impressed with the careful work and attention to detail. It was also fun to discover that all of us have a unique style and that no two artworks can ever be identical.

