

REFLECTIONS OF THE WEEK



TERM 4 WEEK 8 (1 DECEMBER 2023)

JUNGLE BOOK!

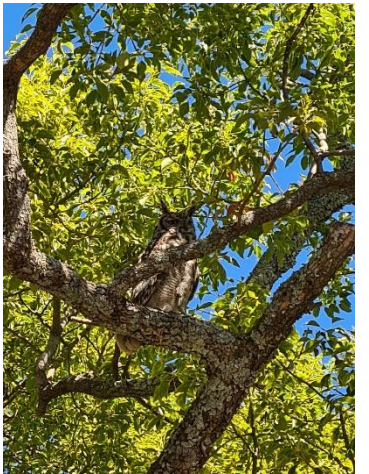
Oakwood presented their production of The Jungle Book this week. Many staff and parents assisted with the costumes and makeup to bring the children to life as jungle animals! This special production included brave bears, mischievous monkeys, beautiful birds, slithering snakes, eager elephants, wonderful wolves, a terrific tiger and the marvelous Mowgli! We are incredibly proud of each and every child who braved the stage and lights and performed for the many parents and family members who supported them in the audience.





SPOTTED!

Baby owl is out adverturing – under Mom’s watchful eye!



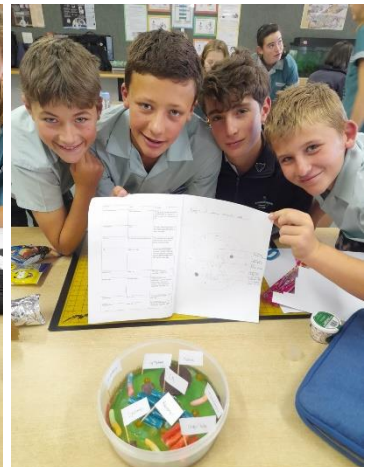
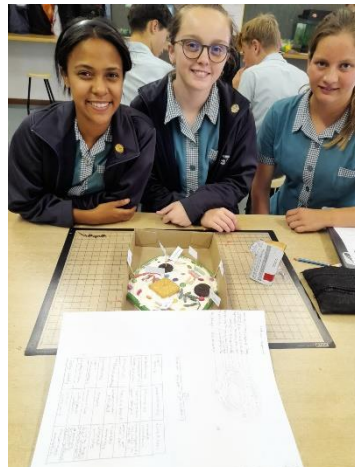
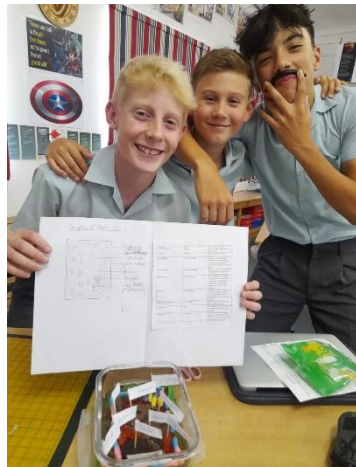
JUNIOR PREP CELEBRATION

The JP award ceremony was a culmination of emotions. For one, the teachers and children get to celebrate the years successes and achievements, for another it is a farewell evening to the Grade 3s who move from Junior Primary to Senior Primary. What a journey 2023 has been, celebrating and recognising all that we have achieved, from sport to school work, fun activities and tests - all while celebrating Somerset Houses 75th year. The children were recognised for the soft- skills (21st century skills) they exhibit; critical thinking, growth mindset, perseverance, integrity, problem solving, creativity, consideration, collaboration and respectful. The evening was a great success. Well done, Junior Prep!



CELL-A-BRATING BIOLOGY

Grade 7 got to "Cell-a-brate" their mastery of cell biology by creating an edible model of either a plant or an animal cell. The children worked in groups to create a model that is made out of edible materials. They had a lesson to plan – decide what materials they were going to use, tabulate the various materials against the structures they represent, and create a diagram of what their cell model would look like. On the day, each group needed to build their cell model based on their table and drawing. Great fun was had by all and this time, the children beat their pets to eating their work!



A ROAD TRIP THROUGH SOUTH AFRICA

The Grade 2s have thoroughly enjoyed their final theme for the year: 'A Road Trip through South Africa.' Learning about our Flag, Coat of Arms, National Symbols, and 9 Provinces has been a rewarding and meaningful journey, fostering a deep appreciation for the rich cultural tapestry and diverse geography that makes South Africa so unique.



THANK YOU

The Ladybirds and Bees (Grade 000) were very proud of all the different cat and dog food they brought to school this week to donate. Thank you.



ABRSM MUSIC THEORY RESULTS

Congratulations to Mrs Maralack and her pupils on their fantastic theory results. This was a tricky online Examination, and each of them handled it calmly and did their best, well done!

Grade 1

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-------------|
| • Zachariah Brown | — | Distinction |
| • William Graham | — | Merit |
| • Alec Hobson | — | Distinction |
| • Eireann Kruger | — | Distinction |
| • Chloe Thomas | — | Distinction |

Grade 2

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|-------------|
| • Jessica Beck | — | Merit |
| • Gabriella Benvenuti | — | Merit |
| • Sophia Castleden | — | Distinction |
| • Olivia Hipkin | — | Distinction |
| • Ryder Mitchell | — | Distinction |
| • Sienna Vonbun | — | Distinction |

ROCKSCHOOL (RSL) EXAM RESULTS

A hearty congratulations to Mr Nico Blankenberg and his Rockschool pupils. They completed their Music Examination in person and did a wonderful job. We are so proud of you!

| | | | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|----------------|---|-------------|
| 1. | Ethan Mehtar | — | Debut Guitar | — | Distinction |
| 2. | Christian Steyn | — | Debut Ukulele | — | Merit |
| 3. | Ava Govender | — | Premier Drums | — | Distinction |
| 4. | Holly Sharp | — | Premier Drums | — | Distinction |
| 5. | Liam Allwood | — | Grade 1 Drums | — | Merit |
| 6. | William Fitzhenry | — | Grade 1 Guitar | — | Merit |
| 7. | Gabriel McClatchey | — | Grade 1 Guitar | — | Distinction |
| 8. | Lucca Tosi | — | Grade 1 Guitar | — | Merit |

CHRISTMAS CHEER

Amongst our VERY busy week at Oakwood, we enjoyed some downtime when creating Christmas tree decorations. Colouring in, cutting, sticking, and tying pipe cleaners was all part of the job. We look forward to hanging them on the trees at home!



LET'S CELEBRATE OUR GRADE CHILDREN

Parents, teachers and significant others all gathered in the Oakwood Hall this week to celebrate our wonderful Squirrels and Owls. They formed an 'honour corridor', for the children to run through, to the beat of 'Eye of the Tiger'. True to our Somerset House values, every child received a personalized citation, perfectly suited to their individual character. Awards such as... problem-solver, intuitive, playful, thinker, integrity, kindness, perseverance and bravery were all well received, as the Grade Rs were acknowledged for their special skills. The children have matured, grown and learned many new life skills, to guide them into a bright and successful future. The ceremony concluded with the children singing a Graduation Song (Miss Linky).



One year older, one year wiser, one year taller and stronger and brighter.
One step closer to being the best that I can be...thank you for helping me!
Our lights are burning bright, knowledge is our guiding light.
Happy celebration day! (we have come such a long way)



GRADE 4 PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

The Grade 4s were thrilled to finish off their Space unit that consisted of Project Based Learning. We rounded off our exploration of the universe with a study on our marvellous earth. The Grade 4s have been amazing and presented some really exception research presentations.



CONGRATULATIONS, OLIVIA!

Olivia Hipkin played in the TSA Winelands Mini Masters U/12 Tennis Tournament at the Strand Club last weekend. Qualification for this tournament took place from various tournaments held throughout the year. Olivia earned her spot with a Top 8 qualifying position.

She faced some tough opponents over the weekend and eventually had to play for 5th position. She showed some determination and endurance and won her match after 2h15 mins. The final score was 5-7 / 6-4 and she won the third set 12-10, in a super tie break. What a marathon of a match, where Olivia showed true grit to not only hang in there, but to come out on top. Huge Congratulations Olivia, we are very proud of you!



THANK YOU SUPPORT TEAMS

As we approach the end of the year we wish to extend our sincere thanks to our Support Teams. Their work often goes unnoticed but this school would be crippled without these dedicated staff who often work long hours. Thank you, Housekeeping, Catering, Facilities and Grounds teams! We are very grateful for all you do!



GRADE R SPLASH GALA

On Monday 27th November, our Grade Rs had their 1st swimming 'gala' here at Somerset House, the Grade R Splash Gala. They had great fun racing with ducks, tubes, and a volleyball.

Adding more excitement to their first gala, our swimmers had to swim the width of the pool eat a marshmallow and swim back. All our grade Rs took part and really enjoyed it.

We had the services of 4

amazing Grade 5 lifeguards for the event, Kate Bands, Sophia Castleden, Nicolas Coolen and Tristan van Rensburg. You guys were awesome, thank you!



Special thanks to all the moms and dads, grannies and grandads that joined us for this event. One of the highlights was the piggy back races with their child and for those who were a little more competitive, the parents' race. Thanks to the four moms in ducks, who added great excitement to the day. We even had a few grannies and grandpas who participated, so special! The 'Splash' ended off with moms, dads, grannies, grandpas and kiddies having some free time in the pool together. Well done grade Rs, we are so ready to have you join us in Grade 1 in 2024.





AMAZING CREATIONS

The Bee Class (Grade 000) have had a very busy week and enjoyed some quiet time in their classroom playing with playdough. They made the most amazing creations and enjoyed mixing the colours together. The best creation was a snowman sitting on the beach under an umbrella in the sun. The best part was they were able to take home their master pieces.



HARD-WORKING MUSICIANS!

These musicians are practising hard for their items at the Carol's Picnic!

