



# REFLECTIONS OF THE WEEK

TERM 3 WEEK 1 (12 JULY 2024)

## KZN HOCKEY TOUR

Our Girls and Boys 1st Hockey Teams departed at the crack of dawn on Tuesday morning, for Kwa-Zulu Natal, where they are currently enjoying their tour. Matches have been arranged each afternoon, with excursions in the morning. Our pupils and staff visited the Natal Sharks Board on Wednesday morning, Ushaka Marine on Thursday morning and PheZulu Village on Friday morning.

The teams have a jam-packed programme with matches played against Ashton College, Reddam Umhlanga, Westville and ending off with both teams being involved in festivals this weekend. The girls are playing in the St Mary's U13 Hockey Tournament and the boys in the Ashton U13 Hockey Festival. Miss Mac, Mrs Loots, Mrs Hughes, Mr Huggett and Coach Sebastian have accompanied the 28 pupils on this tour.

Please see next week's newsletter for results and more photos. We wish our 1st Teams the very best of luck this weekend, as they compete against some very strong hockey playing schools in Natal. We hope that they all enjoy this wonderful opportunity and experience.





# OAKWOOD HOLIDAY AFTERCARE

The Oakwoodians enjoyed some beautiful weather during the holidays and had a tonne of fun at Holiday Aftercare!



# PREP SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLUBS

Special thanks to all the staff who ran Holiday Clinics for the Prep School during the holidays, they all seemed to be a great success! Our children were offered a variety of activities from sport to music, coding, cooking, baking, sewing, crafting, skating and an overnight campout. Please find some photos attached. We look forward to our next set of Holiday Clinics and hope to see you all there.



# LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME ACTIVITY

As part of the Grade 7 Leadership Programme, on Friday the 28th of June, myself and a few of my friends volunteered to waitress at an Art Auction for the Helderberg Shelter. When we arrived, we were shown what to do and what was going to happen and we were asked to set out little platters, first with chips and then with burgers. The fun began when we had to serve the guests. We walked around serving various platters – we served taco bowls, kebabs, mushroom bruschetta's, spring rolls and many more types of foods. After serving the food, the auction began. Whilst the auction was taking place, we plated burgers onto the little platters and set them out, ready for after the auction. The guests came to collect the burgers they had ordered. We continued to assist with the food service and then the clean up afterwards. We all agreed that this was a really great experience. I personally had a fabulous time and would like to thank the Helderberg Shelter for allowing us the opportunity to serve at their event.

(Hayley Jade Damons and Rebecca Plewman)

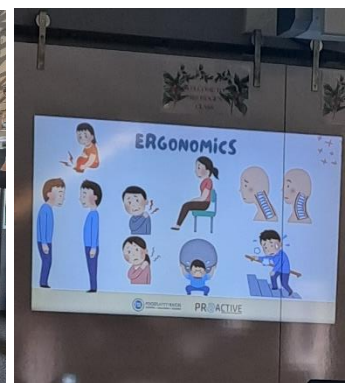


# STAFF DEVELOPMENT – CATERING DEPARTMENT



The Somerset House Catering staff attended a Food Safety and Hygiene refresher course during the school holidays presented by Food Safety Excel, an independent food safety auditing and training company.

The staff participated in a number of group activities and all successfully passed their assessment on different modules including cross-contamination, allergen awareness, temperature control, personal hygiene, ergonomics, health and safety and others. We look forward to our next session with Food Safety Excel.



# APPRECIATION POST!

Thank you to the dedicated staff in our Housekeeping department who work tirelessly to ensure that each day every part of our school is clean and ready for action! We are grateful for your work, even during the holidays!



Shanaaz  
Herman  
(Supervisor)



Angelina  
Gcali



Elzaan  
Hendricks



Lethechia  
Jordaan



Lizelle  
Vermeulen

## SOMERSET FROM THE LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM:

### Back-to-school rainy day connection 101

- I am so happy to see you.
- My day was..... anything interesting in your day?
- Let's watch a movie and eat popcorn - it's raining outside.
- Let's play a board game - it's raining outside.
- Let's build a fort in the lounge and eat dinner in there tonight - it's raining outside.
- Let's roll up, swing in, and figure out cool ways to play with blankets - it's raining outside.
- Let's cook a meal together - it's raining outside.
- Let's look at the photos we took this holiday - it's raining outside.
- Let's play eye-spy, spot the colour car, can you name the animal, categories of... on the way to school in the rain.
- Can you teach me a device game or how to make a reel on social media - it's raining outside.
- Let's do crafts or play Lego - it's raining outside.

Let's jump in muddy puddles!!!! I'm joking - it's raining outside!

Love Faye

## PRE-PRIMARY INSTRUMENTAL

Here is Jordan in Grade R practicing his sight-reading exercises during his violin lesson. The Music department offers various instruments to Oakwood students. Please contact [elzjoh@somersethouse.co.za](mailto:elzjoh@somersethouse.co.za) for more information.



# DRAMA NEWS

Somerset House has entered the Parel Vallei Drama Festival at the Playhouse Theatre! This festival will showcase 38 plays from the Cape Town area from both High Schools and Primary Schools. This is our second year that we have entered, and we are very excited to showcase our play, *The Lost Thing*. Congratulations to our talented cast and crew for their dedicated rehearsals over the holiday period.

*The Lost Thing is a touching tale about a large, misplaced creature discovered by The Key Collector on a beach. Together, they embark on a journey to find a place where the Lost Thing truly belongs, in a world where everyone believes there are far more important things to pay attention to. Unable to classify this strange, yet friendly creature, she soon realises that it is actually lost and has nowhere to go. But how could everyone fail to notice such an interesting creature, and can a young girl find out where it truly belongs?*



Safaa  
Abass



Emma  
Naude



Mabel  
Savage



Thomas  
Niehaus



Liam  
Allwood



Kristen  
Gordon



William  
Harpur



Ryder  
Mitchell



William  
Bolton



Daisy  
Dawson



Johan  
Geldenhuys



Elijah  
Morrison



Zak  
Morrison

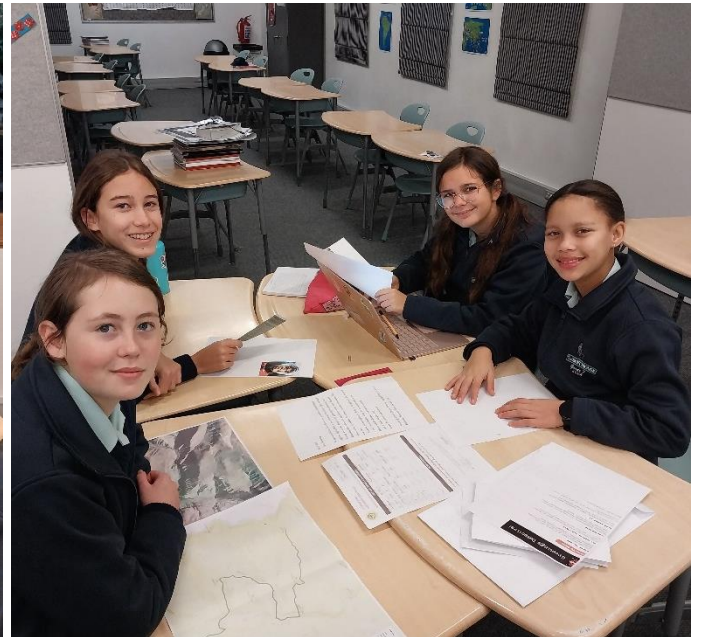
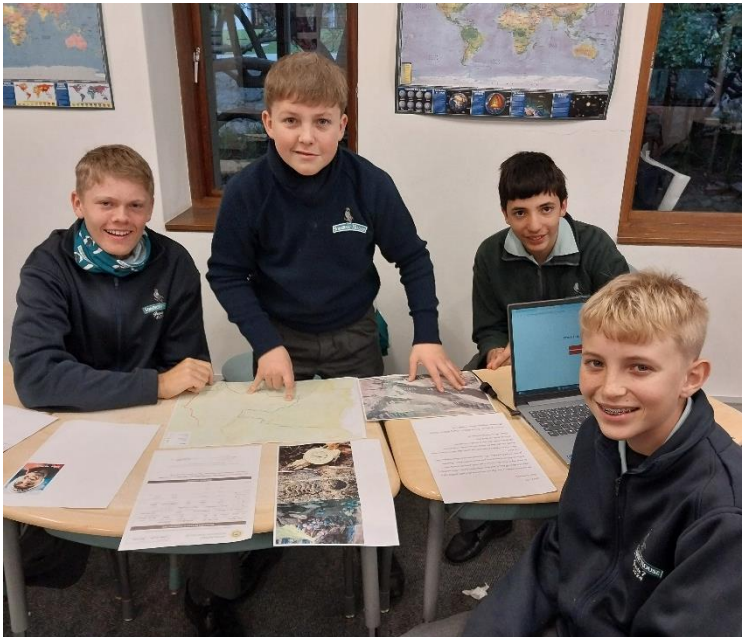
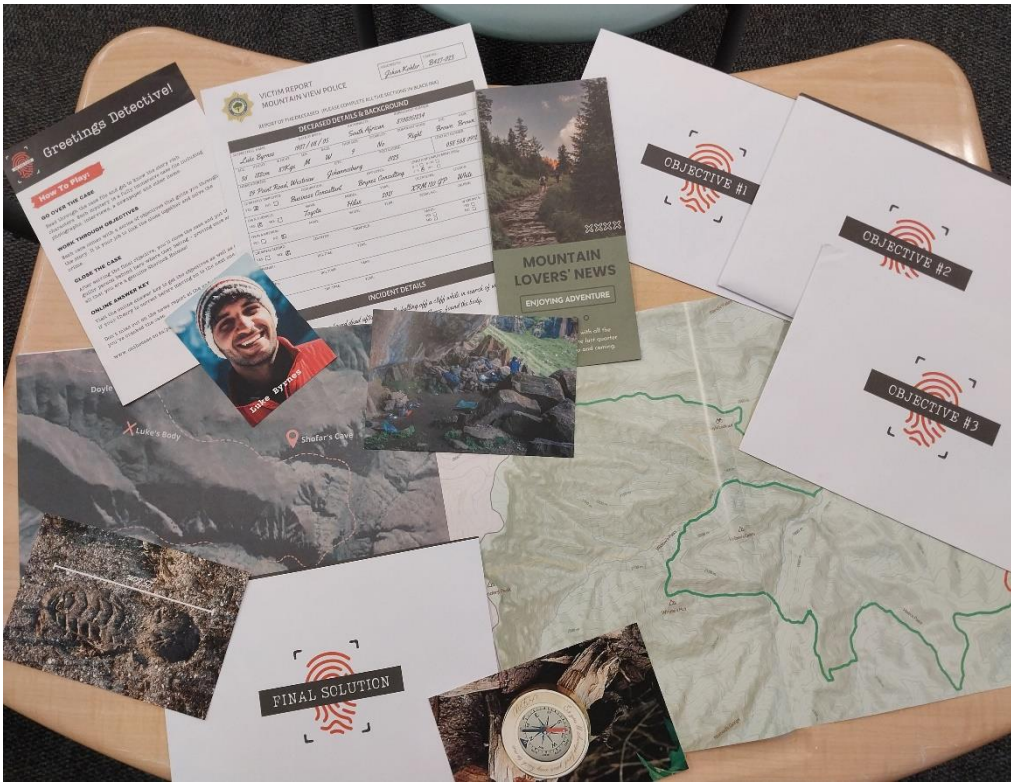


Emily  
van Schalkwyk

# MURDER MYSTERY

The Grade 7 pupils participated in a murder mystery game scenario on Wednesday morning. They worked in teams to solve the crime – a hiker had died in the mountains – was it murder or an accident?

The activity was sweetened with warm hot chocolate and marshmallows. The crime involved several clues, documents and pieces of evidence. We are pleased to report that our SH detectives all solved the crime correctly and our campus is in good hands.





## IT'S WINTER!

Wow! What a way to start the term. The little Bees (Grade 000) have been learning all about Winter. They have sung songs using different musical instruments, played winter games, painted gorgeous pictures of themselves and added scarves, gloves and beanies. They learned all about winter colours and different shades of blue and marble rolled over a rain drop as well as use a pipette to drip rain drops down their page. They really enjoyed watching the paint run down slowly, while it was raining outside.



## SUSTAINABLE GARDEN

The very first bunch of Ranunculus came out of the Sustainable Garden this week. The Grade 7s planted the corms last term and once again it has been amazing to see new life emerging from the garden.

# ANIMAL HOMES

It was wonderful to welcome our mice classes back to school this week. Although it has been a very rainy week, we were still able to enjoy many new learning experiences. This term, the Grade 00s will inquire into Animal Homes. We have a 'Vet' set up as our role-play area and the children are very keen to begin their dramatic play. We read the story of 'Town Mouse and Country Mouse' as a theme starter and discussed different types of animals such as, domestic animals, farm animals and wild animals. We also talked about why animals need homes and how their homes are different to ours. The children enjoyed sorting and categorising different animals, creating their own country house and mouse, as well as a town mouse and house. We also spent some time discussing our holidays and revising letter sounds and numbers to 10. We are excited to begin another term of learning, play and growth!



## KICKING OFF TERM 3

Despite the cold and rainy weather, the Grade 4s jumped right into Term 3 by wrapping up their Technology unit on Structures. After learning about the different components of structural design and building, researching, and constructing their own bridges, some of the early finishers got to work with the Engino Structures kits and enjoyed challenging themselves by assembling truss bridges.



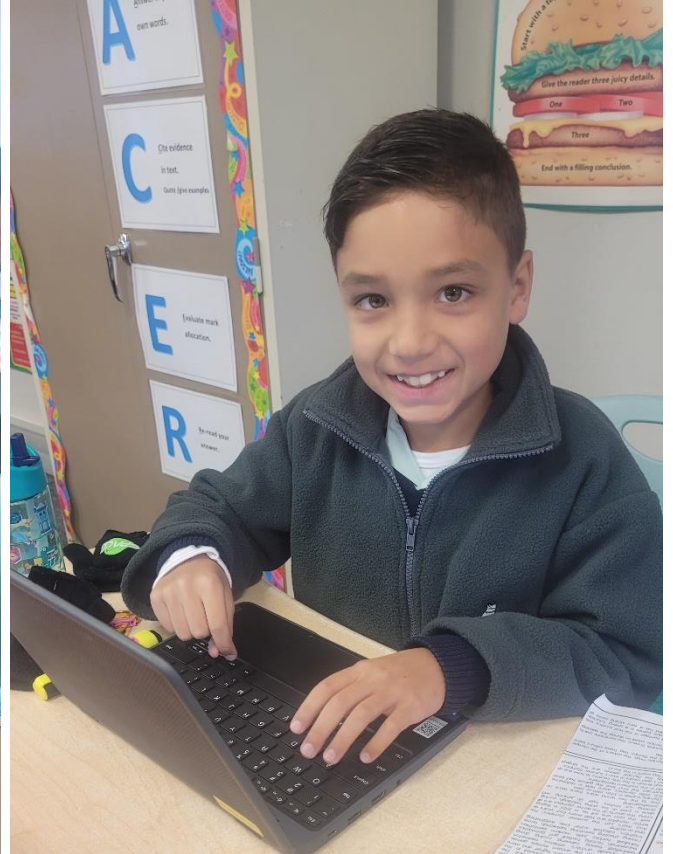
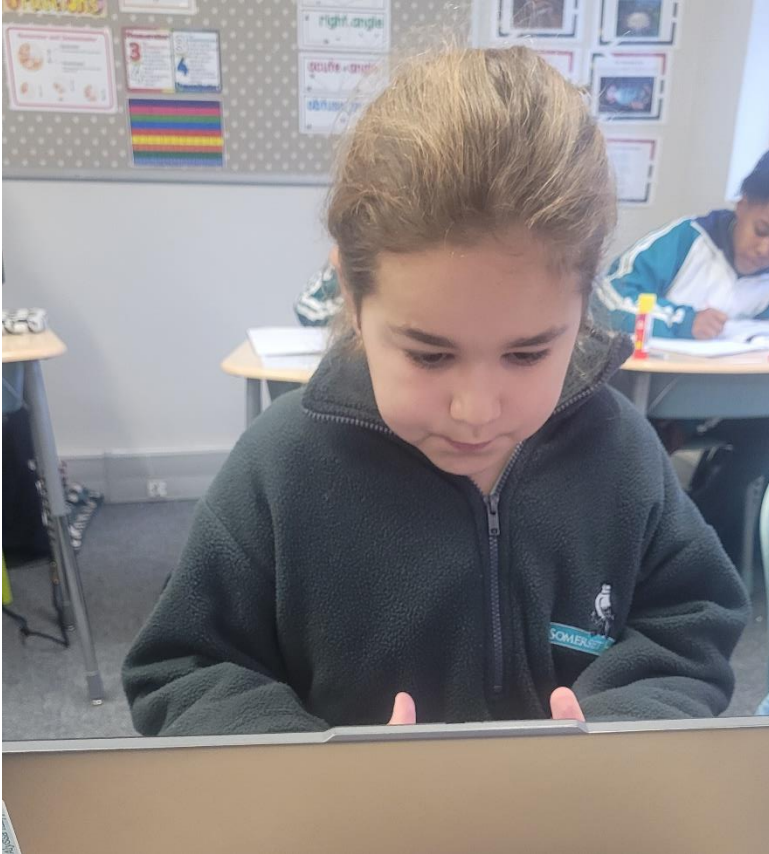
## RECONNECTING IN GRADE R

Returning to school on rainy, cold weather days did not deter the Grade R children as they reconnected with their friends and teachers after the holidays. They embraced the extra indoor time to socialize and play games with their peers. There were cheerful greetings all round and a lot of fun ensued.



# MUCH EXCITEMENT!

The Grade 4s were very excited to start using their own devices this week. Lots to learning and they are off to a great start, and we are very proud of them.



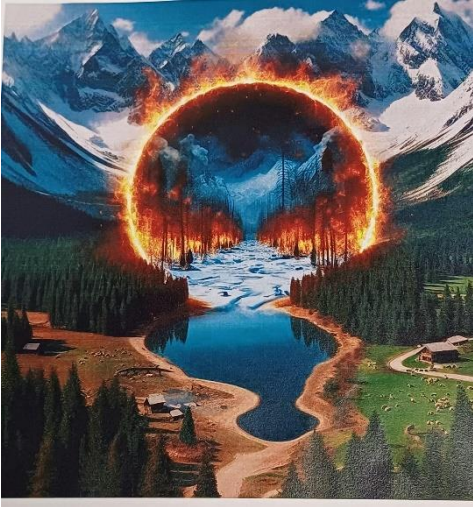
# GRADE 2 – ALL ABOUT CAPACITY

This week, the Grade 2 pupils enjoyed learning about measuring liquids through a hands-on activity. They used measuring jugs, measuring cups, and recycled bottles to measure water and compare different capacities in pairs. This made learning about measurement fun and engaging for everyone.



# GRADE 7 AI ART COMPETITION

This week the Grade 7s spent time using AI apps to generate their own unique images. They were given a brief that they needed to follow, but it was up to them to generate their very own prompts. Learning to use AI effectively in lessons and in education is a necessary skill that is only going to benefit our pupils going forward. The images were judged, and prizes were given to the top three images created.



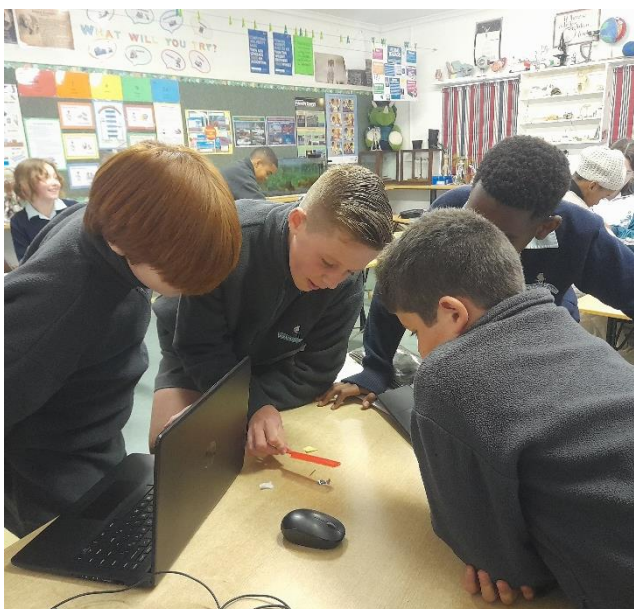
# GRADE 4 AFRIKAANS

Die Graad 4 leerders het 'n opwindende begin aan hul Afrikaansklas hierdie kwartaal gehad, met die tema van TYD. Hulle het die "sjokolade speletjie" gespeel, waar elke speler beurt neem om die dobbelsteen te rol. As 'n speler 'n ses rol, kon hulle 'n hemp aantrek, 'n mes en vurk optel, en in 'n sjokoladestafie sny, en dan 'n stuk eet voordat die volgende speler 'n ses rol. Die speletjie was genotvol en die kinders het besef hoe vinnig tyd verbygaan.



# AN ELECTRIFYING START TO THIS TERM

Grade 6 have made an electrifying start to this term, learning about Energy and Change. They have been learning about static electricity and lightning. Here the children were tasked with an investigation to create static electricity by rubbing a plastic comb or ruler on their jerseys and holding the comb or ruler above a variety of materials, to demonstrate how static electricity can attract objects.





## GRAAD 5 AFRIKAANS

“Waarom dink jy as jy die kleur rooi sien?” Hierdie vraag is aan die Graad 5 leerlinge in die Afrikaansklas gevra. Die volgende is van die antwoorde gewees: Brandweerwa, gevaar, ballonne, ‘n hanswors, ‘n stopstraatteken, ‘n bos rose en natuurlik STOKKIELEKKERS. Terwyl die Graad 5 leerlinge hul rooi stokkielekkers geniet het, het hulle ‘n voorblad vir kwartaal 3 ontwerp. Die tema vir kwartaal 3 is inderdaad rooi.



# KNOWLEDGE CENTRE REFRESH

As we step inside the newly refreshed SP Knowledge Centre, we find a space where warmth, camaraderie and conversation converge. On brisk early mornings and drizzly breaks the newly acquired soft seating has swiftly become a favoured gathering spot for pupils. Whether the pupils are immersed in lively rounds of Jenga or Uno or simply unwinding and chatting with friends, the Knowledge Centre has blossomed into a vibrant hub of social interaction. Many more pupils now seize the opportunity to curl up with a captivating book, relishing the enhanced ambiance and inviting atmosphere. Others are drawn into the excitement of the Olympic Games and gather to watch the Games.

Thanks to the funds raised from last year's Golf Day and Soapbox Derby, the Knowledge Centre received a makeover. New rugs, stylish furniture, engaging games, and warm lighting – all carefully chosen to create an inviting haven for our pupils. Whether they're chasing Olympic dreams or relaxing with friends, the newly refreshed SP Knowledge Centre is a popular haven for our children.

