



# REFLECTIONS OF THE WEEK

TERM 4 WEEK 1 (11 OCTOBER 2024)

## CAMPUS LIFE

As we welcomed children back to school for Term 4, it was special to note that we will possibly have some additions to the Somerset House family. What a privilege to see our resident owl nesting in a tree-stump behind Mr Huggett's office. The space has been cordoned off and we hope to see an owlet or two in the future!



# QUEST DEPARTURE

On Thursday morning the Grade 7s departed campus on foot for Quest 2024. The next 6 days will be filled with adventure, camaraderie, perseverance and many lessons to be learnt. We would like to thank the staff who will be accompanying the Grade 7s, as they will be spending time away from their families. Thank you to Mrs Loots, Mrs Theart, Mr Angus, Mr Presence, Ms Hughes, Mr Chev and Mr Fuller (Grade 2 parent). We look forward to the pictures and stories to follow and we wish the group the best of luck. A big thank you must also be extended to Grayswan who have sponsored this year's amazing tops.



# ORCHESTRA VISIT

The Cape Philharmonic Orchestra visited our school on Wednesday morning as part of their Schools Outreach Initiative, treating us to a captivating performance of 'Peter and the Wolf'. We were delighted to share this experience with the students from Hope and Light School, making the occasion even more special. Having one of South Africa's most active orchestras perform for our pupils was a unique opportunity to witness the arts in action. This event not only inspires a love for music but also helps nurture future audiences and potential orchestral musicians within our community.

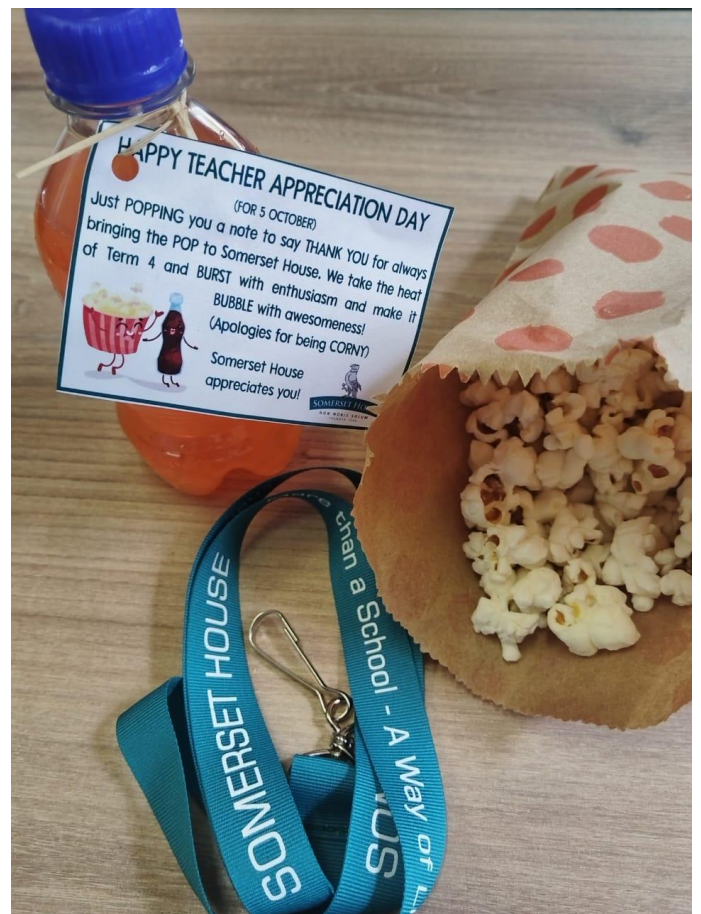


Some Grade 3s were thrilled to get the musician's signatures after the performance!



## TEACHER APPRECIATION

On Tuesday, the Somerset House Staff arrive for their Staff Working Day ahead of Term 4, and welcomed by a treat in celebration of Teacher Appreciation Day.



## WATCH THIS SPACE

An exciting project has been brewing in the Junior Prep Knowledge Centre. Watch this space for the big reveal!

## A SPECIAL POEM

This poem was written by Emma Gielink in Grade 5 – not as part of any curriculum work but just as expression of what being at Somerset House means to her.

*Somerset House is more than a school - it's another home.*

*A family. It's a place to learn, a place to make friends.*

*This is a school filled with love, support and kindness.*

*I will never want to leave but sadly I will.*

*I have never seen a school filled with so much love.*

*I am so glad to have the privilege to be able to go to this school.*

*There is no other school I'll ever want to go to.*

*I made friends and made a family.*

*There is no other place to call home.*

## THE FASCINATING TOPIC OF PLANTS



The Grade 1 pupils explored the fascinating topic of plants, learning about the life cycle of a seed and how it grows.

During the holidays, they had the chance to nurture their own bean plants, and the results speak for themselves!

Just as they've cared for their plants, our Grade 1s have been nurtured throughout the year, blossoming into their unique personalities. We are incredibly proud of their growth and development!

## PAST PUPIL NEWS

Congratulations to Nicholas Oscroft who has been elected Head Boy of SACS for 2025. We are very proud!



# HOLIDAY NEWS

## DANCING

- Sophia Castleden performed 2 studio medal examinations in Hip Hop and Musical Theatre. She was awarded Gold Medals for both and achieved 96% for her Hip-Hop exam and 94% for her Musical Theatre exam.
- Bailey Rose Castleden took part in her dance studio's annual Stage Medals. She performed her very first solo dance on a stage in front of an audience and was awarded a Gold medal with a 96%.



## FOOTBALL

Congratulations to Bobby Savage and his De Beers Football Team for winning the Double League and Cup Championships. A super achievement, well done Bobby!



## GYMNASTICS

A number of our gymnasts represented the Western Cape Gymnastics Team during the school holidays at the SA Gymnastics Games, we are very proud of their achievements. Here are some very special results below:

- Sophia Castleden competed in the 12-year-old section at Level 4, finishing 21st place nationally out of 90 competitors.
- Giorgia Macintyre had 64 gymnasts in her age group and received unbelievable results: Gold Medal for Rope, Silver Medal for Clubs, and a Bronze Medal overall in her age group. These are phenomenal results, huge congratulations Giorgia!
- Jayde Botha also had a fantastic SA Gymnastics Games, winning Silver for her Free Dance routine and a Gold Medal for the Group Acrobatics routine. Again, phenomenal results, very well done Jayde!



## TENNIS

Nathan and Hannah Sloan participated in the TSA Cape Town Mini Masters Tournament which took place last weekend. Only selected players are invited to participate, and they both did very well. Nathan came 5th in the Boys U12 and Hannah came 6th in the Girls U12. Awesome achievements, well done Hannah and Nathan.



# EISTEDDFOD TOP PERFORMERS

The Western Cape Virtual Eisteddfod congratulates candidates of 2024 for being awarded Cum Laude (95% and above).



Candidate	School	Category	%	Award
Imogen Massmann	Somerset House	Creative Writing	95	CUM LAUDE
Amber Cowley	Somerset House	Creative Writing	95	CUM LAUDE
Sophia Castleden	Somerset House	Speech & Drama	95	CUM LAUDE
Jenna Parker	Somerset House	Speech & Drama	95	CUM LAUDE
Ava Govender	Somerset House	Speech & Drama	98	CUM LAUDE
Thomas Niehaus	Somerset House	Speech & Drama	98	CUM LAUDE
Ryder Mitchell	Somerset House	Speech & Drama	95	CUM LAUDE
Carla Hodges	Somerset House	Speech & Drama	95	CUM LAUDE
Adam Lewis	Somerset House	Visual Art	95	CUM LAUDE
Thomas Niehaus	Somerset House	Visual Art	96	CUM LAUDE
Ryder Mitchell	Somerset House	Visual Art	96	CUM LAUDE
Zachariah Brown	Somerset House	piano	95	CUM LAUDE
Marimba Band	Somerset House	Marimba band	95	CUM LAUDE
Colin van Zyl	Somerset House	Piano	95	CUM LAUDE
<b>Sienna Vonbun</b>	<b>Somerset House</b>	<b>Piano</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>CUM LAUDE</b>

## ART COMPETITION WINNERS

We are very pleased to announce that we had had a lot of success in the PNA Portchie Art Competition.

### Grade 4

- 1st Prize: Frankie Roberts-Meyer
- 2nd Prize: Madison Gilbey

### Grade 3

- 1st Prize: Chiara Cirillo

The artists got to meet Portchie himself and have their work signed by him, as well as walking away with amazing creative prizes. Well done to all who participated!





# WELCOME BACK, LADYBIRDS

The Ladybirds (Grade 000) have had a wonderful first week back at school and were so excited to see their friends. We are all looking forward to a special fourth term.



# INCREDIBLE JOURNEYS IN GRADE R

The Grade R children will be embarking on a number of wonderful adventures this term, as we explore a diverse range of 'Journeys'. We are super excited to travel by bus in Week 3, as we go on our first Oakwood Outing. Towards the end of the term, our focus moves to 'Our Journeys into Grade 1', in preparation for a smooth transition next year. As an introduction to this theme, we started with Mr Gumpy's storybooks by John Burningham. We extended this to our creative activities and the children designed their own motor cars and decorated their rowing boats, carefully sequencing the characters from the story. It was a warm welcome back to school, as the children were happy to reconnect and reunite with their teachers and friends.

