



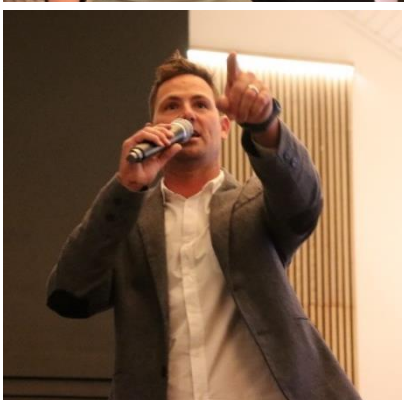
REFLECTIONS OF THE WEEK

TERM 4 WEEK 3 (25 OCTOBER 2024)

FAIRWAY FUN GOLF DAY!

Congratulations to the Somerset House Fairway Fun Golf and Boule Day organising team, Betty Hardcastle, Annabel Mead and Kylie Chevallier for a wonderful event at the picturesque Erinvale Golf Course. We extend our gratitude to all the donors, sponsors, players and supporters who made this day possible.





GRADE R OUTING TO EXOTIC ANIMAL WORLD

The Grade Rs went on their first outing this week to Exotic Animal World. The centre has rescued, rehabilitated and given home to abandoned exotic pets. Upon arrival, we enjoyed a demonstration in the Education Centre, followed by a self-exploration journey of the outdoor and tropical gardens and the display rooms. It was a great opportunity for the children to practise many life skills outside of the usual classroom environment.



- I loved seeing the owls because our class is the Owl Class (Gogontle)
- The bus ride was fun because it was my first time (Ellie)
- I loved the snake with the blue tongue because it was very fun to feel, and it was smooth and rough (Luc)
- I just liked the lemurs because it was my first time seeing one and the baby was super, duper, duper cute (Nicholas)
- One of my favourite things to see on the outing was the tarantulas because they were staying still, like paralysed and I could see the brown and hairy body (Asher)
- We saw real live owls and I liked the bus because it had so many seats and when we were going we had a tv. And I liked the tortoises (Thavha)



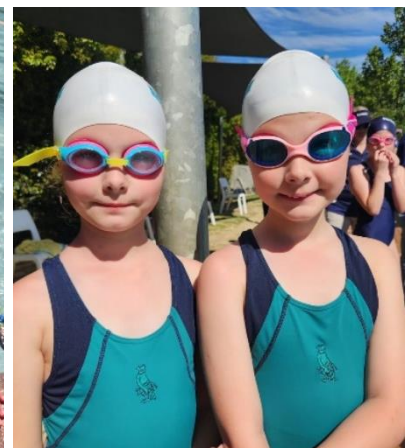
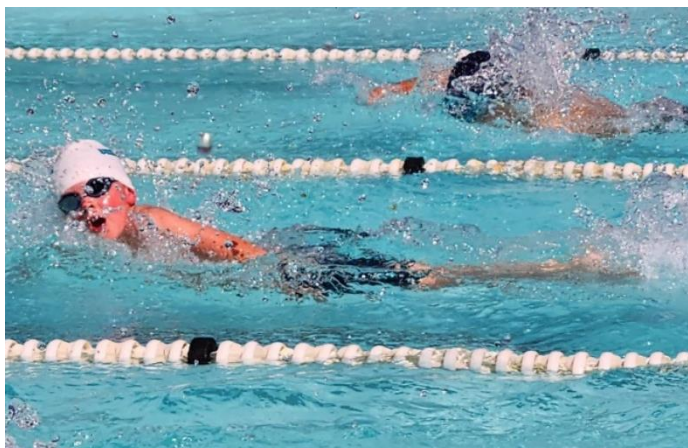
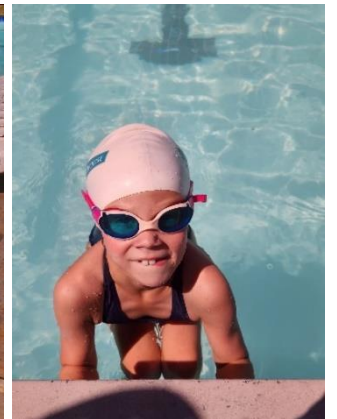
GRADE 4 "KLIPPIE BRIEFIES"

The Grade 4s had a blast making "Klippie briefies" for Afrikaans, enjoying the creative process of painting their own. Juffrou Farrer added to the fun by hiding some of her own creations around the school grounds, each with a special Afrikaans message for the children to discover on Monday and Tuesday. The excitement continued on our outing to Vergelegen, where the children found beautifully painted rocks hidden along the Lourensford River by the local community. It turned into a thrilling treasure hunt for our classes! We are so grateful to the Somerset West community (Helderberg & Cape Town Painted Rocks) for placing these rocks for our SH children to find, making it a highlight of the day and adding even more excitement as they prepare for their upcoming "mondelinge".



JUNIOR SWIMMING GALA AT RHENISH

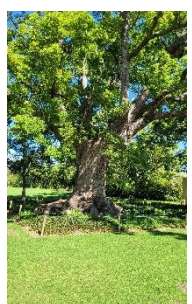
The Somerset House Junior Swimming Squad had a blast at the Junior Swimming Gala held at Rhenish on Tuesday afternoon. Our swimmers really brought their A-game, showing amazing enthusiasm in the pool and cheering each other on with lots of energy. The fun didn't just start at the pool, it kicked off on the bus ride there, where everyone was belting out jolly songs to keep the spirits high. It was a fantastic day filled with laughter, teamwork, and some great results! Well done Team SH! (Mrs Loots)



GRADE 4 OUTING TO VERGELEGEN



The Grade 4s were lucky enough to visit Vergelegen Estate and Manor House this week. We had the most glorious weather and enjoyed touring the beautiful grounds and historic Manor House. We have so much history on our doorstep and are privileged to live in this amazing place! We had a lovely walk back to school along the Lourens River as well as a picnic in the park.



OUTDOOR ART

In preparation for Founders' Day next week the Grade 1s spent their art lesson under the oaks, drawing our Cloetenburg building.



MONEYTIME!

This week our Grade 7s had the opportunity to explore MoneyTime, a web-based financial literacy program that makes teaching financial literacy easy. MoneyTime automatically marks quizzes and tests to assess pupils' progress after each lesson. Pupils earn virtual money for completing lessons, which they can then spend in the game. They can choose to spend, save, invest or donate to charity, and the decisions they make have simulated real life outcomes that help them understand the impact of their choices. This enables the pupils to explore the making of financial decisions without risk, or fear of failure. There are also 13 lessons for them to complete with their parent or guardian. These are completely optional but are highly recommended as they enable pupils to put their learning into their own real-life context. We look forward to this amazing learning opportunity!



GALA AT GENERATION SOMERSET WEST

Somerset House participated in a thrilling Mixed Relay Swimming Gala at Generations, showcasing impressive talent and determination. Our U8 swimmers stepped up to compete in the U9 age group while the Grade 3s were away on camp. Each relay team consisted of two girls and two boys, and despite facing tough competition from schools like Somerset College, Curro Somerset, Applewood, Generations and Somerset West Primary — many of which swim year-round — our swimmers gave their all. Their hard work and great team spirit paid off, as they secured a commendable 2nd place, proving their resilience and dedication in the pool. Well done, Team!



NURSERY RHYMES

This term the Grade 000s are learning all about the theme, Nursery Rhymes. The Ladybirds loved learning 'Incy Wincy Spider' and 'Little Miss Muffet' this week. They painted the most beautiful spiders with long, colourful legs, and added neon dot stickers and many googly eyes to their paintings. They practised their cutting skills by cutting along a line towards a spider, and they counted out little spiders and matched them to the correct numbers. They constructed many colourful drainpipes for their spiders to climb up and down while singing their favourite nursery rhyme.



OUR GROWING ORCHESTRA

We are thrilled to see a growing number of participants in the orchestra this year! If your child is interested in joining this vibrant ensemble, please don't hesitate to reach out by emailing elzjoh@somersethouse.co.za. We look forward to welcoming more young musicians to our group!



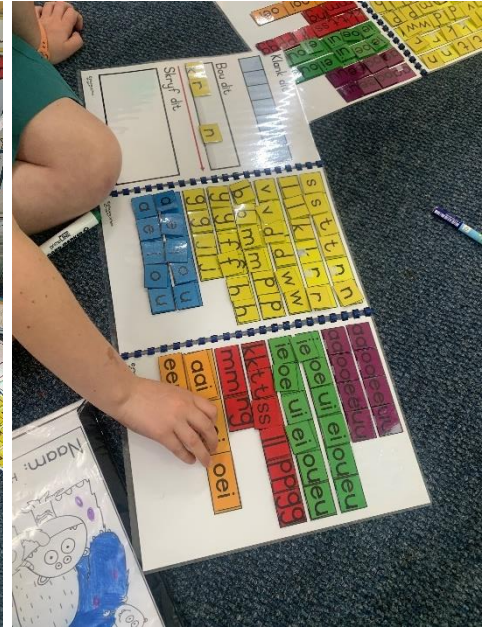
FILMING

We were thrilled to have RMC Videographers on site a number of times during the last 2 weeks to capture footage of our school "in action" to use for marketing purposes.



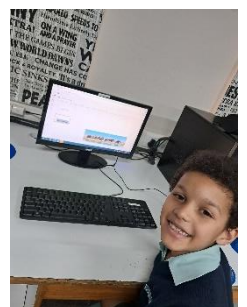
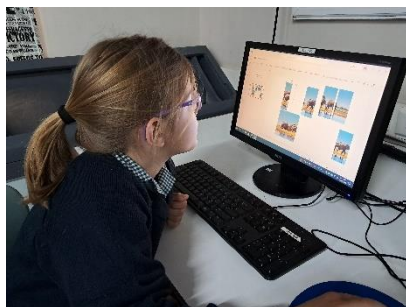
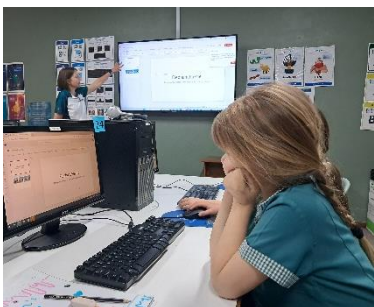
GRADE 3 AFRIKAANS

Group work during Afrikaans lessons is a teaching method used to build phonics words to support the learning of “klanke!”



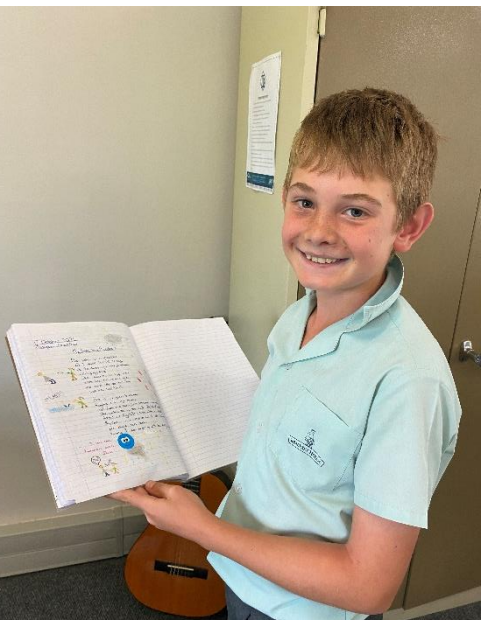
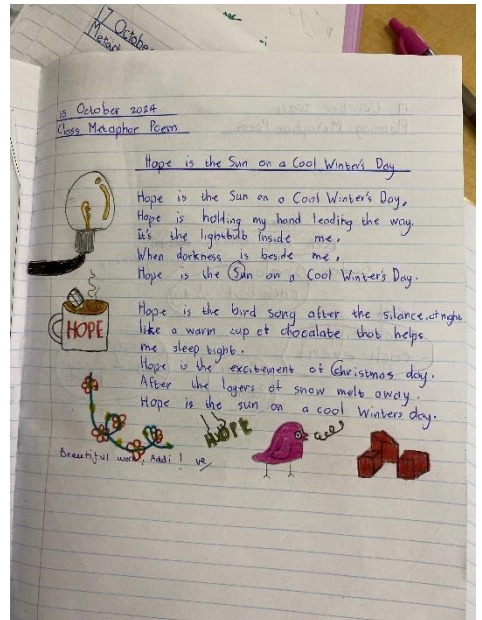
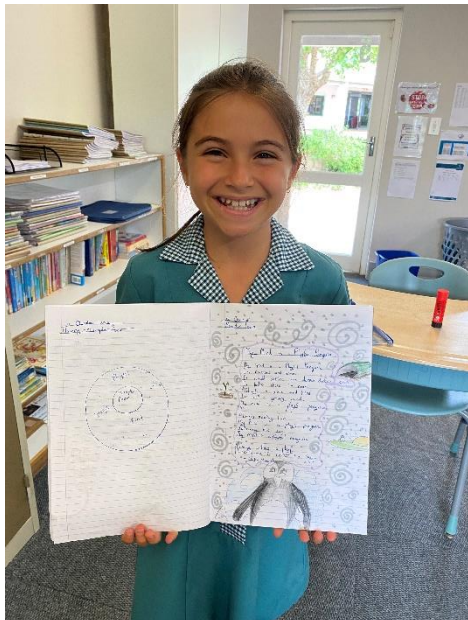
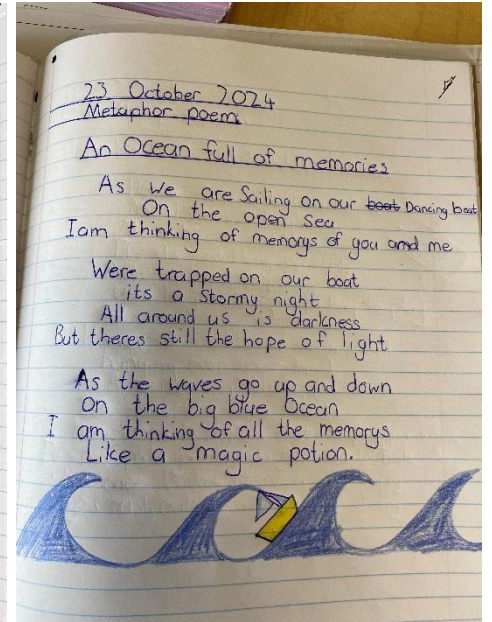
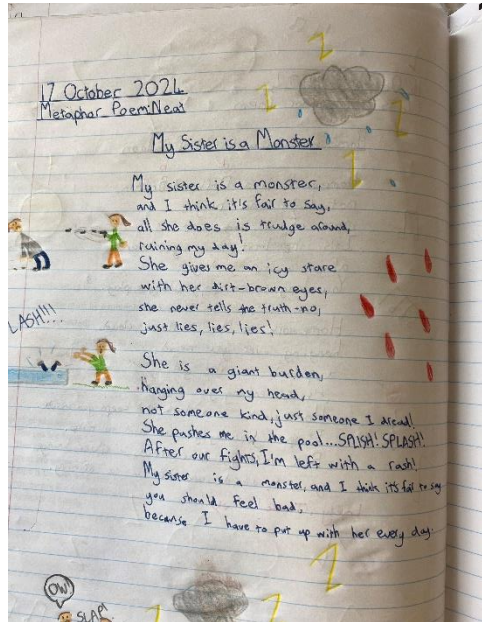
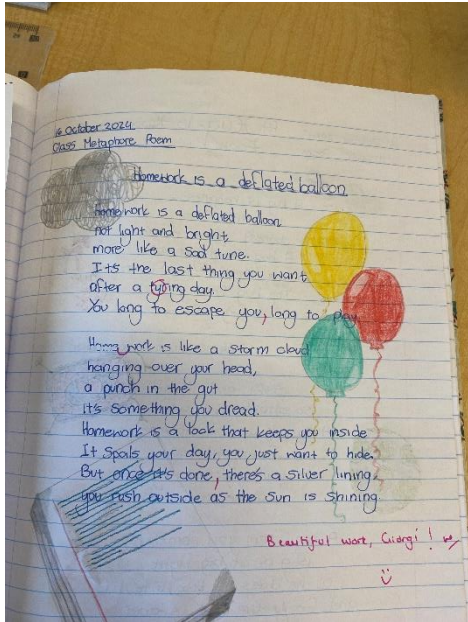
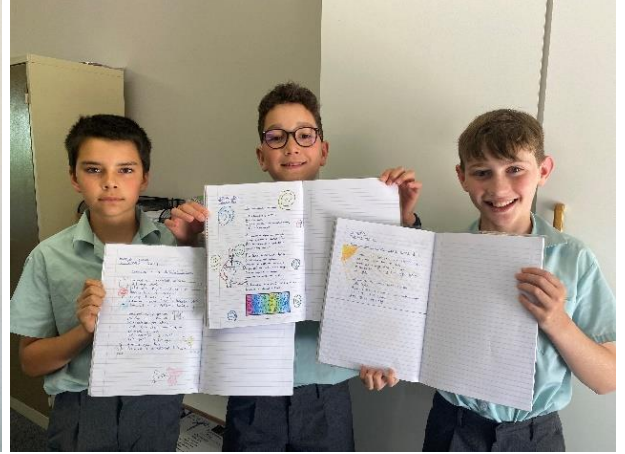
HANDS-ON LEARNING

This week, our Grade 2s had an exciting hands-on experience learning about money in their Maths group rotation. They set up a Checkers shop, using Checkers mini shoppers to practice buying goods, paying for items, and working out the change – an engaging way to develop their practical math skills. In ICT, the children also took their first steps in creating a PowerPoint presentation! This process will unfold over the next few weeks, as they build confidence and creativity while learning this important digital skill. It's been a week of growth and new challenges!



METAPHOR POEMS

As part of their exploration of the different figures of speech, the Grade 5s wrote a metaphor poem. At first they looked at examples of metaphor poems as well as a list of metaphors. As a class, they chose a metaphor and brainstormed ideas using a thinking map, and then composed a class poem using ideas from the pupils. Group 1 wrote a poem entitled, "Homework is a Deflated Balloon" and Group 2 chose the metaphor, "Hope is the Sun on a Cool Winter's Day". Once they had modelled the process of writing a metaphor poem, the pupils wrote their own poem using the same process. They had fun expressing their ideas and the finished products were heartfelt and entertaining.



CLAY CLUB

Clay Club is off to a great start, so we thought we would share some of the benefits of clay play with you (courtesy of @the.creativityproject). Maybe it will inspire you to give it a go yourself!

Busy hands, calm minds.

6 benefits of clay play.

Self-regulation

Clay is soft, pliable, and comforting. It engages the senses and has a soothing quality, helping to relieve stress and regulate emotions. A range of movements from pinching to pounding is welcome.

Fine motor development

Squeezing, smushing, pinching, and rolling clay strengthens hands and fingers and improves dexterity, crucial for writing and drawing.

Language skills

Open-ended clay experiences spark natural collaboration and storytelling which develops vocabulary and builds language skills in context.

Socialization

Clay is malleable and responsive, sparking imaginative, fluid ideas that are inclusive of all children's abilities, languages, and cultures.

Self-expression

Children have the power and agency to transform a lump of clay into anything they wish. Every squish, pinch, and roll becomes a language of expression and a way to share oneself.

Creative confidence

Children feel a sense of power when transforming clay with their hands. Their confidence and resilience grow when given opportunities to innovate freely and fearlessly.





TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC

This week the Grade 00 children continued their inquiry into 'Birthdays', as part of our Celebration theme. They were challenged to plan a birthday party for their teachers' teddy bears. We discussed the types of things that we would need to make for a successful birthday party: music, food, decorations, invitations, party games etc. the children then got to work making invitations for their teddies, creating paper chains as decorations, designing party hats and baking cupcakes. When the exciting day arrived the mouse classes had to set the table and enjoy their hard work! This involved counting, planning and teamwork. The children then enjoyed playing some birthday party games like, 'Musical Statues', 'I wrote a letter to my love' and 'who stole the cookie from the cookie jar'. It is safe to say that Mrs K and Mrs B's teddies had a fantastic time at their birthday parties!



MINI CRICKET VS GENERATIONS

GIRLS U8: A great performance by the U8 Girls on Wednesday afternoon when they took on Generation Somerset West! Somerset House scored an awesome 56 runs, then kept things tight in the field and only allowed Generation to score 41 runs. Somerset House won by 15 runs. Well done, girls. We are super proud of you! (Mrs McIntyre)

- Best Batsman: Emma Barnard
- Best Bowler: Alice Burger

GIRLS U9: A brilliant match by the U9 Girls – showing grit and determination to win the match. Generation Somerset West batted first and put up big total of 35 runs to chase. Somerset House went to bat and put up a score of 39 runs winning the game by 4 runs. (Coach Tiaan)

- Best Bowler: Ella Lumsden
- Best Batsmen: Alexis Stander

U7 BOYS: The U7 Boys faced a tough match this week against Generation Somerset West, narrowly losing by just 5 runs. Despite a strong batting effort, they left too many runs on the pitch, and a few lapses in concentration led to key wickets falling. In the second innings, the boys gave their all, battling through the heat and critical moments, but it wasn't quite enough to secure the win. We're incredibly proud of the boys for their resilience and determination to fight for a victory until the very end. As a team, they recognise the areas that they need to improve on and will continue working hard to reach their full potential. (Mr O' Brien)

- Best Bowler: Phen Hardcastle
- Best Batsman: Giovanni Cirillo

U8 BOYS: A fantastic U8 match! We won by 21 runs. (Mrs Angus)

- Best Bowler: Nic Harpur
- Best Batsman: Malakai Leibrandt

U9 BOYS: The U9 Boys won their game against Generation Somerset West by 2 runs with a clinical performance. I was very proud of the boys bowling and teamwork in particular. These aspects definitely contributed towards the positive result today. (Coach Ben)

- Best Batsman: Jackson Gilbey
- Best Bowler: Liam Fraga



FABLES

The children have been learning all about Fables in Grade 4. The pupils read many of Aesop's Fables and then had the opportunity to write their own. There were some very well-written, original pieces. Well done Grade 4!

The Lion and the Deer *(by Alera Jansen)*

Once there was a very mean Lion who always teased other animals and said that he was better than others. Not so far away, lived a very kind, sweet little Deer, who really loved playing cricket, so when she found out that the Lion was in the best cricket team in the forest, she immediately ran to Lion to ask if she could play in his team.

When she got to Lion, she found him playing cricket with his team. She awkwardly approached Lion and said, "Excuse me, I hear that you are in the best cricket team in the forest, and well, I was wondering if I could play in your team?"

The Lion paused for a second... "Oh! You're serious! HAHA!" the Lion chuckled. "You think you can play for 'MY' team, you probably can't even hold a bat right!" the Lion replied. "Now if you would excuse me, I need to keep on practicing, I have a big tournament tomorrow and we must play our best!" the Lion sneered.

The Deer was very sad, but she knew that she could beat Lion easily! Then she thought that if she played in the tournament she could win! "Well, we will see who wins tomorrow!" she mumbled.

The next day it was the tournament, and the Lion was very surprised to see the Deer there.

3... 2... 1 Brrrr! The game began and Deer was on fire! One run, two runs, twenty runs... before they knew it there were only two balls left! 3...2...1... and that's the game! Deer's team had won! Lion was speechless! Lion then realised that if he had let Deer play in his team, he could have won!

The moral of the story is that you must not judge people based on how they look.

The Snake and the Bunny *(by Kayla Jeffrey)*

There once was a Snake and a Bunny, they were best friends! The Snake invited all the animals to his Halloween Party. All the animals were having a great time. But then the Bunny came, and everyone was crowding around the Bunny saying, "You're adorable!" and "You're so cute!"

The Snake was very jealous, it was his time to shine, and the Bunny was getting all the attention! So, he decided if he ate the Bunny, he would get the attention.

The Bunny was so scared, but the snake was very fast! After a while the Snake realised he can't get his best friend back! He was very lonely, and all the animals thought he was very bad, so he had no friends!

Friendship is more important than ANYTHING!

The Bunny and the Shrew *(by Eireann Kruger)*

Bunny was about to eat the delicious looking purple berries but then Shrew popped up and said "No! Don't eat those purple berries they're poisonous!!"

Bunny said, "Oh thank you, you saved my life!". At sunset, Bunny was hopping home when he heard giggling, so he quietly crept to a leaf and peeped through and there he saw Shrew with a big, fat tummy and his long nose smeared with purple berry juice. Shrew was laughing to himself. "Oh, I tricked Bunny these berries aren't poisonous now I have them all to myself!" Suddenly Shrew started to look sick, and then he started to hold his tummy and groan and moan. Shrew threw up on the grass. Bunny crawled out of the bush, and he said, "Hey! I heard every single word you said. Now look at you on the floor all sick. That's what happens when you lie."

Shrew whispered, "I'm so sorry I was greedy and wanted all the berries for myself." After that Shrew always thought twice about lying.

The moral of the story is - that lies always backfire.

The Elephant and the Tick Bird *(by Reese Olivier)*

There was an Elephant who thought he could reach everything, even apples from the tallest tree in the garden. He would get fruit for all the animals in the garden, he even helped the tiny little ants.

All of the little ticks landed on where he could reach to take them off, he started boasting about how he was the best.

The ticks would come and come and come, and the Elephant fed them to the birds. But one day a tick landed on his back and he couldn't reach it, "Help!" he shouted.

All the animals rushed to him and said, "Oh, but we thought you were perfect?" mocked one of the birds.

Luckily a tick bird said, "I'll help," and he did. He picked off the tick and ate it.

"Next time don't boast and the other animals will help you too," said the tick bird.

The Elephant and The Lion *(by Marcus Vonbun)*

There once was a Lion who was mean and rich. He lived in a very dry African savannah. He was the only one in the whole savannah. Every day all the animals lined up to get water, but they had to give something to The Lion in return. One day Elephant lined up to get water. When the Elephant got to the front of the line, he asked for water the Lion said, "Yes, but what do you have for me?"

The Elephant was very, very poor and had nothing to give to the Lion so the Lion didn't give him water and told to him get lost. The Elephant was sad but decided to forget about it.

A few hours later The Elephant went for a walk. He walked for a while and then saw the Lion screaming for help, he was stuck in the mud! Without hesitation, the Elephant sprang into action and sucked all the mud up and saved the Lion. The Lion was confused but very grateful. The Lion asked, "Why did you save me? I didn't even give you water."

The Elephant said, "You must always be kind even if you don't get anything in return."

And from that day on the lion gave water to everyone for free.

The moral of the story is – always be kind!

The Bear and the Mouse *(by Zachary Morrison)*

Bear was always mean to the other animals in the forest. He always stole all their food and made fun of them. Until one day the most unexpected animal stood up to him. Mouse!

Mouse was the smallest animal in the forest but also the smartest.

One day Mouse built up his courage and went to Bear. "Bear, stop it, it's not fair for you to eat all the food." Bear replied, "I'm still hungry you know -maybe I'll eat you!" Bear chased Mouse all through the Forest. Mouse cleverly ran into a snake hole. Being so small the snake didn't see him but when Bear put his big paw in, the snake bit him. From that day on Bear never picked on Mouse or any other animals again.

The moral of the story is: Brains always beat muscles.

The Lion and the Cheetah (by Lexi Joubert-Winn)

Once there was a Lion and a Cheetah.

The Lion was so used to getting all the attention but one day there was a Cheetah who was having a party. The Lion was invited.

The Cheetah was getting all the attention. The Lion was jealous, so he started making jokes. They were not nice jokes, and all the other animals knew his character and knew he was trying to get all the attention for himself, and they all ignored him. He left feeling sorry for himself and missed out on all the fun.

The moral of the story is: Sometimes it is all right for other people to have the spotlight!

GRADE 5 INDOOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

Our Indoor Hockey Teams had a busy evening on Monday as they both played two matches. The first round was against Gordons Bay, our girls played a great game winning 2 – 0, our boys also had a tough match, and a real ding-dong battle ended with a 3 – 2 victory over Gordon's Bay. Our 2nd matches for the day were against Somerset West Primary School. Our girls faced their toughest opposition yet, they were on a mission and their physical presence on the ball was a wake-up call for our girls, who are generally a lot smaller in stature than our opposition. Nevertheless, we put up a great fight and both teams had scoring opportunities, but were denied scoring as both goalkeepers had a great game. Scores ended level 0 – 0, probably a fair result at the end of the day. Our boys also had a tough match and for a while scores were level. SH lifted their game in the 2nd half and played with greater fight and determination and in so doing, managed to take advantage of good scoring opportunities. The final score was 4 – 1 to Somerset House. Fantastic results from the evening, well done to both our girls and our boys. Next Monday will be another tough day as our teams take on Lochnerhof and Beaumont (matches are played in our Simpson Hall). Please see the Week Ahead for match times. Your support would be most appreciated.



U11B CRICKET VS DE HOOP

The U11B boys faced De Hoop this week, on a hot Wednesday afternoon. After being sent in to bowl our boys' goal was to bowl consistently and field well. Some top performances from the De Hoop batsmen got them off to a great start until 2 great catches from Josh Rowles broke formidable partnerships. De Hoop ended on a massive 174 runs. Our boys went in with confidence, stellar batting performances from Jean le Roux, Marcus Vonbun, Jack Carolin and Stefan Smit saw us end on 102 after 20 overs, falling 72 short. Despite the loss, our boys put in a great effort and

valuable lessons were learnt. I am proud of our team's performance. (Coach Sebastian)

TENNIS MATCHES

GIRLS U11: The U11 Girls fought hard against a strong Rhenish team on Thursday afternoon. It was wonderful to see some good rallies and positive attitudes throughout. Although we lost, we enjoyed a pleasant afternoon in Stellenbosch. (Mrs Eagle)

BOYS U11: The U11 Boys played against Lochnerhof on Thursday afternoon. The boys played with heart and had to play numerous matches as we were a man down. Congratulations to Zack Morrison who won his game 4 – 2. Although we lost overall, the boys are making pleasing progress and are enjoying learning to play the game. Keep it up, boys! (Mrs Bolton)



GIRLS U13: Wow, what a super afternoon! Our U13 Girls not only won all their doubles and singles matches, but never lost a game. Congratulations to Olivia Hipkin, Hannah Sloan, Rebecca Plewman and Zahra Staples. Somerset House won 24 – 0. A phenomenal performance from our girls, very well done! (Mrs Farrer)

BOYS U13: The U13A Boys had a good afternoon on court against a motivated Lochnerhof side. Rijk van Galen and Nathan Sloan won their doubles match in a good display of teamwork. Well done to Nathan and Simon Wiehahn for their singles victories, and to Harry Downing and Rijk for a solid performance. Although we tied with on matches (3 – 3) we lost on games won (21 - 24). The boys continue to improve, and we look forward to our next set of matches. Well done boys! (Mrs Tucker)

