



The Schools At Somerhill Newsletter *Volume 13, Issue # 9, 22nd March 2010*

Schools at Somerhill Maths Race 2010

Maths fun? Maths engaged in willingly by large numbers of children? It's not going to happen. But it did, on Tuesday, 9th March when The Schools at Somerhill, for the second year running, hosted the 'Somerhill Maths Race' for children in Years 5 and 6.

This year there were 160 boys and girls taking part from all over Kent. Each school entered at least one team of 4 children and had 30 minutes to answer 20 questions, earning five points for every correct answer. The teams worked on one question at a time and when they had solved the problem they sent their designated runner to check the answer. If correct, they collected the next question.

The questions became progressively more challenging. As the competition proceeded, some people might have been surprised to see the hall full of eager children racing around; working as hard and as fast as they could to answer Maths problems. All great fun!

This year, the Year 5 competition was won by Rose Hill School who finished with 75 points ahead of New Beacon, Somerhill and Sevenoaks Prep Schools, all with 60 points. The Year 6 competition was much closer; Hilden Oaks and The Schools At Somerhill went neck and neck right up to the final minute when Somerhill just edged in front by one question. 75 points again being the winning total. There must be a probability equation in there somewhere!

The event was very well supported by both parents and teachers, most hoping that no one would ask them to answer any questions! The 160 pupils all worked incredibly hard, learnt a great deal, honed their skills and proved to any sceptics that modern maths can be tremendously good fun. We hope to see every one back again next year. Turn the television off, sharpen those pencils, get the calculators out and start practising!



ART DISPLAYS

Don't forget to take a trip up to the art attics after school this week to see all the fantastic ceramic work the children have created this past term.

From Monday 22nd until Thursday, 25th March, 4.30pm until 5.30pm (3.45—4.45pm on Wednesday 24th)

Parking On Yellow Lines.....

We recently had an occasion when the fire brigade could not easily access the main school building because parents had parked on the double yellow lines that are towards the top of the drive. Any yellow lines have been put in place either to ensure the children's safety or to enable emergency vehicles to have rapid access to the school. I would be very grateful if parents could be fully observant of these parking restrictions. Thank you for your cooperation.

John Coakley, Principal

Lent Half Term 2011 Dates changed from those first issued—see the website for the new dates for February Half Term 2011 that puts us back in line with other schools.



Le Concours d'Art Oratoire à Lancing College

Jeudi dernier, Edward Gray, Peter Mercer, Elton Wen et moi avons participé à ce concours sans penser pour un instant que nous pourrions remporter la palme !

En effet, nous avons dû présenter un discours sur un sujet de notre choix et réciter un poème d'un recueil choisi à l'avance par l'école. Nous étions bien sûr très nerveux mais une fois devant les membres du jury nous nous sentions plus à l'aise et enfin nous nous sommes bien amusés.

Imaginez notre surprise quand ils ont annoncé à la fin de la journée que nous étions les gagnants et que j'ai remporté le prix du meilleur concurrent.

En outre, j'ai dû présenter mon discours devant une centaine de personnes dans un grand amphithéâtre sans m'aider de notes! J'ai parlé de mon séjour en France avec mon correspondant Cyrien au mois de février dernier et de tout ce que nous avons fait ensemble y compris le ski dans les Alpes. Pour nous tous c'était une expérience inoubliable!!

Harry Yandle (Year 8)

Reception have been using their investigative skills this term. We have based our work on traditional tales; we found out how to keep the Gingerbread Man dry as he crossed the river. We investigated reflective materials for Cinderella's dress, so that she would keep safe in the dark; and we used different materials to keep the three Bears' porridge warm and predicted which would work best. This week we tested different objects that would have made a good trail through the woods for Hansel and Gretel. We decided that sticks or straws worked best – the birds would eat bread, and tissue paper would blow away

Year One children have been making Rainforest jelly! We chose lime flavoured jelly because limes originated in the rainforests. It was great fun tasting some of the tropical fruits and comparing their flavours. The most popular fruit was mango closely followed by dragon fruit and Asian pears.



Boys / Girls and Parent Golf Day

Calling all boys and girls who play golf! You do not need to be a superb player, but you must know the how to play and understand the etiquette of the game. We are holding our annual event at Hemsted Forest Golf Club on Sunday, 16th May. Full details may be found on the school's web-site.





SAS QUIZ NIGHT

This event proved to be as popular as ever this year, demanding amazing feats of knowledge from staff and parents. The beautiful feathered 'creation' pictured below was one of the 'table' rounds!



Somerhill Parents' Golf Day

Tuesday 27th April 2010 at Holtye Golf Club

Coffee from 9am
Tee times from 10am

Format will be a 9 hole Texas Scramble (teams of 3)
Golfers of all abilities welcome - it is a very relaxed day.

Entries can be as a team of 3 or individually (and we will make up teams)

Followed by a light lunch at 12.30ish

Cost will be £28.00 per person to include coffee, lunch and 9 holes of golf

Further details from Jane Tate

A few reminders from the Pre-Prep please...

Please could parents remember that the latest collection time from Late Class is 6pm.

At present we have a lot of sick bugs in school. Children should be away from school for at least 24 hours after the sickness has stopped to ensure the infection does not spread.

Please could everyone using the pre-prep clean their shoes thoroughly to prevent us from bringing mud (and worse!) into the school. Many thanks.



In Mrs. Pratt's Class assembly the children enjoyed showing their Loch Ness monster landscape paintings and their kilts. The boys performed a battle scene and the girls did some Scottish dancing. It was great fun!

Sports News

Hudson Cup VICTORY!

The 1st VII stormed to an impressive victory in the annual Hudson Cup held at Yardley Court. Yardley Court beat Marlborough House, Rose Hill and Sevenoaks Prep School in the group stages. They went on to beat last year's winners Windlesham House School 28-0. The final was a great encounter with Yardley Court beating New Beacon 21-0. Congratulations to the boys involved. T Faes, L McKeeve, J Smith, D Keats, S Greehy, G Booth, M Ingoldsby, Z Ingoldsby, R Miles and Captain C Adam.



The U10 Netball team played really well at the Ashford tournament. A squad of eight girls were able to reproduce quality netball at set-pieces, and move the ball around the court with skill; demonstrating excellent timing and use of space. They won all 5 matches, scoring 22 goals and conceding just 1. They then beat Sutton Valence 2 - 0 in the semi-final. Dulwich Prep come through their round to the final where the two teams battled to gain the lead. Neither team could pull away, and after full-time the score was 3 all, so five minutes extra time was played. Sadly for our girls, Dulwich just had the all-important goal to go 5 - 4 ahead when the final whistle went, so, for the second year running, DL U10's finished as Runners-Up.

The girls in Derwent Lodge ran their socks off in The Woodmansee Shield. The Under 9 and 11 teams did fantastically with a combined score of 73; their nearest rival (Vinehall) came second with 234 combined. What a great display of impressive running, teamwork and fitness, girls. 17 medals and The Shield! (TIP – low scores are good!)



DL U11 Cross-Country team was invited to run in the National Prep Schools cross-country championships for the first time. It was a very long day, with an early start in atrocious weather conditions, but the six girls arrived at Malvern College in Worcestershire ready to compete against the best in the country. As expected, the standard was very high, and the 1700m course had everything! Steep inclines, narrow bridges, exceedingly muddy banks and ankle deep streams made for a challenging race as 130 plus athletes jostled for positions. DL girls had an unfortunate start, and never really managed to break through the pack, but M Fenton finished in 29th place, with B Peachey narrowly behind in 33rd. Despite all this, we were delighted to discover that we finished as 5th best school in the country in the 'small schools' category, and 14th best prep school in the country. We have the talent at DL to do even better next year, and are already looking forward to the challenge in this national event. Thank you to all girls, particularly in Year 6, who have ran so well for the school this season.



The victorious U11 team who won every game at New Beacon recently, and so won the New Beacon 7-a-side competition.

The U10A team had a great run to the semi final of the National Rugby Schools tournament held at Epsom. They had previously won the south east of England group to qualify for the national finals where after winning their group and quarter final they narrowly lost out to the eventual winners in the semi final.