



## *The Schools At Somerhill Newsletter*

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#### **DL EXPLORERS**

On Tuesday 11th May, Year 3 DL girls enjoyed a splendid day of field work at Gatton Park in Surrey. They braved a cold wind to investigate the small creatures found in woodland; using pooters, nets and careful observation, many interesting insects were identified. After lunch, some time was spent studying pond life with the help of magnifying glasses and microscopes. The pond dipping before we went home was great fun and we had a wonderful day of learning outdoors.

#### **SUMMER FAIR COLLECTION WEEK**

This week sees the collection bins out in the Rose Garden and Pre-Prep Courtyard ready to receive donations of plant pots, new or very nearly new toys, tubes of writing icing, cookie decorations, Pimms etc. Many thanks for your support. There is still time to offer to help out for just a half an hour—contact Charlotte Lee Amies, or leave your name in Reception and she'll contact you.



Wire Model Making Club: Boys from Year Four and Five are being lead by Mr Gough in the craft of wire model-making, which is very popular in South Africa.

#### **Summer School 2010—brochures out now!**

All children in YC and DL and Yr2 have received a 'Schools at Somerhill Summer School' leaflet recently. The schools are running a range of 'in-house' courses for the first two weeks of the summer holiday; the courses include sporting and non-sporting options and are run by our own staff here at Somerhill. Additionally we are running a soccer course just before returning for the Michaelmas Term which is open to boys who are currently in Yr2 and above. All the details of the courses can be found on the leaflet your child should have brought home, the school's web-site or another copy may be collected from Mrs Wilkes in Reception. In addition to our own courses, an external provider of Summer holiday courses is using the Somerhill site from Monday, 26th July- brochures of these courses can be collected from Reception.

## DL HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITION

Held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May, all the girls from Derwent Lodge assembled in their Houses in the Grand Salon to compete for the six categories in this annual competition organised by the Music Department and House teachers.

Each House performed five pieces as well as a House song. This year, the adjudicator was Mrs Lesley Clare, Director of Music and Deputy Head at Bromley High School for Girls.

The trophy winners of the five categories were:

**Strings:** **Lucy Docherty** on violin (Coniston)

**Woodwind:** **Octavia Bathurst, Anna Billing, Millie Davies, Georgina Hutchins, Lucy Thompson and Clara Tyler** on recorders and flute (Grasmere)

**Piano:** **Emily Pitts-Tucker** (Ullswater)

**Voice:** **Emilia Filleul** (Ullswater)

**Brass:** **Isabelle Gale and Lizzie Holder** on trumpet (Windermere)

The winners of the House song were Grasmere singing Michael Jackson's "Ben" - they even managed to reduce Mrs Saby to tears!

The overall winners on the day were Grasmere. The girls and staff all had a fabulous afternoon and clearly enjoyed listening to their friends and supporting their Houses. Our thanks go to all the music teachers for helping to prepare their pupils to perform with such confidence.



The Fire Service visited school this week and Years One and Two learnt a lot about the important work they do. We tried on their protective uniforms and sat in the fire engine. It was good fun. We also had a talk and learned the importance of not touching matches.

Please could I remind parents to keep younger siblings on the far side of the green bollards between 3.00pm and 3.40pm so they do not disturb the Year Two classes who are still working. Many thanks.  
Ruth Sorensen

## PLATINUM ABBA

Deadline for receipt of Ticket Requests has been extended., additional forms can be collected from Mrs Wilkes in Reception. This LIVE performance has been reviewed as 'Better than the Original' and with a picnic in the beautiful Somerhill Grounds before-hand is bound to be THE event of the Summer!





The children in Year One had a fantastic trip to The Imperial War Museum, Duxford. We were thrilled to see so many planes. We went on Concorde and were surprised at how small it was inside, but amazed at the size of its wings! We were fascinated by the small fighter planes from World War II. We spent a long time studying a boat plane. We learnt a lot about flight in our teaching session. In school this week we have designed and made our own planes from wood. This was an inspiring day out!

On Wednesday the Pre-Prep took part in a Skipping Workshop. Luckily the sun shone and we all learned new steps. At the end of the day, Year Two gave a demonstration to show us all what they could do. We were very proud of the boys and girls and we now need to buy lots of new skipping ropes!



Year Five Play: Dirk Smirk – dodgy dresses, high heels and guns— it MUST be a YC play!

# Sports News



## ATHLETICS

Somerhill athletes travelled to Brambletye to take part in an athletics match against Windlesham House and Brambletye. We emerged victorious in both the boys section and the girls section, and combined, finished with 392 points, with Windlesham House on 342, and Brambletye on 338. This was indeed an impressive performance. Kathleen Faes broke two school records for Yr 4 in the long jump (3m 41cm), and 600m (2m 10.6s), and Eliza Bond broke the U11 school record for 200m (31.8s). The U9 girls relay dominated their race and their baton change-overs were awesome! With Common Entrance approaching, some of our star Year 8 athletes 'chose' to stay in school for lessons, but the boys' team managed admirably without them! Amongst a host of very strong performances, a few of the highlights came from Charlie Dumas, Miles Christian, David Wilkinson and Chris Adam on the track, and Dom Keats and Louis McKeeve in the jumps. Well done to all our athletes for an excellent start to the season.

A team of athletes went to Combe Bank for an enjoyable afternoon of athletic activities and general good fun.

We had a lovely afternoon displaying our various skills: eg shuttle run, skiing(!) and hurdles. The tea was delicious too.



Yardley Court Cricket in full swing!



On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May St Michaels, Hawthorns and New Beacon came to Somerhill for an Athletics Gala against Yardley Court. The opposition was very strong, however Timothy Faes and Tom Pincott came away with a couple of convincing wins. The Yardley Court Athletics Gala is less than two months away, boys!