



# The Schools At Somerhill Newsletter

## Volume 13, Issue # 5, 30th November 2009



### SAS Christmas Fair!

Many thanks to Christmas Fair committee of the P.A. for their hard work in staging a super Christmas Fair for us again this year. After all the wet and windy weather in the lead up to the Fair, we were then blessed with a gorgeous morning with bright sunshine that saw Mums and Dads having their cups of tea outside and children playing happily on the Astroturf and grass areas alongside the hall! Father Christmas, carol singers and mince pies got us all in the festive spirit, however, and there was a super selection of stalls and activities for young and old to enjoy. A terrific amount of work goes into organising these events and we are very lucky to have parents prepared to give of their time and expertise so generously in helping stage such great Somerhill occasions. ***Thank you!***

John Coakley



A massive £700 was raised for the Peace Home in Dang, Nepal, at the Christmas Fair. Thank you to everyone who supported the stall by buying the handicrafts on sale. These have been made by the local women in the community centre run by CM Yogi who visited us last year. Bholi Yogi, Headmaster of HVP Dang, is planning a trip to the UK in January and we have invited him to visit us, so that he can tell us first hand about progress at the Peace Home.

**STOP PRESS!** Will and Harry Whitty both selected for The National Children's Orchestra! Imogen Venes selected for The National Children's Choir! ***Fantastic news!***

Two Derwent Lodge girls have demonstrated not only their love of writing, but their talent too. Over the half term holiday, Georgia R (Year 5) participated in a writing masterclass run by OLP in partnership with Brasenose College, Oxford. She recently learnt that she had been awarded a Distinction for her work on 'Myths of Heroes'. In her evaluation of the course, Georgia said she enjoyed the chance to share thoughts on other people's work and it has inspired her creative writing. Fabulous!

Sarah M (Year 4) received the lovely news that she had won 3rd prize in the 7-8 year old category of the Old Possum's Children's Poetry Competition 2009 for her poem 'Barack Obama'. She has won a cash prize of £50 and two children's poetry books. She has also won a year's membership of the Children's Poetry Bookshelf for the school AND she has been invited to a gala celebration in London at the end of term! The organisers of this competition commented that the standard of entries from DL girls was very high and it was a pleasure to read their work.

A huge well done to Georgia and Sarah - and also to all the budding authors who had a go and entered the competition. Mrs Smith in the library has been wonderfully supportive of their efforts, so thank you to her. I know she has a few more competition ideas lined up!  
SM



### Reception's Farmers' Market

As the culmination of our "Food and Farming" theme, Reception held their own Farmers' Market in the Pre-Prep Hall. Prior to the event we had all visited Shipbourne Farmers' Market where we were made most welcome and saw all that the market offered.

All three classes prepared things to sell at the market, and we even sold our own art work! We also decorated shopping bags to put our purchases in. In order that we could go shopping we invited parents, and asked them to provide pennies for us to spend. As we had been practising adding pennies, we were all confidently counting out the price of a baked apple, or pizza etc.

A most successful event, which we look forward to repeating!



The Somerhill Pre-Prep play season has started with a very amusing Reception performance of "Shine Star Shine!" The hall was packed on both days and the performance was greatly enjoyed by Mums, Dads, Grandmas and Grandpas.



**Junior Music Soiree**

Pupils from Pre-Prep and Years Three and Four, wowed a packed audience with their first soiree this term. Pupils played a variety of instruments, ranging from recorder, clarinet and flute, to violin, guitar, piano, trumpet and trombone, not forgetting the budding singers! For most of these children, it was their debut as a soloist and all played with confidence and flair.

Our thanks go to all the music teachers who work so hard with the children enthusing them with their passion for music! Well done to all who performed and we look forward to watching you in your Carol Services.



**SHOEBOX APPEAL—update**

MANY thanks to everyone for the fabulous shoeboxes you sent in. We put together just under 200 boxes which were collected this week. They are now en route to underprivileged children in Belarus.

Thank you again for helping us to support this very deserving cause—especially at such a busy time of the year.

Mrs Wilkes in Reception has a wrapped Christmas Gift which was left behind at the Fair, please see her for more details.

**NORTHBROOK GIFT WRAP ORDERS AND CHRISTMAS PUDDING ORDERS**

There are still orders from both these promotions in Reception waiting for you to collect! If you haven't already done so, please pop in and see Mrs Wilkes!

# Sports News

For the second year running, Maddie H (Year 6) has won an award for best all round cricketer from the county club she trains with. More cups and medals for the mantelpiece, Maddie – well done!



The football season has now finished and it did so in style with seven victories over Cumnor House last Saturday. This has been a fantastic season for the Yardley Court football teams. An amazing 196 fixtures were played and our boys won 136 of them. Great credit goes to all the boys who have represented the school with enthusiasm and skill. Congratulations go to the U8B, U8C and U11A team all of whom completed unbeaten seasons. Well done boys and 'Thank You' team coaches and parents.



**INDOOR ATHLETICS** - The Schools at Somershill opened its doors to several local schools for an Indoor Athletics meet on Monday 16th of November. Boys and Girls from these schools competed in a variety of indoor games such as: standing high jump, long jump and triple jump; javelin throwing; timed jumps and ball throwing. The event culminated in a series of relay races with and without obstacles.



YC House Football: During the week starting on the 16th November the boys of Yardley Court held their annual House Football matches. There were many close results in all of the age groups. The group winners were:

Seniors

- 1st—Ashmore,
- 2nd—Nicolson
- 3rd—Hudson
- 4th—Marques

Middles

- 1st—Ashmore/Hudson/Nicolson
- 4th—Marques

Juniors

- 1st Nicolson
- 2nd Marques
- 3rd Ashore/Hudson