



The Schools At Somerhill Newsletter

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SAS Spring Concert

Well done to all the 300+ boys and girls who entertained us so well on Friday evening. It is really wonderful to see the children enjoying their music so much and to show-case a real wealth of talent that is emerging on the music front. I can remember the days when I used to listen to the orchestra and had to work very hard indeed to try and think what they might be playing.....! Things have moved on. Thank you, parents for your patience when we had the delay caused by the fire alarm...

Year Three Play – ‘Pompeii – The Rain of Fire.’

The boys of Year Three put on two wonderful performances of this play which showed what it would have been like to have lived through the famous eruption of Mount Vesuvius. They sang, danced and acted their way from modern Pompeii, back in time to 79AD where Pliny the Younger was trying to decide whether to join his uncle in a journey across the bay from Naples. Thank goodness he didn't go, otherwise we would never have had the insight we now have on this catastrophic event in our history. Don't forget to check out the short video of these boys in action in the Yardley Court Photo Gallery. Well done boys!



SPP AFRICAN WORKSHOP

Last Thursday the Year Two pupils had an African story telling workshop. The story was Anansi the Spider and involved the children in a lot of role-play and drama. We really enjoyed the session and learned a lot.

Just before half term Mrs Wallace helped the Year Two girls to perform a netball demonstration for their parents. It was good to see how well their skills are developing and I am sure the girls are looking forward to some matches in Derwent Lodge.



Year Five Girls Visit The Globe Theatre
On a bright and sunny day last week Year Five visited The Globe for a visit and workshop on 'A Midsummer Night's Dream.' They picked up a number of useful tips for warming up and projecting their voices as well as acting techniques to put into practice for future school plays!



Eco Club

The SAS Eco Club continues to attract an enthusiastic group of children. One of the current focuses is in preparing for 'Earth Hour' where people all over the world are encouraged to turn off all electrical appliances and lights for an hour on the 27th March, 2010 at 8:30pm.

Three boys from Yardley Court dressed up in red, yellow and green t-shirts to symbolise a traffic light, one of the electrical devices that perhaps would be best left turned on!

NEW FEATURE: Pupils can now access the school Library from home using the following method

Input library web address (below)

<https://ws2.microlibrarian.net/U002212/junior.aspx> (Save this to your favourites.)

The library will now load.

Check out the features by clicking on the:

balloon = new books; books on the towel = popular books read recently; newspaper = current library news; search bar = for finding particular books in the library.

Log in to your account by clicking on Login:

Username = your library number, (see the library folder and make a note of your number). For numbers that begin with zero, omit the zero, e.g. 051 would be 51.

Password usually = 123Qwerty, password for 3C, 4Sm & 6LL is qwerty.



A Couple of Dates for Your Diary - DL and YC's Scintillating Ceramic Exhibitions!

DL and YC are all fired up! Everyone in Years 5, 6, 7 and 8 – in both YC and DL has made a pot.

During the last week of term from Monday, 22nd until Thursday, 25th March from 4.30pm until 5.30pm (4.45—4.45pm on Wednesday 24th) their creations and designs will be on display in The Art Attics. Do come and see them - they are amazing!!

Years 3 and 4 boys and girls have all painted 'Glazy Daisy' egg cups and these will be on display in The Library from 8th March.

Altogether it's what you might call a potty term!

The West Kent Explorers club are holding a Science Day with lots of different activities on 13th March at Beechwood School. Visit the amazing Starlab planetarium or find out how your incredible brain works. Booking is essential for this event so interested parents need to contact Carol Leach on 07973 846731 or email nagcwestkent@hotmail.com.

Why the World is Wonky

Over 30 children from Somerhill enjoyed a fun-filled evening at Rose Hill for the 13th Sir Humphry Davy Memorial Lecture this year. They not only found out the scientific reason why toast always lands butter-side down, but had an hour of illusions and practical jokes to explain 'Murphy's Law'. How we perceive the world is often different from reality!

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.



Book Week for Derwent Lodge began with a hugely enjoyable visit from author Stewart Ross and illustrator David Chisholm. The girls participated in workshops throughout the day and produced some fabulous cartoons and pieces of creative writing.

SOMERHILL SOIREEES

Pupils from Year Six impressed their audience with their Soiree just before half term. Boys and girls played a variety of instruments, including flute, clarinet, cello, violin, guitar, piano, trumpet and not forgetting the budding singers! Music ranged from beginner standard to Grade 5 and it was inspiring to see so many of our older pupils oozing with confidence and flair.

Earlier in the week, Year 7 and 8 boys had the opportunity to show off their musical talent. We were treated to a great variety of excellent performances, in a thoroughly entertaining senior soiree which provided some cultural relief in the middle of Yardley Seniors exam week!

Mr Shute has created a video of clips from the soirees, and this can be found on the photo section of the website, as well as lots of excellent photographs from these concerts.

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 your progress.

Years 1, 2 and 3 will be having their Soiree on Wednesday, 10th March in the Grand Salon at 4.00pm. All are welcome!



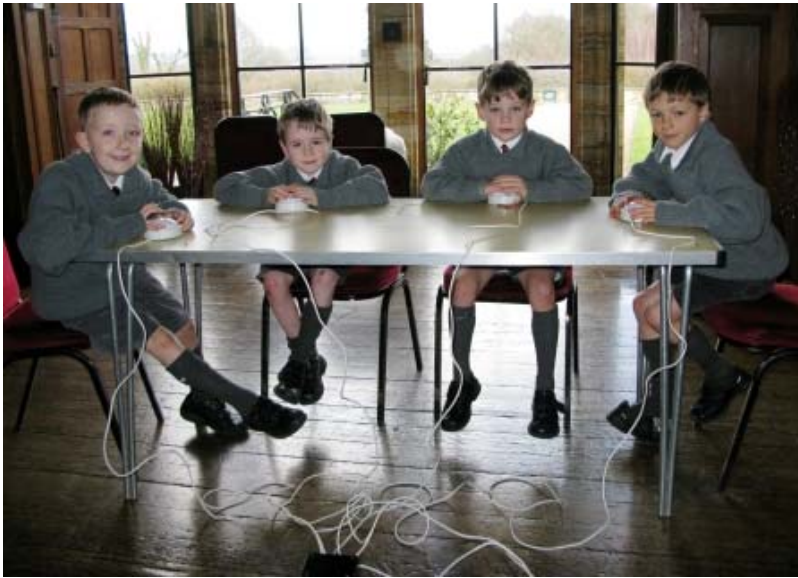
The Imperial War Museum 2010

On 23rd February Year Six girls went to the Imperial War Museum. To start with we looked at a few interesting galleries and did our work-sheets. Then we walked through The Trenches: the blood and the first aid post were very life-like. During the Blitz experience we were quite scared as the benches we were sitting on started to shake. It was a most informative day and it definitely gave us some excellent ideas for our projects.

Pip Lupton and Lucy Thompson 6L

LOST PROPERTY

Mrs Wilkes in Reception has two mobile phones which have obviously been lost. If you, or your children, have recently misplaced yours then do please call in to see her.



House General Knowledge – The YC House General Knowledge competition has been running for the last couple of weeks. We now only await the winners of Year Five to be able to tell who has won the overall trophy.

EASTER COURSES

Don't forget to get those Easter Course booking forms back. They are all on the Parents' Area of the website if your copy has gone missing

The U11 netball team was desperately unlucky not to qualify for the National Finals this year having played superbly well throughout the day at Roedean in the regional round. The Southern region is the largest event in the country, and 55 teams played. Our team started with a 3 - 5 loss against Guildford, who, as a school won the National Final last year. We then had five easy wins on the trot, scoring 38 goals, and conceding just 2. Unfortunately, a 1 - 3 defeat against Holy Cross led to the top 4 in the section then battling it out for places in the play-offs. DL drew 2 - 2 with Cumnor, who won all their other matches, and finished with a 7 - 3 victory over Ryde School. It was not enough though, and to the surprise of many who saw them play, we finished in 4th place in our section of 10 on 34 points, 1 point behind Guildford! Three teams went through to the play-offs from each section! However, DL should be delighted that out of 55 schools, they scored the 3rd highest number of goals - 51 in total, and conceded just 15. Bad luck girls, but you should all be proud of your achievement.

Year Six Assemblies: The boys of Year Six have been putting on assemblies in Yardley Court in the lead up to the Year Six, Seven and Eight concert, 'Joseph'. For three weeks a different group of boys have performed a summary of the main scenes in the play, whilst also singing one or two of the songs. We can't wait for the three performances of the play



There was a buzz of excitement on Book Day for the finals of the Spelling Bee competition. The finalists, pictured with their certificates, are still smiling despite the grilling from the Queen Bee (alias Mrs. Michau.)

Sports News

The U9A's achieved impressive results in the Ardingly Netball Festival. They played 7 matches, and won 6 of them, scoring 21 goals and conceding only 5 throughout the morning. In the 'winners stay on' scenario, this team rarely had a chance to try and win one of the teddy bears in the 'challenges' that were set up on the spare court. Our 'B' team also got the chance to compete in the festival, and were unlucky to be drawn against their friends in our A team in their first match! They beat Ardingly B team, but lost their other four matches. However, this gave them more opportunities to have their skills of agility, shooting and target throwing measured! Anna Samuel won the teddy bear for the best shooter, which was well-deserved. Staff were asked to nominate players for special certificates, medals and pink T-shirts, and after much discussion, Mrs Harman and Mrs Michau selected Michaela Holding and Lottie Moffat as the 'Most Improved Players' of our teams, with Jasmine Poole and Anna Samuel earning the 'Most Valuable Players' of our teams. It was a lovely morning of netball, and we enjoyed playing against teams who are not on our usual circuit for fixtures.



Swimming Gala

Congratulations to the swimming team on their efforts in the gala on Friday 26th February. Somerhill were triumphant again! The girls and boys performed extremely well, defeating Rose Hill and Holmewood House. An excellent all-round team performance formed the basis for the Somerhill victory, with several personal bests for individual swimmers and the relay teams.

The overall scores were

Somerhill - 204

Holmewood House - 173

Rose Hill - 103



EASTER SWIMMING COURSE—SPP Children

During the Easter holidays Somerhill will be running a week-long intensive swimming course for SAS children from Kindergarten, Reception, and Years 1 and 2.

The course will run from Monday 12th April – Friday 16th April 2010 (9.00 am – 11.30 am)

All classes will last 30 minutes and will be booked on a first come first served basis. The cost of the course will be £35 for five ½ hr sessions. If you are interested in this course please complete the form which will be sent out via the children's green book bags and hand into Reception.

Year Five House Matches: The boys of Year Five have had many of their matches cancelled against opposition teams due to a variety of reasons (snow, rain, burst water mains), however as was evident on Wednesday in their House Matches they have lost none of the fire and their skills are definitely improving. After six fiercely fought matches, Ashmore came out on top, with Nicolson second, Hudson third and Marques fourth. The remaining House matches will take place in Games sessions as we head towards the end of term.