



## Primary 6 a-side football CHAMPIONS

The Somersfield Primary Football A team did an exceptional job in the Boys 6 a-side tournament this term!! If you didn't hear they **won** the finals of the Tournament and beat out some very stiff competition along the way. It was a day of highs and lows but in the end the boys were focused, they played as a team and they came away with a well earned victory. Historically Somersfield has not been a football powerhouse, but it appears, that may be changing! Congratulations!!!



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### *NAIS Student Diversity Leadership Conference San Diego, December 2010*

We would like to recognize and thank the following students who represented Somersfield with pride at the SDLC last week. **Karim Creary, John Russell, Chynna Trott, Leah Amaral, Cara Johnston, Aiyetoro Hinds, Conor Lohan and Karl Kane-Collery** all traveled for the long weekend conference. Students attended the conference from 8a.m. to 10p.m. and met with peers from around North America and the world. We look forward to sharing more details in the next edition of the star.

*Community Mural  
December 16th and 17th*

*Football Game  
December 17th*

*First Day of Term  
January 5th*

*Mrs. Pringle's Due Date  
January 17th*

*Personal Project Fair  
January 28th*

# Casa dei Bambini

## Highlights and Holiday Celebrations

*"Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed." - Maria Montessori*

At the start of the academic year we greeted many new families, introduced portfolios of P1 students' work, Spanish, Character Education (Virtues), Handwriting without Tears (P1s), as well as a new music programme, all of which have been embraced happily and excitedly by all the children. In January, the children will receive Spanish lessons every day, so do not be surprised when your child begins to tell you how to say some everyday items and phrases in Spanish! In fact, many children are already sharing their knowledge on all of these topics with family and friends. We also opened the "Cottage" to accommodate three year old children who stay for the afternoon "Enrichment Programme".

In addition to our new programmes, on our October "Journey in Discovery" evening, Mrs. Turner and Mrs. T. Outerbridge, a 6-9 teacher, presented insights as to how our 3-9 year old children develop and how parents can respond to their needs. In December, Mrs. Brewster and Ms. Cox presented "Every Child Ready to Read" workshop, and, as you may have guessed, both presentations were well attended and very much appreciated by everyone. We will be offering more interesting workshops over the course of the next semester.

This month, in anticipation of the upcoming "Holiday Celebrations", the teachers, along with many parents, arranged for arts and crafts days and our special "Thankful Lunches" which help children understand the concept of being thankful for all that we have. Thankfulness is also one of our virtues. In addition, next semester we will once again be reaching out to the greater Bermuda community with our "Acts of Kindness". This outreach may be to another school or a home for the aged and involves giving time to others through visits, writing, or making cards; your child's teachers will let you know what their class chooses to do.

The teachers have been working on the children's report cards and having said that, and looking back over the course of this last semester, I am amazed at how much has been accomplished. Our teachers and children are quite remarkable because I have only touched on a few of the things they do! Well done, everyone, and a heartfelt thanks to our teachers whose dedication and indomitable spirit make the children's learning a special experience.

As you can see, this has been a very exciting first semester and with so much more to look forward to the year will slip by quite quickly. Let us all enjoy each day, each moment and be thankful for family, friends and our school community.

From all of us at 3-6 we wish you a most delightful "Holiday Celebration". Please keep safe, be healthy, and share your joy with others.

Gwen Fahy

*"One test of the correctness of educational procedure is the happiness of the child."*

*- Maria Montessori*

## Playground Mural

On Thursday December 16th and Friday December 17th the Somersfield community will have the opportunity to leave their mark on the Somersfield 3-6 playground. Summer Wood and the M5 class, will lead participants to complete a "paint by number" theme of children's bodies that have been traced along the 4 foot wall. Each class has been scheduled to come and paint and we are inviting all parents and friends to **join us in the afternoons** on both days. After painting, all participants will be offered donut holes and hot cocoa. *A donation of \$5 from participants would be greatly appreciated. All funds raised will go towards medical bills and expenses that Donnie Williams (Alum '07) has incurred over the last few months.*

**Please bring a smock to avoid an accident!**

# Golf Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who participated in our golf tournament this year. Due to inclement weather in October we rescheduled the event to Friday November 26th. Luckily we had brilliant golfing weather and even played fast enough for the daylight savings.

The tournament was held at Riddell's Bay this year and participants received a goodie bag and lunchboxes before teed up.

We were very pleased to have our student golfers join their parents teams; **Julien Papadopolou, Rory Crofts, Nicholas Miranthis and Ben Cook.** A BIG THANK YOU to our lead sponsors Price-waterhouse Coopers and AirCare/Daikin as well as D& J Construction, BCS IBM's Bda Agency and Minglewood.

We were also grateful to receive support from the PTA, Tops, Ace, Alterra Capital, Miles Market, Butterfield and Vallis, BELCO, BNTB, Validus Re, Arch, CCS, AF Smith, Atlantic Stitches, New World Wines, Tuff Dogs, AXIS, Duncan and Trott, BAS Serco, Maiden, BOB, The Body Shop, Appleby, Ace, EasyPark and Woodbourne Associates Ltd.

Congratulations to all of the teams but a particular congratulations to Mr. Tomas Hannell and his team for coming away with the trophy!

**\$25,427.00**



## Coalition for the Protection of Children

P5 Pringle, P5 Railton, and P6 Thompson classes are sponsoring a family through the Coalition for the Protection of Children, a local Bermuda Charity. A huge thank-you to all who participated in last week's Bake Sales and this week's hot chocolate sale. The children have raised at least \$1,081.15 to benefit the sponsored family!



# KatKids

*is on the Block!!*



We are so thrilled that the Kathmandu Kids Club has been chosen as one of the global charities for this school year. KatKids was launched here in Bermuda in 2006 to support 126 children who were rescued in Kathmandu, Nepal from child traffickers. We now support ten children's homes and the lives of the children within. The intention of KatKids is to bring awareness to the Somersfield students of the needs of other children; specifically those who have been raised amidst a civil war and separated from their parents.

What sets KatKids apart from other charities? We are needs driven, not donor driven. All funds raised are used for project-related costs. "We respond entirely to local need. Local communities tell us what they need, and how best to solve challenges in a culturally appropriate way."

The students will be engaged in activities over the course of the year. Plans are in the works for interactive opportunities: making prayer flags, creating visual boards, inviting guest speakers.

A group of trekkers have just returned from a fundraising trek into the remote Humla region. Several of them will be visiting the school in January to present a slide show and share their stories of fundraising and their passions for being involved.

We welcome any parents who would like to be involved in helping KatKids through creating awareness and fundraising at school. There will most likely be a few bake sales and a mini Nepalese market in the near future. Stay tuned!!

Namaste, **Melissa Moore**

# Sr. Islanders Community Centre

## “Write it down”

### *Partner Re Dollars for Hours Program*

The M4 class participated in the annual community and service project hosted by Partner Re entitled ‘Dollars for Hours.’ Our school was paired up with the local charity Bermuda Senior Islander Center. Students conducted oral history interviews and transcribed the stories told by the selected seniors. They took two trips to visit these seniors and several came to our school to be interviewed by our M4’s who were learning what it means to be a historian firsthand. They had the important job of preserving history by recording the stories and experiences of the generations who came before us. Students were required to transcribe the oral interview; create an audio recording in the form of a CD; film some or all of the interview and help to design the cover and format of the book. Thank you to Jason Hammer and the M4’s!

Structure of essay:

- Topic: What does it mean to be a senior living on the island of Bermuda?
- Name, family, age, birth parish, present residence, health status, places lived, education, work experience, leisure, hobbies, travel, community involvement
- What makes Bermuda unique? (Pay tribute to Bermuda)
- What was it like to live in Bermuda (then and now)?
- What is it like to age in Bermuda?
- To be a senior means what to me? As a senior I have....
- What message would you give to future generations?

## Center on Philanthropy Volunteer Recognition Reception



As a non profit charity, (#291 Montessori Education Trust) Somersfield was invited by the Center on Philanthropy to nominate one volunteer for their Volunteer Recognition Reception last week. With so many volunteers it was very difficult to choose just one. The final nomination was a parent who continues to volunteer even though her son has moved schools. We have been grateful that **Susan Smith** continues to volunteer time even though her son Miles changed schools this past year. Susan has been extremely dedicated to Somersfield Academy, coming in to the office on a regular basis to help us organize various activities and events. Susan is a hard working individual who is always willing to give extra time and effort to achieve a job. She puts a special touch on all of her tasks and is capable of leading as well as completing assigned tasks. It is always a relief when we know that Susan is on a particular committee. Thank you for the countless hours Susan! We really do appreciate you!

## Volunteers Make the Difference

Volunteering at Somersfield is part of our culture but it doesn’t mean we aren’t grateful. Parents make the school what is it today. We have countless volunteers walking in the buildings at any given time. Parents help with pizza lunches, driving for field trips and sporting events, reading to students, working in the office, sharing expertise and skill sets. Thank you to YOU for stepping up and playing an active role in our community.



## Budo Cup Kumite Championship

**Diego Richardson** won the Gold! In the Male 9-10 Years Division Antonio Carvello had to retire from injury in the finals after a clean scoring point by Diego Richardson left him sidelined. In the Male 11-13 years division, **Tomiko Douglas** won the Gold Medal after winning his match against Ty-Aron Pitcher 8-1. Congratulations Tamiko and Diego!

## A successful term for the 6-11

What a busy and exciting time the children and teachers at the 6-11 level have had this term. Firstly, I would like to comment on how beautifully all of the children have transitioned into their new levels. Our new P2s seem like they have always been with us. Our now P3s through 6s have risen to meet their new responsibilities and are working extremely hard to meet the challenges of their new roles. The 6-11 level is a truly busy and productive group.

At the end of each term it is important for teachers, students and parents to reflect on their experiences at school. We have a particularly positive and responsive parent body at Somersfield; we stress the importance of home and school working together to create the ideal learning environment. On behalf of the teachers at this level, I would like to thank the parents for their on-going support.

This term we had a wonderful time with our study on biodiversity. Every class seemed genuinely interested and engaged in their studies. It was terrific that each class chose to investigate a different biome. The level spent time sharing their findings with each other; a wonderful learning experience for the children and faculty alike. Each year I realize that the process is important but the outcome and the sharing is what makes learning come to life.

Senora Brewster has been a fantastic addition to our 6-9 level. The children enjoy their Spanish lessons each week and have learned a great deal in the short time classes have been in session. This is a very interactive programme designed with the 6-

9 Montessori child in mind. I have received positive feedback about the addition of Spanish to 6-9s at Somersfield from both parents and students.



We are also very happy to let 6-9 parents know that Madame Smith will be returning to teach French to the 6-9 year olds during an elective afterschool club. She is offering French tuition twice a week from 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. which will enable those parents wishing to continue French language with their child an opportunity to do so here at school. Please look out for more information on this when the extracurricular agenda is sent home later this week. In



addition, over the past week we have had a French language consultant working with our teachers to help to develop a comprehensive French language acquisition programme to begin next Fall which will build effectively towards our expanded P5/6 French curriculum.



Our Holiday Spirit weeks have been a huge success. The students have selected a wide range of local charities to support this year. Some of these include: the SPCA, The Matilda Smith Home, Meals on Wheels and

The Coalition for the Protection of Children. All students at this level have been busy contributing their time and energy into providing a service that will enrich the lives of people (and animals) in Bermuda. Please engage your child in conversation about why this community service is such an important part of the holiday season.

I hope everyone has a safe and restful break. I look forward to seeing you all in 2011!

Victoria Brewer

## Leadership Club

This year's M5 group is comprised of students with diverse talents and skill-sets. To take advantage of the leadership potential, MYP has launched a **Student Leadership Program that involves all M5 students and aims to involve them in specific tasks that cater to individual strengths.** There are five main leadership categories: Monitoring, Academic Assistance, Technology and News, Athletic Assistance and Peer Mentoring.

M5 students are regularly present in our hallways and assist staff in organizing and directing younger students during transition times. They are also monitoring students during recess and lunch. Needless to say, this is a massive help to staff! The M5s are offering academic assistance in English, Math, French, Spanish and Organization Strategies to younger students. Although in its early stages, we hope to have this essential program fully formed and implemented in January 2011.

A technology team has been formed; its goal is to use technology, particularly in the area of media, to create Somersfield's first news team! Look for our first broadcast in January. An athletic team is already assisting the Physical Education Department with coaching and refereeing. The Peer Mentoring Program, launched by the School Counselor, Melisa Judd, allows for M5 students to help younger students with issues they may be experiencing. The Peer-Mentors provide valuable insight and guidance to a number of students.

With so many leadership opportunities, the M5s are quickly establishing themselves as positive role models for their peers to respect and learn from.

## Dancing for the Premier

Somersfield Academy was well represented at the Premier's Concert on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at Ruth Seaton James' auditorium. **Lara Hall, Sarah Zurbuchen** and **Savannah Stubbs** were asked to dance for Premier Cox as part of the ensemble from Jackson School of Dance. The girls did a superb job and were congratulated by the Premier for their hard work and dedication to the Arts. Well done Sarah, Lara and Savannah!

## School Band

New to Somersfield MYP this year has been the creation of the Band Advisory. The MYP band has developed steadily over the past two years; however this progress has been made based upon only one 30 minute rehearsal per week. Imagine what we could do with more time! Thus, the band advisory has been created to do just that; to give the band, and the students, more time. This year the band advisory consists of students from M2 and M3 while M1, M4 and M5 students join the band for our Friday morning rehearsal. We are also joined at this time by two up and coming musical stars from P6. We are currently rehearsing for a Monday morning assembly presentation on December 6, as well as **concert performances scheduled for February and May.** Stay tuned for further updates regarding these student showcases as they promise to be 'something special'.



**M5 Personal Project  
Presentation  
January 28th, 2011  
10 a.m. -12 p.m.**

## Pencils for Kids

On **Wednesday, December 15th**, a **bake sale** will be held in support of Pencils for Kids, the same charity that the Barbeque in early November supported. This bake sale will be open to 6 - 9, 9 - 11 and MYP students. 6 - 9 at 11:45, 9 - 11 at 12:15 and MYP at 1:05; all items will be priced at \$.50 - \$2.00. The bake sale will be held in the foyer outside of the gym.

Donations of baked goods will be greatly appreciated to help support this worthy cause. All baked goods can be brought to the MYP office the morning of the bake sale.

Thank you in advance for all your support.

**Andrew Sussman**

# Primary School All Stars

At the end of the football season coaches are invited to nominate their best players to compete in the ultimate match up, the All Star game. The athletes attend practices and try out to see if they make the cut to be the best of the best. Similar to Cup Match, the teams are divided by the East vs the West!

This year two of our boys were nominated for the Primary Eastern All Star Team and made the final cut, congratulations to **Meinhardt Rentrup** and **Andrew Kempe**. The West won the match 3 – 1, however Andrew Kempe's heroics as goalkeeper won him the title of MVP!

This isn't the first time we have had football players in the All Star Game but it is the first time a Somersfield student has won MVP. Well done boys and thank you **Coach Wade**!



## MYP Debate

Earlier this term, six Somersfield Academy MYP students participated in the Annual Debate Tournament at Berkeley Institute. These six students gave up numerous lunchtimes over the last few weeks to prepare for the debate, and they represented Somersfield admirably. This was our first year entering the competition, and not only we were able to enter two teams, but we achieved excellent results.

Our first team, consisting of **Ailey McLeod** (M3), **Reem Bushara** (M3), and **Trew Morris** (M1), won 2 rounds out of 3 against BHS.

While 2 rounds of the debate dealt with a motion that students were able to prepare for in advance, the 3<sup>rd</sup> round dealt with an impromptu topic that students were given on the day. The team then had an hour (in isolation without any coaches) to prepare for that topic using only a dictionary and an almanac. Following this preparation, our first team emerged victorious.

Our second team, consisting of **Caleb Astwood** (M3), **Hana Bushara** (M1), and **Cameron Turnbull** (M3) competed against Warwick in the first round and BHS in the second round.



Unfortunately, due to the uneven number of teams at the competition they were given a bye for the impromptu round and did not get the opportunity to debate a third time. While they did lose the first two rounds, they made massive improvements from the first round to the second round, and BHS's win in the second round was a split decision.

Finally, Reem Bushara took home an individual award when she placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Outstanding Middle School Speaker category. Thank you to **Melissa Brough** for making this opportunity a reality for our talented students!

# Did You Know?

**Ms. Winstanley** is engaged. Ms. Win, our 3-9 physical education teacher is engaged to Lawrence Wilson and plan to get married in September 2011.

**Ms. Simons** is currently in her 7th year working at Somersfield. Ms. Simons has worked as a teacher assistant in the 6-9 and worked closely with the PE Department and with school teams. Ms. Simons assists in the 3-6 level and works in the PE program with Ms. Winstanley.

**Ms. McCreight** will be the assistant teacher to **Mrs. Wallace** in the 3-6 level. **Ms. Brewster** will be teaching Spanish in the 3-6 and 6-9 levels as of January 2011. **Madame Smith** returns for French as an extra curricular club until June!

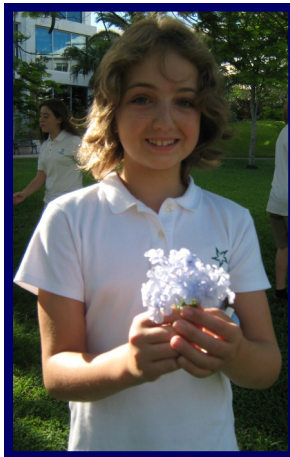
**Ms. Beaulieu** joined Somersfield this academic year and teaches a 6-9 class with Mrs. Coleman.



**Lara Nash** enjoyed her M2B French unit? Lara explained “We are about to finish our French fashion project. We studied clothes, colors, patterns, designs and materials used in the fashion industry. We then started creating our own company with our own logo and brand name. We designed 12 outfits for our new collection and described in details all the items. Our collections are now compiled in beautiful scrapbooks waiting to be assessed. It was a really fun unit!”



We're on facebook? Please join the group!



## Our Core Values

We are a learning community. We practice peace. We inspire intellectual curiosity. We instil respect for self and others. We foster independence and responsibility. We embrace a sense of joy and wonder.

We honour the strength and courage to stand for truth.