



TEL 070-700 1600
 PRIMARY@ESHTHEHAGUE.NL
 SECONDARY@ESHTHEHAGUE.NL



27.01.2016
 CAKE & BAKE SALE



12.02.2016
 S3 & S4 DANCE



06.03.2016
 CITY-PIER-CITY

ESH NEWS



From our Director

Dear parents,

I hope you enjoyed a great holiday with your family and for those whom I have not spoken to yet, I wish a happy new year. We started this term with an Inset day for our staff. We worked on the development of cooperative learning strategies, on Itslearning (our ELO in Secondary) and on Professional Learning Communities in our school. It was a very fruitful day which inspired us all. In our school we have several working parties. There are two in particular which I would like to mention in this Newsletter: The Courtyard working group and the Behavior Policy working group.

The Courtyard working group has been working on the redevelopment of the courtyard in front of our school. At the moment they are finalising a proposal which should be ready in February/March (depending on weather conditions). The members of the Behavior working group are working on a whole school behavior policy document. After team discussions and following approval from the management team the policy document will be subject to consultation in the Participation Councils.

More Participation Council news is that both the PC Primary and PC Secondary have given their positive advice on the Budget 2016. They also approved the policy document on Camera Surveillance and discussed the Medical Protocol as part of our Support Plan. These policy documents will soon be published on the Intranet for parents. (Have you already registered for the parent pages?)

As of next school year the Secondary PC will also consist of elected secondary student representatives. Mr Harris (the current chairperson of Secondary PC) will organise special courses for students to inform the students and prepare them for this responsibility in our school community.

Management is working on implementing different safety measures, you may remember I already informed you on this in a separate letter before the Christmas holidays. One of the measures we will implement soon is the introduction of ESH-ID badges for all staff and all secondary students. For the secondary students the ESH-ID badge will also be an all-in-one card so that they can use it in the library when borrowing books and to open their locker, although this will be implemented at a later stage. We are currently investigating what is needed to use this card for payments. ESH-ID badges will also be distributed to parents and you will be informed as soon as we are ready with the preparations.

Finally I want to share with you that I am very happy that Mr Voorneman (deputy-director Primary) is back in school again. On advice of the company doctor Mr. Voorneman is allowed to work 50% for the time being. During his absence all primary staff went the extra mile and I am very thankful for that. I would especially like to thank the middle management team who did a great job.

with kind regards, Frans van de Kerkhof

GENERAL NEWS

In the coming weeks the ESH management will visit **EPO, ESA, Eurojust and Europol** to hold **presentations** about the school to new and prospective families. If you have colleagues who are interested to know more about our school, please advise them to check information from their HR. We are also holding a number of Open Mornings for prospective families and offering orientation lessons to Primary pupils from Elckerlyc International school and HSV to help with their choices for a Secondary school.

Dates for the diary

Wed 27 January
cake and bake sale

Friday 12 February
s3 & s4 Valentines
Dance

Mon 22 - Fri 26 February
School Holidays



Sunday 6 March
ESH runs the CPC!

Friday 25 March
Good Friday – School
Closed

Monday 28 March
Easter Monday –
School Closed

More Primary and
Secondary school dates
can be found on p4 &5

Due to recent developments and events, including those in Paris we have been looking at measures we can take to **improve security and safety at school**. We have decided to increase the services currently provided by Securitas. We have also amended the outside lighting. Furthermore, as mentioned above, we will be introducing a card system for staff, secondary students and for parents/guardians. You will receive a lanyard with a card and are requested to wear this visibly upon entering the school. Finally: if you visit the school during school hours the reception may ask you for identification.

Congratulations to our **new First Aid team members** Annemarie Schreuder, Birgitta Blank, Danielle Eijkenbroek, Kasja Kortekaas and Yasmin Ferrari who passed the vigorous Oranje Kruis First Aid exam on the 15th of December. We thank them for their dedication!



On Monday January 4th our staff took part in an **In-service training day**. All Primary teachers of ESH had training on Cooperative Learning led by HCO (Haags Centrum voor Onderwijsbegeleiding). In the coming year our school will implement cooperative learning and develop and maintain this during the next years. In the next few months you will see more of Cooperative learning within our school and most probably you will hear your child(ren) talk about this at home. In our newsletters we will keep you informed about these Cooperative learning strategies. If you would like to know more about this watch the little video in this link: http://www.kaganonline.com/what_is_kagan/ Information from Nel van Silfhout, (DAL, Dutch Section Coordinator)

All Secondary teachers focused on It's Learning in the morning and also followed training on Cooperative Learning in the afternoon.

Do you know who these people are? Find out more about ESH staff Jeroen and Fadia on page 6.



PRIMARY NEWS

From Deputy Director Primary, Eugene Voorneman

Dear parents,

As you may be aware I was absent at the end of 2015 due to illness. After feeling pain in my chest the doctors confirmed I had an infection of the cardiac valve. Following weeks of rest I am now back at school for 50% of the time and expect to be back full time again at the end of January. During my absence Ms. Nel van Silfhout and Ms. Carma de Groot carried out my tasks and they continue to support me in the daily management of the Primary school. I would like to thank those parents who sent kind words of support and gifts.

We would like to remind parents about the **email addresses** available to contact school. For specific questions about your child's education please email the class teacher directly, any questions or queries about the language section can be sent directly to their email address (all email addresses can be found on p.35 of the school guide contact details), for general information please email primary@eshthehague.nl.

This month pupils are being evaluated in all language sections, these **evaluations** are part of the reports in February. The reports will be in the new style used in the European schools, more information on this will follow.

As is typical of a young, dynamic school like ours, we are often **recruiting new staff** members. You may already have heard of or met the following new teachers at ESH but I would like to introduce them here; Ms. Laura ieters, German section, Ms. Kathy Wheeler, English section, Ms. Claudia Palli, Spanish section, Ms. Sandra Moreel, English section. On the 29th of February Ms. Fartun Fidow will go on maternity leave, we are currently recruiting a replacement teacher.

December was a busy month with end of year **celebrations** but we continued with some seasonal celebration last week with *Epiphanie*, coordinated by the French section. Also in the coming weeks many classes are taking part in school trips or sports activities; Nursery are going to the Kinderboekenmuseum and Primary 5 will be visiting the Nationaal Archief. There will be table tennis, gymnastics, netball and athletics activities too.

Il est de tradition en France de manger une galette des rois le 6 janvier. En ce jour, que nous appelons l'Epiphany, nous célébrons la venue des 3 rois mages qui apportèrent des présents à l'enfant Divin Jésus Christ, peu après sa naissance. A l'intérieur de cette galette, faite à base de poudre d'amandes, se trouve ce que l'on appelle 'la fève'. Celui qui la trouve sera désigné Roi ou Reine et porte alors la couronne.

We have re-introduced the **toys for Nursery and Primary** children during the lunch breaks. The teachers on duty assist the children in sharing the toys and in collecting them at the end of the break. We hope that these toys will enjoy a long playground life and will be used by the children for a long time to come!



Useful dates:

Monday 8th February - P5-S1 transition meeting

Friday 12th February – Hand out reports to parents

Tuesday 16th February – Report Card Meeting Evening

Thursday 18th February – Report Card Meeting Evening

SECONDARY NEWS

From Deputy Director Secondary, Deirdre Byrnes

On the last day of school in December a small group of our Secondary students visited the Dr. W Drees Zorghuis on the Beeklaan with Ms. Teunissen. At the care home they gave the residents **homemade Christmas cards** and sang some songs for them. The visit was enjoyed by the pupils and the residents and we look forward to visiting again.

In the last week before the Christmas holiday all S4 pupils followed a **workshop about the current refugee situation**. This workshop was given by 4 students of International Communication Management at De Haagse Hoogeschool. With role play, discussions and written assignment the pupils enhanced their understanding about the background and needs of refugees.

December was full of **festive celebrations** which included a very nice holiday sing along led by our music teacher Ms. Oosterman, a drama performance by S1 and a mini-musical by S2 students. This month we are back to business as usual with the After School Activities and the learning support timetable starting again. Our students will take part in special sports activities and class trips to enhance their curriculum learning, for example S1 have been ice skating in Scheveningen for PE class and S2 visited the Escher museum as part of their art class.

Following requests from parents we have decided that **test results** can be taken home if parents are interested to see them. You can request this directly with the teacher and they will provide a photocopy for you.

We are **recruiting two new staff** for Secondary learning support, the vacancies Secondary Counsellor and Secondary Support Coordinator are advertised on our website.

On Friday the 22nd of January our **school community police officer** will visit the S1 classes to meet the students and talk to them about his role.

Monday 1 February - **S3, S4 subject choices meeting**. The S3 students will be entering the Orientation cycle of the Baccalaureate and this meeting explains subject choices and options available. There will be time for Q&A.

Monday 8 February - **P5/S1 transition meeting for parents**. This meeting will be led by our director and Ms. Byrnes, mentors and subject teachers may also be present. The meeting will prepare for transition into Secondary and will look at timetables.

Useful dates:

Monday 1 February - S3, S4 subject choices meeting

Monday 8 February - P5/S1 transition meeting for parents



Thursday 11 February & Monday 15 February - Parent – Teacher meetings

Friday 12 February - S3 & S4 Valentines Dance

Monday 15 February - Music instrument choices for S1 to S2 pupils

Introducing ESH staff...



Fadia Benali, lunchtime supervisor and library volunteer

I'm married and the mother of Rayan who is 5 years old. I have a few different roles at ESH: I started to work here as a lunchtime supervisor in the canteen. Our team takes care that the children get their warm meal and that all children eat their lunch. I also make sure the staffroom is tidy at the end of the day. At three o'clock I am a bus supervisor. I collect the Nursery children and take them to their bus and I check to see if the children are sitting in the right bus! Last but not least, I work as a volunteer in the Media Centre/Library. I have been working at this school since day one and so I've seen the school grow bit by bit. I enjoy working in a multicultural environment and I especially enjoy seeing the youngest ones grow and develop every year.

Jeroen Wijsman, concierge

I started working at ESH in the first week. At first it was just one day a week as I was already working at the ISH as a concierge. Gradually I worked more often in a week and now I am a full time member of staff. I work together with Carlo and we are responsible for making sure the building doesn't fall apart! :-). But in all seriousness, I consider safety and security at ESH to be an important part of my job, as I am a First Aider and I take care of repairs and light maintenance work around the school. We also prepare rooms for meetings and presentations and coordinate with external suppliers for deliveries. Another part of my job is also assisting with the bus supervision. As a member of the ESH social committee I'm looking forward to helping with more social events in 2016!



Our next newsletter will be out in February. If you have any feedback on this newsletter or suggestions, you can email administration@eshthehague.nl