

Sinterklaas at ESH



Dear parents and children of the ESH,

On the fifth of December, we will be celebrating the national party of Sinterklaas. This age old Dutch tradition celebrates the arrival of Saint Nicholas in the Netherlands. His birthday is celebrated in our school as well. This letter will give you some short information on how Sinterklaas will be celebrated in our school.

For more information on Sinterklaas you can read more about the celebration at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sinterklaas>. For Sinterklaas songs in English, please visit www.stnicholascenter.org/pages/dutch/ or www.internetwijzer-bao.nl/sint/sint_songs.html

Sinterklaasjournaal

Every evening there is a special broadcast on Dutch television which showcases the adventures of Sinterklaas and his helpers as they make their journey to the Netherlands. If you want to watch this with your children, this will prepare them (and you) for the coming festivities in our school. Their website (www.sinterklaasjournaal.nl) has extra tidbits of information and educational games.

Bringing your shoe to school...

One of the traditions is that we can place our shoes at school to receive a small present from Sinterklaas and Zwarte Piet. Because we are a new school, we are trying to contact Sinterklaas and see if we can partake in this tradition this year. More information will follow shortly...

Baking “Kruidnoten”

On Wednesday the 28th of November we will follow another tradition, the baking of the ginger nuts (even though there are absolutely no nuts in the recipe). Our school canteen (with our chef de cuisine) will be the place where all the classes will bake their own “kruidnoten”. We are aware of allergies and will act accordingly.

Wednesday the 5th of December

Then, on the big day, the Wednesday the 5th of December, Sinterklaas is hopefully going to celebrate his birthday in our school. We are currently trying to see with the main Zwarte Piet if we can arrange for this most exciting event to take place. We are sure he would love to celebrate his birthday in our beautiful new school.

On this day, the children are allowed (if they want) to dress up in the traditional costumes according to the occasion. Most shops will be selling children costumes for this.

Parents are more than welcome to join us in welcoming Sinterklaas on this Wednesday from 8:45 until 9:15. After this time, the children will return to their classes and the festivities there will commence.

Kind Regards,

The Staff of the ESH