



May Holiday  
24 April-5 May



Staff INSET days  
8-9 May



Ascension Day  
25-26 May

# ESH NEWS



Dear parents and guardians,

On Thursday, March 30, more than 230 students of the ESH participated in the Walk of Hope with the motto: 'Oneness of Humanity'. We walked from the International School The Hague to the

Peace Palace. The Walk was guided by spiritual teacher Mumtaz Ali, also known as Sri M. It was a lovely day, the sun was shining and all the children looked very happy and showed enthusiasm.

And what an engaging time we had last week. I enjoyed the Spanish and the Dutch week very much. These events are so much more than just food and performances. It is showing your identity; sharing your identity. That is (amongst others) where our school distinguishes itself from other international schools.

In this issue of the newsletter you will find more examples of our vivid school community.

Not visible for parents (and not even always visible for teachers) is the fact that management is finalising the planning for next school year. Due to the growth of the school we will definitely have more staff. Our priority is education and when it comes down to teaching our main focus is in recruiting the best teachers we can get. But we are aware that for a smooth running of the school we need the proper supplementary staff. In our draft staffing plans for next school year, which we will discuss with the Participation council soon after the May break, we have asked for more fte (full time equivalent) earmarked for non-teaching staff.

In the regional planning document RPO (The accommodation of Secondary schools) it is now officially stated that the secondary school building at the Oostduinlaan will be handed over to Stichting Rijnlands Lyceum in order to accommodate our Secondary department. It is to be expected that the ministry of Education, Culture & Science will take the formal decisions (on these planning documents) during the summer. In the meantime the Service bureau of the stichting and the school management, in close cooperation with the municipality, has started the preparation of the relocation. The school building at the Oostduinlaan becomes available in July 2018.

When we return to school after the May break the time to the summer holiday is only 8 weeks. We will enter a very busy period where staff will do their utmost to achieve the educational and organisational goals we have set and many activities will be organised. I hope that staff can rely on your understanding when things do not work out exactly as expected.

I wish you a pleasant May holiday.

Kind regards, Frans van de Kerkhof, Director

## PRIMARY

Dear Parents,

The Early Years playground is being well used before and after school by your children, outside of school hours. It is good to see the space being enjoyed during these times by younger children and primary children.

There are rules for the playground that the Early Years children understand and these rules need to be followed by all children who use the playground, for health and safety reasons. Children are to be supervised always by adults.

1. Sand stays in the sand pits and the wood chips – wood chips do not go into the sand
2. Ball play stays on the green area
3. Leave the metal climbing frames and ladders as they are. Do not remove or change them
4. Puddle play for children only with wellie/waterproof boots
5. Leave the trees to grow – no taking branches, twigs, leaves or sticks
6. Keep off the planted areas to let the plants grow
7. No throwing rocks, stones, sticks, sand or anything to hurt another person
8. Share and take turns on the slide and metal climbing frames
9. Never run with sticks in hand
10. No standing on the wooden table, water barrel or yellow storage box
11. Keep the wooden benches for sitting on
12. Keep away from the wire protecting the plants
13. Keep out of the fenced garden at the back of the playground above the storage shed
14. Keep off the shed roof at all times
15. Keep out of the wire-fenced area at all times

Teaching staff also remind the children of the ESH Stars as our school code for positive behaviour :

- We take care of each other
- We always use friendly language
- We listen to each other
- We take care of each other
- We always do our best

Thank you for ensuring that the children are reminded of these behaviour points so that your children remember the rules for safe and positive play and that the early years playground is a safe place for all children.

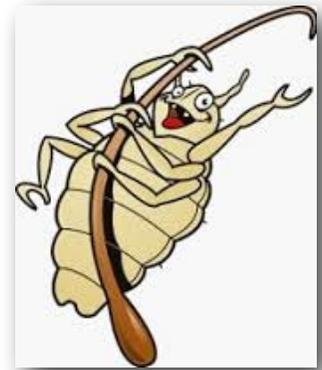
Our playground is under development and it is essential that it remains a safe environment for our children. If you have any suggestions for play equipment, please e-mail me with your suggestions.

Kind regards on behalf of the Early Years Playground Committee.

Lynne Byatt

Early years Co-ordinator.

[l.byatt@eshthehague.nl](mailto:l.byatt@eshthehague.nl)



### **Lice**

Your child has been exposed to head lice recently in his/her classroom. Since lice can spread quickly, please be sure to check your child's hair too, thank you. What to look for:

- Adult lice are small (about the size of a sesame seed)
- Eggs (nits) are usually found firmly attached to the base of the hair shaft
- Lice stay near the scalp, often behind the ears, near the neckline, and back of the head
- Head lice hold tightly to the hair. They move by crawling. They cannot hop or fly (they do not have wings), but do move quickly making it difficult to find in a child's hair
- Signs of a head lice infestation include: itchy scalp, tickling sensation in a person's hair
- Head lice are most active in the dark

If your child is found to have head lice, it is important to treat your child before he/she returns to school. Please begin treatment as soon as possible. Exclude your child from attendance at school until one day after their first treatment with a medicated head lice product. Your prompt action is

requested so that your child can get back to school as soon as possible and not miss learning opportunities in the classroom.

Do not treat your child for head lice or the environment unless you see nits (eggs) or head lice.

For any further information, please also visit [http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/gen\\_info/faqs\\_treat.html](http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/gen_info/faqs_treat.html)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. By e-mail [absences@eshthehague.nl](mailto:absences@eshthehague.nl)

Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Excursion to the House of Europe**

On Wednesday 5 April, P5's were fortunate to go on excursion to the House of Europe and the Chamber of Commerce. This excursion was organised as part of our Discovery of the World unit: The EU and Me. Students participated in four activities at the House of Europe, where they got the opportunity to create their own EU flag; answer questions while on a shopping expedition; give their opinions regarding current EU topics; and, map where the member countries lie in Europe. Following this, we moved onto the Chamber of Commerce, where students were excited to meet



Han ten Broeke, a member of the House of Representatives (Tweede Kamer) and the political party VVD. He spent an hour generously answering students' questions and chatting with them about how parliament works.

We were then invited to sit in and listen to parliament in action. We got to listen to the maiden speech of a new

member of parliament, and were fortunate that the speaker thanked us for being there. Students were excited to have the opportunity to 'step into' what it must feel like to be a part of the Dutch parliamentary system, and thrilled to get the autographs of Mr Broeke and others... a little like being at a rock concert! Students reflected that they understood more about how the EU works, and found the overall experience memorable and educational.

### Visit Haags Historisch Museum

As part of the 'Time Travellers' DOW unit the P3 classes enjoyed an interesting trip to the Haags Historisch Museum. The children were taken on a guided tour of the museum where they learned about how The Hague has changed throughout history. The children found the old fashioned dolls houses particularly interesting.

### De La Semana de las letras españolas

El pasado 19 de abril, la Sección Española de primaria junto al departamento de lengua española de secundaria, organizamos una velada especial con motivo de la celebración de la semana de las letras españolas la Escuela Europea de La Haya. En dicho evento todos los estudiantes de la sección española participaron en un espectáculo para conmemorar la lengua y la literatura hispanas coincidiendo con el aniversario de Cervantes.

Los padres de nuestra sección también colaboraron en el evento aportando y vendiendo comida típica española. Gracias a la colaboración de todos, se recaudaron 600€. Dicha cantidad se destinará a la ONG "EDUCO", una organización española sin ánimo de lucro dedicada a ofrecer becas comedor para alumnos en situación de riesgo.

Estamos muy orgullosos de nuestros alumnos, de los profesores, de los padres y de la dirección del colegio por ayudarnos y apoyarnos en una ocasión tan especial.



### PTA Flea Market

In Holland it is custom that on Koningsdag there are a lot of 'Kleedjesmarkten' around the country.

You take a tablecloth or an old blanket, put it on the street, or in a park, and you sell all sorts of things you don't need any more yourself. PTA took over this habit and organised the yearly ESH Flea Market on Saturday April 8.

The PTA 'sold' 40 tables within no time. The weather was great.

It was a good atmosphere and besides selling things a lot of people also bought a lot of toys, books, etc. Children were selling and buying, it was a nice family event. A lot of parents had brought cakes which were also sold this morning. The money raised will go to the PTA and will be used to finance the Summer Fair, which will be on Saturday July 1st.



### **TIPS for improving punctuality: why is punctuality so important?**

It's a GREAT START to the day, putting your child in a positive frame of mind to make the most of the day's learning and activities. Punctuality is linked to good attendance, and as we know, good attenders have more opportunities, more support and therefore achieve more!

ALSO...

It helps your child make friends (in the playground) which leads to improved self-confidence and therefore SUCCESS

AND...

It sets your child up for their future – whether it is college, work or university, they could lose their place or lose their job if they think it's ok to be late!

Being on time is a good thing!

- Gets the day off to a good start with everyone in a positive frame of mind.
- Helps your child make the most of their learning and sets positive patterns for the future.
- Helps children develop a sense of responsibility both for themselves and for others
- Helps your child make and keep friends.
- Improves self confidence.

Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning:

- Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year.
- Arriving 15 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 2 weeks a year.

- Arriving 30 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 19 days a year.

15 minutes of lateness a day equals one whole year of education missed.

If your child attends school they are more likely to succeed.

### **Punctuality - Arriving at School on time**

There is a clear link between attendance and attainment; the more time a pupil spends in school the more likely they are to improve their opportunity to fulfill their full potential.

Get to know your child's school timetable – work together to make sure they have everything ready the night before e.g. books, PE or swimming kit, uniform etc. Get your child into the habit of doing their homework in the evening – instead of in the morning at the breakfast table. Make sure your child has a good bedtime routine so they get plenty of rest and don't struggle out of bed in the morning – not a bad idea for parents either. Invest in a good, reliable alarm clock – make setting it part of your child's bedtime routine. Try to ensure your child has a good breakfast to set them up for the day – we have a super breakfast club you could use if you need to be at work early.

Have a back up plan for getting your child to school in case something crops up – friends or family, perhaps neighbours who are taking their children to school anyway.

Allow lots of time for your journey.

Good attendance means that children usually make good, consistent progress in their school work. We rely on our partnership with parents to ensure that this is achieved

If you are finding it difficult to get your child to school on time, talk to a teacher and ask for help!

### **Rules**

1 gentle reminder after 3-6 times being late (Write the lessons time)

2 After 6 times why it's important to come on time... positives

3 After 9 times implications (home advice)+ remind them that we have to report it to the leerplicht

4 leerplicht meeting

Use the information that is written in the school guide:

"Arrival at school" p6

Where is the Late policy 3, 9, 12 rules? Who

Ask the section leaders about the 3,9,12 times

Thanks for your coöperation.

## Workshop ISH

The Primary Middle Management Team was involved in a workshop with the Middle Management Team from the ISH. The managers were able to make more connections between the two schools and work together. Strengthening the ties between the 2 schools.

The Management of ESH is currently busy to implement the wishlist of the ESH-staff and to attract new teachers which we need for the coming school year.

Kind regards, Eugene Voorneman, Deputy Director Primary

## Important dates Primary

Primary participation council meeting: 18 May

## SECONDARY

Dear parents and students of ESH Secondary,

With the May holidays on our doorstep it's time to evaluate where we are as the schoolyear 2016-2017 only has a few months left and preparations for 2017-2018 are in full swing. If we stand still for a moment and look at what has happened this schoolyear, it's clear that ESH Secondary is fast becoming an established Secondary school. We can proudly say that we've been officially re-accredited for S1 to S5 for the next three years. The "dossier of conformity" for S6-S7 has been officially approved by the Board of Governors for the European School system as well. This means we can prepare ourselves for an accreditation after the summer holiday for these year groups.

Next to that recruitment is progressing well. As you can see on our website, we have also prepared our second round of advertisements. Since word of mouth is always powerful, please feel free to share these adverts with anyone you might know who would be interested in such a position. As a growing school, each year marks the opening of new year groups and employing new staff to teach a range of subjects in different languages. We're pleased with the quality of candidates as we move towards appointing new teachers to join our growing team of professionals for 2017-2018. Together with facility management we're also planning out the transition and renovation for the new school building for Secondary. Timetabling, organising options and pulling all data together is also proceeding at a good pace, ensuring that we can continue to deliver high quality education to our

students. The allocation of budgets and resources is also firmly in place to ensure that we are properly resourced for the opening of our new year groups after the summer holiday.

With two months to go until the summer holiday, the focus in our school will obviously be on ensuring a smooth proceedings as the final assessments are carried out. The last S4 B-Tests and the second S5-Exams are big moments for our students to prepare for and will deserve all the attention they require.

Very recently we can look back at two successful parent-teacher evenings where valuable information was shared regarding the academic progress of our students. The atmosphere was friendly and cooperative as the grades were discussed and any concerns were shared. It's at moments like this that the importance of a strong collaboration between parents and school is visible and can only be beneficial.

After the May holidays our staff will have two INSET days where we will begin planning for the remaining activities in this school year and for the next academic year. Staff will also follow training on how to use the SMARTboard, so we look forward to the technical wizardry we will be shown by the trainers providing this. But first, on behalf of the Secondary team, I would like to wish all of you a restful May holiday and we look forward to working with you again from the 10th of May onwards.

Jaap Marsman

Deputy-Director Secondary ad interim

The secondary library is looking for a parent willing to help on supervising the secondary library and accomplishing various library tasks such as labelling or covering the books.

Availability: wednesday afternoon, if possible from 12.30 till 17.00.

Interested? Please contact [v.pellerin@eshthehague.nl](mailto:v.pellerin@eshthehague.nl)

### Important dates Secondary

Secondary Participation Council meeting: the exact data will follow asap

Talent show: 23 May

### VACANCIES

We have several vacancies at Primary at Secondary, you can find them on our website at vacancies.



Setting the Standard



# Update from Zein Childcare at ESH

Following the opening of our new facilities located on the edge of the ESH Campus 3,5 months, ago we now welcome around 140 children to 'The Maples' - including not just children from the ESH, but those from internationally minded families in the area.

We currently offer Day Care, After School Care & Holiday Camps, but at the start of the school year, we will also be opening an international Pre-School for 2.5 - 4 year olds.

Read on to find out more...

#### **Zein Day Care: 3 months - 4 years**

It's been a fantastic first couple of months in Day Care as the youngest children in our care flourished in their new environment. With the first two groups now nearly at full capacity, the third (and final) group has been scheduled to open in June 2017.

#### **Zein Pre-School: 2.5 - 4 years - Opening August 2017**

In August 2017 the Pre-School morning group will start at The Maples, offering the ideal option to parents who want their child to socialise, develop and learn - but do not need full time care. In Pre-School children start learning in a playful way and slowly get used to a class setting, ensuring an easy transition into school when they are ready.

#### **After School Care: 4 - 12 yrs**

The spacious new location has allowed us to offer places to families who have been patiently waiting for a place to become available for their child. Parents interested in a place for the coming school year are advised to contact us to find out what the possibilities will be.

#### **Holiday Camps: 4 - 12 yrs**

During school holidays, the location becomes a day-long hub of fun and activity as it plays host to our exciting Multi-Activity and Themed Day Camps. Every weekly programme is complemented by not one but two field trips. Running during all ESH holiday days and can be booked for as little as two days during the small holidays.

**For more information or to arrange a visit go to:**  
**[www.zeinchildcare.nl](http://www.zeinchildcare.nl) or contact our friendly team via**  
**070 326 8263 or [info@zeinchildcare.nl](mailto:info@zeinchildcare.nl)**

#### **The Maples Features:**

- ★ Freshly prepared organic meals and snacks
- ★ Open central hall for indoor play (Day Care)
- ★ Additional group workshop area (Out of School Care)
- ★ Opportunity to participate in the school's co-curricular clubs
- ★ Both indoor and outdoor sport and recreational facilities
- ★ Dedicated parents' room with WIFI