



# Primary Newsletter

24 April 2009

Issue 14

## From Mr. Scott

### Inside this issue:

Dutch Trip	2
Shakespeare 4 Kids	2
Chess Club	3
Environmental Club	2
Green Team	3
Mother Tongue	3
Sponsor Race	4
Bookmark and Cards	4
Reception Trip	4
Dates for your Diaries	5
News	5
PTA News	5

**“He who cultivates a garden, and brings to perfection flowers and fruits cultivates and advances at the same time his own nature.”**

Ezra Weston



Dear Parents,

In this last letter of the spring term, I bring good news.....in fact, great news! Many of you will know from reading previous newsletters that we had a very important visit two weeks ago. The International Primary Curriculum (IPC) has an accreditation programme, where schools are judged against nine key areas of their performance. Each of the nine areas is judged as ‘beginning’, ‘developing’ or ‘mastering’ - mastering being the highest level possible. To be accredited, a school needs to be at least ‘developing’ in all nine areas. We had our final accreditation visit on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April. Three staff were sent by IPC to conduct a rigorous investigation in our school for the two days. They observed 17 lessons, talked to children from every year group, talked to parents, school leadership, MR, Board and our after-school club. They also took away a vast amount of evidence to scrutinize. Well, last week I received the result of their investigation and a copy of their draft report. I am delighted to announce that we are the first school in the world (there are over 600 IPC schools in 51 countries) to achieve accreditation. What is more, we were

judged to be ‘mastering’ in ALL NINE AREAS! This is the only way to achieve an overall grade of ‘mastering.’ I am very proud of the entire school community; our children, teachers, support staff and parents were all involved in this success and I thank each and every one of you for your support. But please be assured that we will not sit back and relax now. One line from the draft report reads, *“The school sets extremely high standards for itself and is driven to look for the next area for improvement.”* We will publish the final report in full on our website when we receive it.

On the subject of quality control, I would like to thank our Year 6 parents for participating in a pilot study recently. We have a new school management system within all Rijnlands schools and each school was asked to undertake a pilot study. In Primary, we chose to ask some of our parents to complete an online questionnaire about the school and its performance. We selected our Year 6 parents to participate as at least one of their children would soon be coming to the end of their primary school experience. The response was very good with over 60% of parents completing the question-

naire. It provided us with a valuable insight into our information management system but also important feedback on how we’re doing as a school. Please click [here](#) to view the results.

If you have been to school recently, you will have noticed that a new path has been constructed near the entrance to the car park. This is so that parents and children can walk into school without going through the car park. I have requested a pedestrian/zebra crossing to be painted across the entrance to the car park and some new green footprints to show the safest way in. The old footprints will be left to wear away by themselves!

I wish you all a pleasant holiday, if indeed you are lucky enough to be able to share some holiday time with your children. I am off on holiday to New York with my family and we’re all very excited about it too. If you are going away, I hope you have a safe and pleasant journey. I look forward to seeing you all in May.

Kind regards,

Graeme Scott

## Dutch Trip

On Tuesday 21 April, the Dutch department organised a trip for Year 3 to the Keukenhof. There we saw trillions and billions of beautiful flowers and they smelled really good! We learned about flower bulbs and how they grow more of them and we did a scavenger hunt through the park. The col-

ours and sizes of the flowers varied a lot and we thought that some plants may have existed during the time when dinosaurs lived. We had a lot of fun exploring the park and of course in the playground.

Thank you, Mrs. Gerretzen, Mrs. Smit Sibinga and Mrs. Vos for taking us there!

The Year 3 Team



## Shakespeare 4 Kids and the First Workshop Week

The workshop week is over – it seems to have passed by so quickly! This has been a very active week with a lot of learning and even more fun activities going on. I would like to express my gratitude to all teachers involved and I truly hope that our efforts have been appreciated.

It has been a pleasure organising it all! But I will pass on to the children and their opinion on the week.

It was a fun week, we did some lessons that were really funny and some more serious ones. I'll start by the funny ones: the history lesson – we had a funny presentation. We saw a film of Elvis Presley with his weird hip movements. I thought it was GREAT!

Amaia 4T

On Monday Mr. C taught us about the Second World War in 1940's and about the 1950's. He was being funny and explained everything well. He also showed some clips from the 1950's!

Alexander 4T

We had Drama lessons with Ms. Pardo. My favourite part was when we had to make faces (surprised, scary or angry).

The Shakespeare 4 kids Workshop ladies turned the original Romeo and Juliet play into a funny play; they had costumes and props to liven things up a bit. We all enjoyed it and learned a lot from it.

Nathan 6W

The year 6's had a workshop with two ladies called Rose and Martha from England. We did a workshop on Romeo and Juliet to understand the play better. We were given roles as the people in Romeo and Juliet, but not our real roles. Romeo was Omar in 6W and Juliet was Nadia in 6M. We acted out the play in a funny way that made the workshop more interesting and fun.

I thought it was really funny and I enjoyed to a lot.

Charlotte 6W

On the 20th of April the "Shakespeare for Kids" company came and taught us, the year 6's, about William Shakespeare and about acting. Two women, Rose and Martha made us act out Romeo and Juliet, the play the year 6's will do at the end of the year. Everybody enjoyed it and participated in the workshop. What was fun was that the roles in the workshops were different to the "end

of year" Romeo and Juliet! We lots of fun and a bug thank you to Mrs. Titan our music teacher who organised this fun activity for us!

Helene 6W

This week was workshop week for the year 6's. Mr. McCarthy prepared a slide show showing us some memorable people from the 50's. He showed us different types of dance moves that people used in their dance moves that people used in their era like tap dancing. We even had a go ourselves.

We listened to some songs like singing in the rain. Gene Kelly was tap dancing. We learnt facts about different actors from the 50's like Maria from West Side Story.

We had lots of fun trying out the different dance moves and techniques while we were learning all about the 50's, combining knowledge and skills.

Thank you Mr. McCarthy and Mrs. Titan for preparing the wonderful Shakespeare for Kids Workshops.

Sadhbh 6W



## Chess Club News

A second match against the chess club SHTV. The match will be on Friday 15 May and is open for all. All primary and secondary students are welcome to participate. I

would appreciate it if I could be informed in advance about participation by e-mail:

[boyfrank\\_gzg@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boyfrank_gzg@yahoo.co.uk)

All participants will receive a medal of participation.

Boy Frank

## Environmental Club



Even though the After School Activities have ended, the Environmental Club is going strong. The Green Team will carry on for a few more weeks.

If you would like to join our team, come and meet us in the Glasshouse on Tuesdays at 15.00. Look for Mr. Beren and we will have fun with Nature!! We will explore our environmental resources, investigate what kind of animals and vegetation we have around school...

See you soon!

Mr. Beren



## Green Team Battery Collection

Over the past week the Green Team asked that all children bring in as many old batteries from home as possible. This initiative was a great success in total over 90 kilos were collected. The class with the most batteries was 5C, collecting 33 kilos in total! 5C will receive a (green) present after the holidays. 3C 9 kilos. All batteries collected will be recycled in the most environmentally friendly way.

Thank you for your support!

3G 5 kilos

3L 4 kilos

4T 6 kilos

4K 6 kilos

4M 6 kilos

5B 12 kilos

5C 33 kilos

5P 4 kilos

6B 6 kilos

6K 4 kilos

6W 6 kilos



## Mother Tongue After School

Re-registration has been sent home. If you didn't receive it you can collect a copy from the office. Classes will start on Wednesday and Thursday straight after the holiday!

Wednesdays/LS	Thursdays/US
13/05	14/05
20/05 – No Italian	X No MT
27/05	28/05
3/06	4/06
10/06 – No Italian	11/06
X No MT	18/06
24/06	25/06
1/07 Italian only & Catch up day	2/07 Catch up day

## Sponsor Race

Dear Parents,

This year the P.E department is organizing a **“Sponsor Race Day”**. This event will take place during our P.E. lessons the first week after the May holidays. **(11 - 15 May)**.

Children will be asked to find as many sponsors (i.e. parents, neighbors, local shops, friends...) as possible. Every Sponsor can decide how much money they would like to contribute per lap i.e. €0.10. All the money

collected for this event will go to charity.

Our intention is to help the **Seal Rehabilitation and Research Centre Lenie't Hart** in Pieterburen. If we can collect enough money the school can adopt a Seal

The children will run/walk a maximum of 20 minutes around the football fields next to school. If the weather is not good we shall make use of the Gym. Every time the finish line is crossed your child will receive a

stamp to show that he/she has completed a lap. You do not need to bring any money until your child takes home the results of their race. Only then do you need to send the total amount of money raised in a closed envelope. The PE teachers will collect them during PE lessons the following week.

Thank you for all your cooperation.

The P.E. Teachers

## Bookmark and Card Selling

Several Year 5C children decided to start selling bookmarks at school to raise money for charity because they thought it would be a cool thing to do. They also thought it could make children read more. The group got permission from Mr. Scott and then they started.

After a couple of days the group realized that people weren't buying as many bookmarks as they did before so they had an idea of selling cards as well. They sold them next to the tree almost every break.

Mr. Scott said that it was such a good idea

that they could sell them at the Open Day for parents to buy. A little stall was set up next to the bake sale and sales were good.

The students raised over €50 which will be going to cancer research.

Thank you to all the people who supported this effort by buying either a bookmark or card!

by Erin and Jenna 5C



From left to right

5C Fundraisers -Yas, Florian, Sarah, Cecilia, Megan, Vivienne, Erin, Ilona, Lisa, and Jenna

## Reception Farm Trip

Our Reception Classes have been studying different types of animals and this week they visited a nearby farm. All of the children really enjoyed it (the parents did as well)!

We were able to do some of the jobs that people who work on a farm do. We brushed the goats, fed the chickens, cuddled the guinea pigs, and even picked up poo!

Needless to say, we were all very tired after our farm trip, but what a great experience!

The Year 1 Team



## Dates for your Diary

10-13 April Holiday  
27 April-10 May Holiday  
20 May PTA Meeting

## CT Days

11-20/5 Mr. Willis	25/5 Ms. Cardoso
11-18/5 Mrs. Ramirez	25/5 Ms. Kehoe
11/5 AM Mr. Troll	25-26 Ms Maes
12-15/5 Ms. Stock	26-28/5 Mr. Troll
18-20/5 Ms. Starkey	28-29 Mr. Curiston
18-20/5 Ms. McKenna	29/5 Ms. Hoenselaar

## News

### Outdoor Shoes

After the May holiday more PE lessons will take place outside. The weather is getting nicer, however it is still unpredictable. Please make sure that your child does not only bring a pair of outdoor shoes but also include an indoor pair in your child's PE kit.

Thank you, The PE Teachers

### Lost and Found

Lost and Found items will be displayed from Wednesday to Friday after the May holidays. Make sure to have a look through the items as the remainders will be donated to charity.

### Re-registration Packages

Today the re-registration package for next school year was sent home with your child. If you did not receive it please contact the primary office or send an email [ish.primary@ishthehague.nl](mailto:ish.primary@ishthehague.nl)

## PTA News

[primary.pta.chair@gmail.com](mailto:primary.pta.chair@gmail.com); [bowrings@gmail.com](mailto:bowrings@gmail.com); [moniquerubin@hotmail.com](mailto:moniquerubin@hotmail.com)  
[smuts400@caiway.nl](mailto:smuts400@caiway.nl); [marjanoloomi@yahoo.com](mailto:marjanoloomi@yahoo.com); [s.tee@ish-rijnlandslyceum.nl](mailto:s.tee@ish-rijnlandslyceum.nl); [primaryptasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:primaryptasecretary@gmail.com)

In its pursuit to become even more participatory, transparent and accountable, the PTA is in the process of registering with the Chamber of Commerce as a STICHTING. One of the reasons for the delay in this has been the exorbitant costs for registering. However, after considerable research, a notary in Rotterdam, Notariaat Leijser Van Leth, will register the PTA for Euro 349, as a non-profit organisation. If there is any parent that knows of a more reasonable notary, we would consider working through them.

Once registered, the PTA will have several advantages. Amongst them will be;

1. The constitution of the PTA becomes a registered document that will more formally guide the work of the organisation.
2. All financial transactions will be in the name of the PTA and accounts will be accessible to all members after each PTA meeting.
3. The PTA's purpose and mission will be clearly defined thus promoting, we hope, more proactive participation and involvement from the members.

The PTA will be grateful to receive any assistance, suggestions and comments that will help this process forward. Thank You.

We are currently collating photographs from PTA events over the last year to fill a page in the school yearbook. If anyone has photos from the Summer Festival '08, the Welcome picnic '08, the Halloween party '08, Love to read fortnight or Ramadan, they would be gratefully received! Please forward them to [primary.pta.chair@gmail.com](mailto:primary.pta.chair@gmail.com)

Class Stall Allocations For The Summer Fayre: In this year's Summer Fayre, only the most popular activities from last year will be represented. Therefore, it would be perfect if all the Class Reps attend the incoming PTA Open Meeting on Wednesday 20th May at 8:45 to choose the most appropriate activity that could be run by their classes. The remainder of the activities will be allocated to classes randomly.

Welcome Committee: The information for 'new and old' parents is on line! To read and print out this great and useful information go to: - the ISH web site -click on " about the school" -on the left hand side click on "links for new parents"

You will find 3 leaflets: Info 1 is about the "School & Surroundings", Info 2 about "Tips & where to find more help and information" and Info 3 about "Tips from parents to settle in".

Thank you to all parents who helped us to get the information together. Keep on sending it in! Mail to [bowrings@gmail.com](mailto:bowrings@gmail.com)

Buddy families: On the Monday after the May holiday we will be sending out the "Buddy Family" forms. If you would like to be a contact family for new families, please fill out the form.