



# Primary Newsletter

07 November 2008

Issue 4

## From Mr. Scott

### Inside this issue:

Music News	2
Ms. Stock visiting	2
Autumn Walk	3
Golden Rules	3
Dodge Ball	3
Football	3
Dates for your Diary	4
News and Messages	4

**You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation.**

- Plato



Dear Parents,

I am pleased to tell you that boys and girls in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 now have the option to play football (soccer) at lunchtimes. We are very happy to have secured the services of Alexander, a trained sports coach, to take each of the above year groups for one day a week on the field adjacent to school. He also has the option to take them indoors if the weather is not good. I am most grateful to Robbie and Jan from our after-school club for finding Alexander for us and I know the children have had a great time so far. Of course, it also frees up playground space for those not playing football. The sandpit is also now in full use and very popular with the children.

Many thanks to all involved in the Halloween Party. For those of you who attended, I'm sure you'll agree it was a fantastic event. I'm not sure who enjoyed it most, children or adults! Particular thanks must go to Sue Smuts who worked tirelessly with her group of helpers to

make this possible. It is now firmly fixed in our agenda as an annual event.

Soon we will be looking forward to the arrival of Sinterklaas. You may want to reserve Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November in your diary as the date he sails into Scheveningen harbor. For those of you new to The Hague or if your children have not yet experienced this event, I thoroughly recommend a cycle down to the harbor to see the frenzy and excitement that surrounds his arrival. We are hoping Sinterklaas also has time to visit our school on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December and we are in discussions with his support team at this very moment to see if he can fit us into his busy schedule. Please therefore be reminded that school ends at 12:00 on that day.

Our protected portal is up and running. In future you will be able to login and view such things as MR minutes and PTA minutes as well as other messages having a slightly more sensitive nature. Seeing that the portal

needs to remain relatively secured you will receive the login procedure as a paper copy. These will be sent to you early next week

Our Upper School children had a real treat on Friday. They were visited by an Olympic athlete...and not just any Olympic athlete, an Olympic silver medalist!! Marlies Smulders, who won the silver medal for the Netherlands in the Women's 8's in Beijing came to see us and brought her medal too. She showed the children some video footage of the event and explained what it takes to reach such heights as a sports person. She also won a bronze medal in Athens in 2004. It was an honour to have Marlies in school and our children were certainly inspired. Perhaps London 2012 may come too early for our children but maybe in 2016, we may have an ex-ISH student with a medal around their neck. We can always dream!!

Kind regards,

Mr. Scott



## Music News - from Mrs. Titan

### Music Plans for the Year.

The school year is well on the way now, but I would like to present you some of the new initiatives and plans for the coming school year in our music programme and extra curricular activities.

### CHOIRS & ORCHESTRA

Orchestra, Lower School and Upper School Choirs have started way before the half term break, but finally this week they've been given a music folder with all lyrics in it. If your child still wants to join please just send me a note and they are more than welcome to join. **Upper School Choir** sing on Tuesdays and Fridays' during lunch break.

**Lower School Choir** sing on Thursday's during lunch break.

If possible could the children in year 3 that are in the choir bring a **packed lunch on all Thursdays** – they are allowed to eat hot lunches, but it just might give them more time to eat if they don't need to wait for the rest of Lower school. Also by bringing packed lunches you will help with the difficulty of finding enough places for them to eat in the Glasshouse. Thank you.

Orchestra meets during Monday's Lunch break. They can bring their instruments into my room early in the morning so that they are well taken care of.

### The US Show

This year the children in years 4, 5 and

6 will again prepare a musical at the end of the year. This time I chose a new challenge (for them and for myself): we will be producing **ROMEO AND JULIET**. This is a child friendly version of the famous Shakespeare play. Instead of being set in the Renaissance era, it has been modernised, set in the 1950's. The music and dance in the musical is all pure rock & roll.

### Shakespeare4kidz and Shakespeare Workshop Week

Because the theme of the show is complex we invited a professional group of actors to come and work with the children to launch the project. The organisation they work for is called Shakespeare4kidz and they are a renowned group of actors with a lot of experience on presenting workshops on Shakespeare to children all over the world. They will come to work with the children on the Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> of April. This is the week before the May holiday so if possible it would be greatly appreciated that all children in years 5 and 6 could attend these special workshops.

But that is not all: because we have so many talented teachers on our staff at the ISH, we also put our heads together to organise a series of workshops on that same week to introduce the main learning aspects of this year's production. Ms. Pardo, Mr. C, Ms. Jenn, Mrs. Scott and myself will be rotating the children in a number of workshops:

dancing of the 1950's, acting, history of the 1950's and Shakespearean era, music of the 1950's and music in the Shakespearean era. It will all be hands on workshops to set the children's imagination to work.

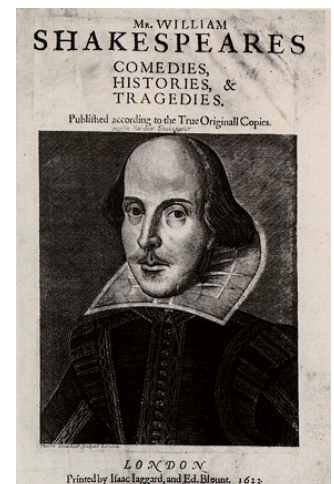
We hope to make this week a cross curricular moment in the academic year providing the children with the opportunity to be exposed to new talents, information and two new eras.

### COSTUMES for the SHOW

I know I am well ahead of the time (the show is only on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>), but if by any chance you have any clothing items to be donated for the show: we are looking for clothing that could be transformed into clothing from the 1950's.

### Candle lit Concert

The Candle lit Concert has been planned to take place after the winter break. The exact date will be announced soon.



## Ms. Stock and her new baby Noah visit year 1

On Wednesday 29 October Ms Stock and her 8-week-old baby Noah came to visit all the Year 1 classes. For the last 6 weeks we had been learning all about *Friends and Family*, but during this week we focused on taking care of babies. We had read some fiction and non-fiction books about babies, so we already knew quite a lot, but we still had some questions to ask Ms Stock. Many of us were interested in what he is eat-

ing. We learned that he is only drinking milk at the moment because he does not have any teeth yet. Ms Stock was

very proud to tell us that he is only just beginning to smile. When Noah began to cry, Mrs Wintle gave him a cuddle and rocked him back to sleep. He was very cute and very well behaved. At the end of the visit Noor and Thomas gave Noah small gifts to say thank you for the visit. We all had a great time and look forward to seeing Ms Stock again when she comes back to work in January.



## Reception and Year 1 Autumn Walk

As part of our in-school Mother Tongue programme, Reception and Year 1 will be focusing on the seasons this year. On Thursday 30 October we all went on a lovely Autumn walk with some of our mums and dads. We were very lucky because the weather was gorgeous and we



could really enjoy the afternoon sunshine. On our walk we collected some leaves and had a good look at all the hidden wonders of Autumn. Below the layers of leaves we spotted various types of mushrooms. We also found some mole-heaps



and wondered what they were getting up to underneath the ground. All the teachers would like to thank all the parent volunteers for joining us, it's always lovely to have you join our activities.

The Reception and Year 1 teams



## Golden Rules - Be Careful and Safe

Estee	RK	Marko	IW	Zahra	2G	Mathilda	3C	Raya	5P
Beatrice	RK	Amelie	IM	Sean	2G	Catarina	3C	Hélène	6W
Shaima	RK	Lily	IM	Ana	2G	Aditya	3G	Magdelene	6W
Lucien	RK	Arav	IM	Laura	2G	Sayeh	3G	Yasser	6W
Zoe	RF	Samie	IL	Jesse	2G	Ophelia	4M	Emma	6K
Ameya	RF	Stepan	IL	Maryam	2M	Cimitri	5B	Anaella	6K
Mirko	RH	Monica	IL	Inigo	2M	Ella	5B	Marcela	6M
Finnigan	RH	James	2J	Teresa	2M	Matas	5C		
Elsa	IW	Luka	2J	Deepak	2M	Roderick	5C		

## Dodge ball Tournament

We had our first Dodge ball tournament for Years 5 and 6 last Thursday (yesterday). The players were divided into 6 teams as follows: Pompous Pumpkins, White Ghosts, Black Cats, Red Devils, Green Zombies and Flying Bats. After the

Round Robin competition we had the finals and the results were as follows: first place to Black Cats, second place to White Ghosts and third place to the Flying Bats. We had a wonderful time and we thank all the children for participating with

such enthusiasm and we would like to take this opportunity to also thank all the parents who volunteered to help during the tournament. We hope to see you again soon!

Mrs. Ana Fonseca and Mr. Troll

## Football

Dear Parents,

As you may know we have been trying to find a solution for the children who are very keen to play football during break times. Experience has taught us that using the playground for football with the older children was not a success: footballs usually ended up in the canal and those children not wishing to play football were not able to use a significant part of the playground. We are therefore very pleased to tell you that we have employed a qualified sports coach ('Coach Alex') to play football and practise ball skills with the children of Upper School at lunchtime. Our After School Care organisation rents the football field nearest to the playground

and has very kindly given us the use of the field during lunchtime, so those children who wish to play football go with Coach Alex at lunch time. In case of rain or bad weather the children will be able to use the gym. So far this is proving to be a great success; both for our footballers as well as the other children who now have a lot more space in the playground. Please remind your children to wear appropriate shoes on the days they play (Monday year 5, Tuesday year 3, Thursday year 6 and Friday year 4) and to make sure their indoor sport shoes are at school in case they play in the gym. The children in Lower School benefit from this arrangement as well, as coach Alex organ-

ises games in the playground for them whilst the Upper School children eat their lunch.

If any Upper School football loving parents are able and willing to help Coach Alex during one or more lunchtimes we would be very pleased to hear from you, as this would make it even better for the children and allow us to make the groups bigger.

Ingrid McKenna

Team Leader Upper School

## Dates for your Diary

Sat	29 Nov. International winter festival
Fri	5 Dec. Sinterklaas School ends at 12:00
Fri	19 Dec. End of term School ends at 12:00

## CT Days

13 - 14 Nov.	Ms. Pardo
14 Nov.	Ms Kneller Ms. Tee
17 Nov.	Ms. Pardo, Ms. Comeau
18 Nov.	Ms. Pardo
24 Nov.	Mr. Kneller, Mr. McCarthy
25 Nov.	Mr. McCarthy

## News and Messages

### International Winter Festival on Saturday November 29 from 13h to 17h.

With Concerts and Entertainment, Arts and Crafts for (primary) children, Workshops (hair dressing, make up, colour consultant, photography, flower arrangement), Demonstrations (paint brushing, delfts blue), a Chess tournament, an Advents Café and International Celebration food tables, a Christmas market with (handmade) gift items.

For more info please contact Leen Maes ([leen.maes@gmail.com](mailto:leen.maes@gmail.com)).

### The Special Needs Department needs parents to help!

The SN department is in need of parents who could volunteer to manage a programme to boost spelling in the upper school. If you have 30 to 60 minutes available any day in the morning, please come and see any of the SN staff: Ali Scott, Mieke Smet or Teresa Zancajo for further information. Hope to see you soon!

### Bus

The transport service will be sorted for next term in the coming weeks. Students who are interested in bus service should pick up an application form from Jenn Taylor in the Primary Office.

### OCW/Sportsupport/Schoolsport

Is organising a beginners course ice-skating for all children of primary school age. The course begins 8 January finishing on 26 March and consists of 10 lessons. Every Thursday from 16.15 - 17.30 for children from 4 until the age of 12 will be taught in a playful manner how to be an ice star. Costs include entrance, children 4 and 5 years €65,00 children 6 until 12 years €72,50. If you have an Ooievaarspass you will receive a 50% discount. To enrol go to [haagseschaatsschool.nl](http://haagseschaatsschool.nl) or call 070-397 75 88.

### Chess

A chess competition for all students will be organised during the Winter festival, on Saturday, 29 November.

The ISH chess players (primary & secondary) will be joined by some players from other schools. There will be prizes for all. The first prize will be a night for two at the Carlton Ambassador Hotel (courtesy of the Carlton Ambassador Hotel). There will be four tickets for skiing and four tickets for carting at "De Uithof" to be won (given by Global The Hague magazine). The Hague On Line has given four tickets to the FILMHUIS cinema and Van Stockum Boekverkopers will give some chess books for the participants. Finally, the supermarket C1000 will give some prizes in the form of food/chocolate parcels and a hamper as a main prize.

The competition will be an informal one. Players of ALL levels are welcome, also beginners. Depending on the number of participants, there will probably be two groups. Play will start at 09.45 hours and last till about 16.00 hours. Play will be adjourned for a lunch break. Spectators are welcome.

- Boy Frank -

### Lost Property

An iPod was found before the autumn holidays and on Friday (today) a set of speakers were found. If you or your child is missing one or both items please contact the office. After a small description the items will be handed to their rightful owner.