

SUMMER 2020

# RISSUE

ROTTERDAM INTERNATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL MAGAZINE NR. 2

Tough  
Times

The RISS  
Family

10 QUESTIONS  
to a former student

The Great  
RESET

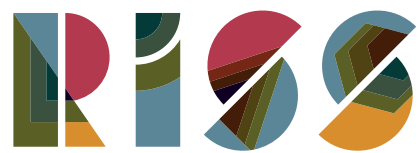
Hugo Ferguson:  
PRINCIPAL FOR  
ONE DAY!



ROTTERDAM  
INTERNATIONAL  
SECONDARY  
SCHOOL

HALL OF FAME  
2020





**ROTTERDAM**  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
**SECONDARY**  
**SCHOOL**



# Message from the Editor

These have been tough times for all of us. The unexpected COVID-19 pandemic has led to many countries going on lockdown and has affected the lives of many people. Our own school has not seen its students, teachers and staff together for almost three months now. We have all been quarantining safely at home, the students are still learning and the teachers are still teaching. The RISSUE team has also continued to work on producing this second issue of the magazine. As they say... the show must go on... and so will RISSUE.

Though we have had to adjust this edition due to some quarantine-related limitations, we nevertheless have managed to produce some great pieces of work – both before the lockdown, and during. We all worked hard, despite the limitations, to bring to

you this summer edition, in collaboration with a number of students from the school.

In this special edition, we would like to celebrate our fantastic grade 12, who are officially leaving us now the exams are done. They will soon go off to pursue their dream careers and start their lives after RISS. We hope that they take with them a part of the RISS spirit and we wish them all much success.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who was part of this magazine. A special thank you to all the writers and supervision teachers, as well to all the students who participated and helped make this come together. A big thank you to our principal and the Wolfert Board, who gave us the financial support to make this happen. This, of course, would not have been possible without the professional expertise of the publishers, XPat Media.

Lastly, I would like to thank the whole school community for their contributions and support. I hope everyone enjoys this edition and that everyone is safe and healthy.

*Geoffrey Antonio Mathias,  
Student Editor-in-Chief*



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

*"It is in times of adversity  
when the true nature of  
human beings with strong  
values comes to life"*

By Dr. Gilbert-Sáez



### Dear students,

It is my pleasure to write these lines for our RISSUE in its First summer edition. This professionally-produced document is a real treat and a testament to the commitment our students and teachers have to working side-by-side to produce something by and for our whole school community. Thank you all.

In recent weeks, with the doors of universities closed across the world, I have been profoundly touched by the words of encouragement and recognition given by different world leaders to university students to mark their graduation. Drawing inspiration from these messages, please let me offer you all my version.

I would like to start with the phrase 'hang in there'. Nothing is forever and this current situation, like all things, will pass. It is in times of adversity when the true nature of human beings with strong values comes to life. Our values at RISS – respect, responsibility, relationship and courage – are there to guide us through such times, to help us know what to do when we don't know what to do. In times of fear, our values keep us brave and by having values that are shared across the community, we know we are not, and never will be, alone.

Remember, dear RISS students; you are young, talented, internationally-minded and you have strong values to guide you. You have a school and parents who are proud of you, who wish you all you wish yourselves and want you to chase those dreams you are harbouring inside your heart. Remember, as the old adage goes, if you aim for the moon but don't get quite there, at least you know you will drop amongst the stars. Find your purpose in life; your 'why' – the thing that drives you because it is bigger than you, and in doing so you seek out your authentic self.

*“Be passionate about something and you will draw to you those who want to share in that passion”*

**It is true what they say, never try to be someone else, as everyone else is taken.**

Finishing with school does not mean finishing with learning. Invest in yourself so that, just when you think you know who you are, you realise you have more to give. Relish the educational opportunities that you have and grab them wholeheartedly. Stretch yourself, but look after yourself too. Take great care of your mind and your body – make sure they both last a lifetime. Focus on yourself, but focus on others too. The more you give, the more you receive. While there are poor, you will never be fully rich; while there are sick, you will never be fully well; while many go hungry, no meal will fully satisfy you. You will never be free until everyone is free. Just look at the big fences around expensive houses.

These are not normal times. But they never were. The planet needs you to step up. Make this pandemic a footnote in the story of how a new generation saved the world.

Embrace change and uncertainty, seek out complexity and learn to be comfortable with being uncomfortable. Know that your education, combined with your imagination, has equipped you with the capacity to adapt and envisage new normals, better ones, and to make them happen.

There will be dark times, darker than now perhaps, but remember that the opposite of optimism isn't pessimism, it's cynicism. Surround yourselves with those who value, support and challenge you. And value, support and challenge others in return.

Leadership is service. It's not about you. Be a role model to those younger than you. Show them how to aim, grow and achieve. How do you become a leader? Be passionate about something and you will draw to you those who want to share in that passion. Passion gives you strength. Anger – ‘righteous anger’ as it is known – can move mountains. Bring the strength of your emotions to bear on the real issues society faces – poverty, health, education, housing, hunger, justice, fairness.

**Find the space where your shouts of anger will be heard the most.**

But you won't do this alone. Reach out, communicate, connect. And not just with people like you. Create coalitions of transformation among those whose shouts are not being heard, not so you can speak up for them, but so you can use your privilege to help them speak up for themselves.

Above all, cherish your past and the memories forged in your time at RISS, create a motivating future, the one your success here has helped you move towards, but never, ever, forget to live in the moment.

*Good luck,  
take care  
and remember  
we love you.*



**ROTTERDAM  
INTERNATIONAL  
SECONDARY  
SCHOOL**



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Value, support and challenge others



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We can tackle anything



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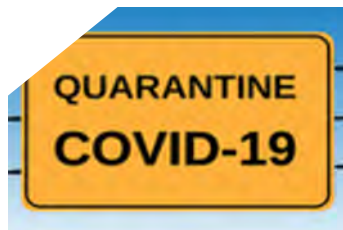
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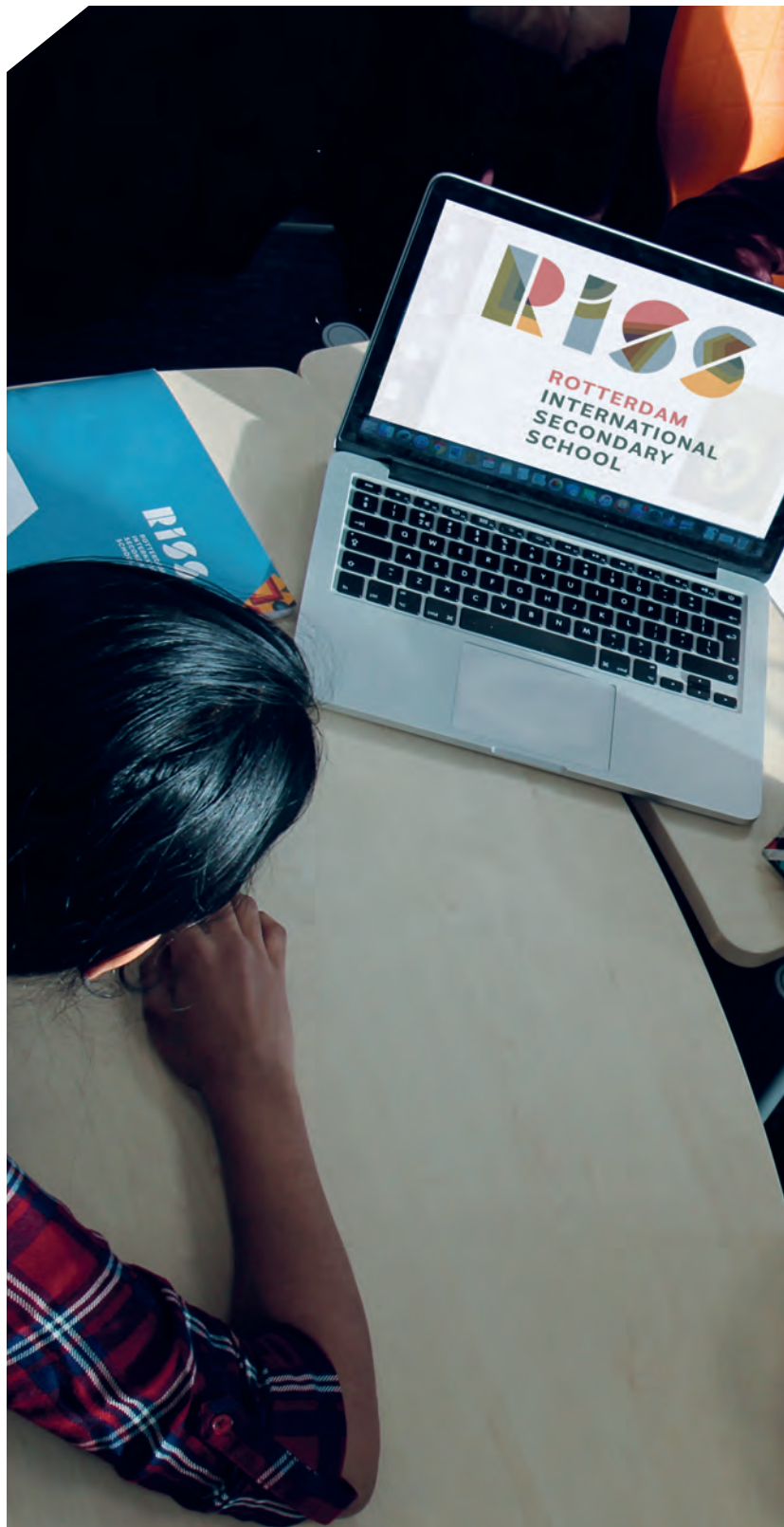
A frozen time-space



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# COLOPHON

## RISSUE

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Issue number 2

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By Kiki England

## FIELD TRIP

*"I had an incredible experience. I made new friends and created fantastic memories"*



# School Ski Trip February 2020

Honestly, when I first signed up for the ski trip, it was only to be with my little brother and also get away from my parents for the week, because, why not? I was, however, also a bit nervous about the trip, because I knew that not many students of my grade were going. That meant that I would have to go and talk to all of these other kids from the older grades, which scared me a bit! Even later on, when I learned one of my friends was going, I still had that anxiety of meeting and talking to all of these other people I didn't really know. I was wrong to be nervous though. I had the best time on the ski trip, my group was amazing and because we were one of the older groups, we were able to plan out our own days and decide what we wanted to do. My group worked together as a team and we each helped each other down the slopes, making sure we were all OK and none of us had any problems. Overall, I had an incredible experience. I made new friends and created fantastic memories. Thank you to all the teachers and staff who came with us and supported us on our journey. We all really appreciated it.



FIELD TRIP

# Schooltrip to Berlin



*"Not just another brick in the wall!"*





# The RISS Family

Teachers from RISS have travelled across cities, countries and schools and they all have something in common to say about this school; they call it 'The RISS Family'! Whilst international teachers come and go, some teachers have stayed at RISS for nearly two decades. **Ms. Libert**, an ESL (English as a second language) teacher, has been with this school for 18 years. She arrived in 2002 and watched the school grow from the ground up, from even before the RISS junior and senior campuses had been constructed. She has also watched The RISS Family grow and learn. Another member of The RISS Family who has been at the school for nearly a decade is **Mr. Stewart**. He works as head concierge, dealing with the ins and outs of the school. He has seen the interaction of students and their development at RISS. In this article, I will take you through their journeys and the role they both played in the development of The RISS Family.

When **Ms. Libert** first started as a supply teacher in 2002. She worked hard and nonstop to pursue her dream of becoming a teacher. As time moved on at RISS, she was offered a full-time teaching position. She has worked here ever since.

## What do you love most about teaching?

The best part of being a teacher is the opportunity to work with students. Each student is different and special. The best part of the day is when I see my students, because they inspire me to be a better teacher. I have a lot of fun with them. I make teaching fun in my class as I believe this brings out the best in the students. I do this by coming into class with a positive attitude. This allows me to bond with the students. They feel comfortable and all topics are safe. I love having a good relationship with the students on a personal level. The fact that I get to know my students well, allows me to have more of a personal relationship with them. The most important part of being a good teacher, I feel, is helping create good people, who are kind, grow up to be responsible and have a good heart.

## Do you have any fun stories/experiences working at RISS you would like to tell?

The best memories of RISS never get old. I've had 'tears of joy' experiencing these wonderful moments. Such as when I watch a student whom I have known since foundation year move up through the grades. Watching them pass the IB and seeing them grow and develop into young adults. The best story is when I pass some of my old students in the city and see them with children of their own. That truly brings 'tears of joy'. This feeling has made me continue to work harder and better.



Ms. Libert

*"The most important part of being a good teacher, is helping create good people, who are kind, grow up to be responsible and have a good heart."*



The second teacher who has witnessed the RISS community grow from the inside and outside is **Mr. Stewart**. He is originally from Scotland and is the head concierge. He interacts with the students when they first visit the school and gives them a good sense of the school community. He is special to us because of his unique Scottish humour and I believe every student/teacher who works here knows exactly what I mean. If you are a parent/student who hasn't arrived at the school yet, you will easily recognise Mr. Stewart.



Mr. Stewart

*"It's such a great job...  
working and  
talking with  
students and  
teachers who make  
me laugh at least  
once a day"*

*This interview was possible thanks  
to Mr. Stewart and Ms. Libert, two  
amazing people who constantly  
make The RISS family happy.*

### **What do you love most about your job at RISS?**

Seeing students graduate and blossom. I was offered to work here as the head concierge and to help maintain the school. What I do here at RISS is focus on the maintenance of the school. Fixing problems that arise. I work inside the school, fixing things such as chairs, tables and whiteboards. Outside, I check for problems with the roof or other issues. It's more hands-on work. I really do everything at the school that anyone needs help with. For instance, I also help out when there are not enough substitutes. I help fill in the work. What I love about this job compared to other options is that, at a school, I am able to joke around, have fun, celebrate and witness true growth. My favourite part of the year is the gala, celebrating the end of the year with the students. That is truly amazing.

### **What has made you stay at RISS for all these years?**

The experience of interacting with students and seeing them grow. The atmosphere at this school is different from the other schools. It is also very different from the school I went to. I would love to have been taught in this school. I wish my kids could get the love and support kids get here at RISS. It is a good experience to work with the school family, to see students graduate; all that is very satisfying to witness. I like to get to know the students on a personal level. I would describe that as my job satisfaction. It's such a great job... working and talking with students and teachers who make me laugh at least once a day, enjoying the open and fun atmosphere. I love to joke around and make it fun.

### **'Blossom' is the word...**

The teachers at RISS all appear to appreciate experiencing the same wonderful growth of the students and the word they used the most is '*blossom*'. Thanks to their priceless time here at RISS they continue to work at this school and have no intention of leaving. I agree with them that the community and family feel about this school is different from anything I have felt before. This could be because of the personal connections with the teachers, or the smaller size of the school compared to my previous one.

**In any case, RISS is a Family! We can tackle anything!**

*By Sania Nisar*

# Principal For A Day

Amazing ideas have always been an essential element within the RISS School Council. RISS wondrously entertained the idea of 'Charity Day' that included an obstacle course, bake sale, movie night, and a secret auction – for the purpose of raising money for KiKa (Kinderen Kankervrij, or Children Cancer-Free), our chosen school charity. One of the most valued prizes of this secret auction was the chance to win being principal of RISS for a day – and Hugo Ferguson, a grade 7 student, was the lucky one to win this opportunity. I was fortunate enough to secure an interview with him and his thoughts have left me awestruck.



## 6 questions for Hugo Ferguson

**Q: Can you tell me a few things about yourself?**

**A:** My name is Hugo. I am half-Slovak, half-Panamanian and I have been living in the Netherlands for 13 years.

**Q: Could you describe the process of you achieving the position of the principal? What was it like?**

**A:** Well, it all started in a school auction. The prizes were in a box so no one knew what they were bidding for. And I won the prize to be the principal for a whole day! It was really interesting, and it showed me our principal's daily routine.

**Q: Could you walk me through your day?**

**A:** I observed the lessons of my classmates in grade 7, walked around the senior campus with Mr. Stewart to check facilities, sent an email to the school community, had a meeting with Mr. Ruitenberg (to make financial requests), had lunch with staff and prepared a speech for them! It was quite a busy day, but very interesting and rewarding.

**Q: Did you have any peculiar experiences? Or gain insight into any specific skills or experiences that felt like an eye-opener?**

**A:** A definitely 'strange' experience was observing my class's lesson, because I saw the lesson from another point of view. An eye-opening experience was definitely meeting with the financial director because it's an aspect of running a school that we usually don't really think of in such detail.

**Q: Did you receive prior help from your teachers?**

**A:** I received lots of help from Ms. Charline, especially with the planning and the scheduling of being principal. Without Ms. Charline's help, I don't think the day would have gone as well and as smoothly as it did!

**Q: How do you feel now and would you do it again?**

**A:** I would definitely do it again, it was a really great experience and I learned so much about our principal's responsibilities.

*"An eye-opening experience was definitely meeting with the financial director because it's an aspect of running a school that we usually don't really think of in such detail"*



Stepping into the shoes of the principal was certainly a tough job, but Hugo successfully walked through this day, learning and remembering lessons that make us value our staff even more than before. RISS has always encouraged students to take on challenges, better themselves, and come up with out-of-the-box solutions and will continue to do so.

# Interview with a Former Student

*By Lamia Tumkaya*

*“RISS taught me to be  
confident and that there  
is value in what I do”*



# Former student **Edith Lane**

## from **RISS** who is now in her first year at university

**Hi Edith, thanks for agreeing to talk to us.**

**How are you doing?**

I am doing fine! I am just navigating through university. It is tough, but I am doing okay.

**What are you doing now?**

I am currently studying for a bachelor's degree in Applied Medical Science at the University of Swansea in Wales, in The United Kingdom. I am studying this in order to become a doctor.

**Why did you decide on this study?**

Medicine is a career that merges my love for science and my love for taking care of people. It is a constantly-changing field and I like being at the forefront of science. Furthermore, it is very hands-on; you get to talk to patients, work with them and treat them. I really like that aspect of medicine.

**How are you experiencing it so far?**

So far, it has actually been easier than I thought it would be. The IB really prepared me well for university, so my first year has been laid-back.

**If you could use three words to describe your time at RISS, what would they be?**

That is a very tough question haha. I think I would say insightful, challenging and joyful. Actually, my time at RISS was pretty good. I enjoyed my time in high school. It taught me a lot of things. It really felt like a community, weirdly enough; I became very close to the teachers and the staff. I felt very welcome. Looking back, I had a great time.

**What is your best memory of RISS?**

The Ameland Trip during grade 11, for sure!

**How would you describe your journey through university?**

Like for most university students, the change from high school to university was not easy for me. It is difficult to find your way

around, since you really do not know what to do with all the freedom that you get. However, after a couple weeks I found a balance between the freedom I had been granted and the time I had to manage. I know I am only a first-year student, but you learn pretty quickly.

**What is the main difference between university and high school?**

The freedom, definitely! There is a lot more freedom in university. Which you do not expect, coming out of a high school like RISS. You do not have a tight schedule like at the IB, where they set the deadline, tell you when you have to hand in the draft, and have revision week. Also, when you need help, the teachers help you. You can always send an email and they answer mostly immediately. At university, your professors do not answer after 5 p.m. And you can call yourself lucky if they reply the next day. According to university policy, professors have three weeks to respond, so you really are on your own. Your classes are very big, so you cannot go up to your professor to ask a question all the time. Some might call this freedom in a good way, however others might see it as a hard way to learn to manage your time.

**What is the most important thing RISS taught you?**

The most important thing RISS taught me is probably how to manage my time well. I have also learned not to underestimate myself. RISS taught me there is value in what I do. I would say RISS taught me to be confident.

**If you could give students from RISS one tip, what would it be?**

Throughout the IB career and university, manage your time really well and make sure you do what you love. Make sure you like all the subjects you take. You have the opportunity to choose them and you have the opportunity to choose your degree at university. The second you do something you love, you will not feel like you are working and it feels like time is flying by.

*"It really felt like a community; I became very close to the teachers and the staff. I felt very welcome and had a great time"*

# Quarantine 101

It is the month of May, meaning we have been in quarantine for a good two months now, quickly moving on to our third month of self-isolation. Truthfully speaking, at times it feels as though we are stuck in a frozen time-space, with no improvement or advancements at all, as we slowly lose our sense of time. It definitely sometimes seems like no end will come to the pandemic, as the whole world is put on pause with no clear vision of the future to come. Lately, things have started to slowly open up and our lives are on the paths to normality – however, most of our time is still to be spent in quarantine.

**In order to attempt somewhat to make this self-isolation period a bit more bearable (perhaps even enjoyable), Grade 10 has come up with a list of fun activities and recommendations for what you can do with all your spare time:**

- Try to pick up an artistic skill, or just freely engage in crafts activities in order to spend time and use it as a form of relaxation and fun.
- Create a shared playlist on Spotify, and have your friends and family add music. This way you can discover new genres of music.
- Do a room makeover. Try to go through your closets and drawers – perhaps you will find a new organising system for yourself or sort out old clothing and items that you no longer want or need.
- Attempt to make new dishes and recipes, by trying out different meals and desserts.
- Try reading a few interesting books. See our book recommendations below.
- Exercise or keep active.
- Play board/card games with your family or friend(s) (whilst following the regulations), and have a game night or afternoon.
- Try completing puzzles, and challenge yourself to ones with many pieces in order to keep yourself busy.
- Make a very detailed and thought-out goals & to-do list for after quarantine, and invest time in thinking about different activities you would like to try.
- Binge watch everything and anything. There are many hidden gems that are worthwhile.

QUARANTINE - QUARANTINE

QUARANTINE - QUARANTINE



## BOOKS TO READ:

- All Your Twisted Secrets
- The Hate U Give
- The Darkest Minds
- One of Us is Lying & One of Us is Next
- To Kill a Mockingbird
- The Handmaid's Tale
- The Great Gatsby
- Little Women
- The Book Thief
- Looking for Alaska
- The Secret Garden
- A Court of Thorns and Roses
- Percy Jackson + The Heroes of Olympus
- Heartless
- The Alchemist
- The Selection
- Maze Runner
- Divergent
- The Game of Thrones
- Harry Potter
- The Lunar Chronicles (spin-off fairy tales)
- Red Queen

## THINGS TO WATCH:

- Rick and Morty
- Tiger King: Murder, Mayhem and Madness
- The Society
- Never Have I Ever
- Modern Family
- Dynasty
- Elite
- Narcos
- Dare Me
- Family Guy
- Money Heist
- Spirited Away
- Dead to Me
- Sex Education
- Unorthodox
- Lucifer
- Peaky Blinders
- Brooklyn 99
- Community
- Gossip Girl
- The Office
- Gilmore Girls

*“We have been in quarantine for a good two months now and at times it feels as though we are stuck in a frozen time-space”*

E - QUARANTINE

QUARANTINE

ARANTINE

# The Class of 2020









# Hall of Fame G12 2020

SENIOR QUOTE  
"HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=DQW4W9WGXCQ"

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBOP?  
Being in the same boat as everyone else. I think that sharing the ups and downs of the IBDP with my class not only helped us a great deal academically, but were foundational to us building life-long friendships.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT ISS?  
The friendships - being surrounded by people who always know how to make you laugh really brightens your day. Some of those people were the great teachers, whom I'll miss equally.

What next?  
I HAVEN'T YET DECIDED ON MY BACHELOR'S, BUT I'M AIMING FOR A MASTER'S IN INTERNATIONAL LAW AND HOPE TO WORK BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES.

William  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



SENIOR QUOTE  
"KOM JE APPIE?"

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBOP?  
The time spent with friends at school. Not just sharing the free time we had, but also going through the same academic challenges with each other.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT ISS?  
Going to apple with the boys or TOR

What next?  
BECOMING AN AIRLINE PILOT

Lucas  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



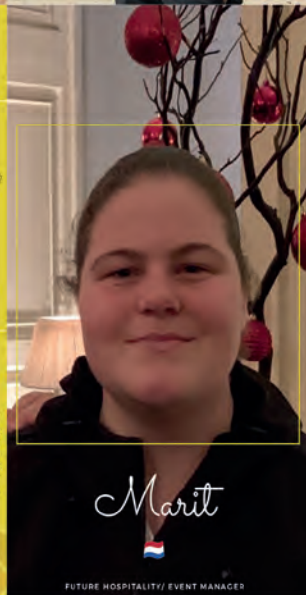
SENIOR QUOTE  
"TO ALL THE TEACHERS THAT SAID IT'S NOT THEM TAKING THE EXAMS, IT'S NOT ME EITHER"

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBOP?  
10th period geography class.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT ISS?  
The atmosphere in our class and the fun we had during breaks and free periods playing cards or other games. I have only been at this school for two years but it feels like a lot longer because of how welcoming everyone is and how quickly you feel integrated.

What next?  
HOPEFULLY A QUARANTINE FREE SUMMER AND TO MAKE MY DECISION ON WHERE I AM GOING TO GO STUDY. AND EVENTUALLY I HOPE TO BE A PART OF ORGANIZING EVENTS SUCH AS THE OLYMPICS WHEN THEY DON'T GET CANCELLED.

Marit  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



SENIOR QUOTE  
"THERE ARE ONLY TWO THINGS YOU SHOULD LIVE BY: LE PETIT PRINCE BY DE SAINT-EXUPÉRY AND GIVE ME EVERYTHING TONIGHT BY PITBULL"

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBOP?  
The thing I loved most about the last 2 years was meeting this incredible group of people and now friends, whom I will never forget. Together we did everything, laughed every single day, let loose at all our parties, struggled with the same deadlines and assignments, fought through moments of stress, gave each other advice, engaged in the most random conversations etc. I love, love, love all the amazing friends that I made and I couldn't be more grateful for that.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT ISS?  
First and second break. Whether we stood on the terrace during an unforeseen moment of sun, or stood near the microwave until a teacher would tell us to move far being too obstructive or sat on the iconic old radiator, breaks have always had a special place in our daily lives. In those moments, it was just as a bunch of teenagers, rockers of the newly discovered adult world, having conversations of all kinds, laughing, planning our next party, comforting each other etc. It's hard to explain if you weren't there (or if you chose to be part of it anymore "tough enough" the guys), but however small and trivial these moments may have seemed back then, breaks actually revealed our deepest selves. I'm going to miss seeing us grow like that.

What next?  
IBA AT ERASMUS UNIVERSITY

Anna-Sophia  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



FUTURE ENTREPRENEUR IN FOCUS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



## SENIOR QUOTE

**"WAIT,  
WHEN IS THIS DUE?"**

Mikel

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?  
My favourite thing about my last few years have been the students and teachers. The unique experiences I have shared with them and the friendships I have maintained and formed. It was comforting knowing that everyone was going through the same course that I was, so that in times of struggle I would be able to ask for help or sit with others and figure it out.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?

The thing I'll miss the most is the openness of the students and teachers. The fact that we are all a community and make each other feel welcome. That we are able to express ourselves in any way and still be accepted. The main thing I will be missing will be the students and teachers as they make what the RISS is today.

What's next?

I WILL BE CONTINUING MY STUDIES IN SPAIN, PURSUING MY CAREER IN DENTISTRY. I WANT TO THANK THE RISS FOR PUTTING UP WITH ME FOR 7 YEARS.

Mikel  
THE CLASS OF  
2020

Mikel

FUTURE DENTIST

## SENIOR QUOTE

**"HARD WORK PAYS OFF"**

Ky

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?  
I HAVE MET PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT CULTURES AND IT MADE ME THINK IN DIFFERENT WAYS.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
MY FRIENDS

What's next?  
TAKING A GAP YEAR AND THEN GOING TO SPAIN OR THE US

Ky  
THE CLASS OF  
2020

Ky

FUTURE PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL PLAYER

## SENIOR QUOTE

**"WE MOVE REGARDLESS"**

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

I LOVED

Amalaid

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
1ST AND 10TH PERIODS

WHAT'S NEXT?

INDUSTRIAL  
ENGINEERING

George  
THE CLASS OF  
2020

George

FUTURE ROADMAN

## SENIOR QUOTE

**"CAN WE ALL JUST ACT  
LIKE OUR DIPLOMAS  
MEAN SOMETHING?"**

Konstantina

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?  
HEARING MS DU PLESSIS'S HEELS CLICK CLACK AS SHE RUNS ACROSS THE ORC TO TALK TO HER STUDENTS

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
THE CAS REFLECTIONS

What's next?  
PROBABLY STUDYING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SOMEWHERE IN THE NETHERLANDS AND SEE FROM THERE

Konstantina  
THE CLASS OF  
2020

Konstantina

FUTURE STUDENT

## SENIOR QUOTE

**"ANYONE CAN DO MY  
JOB, BUT NO ONE CAN BE  
ME."**

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

THE SMALL SCALE CLASSES AND THE BONDS WITH THE TEACHERS. THIS REALLY INSPIRED ME TO A SENSE OF COMPETITIVENESS AND COMFORT, SINCE WE WERE ALL IN IT TOGETHER, SAME STRUGGLES AND SAME VICTORIES.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?

BEING ABLE TO WALK INTO A 1ST PERIOD CLASS AND CRACK A JOKE TO COMPENSATE FOR BEING LATE. ON A MORE PERSONAL NOTE, THE ABILITY TO EXPRESS YOUR OPINION IN ALL CLASSES WITH ALL TEACHERS AND STAFF, WHICH OFTEN LEAD TO DEBATES I WILL NEVER FORGET.

What's next?

I WILL BE ATTENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF CROWNING, STUDYING INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LAW. WITH THE COMFORT OF KNOWING I WAS TAUGHT AT THE RISS.

Yasmine  
THE CLASS OF  
2020

Yasmine

FUTURE LAWYER

## SENIOR QUOTE

**"I'D LIKE TO DEDICATE  
THIS DIPLOMA TO  
SPARKNOTES,  
CLIFFSNOTES AND  
SCHOLIEREN.NL."**

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?  
SCHOOL TRIPS WERE SOME OF MY FAVORITE TIMES THROUGHOUT THESE PAST TWO YEARS AND I WILL MISS THEM A LOT.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
Definitely the people. Our grade is really close and I have made amazing memories. I am really going to miss seeing everyone every day.

What's next?  
I'm going to be taking a gap year so I can figure out what I want to study in Uni. I'll be travelling and will probably go to Italy to go to Uni for 14 weeks with subjects I want to explore further (such as photography).

Iza  
THE CLASS OF  
2020

Iza

FUTURE WORKING IN GLOBAL ENERGY



#### SENIOR QUOTE

"THE ONLY PERSON YOU SHOULD TRY TO BE BETTER THAN IS THE PERSON THAT YOU WERE YESTERDAY"

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE 'BOY?  
My favorite thing about my last years in the 'BOY is the feeling of community and friendship with everyone in the senior campus and the school community. Everyone both in and around the school worked together to truly make the 'B experience something really special.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
The things that I am going to miss most about RISS is seeing the friends which I made there regularly.

What next?  
I AM GOING TO HOPEFULLY CONTINUE MY STUDIES IN THE NETHERLANDS IN THE FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Marko  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Marko  
FUTURE LAWYER

#### SENIOR QUOTE

"IF YOU DON'T HAVE ELECTRICITY YOU DON'T HAVE LOVE! YOU'RE USELESS"

Tommy Wiese

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE 'BOY?  
YES

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
The funky desks and stubborn chairs that's what peak performance looks like! (Also some teachers and friends but you already know that)

What next?  
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN DESIGN AND THEN WHO KNOWS

Joana  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Joana

FUTURE PRODUCT DESIGNER



#### SENIOR QUOTE

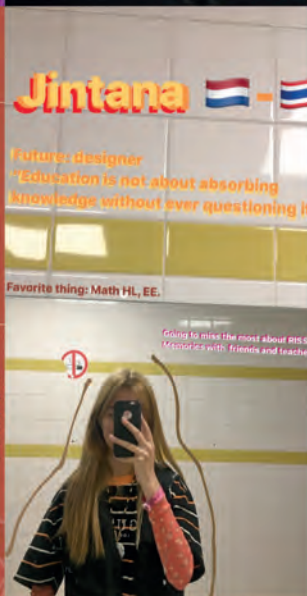
EDUCATION IS NOT ABOUT ABSORBING KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT EVER QUESTIONING IT!

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE 'BOY?  
MATH HL IS FUN BUT ITS HARD.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
TEACHERS

What next?  
I WILL BE CONTINUING MY STUDIES IN THE NETHERLANDS. THANK RISS FOR GIVING ME THE UNFORGETTABLE OPPORTUNITIES, EXPERIENCES AND PEOPLE.

Jintana  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Jintana  
Future: designer  
"Education is not about absorbing knowledge without ever questioning it"

Favorite thing: Math HL, EE.

Going to miss the most about RISS:  
Memories with friends and teachers

#### SENIOR QUOTE

"IAS AREN'T THAT IMPORTANT I CAN ALWAYS DO BETTER IN THE EXAMS"

Mc 2019 B.C. (Mc 1999 Cornell)

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE 'BOY?  
THE AMELAND TRIP

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
PLAYING CARDS AND GAMES DURING FREE PERIODS

What next?  
NO MORE QUARANTINE

Paul  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Paul  
FUTURE ENGINEER

#### SENIOR QUOTE

"HEY SANDER CAN YOU GET ME "INSERT INAPPROPRIATE DRINK" PLEASE? I'LL SEND YOU A TIKKIE."

Unknown

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE 'BOY?  
AMELAND TRIP

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
HOW CLOSE EVERYONE WAS! THE FRIENDS I HAVE MADE.

What next?  
GAP YEAR

Sander  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Sander  
FUTURE STUDENT

#### SENIOR QUOTE

"EITHER I GROW WITH YOU OR I OUTGROW YOU. I DON'T STAND STILL FOR ANYBODY"

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE 'BOY?  
WORKING ON FINALLY TAKING THE LAST STEP TO GO TO UNIVERSITY

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
THE DIVERSITY OF PEOPLE

What next?  
I'M FINALLY GOING TO UNIVERSITY

Maxime  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Maxime  
FUTURE IN PUBLIC RELATIONS



SENIOR QUOTE  
PEOPLE ALWAYS ASK  
WHY LOCO? ... BUT NEVER  
HOW'S LOCO?

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?  
Maintaining a balanced yet integrated curriculum which not only  
meets academically but also strives to develop the core attributes  
of responsibility, courage, respect and relationship necessary to  
develop this future generation of leaders and innovators (and of  
course enjoying our youth too!)

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
MY DAD

What next?  
MINECRAFT LETS PLAYS

Edward  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Edward  
FUTURE ENTREPRENEUR

SENIOR QUOTE  
"WAIT, DAD, YOU'RE  
TELLING ME WHEN THE  
GUY ATE THE BAT, YOU  
GRADUATED, JUST LIKE  
THAT?!"

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?  
AMELAND

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
ALWAYS FOLLOWING AND RESPECTING  
THE RULE OF NOT BEING ALLOWED TO EAT  
IN THE LIBRARY.

What next?  
I'M GOING TO BE STUDYING LAW IN  
THE NETHERLANDS, WHICH WILL AID  
ME IN PURSUING MY AMBITION OF  
INTEGRATING MYSELF IN THE  
FOOTBALL INDUSTRY AS A SPORTS  
AGENT.

Floris  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Floris  
FUTURE SHEEP HERDER

SENIOR QUOTE  
"FINISHING THE  
BEGINNER TUTORIAL, THE  
REAL GAME IS JUST  
STARTING."

Jiaming

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?  
THE WEEKENDS

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
PAUSES AND FREE PERIODS WITH  
FRIENDS SITTING IN THE AULA PLAYING  
CARDS

What next?  
COUNTLESS OPPORTUNITIES  
LEADING ME TO DIFFERENT  
SUCCESSSES, AND 3 YEARS OF  
BACHELOR AND EVEN MORE YEARS  
OF MASTER.

Jiaming  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Jiaming  
FUTURE ENGINEER/ECOMMERCIAN

SENIOR QUOTE  
"HOW LUCKY AM I TO  
HAVE SOMETHING THAT  
MAKES SAYING GOODBYE  
SO HARD."

Winnie the Pooh

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?  
One of my favorite things from the past two  
years at RISS has to be all the events and trips  
we were able to have and go on. I really enjoyed  
the trips to Spain, Berlin and Ameland because I  
was able to spend some time outside school with  
all my classmates. I will also always remember  
when we had snakes and spiders at school and  
all the other pranks that happened.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
I think I will generally miss the community that  
we have here at RISS and in my grade. I think  
that I've become close to all my classmates and  
I miss seeing them every day at school. I'm also  
going to miss all my teachers some of whom I've  
had since grade 9.

Leen  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Leen  
FUTURE TEACHER OR BIOLOGIST

SENIOR QUOTE  
"YOU'RE LYING LEMME  
SEE"

Anja

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?  
BERLIN

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
ANJA

Evelyn  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Evelyn  
FUTURE PROFESSIONAL GOLD DIGGER

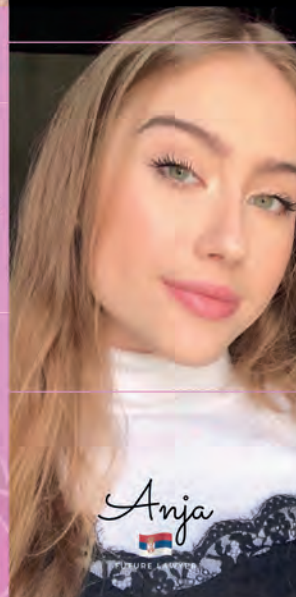
SENIOR QUOTE  
"I JUST KEEP TALKING  
AND EVENTUALLY  
SOMETHING'S FUNNY."

Anja

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?  
THE BERLIN TRIP

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
EVELYN

Anja  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Anja  
FUTURE LAWYER



## SENIOR QUOTE

**"CHALLENGES ARE WHAT MAKE LIFE INTERESTING AND OVERCOMING THEM IS WHAT MAKES LIFE MEANINGFUL."**

Joshua J. Morine

## FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?

Through all the stress of being an IB student, everyone was in the same boat, which caused everyone to support each other. The set deadlines and many challenges we had to overcome was one of the reasons why our grade was such a close group of friends. This is something that I have come to love as we were all there for each other.

## THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?

As the RISS is such a small school especially when you're on the SC, everyone knew each other and there was no stranger face. Now transitioning to uni, the school will be significantly larger. Therefore, not every face will be familiar, which is something I will miss dearly from the RISS.

Joshua  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



## SENIOR QUOTE

**"ANY DEADLINES THIS WEEK?"**

P. WESTRA

## FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?

The trip to Amsterdam. It was a new experience to celebrate my birthday with the whole grade. Especially during dinner, when everyone started to sing "Happy Birthday". They all sang it more than 30 times in a row.

## THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?

I think it's not so much about what I'll miss, but what I take from those 2 years at RISS. The people I've met, the friends I've made, the things I've learnt and discovered, the successes and the failures, but also all the memories created, whether they are enjoyable or sometimes upsetting, make me reflect on what has happened during those 2 incredibly fast years. See kids, this is what I'd do to you.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

I am really looking forward to starting my career as a pilot. I am currently completing my applications and am working hard for the selection tests. Hopefully, one day, I'll have the pleasure to have one of you on board my plane.

Louis  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



## SENIOR QUOTE

**"CONTAGIOUS SMILE. INFECTIOUS LAUGHTER. IF LOOKS COULD KILL, YOU'D BE COVID-19. :) "BRO SHE'S SIXTEEN....."**

Anthony's best friend

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP? Edward channeling his inner princess. From throwing bananas at workers to finding ways to blow up the school. Nothing was safe, trains, homeless people and even his friends. But at least he always had the courtesy to eat the banana first. In all seriousness, my friends and relationships I made along the way, those were mistakes made along the way but I'll never regret meeting the people I did or the decisions I made. Not everything goes the way you want it to but I wouldn't be the person I am today if I didn't learn a lot about myself and to not take people's care for granted.

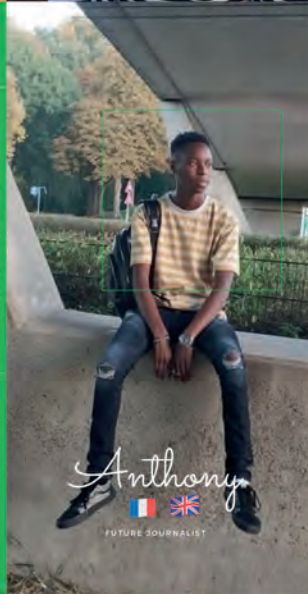
## THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?

I'll definitely miss the teachers and some of the students that are still in the school (also to Mok, Max, Tim & Shaniqua). However, the thing I am going to miss the most about the RISS is the countless times I would come up with the most stupid excuses to skip class and trying to convince Mr. Cook that I was telling the truth. She could smell my BS from a mile away so I had to find more creative ways to get away with it. I'm still heading to the embassy till this day.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

I will be moving away and attending the University of Amsterdam, to pursue a degree in communication science. If you're wondering where you can find me at, it's been 10 years with no action so you should already know what's up. At home making tiktoks. BIG UP Chayden, my guy Mr. Reynolds knows what's up. RISS rate 4 life and everyone already knows 12C is the best house group. We, the basketball boys of the school, a piece of history. Mr. Alberts, you better be at the reunion :)

Anthony  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



## SENIOR QUOTE

**"JUST NOD AND ACT AS IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING"**

Otta

## FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?

All my friends, who supported me during tough, stressful and anxious times, who managed to make me laugh every single day, accepted me for who I am and were able to deal with my wave trait. The bond I created with the teachers who helped me to grow into the person I am today, and all the memories I created that will stay with me forever.

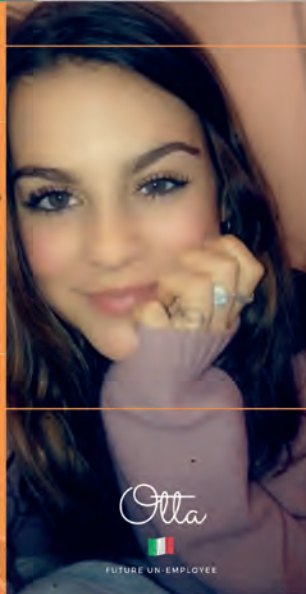
## THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?

The friendly and chill environment that always managed to make me feel comfortable to be myself and seeing the people that I love and care about on a daily basis.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

I will be continuing my studies, pursuing my interests in political science and international relations. Thank you Riss for everything you have done for me and for these past 6 years filled with opportunities, memories, laughs, happiness and love. I will never forget you.

Otta  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



## SENIOR QUOTE

**"SORRY LOSERS AND HATERS, BUT MY I.Q. IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST AND YOU ALL KNOW IT! PLEASE DON'T FEEL SO STUPID OR INSECURE, IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT"**

45th president of the United States, Donald J. Trump

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP? Pranking Mr. Alberts and Mr. Moreno, got them stressed, eaten with their faces and seeing their reactions. Meetings in the bathroom with Julia, Anna and Zoe. Being separated from my friends in class. Arriving late to every period. Going outside during breaks and hearing endless discussions about the craziest things. We had school trips after school trips, we were world wide Spain, France, Amsterdam, Belgium. Seeing my friends on the metro unintentionally, and being avoided by one for missing it and having her walk for the next one because she's always on time. And last but not least parties, consuming the lyrics to badman, rhapsody by queen, with my favorite people in the world.

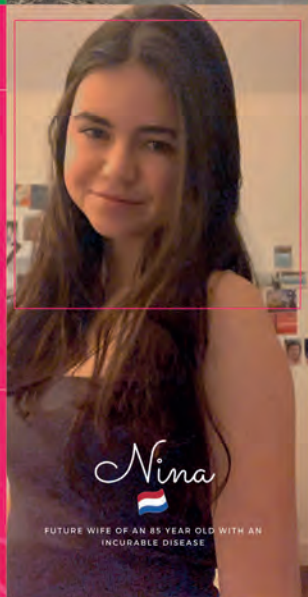
## THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?

My friends and all the dumb things we've done on a daily basis. I will miss not seeing them every day and it will take a lot to get used to that fact. The teachers who have endless patience.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

THE FUTURE SHOULD BE FULL OF SURPRISES

Nina  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



## SENIOR QUOTE

**"I DIDN'T KNOW GETTING AN IB DIPLOMA WAS SO EASY, I JUST HAD TO STAY HOME AND DO NOTHING."**

## FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?

MESSING AROUND IN THE LIBRARY MAKING A CUBE FROM THE COUCHES

## THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?

THE BOYS

## WHAT'S NEXT?

LIVING MY LIFE DAY BY DAY WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THE FUTURE.

Ruben  
THE CLASS OF  
2020





SENIOR QUOTE

**"JULIA, STOP CRYING."**

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?  
THE STUPID THINGS WE DID IN  
FREE PERIODS AND BREAKS  
WITH EVERYONE.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT IBSS?  
THE SUPERIOR GRADE 12.

WHAT'S NEXT?  
CAP YEAR

*Julia*  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



SENIOR QUOTE

**"YO HAGO LO QUE ME DA LA GANA"**

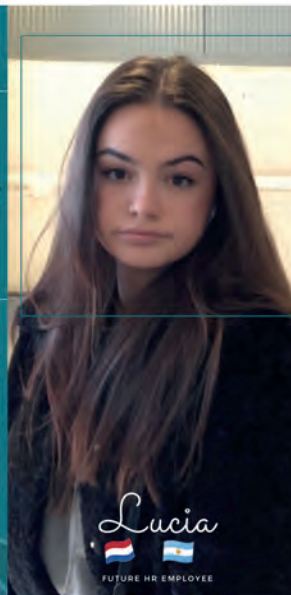
Red Bunny

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?  
THE SPAIN TRIP

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT IBSS?  
MY FRIENDS.

WHAT'S NEXT?  
PSYCHOLOGY AT AMSTERDAM  
UNIVERSITY

*Lucia*  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



SENIOR QUOTE

**HIGH SCHOOL IS FLEETING, SO  
ENJOY EVERY MOMENT OF IT  
AND MAKE IT COUNT.**

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?  
MY FAVOURITE THING

about my years of doing this IB is the diverse relationships  
you make with your fellow peers and teachers. These past  
two years have enabled me to grow as a person and develop  
a passion for learning that I will carry with me for the rest of  
my life.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT IBSS?  
Is the warm and welcoming culture of IBSS and I hope to  
encounter that same attitude when studying in university.

WHAT'S NEXT?  
I AM GOING TO CONTINUE MY  
STUDIES IN BIOLOGY EITHER IN  
THE NETHERLANDS OR THE U.K.

*Bente*  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



SENIOR QUOTE

**"THAT KAASBROODJE WAS THE  
ONLY GOOD THING IN MY LIFE."**

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?  
THE SCHOOL TRIPS (SPAIN,  
AMELAND, AND BERLIN) AND  
MR. ALBERT'S AND MR.  
MORENO'S WEDDING

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT IBSS?  
MOSTLY THE PEOPLE AND THE  
FUN WE HAD TOGETHER.

WHAT'S NEXT?  
I WILL HOPEFULLY BE ACCEPTED  
TO ERASMUS UNIVERSITY TO  
STUDY MEDIA AND  
COMMUNICATION.

*Zoe*  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



SENIOR QUOTE

**"IB SURVIVAL LESSON 6: S&D  
ALWAYS HELP"**

Zoe

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?  
EXAM CANCELLATIONS BUT ON  
A MORE SERIOUS NOTE, NAH  
IT'S STILL EXAM  
CANCELLATIONS.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT IBSS?  
NOT MUCH TBH

*Zoe*  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



SENIOR QUOTE

**"EAT THE RICH"**

Ingo

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?  
LOOKING FORWARD TO  
WHAT COMES AFTER.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT IBSS?  
NOT SEEING BEST  
FRIENDS AS OFTEN.

WHAT'S NEXT?  
FOLLOWING THE CROSSOVER  
CREATIVITY STUDY AT HKU.

*Ingo*  
THE CLASS OF  
2020





SENIOR QUOTE  
**WELL CAN'T SAY IT WAS FUN,  
BUT I'M GLAD IT'S OVER.**

Michael

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?  
**THE CLASSES WITH MR  
REYNOLDS AND THE  
SCHOOL TRIPS**

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
**THE BOYS**

WHAT'S NEXT?  
**THE NEVER ENDING LINE OF WORK  
WHICH EVENTUALLY LEADS TO ME  
BEING OLD**

Michael  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



SENIOR QUOTE  
**"SPONSORED BY COKE."**

Stijn

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?  
For me both the Amsterdam trip and the history trip  
For the Sonne have some of my best memories  
and were some of the best times I have had. From  
the example to the bundle it is something I will  
never forget

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
The thing I will miss most about the ris is seeing everyone  
everyday. For the last 3 years of my life I have been seeing these  
people almost everyday and that is something I am going to miss  
as well as the adventures we had

WHAT'S NEXT?  
**STUDYING HISTORY**

Stijn  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Stijn  
FUTURE HISTORIAN

SENIOR QUOTE  
**FOREVER A RISS RAT <3**

Robin

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?  
The growth within my abilities. Being forced to  
stick to strict schedules and deadlines and  
learning material made me realize what's expected of  
most people in the real world and made me  
want to reach past that - really helping me  
become more motivated in every activity I do

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
The community aspect of the school. When spending my academic  
clutter time for over 6 years, I've come to realize the rare sense of a  
family when in this school is compared to others. I'll always be  
eternally grateful for the continuous support given from teachers  
even when helping us to flourish on our own as future individual  
people even while encouraging us to build and maintain  
relationships with every student, teacher, and even fellow members  
of staff at the school

WHAT'S NEXT?  
**UNIVERSITY AND FIGURING OUT  
WHAT TO DO AS I COME TO  
REALIZE MY OWN STRENGTHS AND  
PASSIONS :)**

Robin  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Robin  
FUTURE JOURNALIST

SENIOR QUOTE  
**"THE FUTURE BELONGS TO  
THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE  
BEAUTY OF THEIR DREAMS."**

Flower Roosevelt

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?  
My favourite thing is definitely making  
unforgettable memories that will last a  
lifetime as well as learning new skills  
and being able to develop & grow as a  
student

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
My wonderful teachers and all of the friends I have made  
over the years

WHAT'S NEXT?  
**I WILL BE STUDYING LAW AT  
LEIDEN UNIVERSITY. STARTING  
SEPTEMBER 2020.**

Fleur  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Fleur  
FUTURE LAWYER

SENIOR QUOTE  
**"INSTEAD OF LETTING YOUR  
HARDSHIPS AND FAILURES  
DISCOURAGE OR EXHAUST YOU,  
LET THEM INSPIRE YOU"**

Michelle Obama

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?  
I think my favourite thing that's happened during my years at IB would be  
all the small memories or those so-called 'candid' moments that you tend  
to not realize or cherish as much. However, I also think that one of the  
best moments were on trips with the grade such as Amsterdam and  
organizing our own MUN. You get the opportunity to bond with people  
who you didn't think you would have before or be up to no good. MUNRO  
was such a long rollercoaster ride but it was an experience I'd never forget.  
Working together alongside friends and making something we'd never  
think of making to the finish line work was such an accomplishment and  
I'm so grateful to have worked with such great people.

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?  
This is something I've actually recently realized which is coming in  
the morning and seeing my friends and complaining that I have a  
test I've studied for the past week or whatever deadline we're all  
going to want to be extended. But I will also deeply miss the teachers  
and the Sonne we had. We all had inside jokes and memorable  
moments in each class too we also bonded so much between the  
teacher and the class itself. It's something I hope to find again in the  
future.

Rose-Marie  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Rose-Marie  
FUTURE FOUNDATION RESEARCHER & CONSULTING

SENIOR QUOTE  
**THE WORLD IS YOUR  
OYSTER...  
YUMM!!**

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEARS IN THE IBDP?

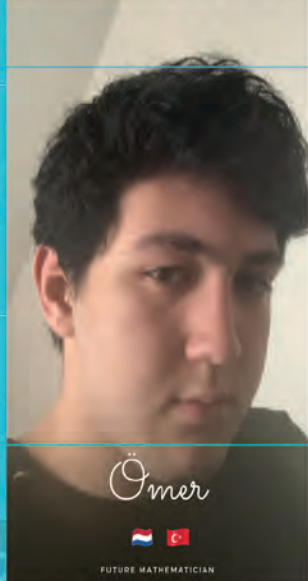
The friends I made along the way. As well  
as our collective dismay at doing  
anything!

THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS?

I'll sure miss the fantastic staff that  
worked day-in and day-out to ensure  
our education and well being.

WHAT'S NEXT?  
**UNIVERSITY. HOPEFULLY, AND A  
DECENT LIVING. NO ONE KNOWS  
ABOUT THE FUTURE REALLY. JUST  
HAVE TO FIND OUT THE HARD WAY.**

Ömer  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



Ömer  
FUTURE MATHEMATICIAN



#### SENIOR QUOTE

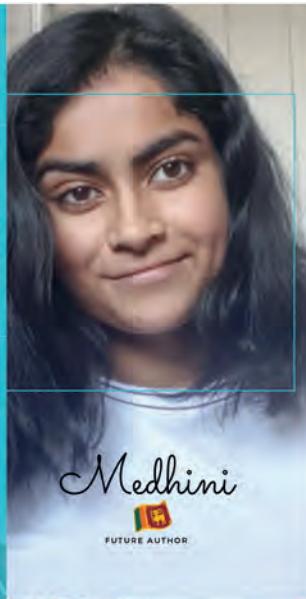
**"WHAT ABOUT POSTPONING  
OUR SENIOR TRIP TO WHEN WE  
ALL LIVE IN A RETIREMENT  
HOME TOGETHER?"**

**FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBOP?**  
All the trips and activities I got to do with my friends.  
The last two years were filled with so many opportunities and I'm so proud to have taken them.  
They led me on to enjoy events like MUN, public speaking etc, but it also meant I got to have fun with parties and days with all my friends.

**THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RIS?**  
I already mentioned it, but it will always be my friends and getting to see them everyday. I know we won't lose touch, but this class was super close and I'm disappointed that I won't see them every day from now on.

**WHAT'S NEXT?**  
**SUCCESS :)**

*Medhini*  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



*Medhini*  
FUTURE AUTHOR

#### SENIOR QUOTE

**"JUST KEEP SWIMMING"**

Dory

**FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBOP?**  
My favourite things about these last two years have been the trips like the Spain trip, Berlin trip but also our trip to Amsterdam, and of course the people that came on the trips. Our grade is so close and these trips brought us even closer.

**THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RIS?**  
I'm going to miss all the friends I have made the last few years but I will hopefully still see some of them after we go our separate ways. I'm also going to miss all the encouraging teachers who always had our best interest in mind and were always prepared to help us in any way that they could.

**WHAT'S NEXT?**  
**AFTER THE IB I'LL BE MOVING TO  
GERMANY AND CONTINUING MY  
JOURNEY AND EDUCATION THERE.**

*Christina*  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



*Christina*

#### SENIOR QUOTE

**"NOTHING LASTS  
FOREVER, LEAST WE GOT  
THESE MEMORIES."**

J. COLE

**FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBOP?**

**I LOVED**

**THE STRESS IT WAS AMAZING**

**THE THING YOU ARE GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RIS?**

**ALMOST EVERYTHING**

**AND MR. MOTTRAM**

*Polina*  
THE CLASS OF  
2020



*Polina*

FUTURE MODEL AND/OOD-DESIGNER

KERRY WASHINGTON:

"YOUR LIFE IS  
YOUR STORY,  
AND THE  
ADVENTURE  
AHEAD OF YOU  
IS THE JOURNEY  
TO FULFILL  
YOUR OWN  
PURPOSE AND  
POTENTIAL."



*“Working at RISS means working with a group of unique 12th graders, who all have their own dreams and wishes, and who all are poised to make them come true”*

[IBDP Lead]

# A Message from Ms. de Vries

## A year at RISS.....

**ToK 1st period Monday morning means you can bank on at least some of the following predictions being true:**

1. At least two people will be missing...
2. Someone will be late...
3. There will be at least one or two questions about something that should have stuck from IBDP1... (How do I write a knowledge question again?)...
4. There will be one person waiting in the hallway to 'all of a sudden' talk football when my beloved team has lost...
5. Someone will mention that ToK is not meant to be a first-period subject...

### **What else does a year at RISS entail?**

- Dealing with Mr. Westra's poor choices when it comes to soccer!
- Dealing with people near the canteen on Monday (Miss, your team didn't do so well, did they?)
- Hunting! Hunting for forms: registration forms, academic honesty forms; hunting for coursework: Extended Essays, ToK essays and presentations...
- Answering questions. "Miss, could you tell me my personal code again?", "Could you tell me what I need to do for CAS?", "When can I have my CAS-interview?" "I submitted my work without a bibliography, miss... What now?" "Miss, I don't have a pencil (Math Mock), do you have one?..."

*All kidding aside.... What does a year at RISS really mean? It means working with a group of 57 unique 12th graders, who all have their own dreams and wishes, and who all, in one way or another, are poised to make them come true. Go out, but please do come back and make us and yourself proud.*



*“What makes this graduating class so memorable is their sense of community spirit, their joie de vivre and their ability to approach life and tasks with gusto”*



[Deputy Principal]

## A Message from Ms. du Plessis

**All graduating classes are similar in some ways, but some classes manage to create a special niche in one's memory. This graduating class is definitely a most memorable class, and not simply because of the damp fizz of their corona-induced year-ending and their lack of exams.**

I have known quite a few of these graduating students from Grade 6 onwards, and the growth and development of these students from children to adults is always fascinating and rewarding: I have taught a number of them for some years, which has been a joy. And, as many students have mentioned: I also have interesting memories regarding the grade 9 trip, though probably different to yours! This is also the class whom I cut my teeth on both during the IGCSE years and the IB years, learning the intricacies of the programmes with them as my first cohort every

time: so it seems as if I have indeed been following them. What makes this graduating class so memorable is their sense of community spirit, their joie de vivre and their ability to approach life and tasks with gusto. In some ways, the class has been like a family with the normal disagreements, strong opinions and a few individuals who proved not quite able to adhere to timelines – but their ability to give one another space and form a variety of diverse and strong friend groups has been impressive.

As I look through the list of names, I have individual memories and recollections of every single student, and even a soft spot for my usual customers whom I have chased down for IAs and EEs. And honestly: even some of the behaviours I had to call you in on were a little amusing: you know what they were. You took fun and work seriously, and I hope you never lose this ability.

*My absolute favourite memory of this class is actually still in the future: celebrating your graduation with you and hopefully keeping in contact with you after you've moved on. I am looking forward to seeing what all of you will make of your future.*



*“Is this a  
wake-up call  
due to our  
ludicrous  
lifestyles?”*

*By Anna-Sophia Kool*

# The Great Reset

We are living in odd times. For the youngsters among us and those who have never consciously experienced global times of crisis, the Covid-19 pandemic is something that both frightens and mesmerizes us. Moreover, there is much uncertainty, but there is one thing that we know for sure: the world will never be the same anymore. And, as much as we lack control over the outcome of this crisis, we still retain a certain amount of ability to choose how we recover from it.

This screams opportunity. This crisis could be a paradigm shift. An epiphany. A big reset. And in fact this isn't so strange, as we know from prior experience that most great accomplishments rise from the ashes of periods of crisis and hardship. Or, in economic terms: the boom-and-bust cycle (as demonstrated, for example, by the economic boom of the roaring twenties that succeeded the gloom and doom of WWI).

Hence, we could think of this pandemic in its most basic form as a virus from which we have to defend ourselves – or else in a more abstract way: a warning. Is this a wake-up call due to our ludicrous lifestyles? Is this karma for the way our abundant lifestyle has led to climate change? Is this a sign that capitalism is outdated? That the earth is overpopulated? Now, I am no expert, nor can I speak out of experience. I am also not a fortune teller – but simply a rookie of this world, like many others, trying to find meaning in this crisis and wondering: now what?

In these days of isolation some of us (hopefully) are starting to grasp the absurdity of our lifestyle in the Western world as we reflect on what is truly meaningful in life. Indeed, the Covid-19 pandemic could finally wake us up from the illusionary, idealized and perfect life we are told to live. What do I mean by this? We spend our days dictated by the clock, sticking to a tight schedule so as to not waste a single minute of our time, in order to brag about how productive we are. We prioritize our 'must-dos' before more meaningful activities like exercising or practicing our hobbies, for fear of being judged as too dreamy, lazy and flippant in the eyes of society.



We live in a society of individualism where we are told to strive for self-reliance and independence because it supposedly represents that we've 'made it'. We do things, dress and look a certain way, to fit in with what's 'normal' or 'trendy'. Then, almost everything we buy is imported – such as clothes, food, furniture and even basic household items – and we hereby forget about the impact of this on our local producers and the environment. Finally, every day, we enjoy the benefits of our well-functioning public sector, but we never really take a moment to value the social service employees. Hence, while we are living a pretty comfortable life, we are overlooking what is truly important: our well-being and that of the world around us.

Now, most of us are at home; some are bored, some frustrated by the situation, some are happy to get to wake up a little later than usual, some have picked up new skills and others have adopted a pet. The point is that this time at home could be a time of self-reflection and to tackle some issues. A time in which we can reprogram our brains to think differently in the future. Like I said: a big reset.

For the first time in a long time, we have regained control over our schedules. The time at which our alarm goes off in the morning is no longer dependent on the timetable of public transportation. As a result, parents with busy jobs are having breakfast with their children on weekdays for the first time. We no longer need to constantly check our watch to make sure we are on time for our next appointment. We can plan days (to some extent) the way they suit us and our biological clock. We can finally tackle that renovation we never found the time and energy for. We are picking up a new and healthier diet as we suddenly have to eat all three meals at home. Moreover, with 90% fewer flights, our skies have become clear and quiet. We have stopped traveling abroad, have become tourists in our own city and have discovered the hidden gems we never took the time and effort to visit before. As we sit at home, we also reach out more to our loved ones and those whom we had

almost forgotten: a childhood friend, an old colleague or maybe that person you've secretly had a crush on. Hence, despite the canceled festivals and trips, the lack of social contact and all the new hassle that has come with this pandemic, this time has given us all some space to breathe and think.

But what happens next, when life eventually picks up its pace again and we return to our '(new) normal lifestyles'? Will we go on living our crazy lives in our capitalist fast-paced society or will we think differently and prioritize well-being over welfare? In fact, this virus has confirmed that getting a burnout from an 80-hour work schedule is not the key to living a good life. It has also shown that taking time off to take care of ourselves, our family and friends is essential to our mental and physical well-being. It also shows that capitalism as we know it today is an unsustainable model – seeing as in the US, for example, it was incapable of providing decent healthcare for everyone, as some people could not even afford to be tested. Moreover, this pandemic has yet again exposed the cost behind maximizing efficiency and profits, such as the environmental damages from traveling and international trade. And, finally I'm thinking: what will happen to those atrocious Chinese wet markets? Are we going to tackle the issue at its root and ensure these markets close or will we turn a blind eye because we fear that we cannot fight the superpower that China has become?

We do not have answers to these questions, but from now on, let's be more conscious of our actions. Let's enjoy precious moments of pure happiness. Let's not let our jobs dominate us. Let's buy more local products and think twice before we purchase anything 'made in China'. Let's work hard, but also take some more time off to exercise, spend time with family and friends and cook nice meals. Let's think about the impact of our actions on the environment and how we can minimize this. Let's appreciate how lucky we are in the modern western world and give back to the community. Let's not be so individualistic, but rather collaborate and support each other. Let's just be humans, because we are not robots.

*“From now on, let's enjoy precious moments of pure happiness. Let's not let our jobs dominate us, but also take some more time off to spend time with family and friends”*

**Sources:**

- <https://www.google.com/search?q=coronavirus+reset&oq=coronavirus+reset&aqs=chrome..69i57.3557j1j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>
- <https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/03/20/world-order-after-coronavirus-pandemic/>
- <https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/coronavirus-signal-capitalism-200330092216678.html>

*“Please know  
that our doors  
will always  
be open!”*



**Dear Class of 2020,**

You have reached a milestone in your lives. For this, you should be very proud of yourselves! And despite not yet knowing your final results, you can be assured that you have already come a very long way in your education; an education and experience I sincerely hope you have already started looking back on with warm and fond memories, especially with regard to your time at RISS!

I have known some of you many, many years and have watched as you have grown and learned many things – academically, socially and emotionally. It has been a lovely experience for me, as a teacher of RISS, to witness how you worked hard to get where you are today and to see how you have all become wonderful young adults, ready to take on the next phase of your education and, indeed, life itself.

You are a unique cohort of students to the school in many ways – and to me personally. You will all be remembered most fondly!

**Please stay in touch with us**, as we always love to know what our former students are doing and, of course, how they are doing. You will always be a part of RISS, no matter where in the world life takes you, so please know that our doors will always be open!

**Farewell and take good care of yourselves!**

**Ms. van Adrichem**



**ROTTERDAM  
INTERNATIONAL  
SECONDARY  
SCHOOL**





**Dear English B class of 2020,**  
All of you inspired me to be a better teacher and I thank you for that. It has been my pleasure and honor to have had the opportunity to be your teacher for the past two years. **And remember, "Tell me why" because "I want it that way".**

*With kind regards,  
Ms. Libert*



**MRO**  
**Bedankt Dutch Lang & Lita 2020**

*Daar waren eens 20 studentjes  
Twintig vrienden in lust en in nood;  
Ze sprongen zoo moedig de wereld in,  
En de wereld – die maakte ze groot.  
(Vrij naar: De drie studentjes - Uit:  
Snikken en Grimlachjes, Piet Paaltjens)*

Bedankt voor al jullie energie, grappen, tekeningen, inspiratie, gezelligheid, sfeer, gesprekken, dynamische vrijdag-het-9de-uur-lessen, openheid, jeugdige onbezonnenheid en sprankelende aanwezigheid.

**Het ga jullie goed!**  
**Ms. Van Rooij**

*PS: Deze tekst fungeert ook als coupon voor een gratis laatste les op een willekeurige vrijdag het 9de uur.*

**MRO - Have a great adventure, Grade12A - Dear tutees,**

You will be remembered and you will be truly missed. I have great memories of your time at RISS; from you as grade 6 students on Terschelling, to grade 11 students on Ameland. (And keeping in mind how I beat you at bowling this last December.)

I am proud of each and every one of you. Even in these corona circumstances, you have shown what you are made of: good stuff! **I believe you are a fantastic bunch that is ready for your next adventures. Take good care of yourselves and each other.**

**Stay in touch.**  
**Ms. Van Rooij**



**Dear students,**  
Congratulations, you have graduated from high school! **I am so proud of all of you.** I hope by now you agree with me that physics is not so difficult. I have to say, I really had a good time teaching you. Best wishes for your future and always remember: **"Be good at what you do and be good to those around you."**

*PS: I will never forget our conversations about spacetime, aliens and UFOs. We had so much fun!*

**Cheers,**  
**Ms. Gabriella**



**You made it! The end of a high school journey, the bridge to a new phase,**  
It was a joy to have taught you since Grade 9 (most of you). Wishing you all the wisdom to make wise decisions in the future!

**Mr. Westra**



**Thank you,**  
There are a lot of things I would like to say to this class, but perhaps **I can best sum up my feelings by saying 'thank you'.** Thank you to a class that may very well have taught me just as much, or more, than I taught them; I just hope saying that doesn't cost me my teaching job. See you all soon.

**Mr. Albert**

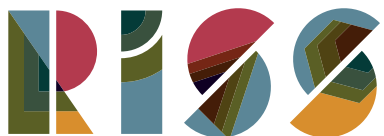
## Making art as a hobby...

Hello, I am 14 years old and I enjoy making art as a hobby. I've always enjoyed drawing, but I only really started focusing on art over the past three years, when I started documenting my art on an Instagram page. I take inspiration from a lot of artists online. It's an endless resource and very accessible compared to going to a museum, in my opinion. I like using a variety of mediums, but the ones that I use the most are watercolour, acrylics and pens. Portraits are my favourite things to draw and I always try to incorporate as much colour into my art as possible. In the future, I want to keep on developing my style and who knows maybe it'll be my future occupation!

*Clara Mediavilla Varas*







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