

NEWSLETTER

Spring-2 2022/23



Please read this newsletter. It contains important information activities in school and upcoming events.

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Message from

The Head of Secondary School

Students

Today I walked down the corridor five minutes before the B tests started and the students were noticeably nervous: lots and lots of loud talking, nervous movements and lots of contact among themselves. Five minutes later, they were deeply concentrated in the exam hall, working on questions they had been prepared for in class. This is the reality of many of our students at this time of the school year.

We wish all our students every success in completing their school year and exams.

Timetable

We are busy working on the timetable for next year 2023-2024. This week we were able to let our teachers know on which days or day parts they will not be scheduled. The teachers now also know which classes and groups they (currently) have in the timetable for next year. We are now in the process of collecting the first responses that will allow the timetabler to take the next step to the final version of the timetable.

We expect to give the (trial) timetables to staff on 15 June and then we will have another two weeks to continue working on the timetable and make any necessary adjustments. Filling vacancies, created by growth of the school and departure of colleagues, are factors that constantly force us to give all our attention to our timetable. Our experiences of last year guarantee we will not slacken in paying attention to this important foundation of the school.

Mobile Phone Policy

It is common knowledge that schoolwork and a mobile phone are an awkward combination for students that demands a lot from their discipline. You have to be very strong as a student to resist the brightest minds in Silicon Valley who have got our kids hooked. At ESH Secondary, we see the problem only partly in the classroom and during lessons; it is also present during breaks, and it prevents students from making contact among themselves.



Message from

The Head of Secondary School

The SPC is quite firm in its position to ban mobile phones from school. The school management is running into the problem of enforcement. For the students, the mobile is also of real use, for instance where it concerns their timetable or in contact with home.

The SPC will meet on 8 June. The school management has laid down a proposal and we await further discussion.



Lawn

Our grass and sports field currently has the allure of a desert. This month, the field will be sown, the watering programme will be implemented, and nature can do its sprouting work. From August, we expect to play sports in an oasis: green, exuberant, vibrant.

Kind regards,
Ber Leurink
Head of School Secondary



Rob Fransman

Holocaust Survivor

On 17th of May, all S6 classes had the pleasure of having a guest lecture from Rob Fransman, a Holocaust survivor. He spoke about his parents dying due to a fatal betrayal, his survival of the war by seeing more than 14 hiding places and about having difficulties to get his life back on track after WWII ended.

His wife, a survivor of Bergen-Belsen, gave him the strength to carry on and she became the reason he became content and successful in life. Initially he never felt the urge to delve into his past or to talk about the Holocaust but there was always something that pulled him back. Now he wants to demonstrate the consequences of prejudice against those with a different skin colour. He also wants to emphasize that peace in West-Europe is not self-evident and that we as human beings must work hard to maintain peace. I personally feel that the short lecture he gave helped to get his message across to our students. Sidenote: Rob Fransman was a co-plaintiff in "The Demanjuk Trial", which is the topic of the brilliant Netflix show *The Devil Next Door*.



Sports Day

May 2023

We are thrilled to share the exciting news of our recent sports day on the 16th of May, which turned out to be a resounding success! With around 370 enthusiastic students participating in a range of fun and competitive activities, the event showcased the incredible talent and sportsmanship within our school community. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to making this event memorable.

A highlight of the Sports Day was the active involvement of 22 Sports advanced students who generously dedicated their time and efforts to support the activities. These remarkable individuals played a crucial role in providing instructions, ensuring smooth coordination, manning the information table and even the microphone for announcements. Their commitment and leadership was truly commendable.

The p5 students formed half of the competitors. This event served as an excellent opportunity for these students who will be transitioning to secondary school next year. This event helped them to become more familiar with their future school, the physical education department and students who are one year ahead of them. By engaging in this event, they have already begun to establish connections and forging a sense of belonging within our school community.

It is worth mentioning that beyond the physical aspects, the sports day served as an opportunity to foster teamwork, perseverance, and fair play among our students. All S1 students and those who were team captain demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and encouraged each other, creating an inclusive and supportive environment. We are proud of their exemplary behavior and positive attitudes throughout the event.



Geographical Excursion

Rotterdam

On the 4th of April, the S6 students had a geographical excursion to the Port of Rotterdam, and its recent extension, the Maasvlakte terminals.

The excursion focused on the role of one of the biggest harbours in the world in globalisation and in the energy transition, two of the biggest themes of our day.

During the day students visited an information center on the history and future of the port, attended a presentation from the spokesperson of the Port of

We were lucky to observe one of the biggest container ship of the world, the EVER TOP (4 football fields long), and some harbor seals enjoying the sun!



They also went on a boat tour in the newest extension of the port to see some on and off loading of the massive container ships in action.

Málaga

Trip May 2023

S3L3 trip to Málaga (Ana Garcia-Saguar). From the 16th to the 20th of May the S3L3 Spanish students were in Málaga taking Spanish lessons in the morning and enjoying the weather, the beach and the city in the afternoons/evenings. They have been immersed in the culture and had the opportunity to get to know the city of Málaga and its culture (la Alcazaba, la playa, el Soho), to speak the language, to cook atortilla and to eat traditional food at a restaurant. Besides, they went swimming in the sea and enjoyed the sun and warmth. Although one of the things they liked the most was the free time when they spent time with their friends in the room and went shopping. Muchísimas gracias a todos por venir!



S6 Chemistry

Trip April 2023

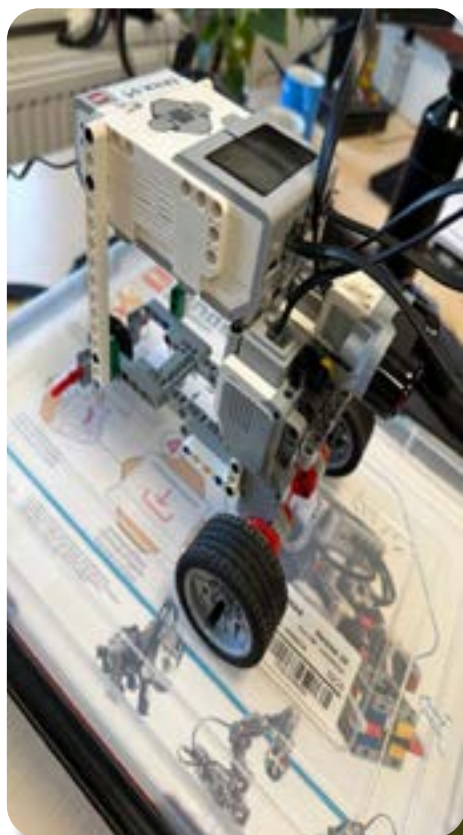
On Friday, 14th April 2023, S6 Chemistry students from all language sections attended a day trip to Utrecht, accompanied by four members of staff. We departed at 8am and returned at 6pm. During this trip, students were divided into two groups. Both groups attended a practical tutorial, where in pairs they synthesised, purified and analysed paracetamol. Then, they attended a guided tour of the Botanic Gardens of the University of Utrecht, where we learnt about plants, trees and butterflies. It was an enriching day, as students made the link between school and university studies, and got to experience a day in the life of a further education student.



LEGO Club

LEGO Club was relaunched in February 2023, after the successful previous few years. During this after-school activity that was first open to S3 students, members of the club worked on their LEGO-building skills, as well as programming using the EV3 MINDSTORMS software.

Some students worked on building their structure, which they then programmed to move or stop and turn, using a series of sensors. Some others researched interesting LEGO structures on the Internet and followed instructions to build them. It has been a truly enjoyable experience, which reinforced the value of extra-curricular activities on students' well-being. We are looking forward to running LEGO Club in the next academic year too!



Surf Trip

April 2023

On April 17th, despite the chilly weather, all S6 students went surfing at Scheveningen Beach. Though the waves were small, they were perfect for riding! As the saying goes, "sports & surfing is like life: You can't stop the waves, but you can learn to ride them," and the students certainly took that to heart. Not a single student complained about the cold weather, and they all behaved like champions.



International Criminal Court

April 2023

On Wednesday the 19th of April, the S7 History French students went to the International Criminal Court in the Hague. There were two trials going on and we were able to attend one of them : the trial of Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona from the Central African Republic. They are accused of war crimes and crimes against humanity, 2 types of crimes that we studied in class before. It was a very interesting visit, the students were impressed by the organisation and the security inside the Court. Unfortunately, we were not able to hear what the judges or the lawyers were saying when they were questioning the witness. It is a special ruling to ensure protection to the witnesses.

Love is not Painful

Spanish Workshop

In the spring term several of our S5, S6 and S7 Spanish students enjoyed the workshop Love is not painful.

The aim of the workshop is to help teenagers enjoy a safe, pleasant and healthy affective life. Specific topics adressed were learning to resolve conflicts and having communication skills, as well as rejecting violent and sexist behaviour. Students also reflected on the importance of respect, empathy and consent in any affective encounter. Finally, it helped students developing the ability to respect different orientations and to reject discriminatory stereotypes. All of this with dynamics that facilitate the expression of opinions by all participants.

Van Gogh Museum

Trip May 2023

On the 8th of May the S4 art students went to the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam. We had an audio tour and the students studied and copied one of Van Gogh's works.



The trip went well and the pupils learnt some interesting stuff. Since the weather was good, we could have a quick lunch in the sun on the grass field in front of the museum, before getting back in the bus towards school. It was an enjoyable event.

Day For Change

April 2023

On the 19th of April, our S1 students organised a fair at ESH promoting their products and services to raise money for a Charity chosen by Day For Change.

It was an extremely successful event and the whole school joined in during break and lunch times. The students have raised a net amount of 1902.81 Euros.

S1 team is very proud of our young students for demonstrating an excellent zeal and confidence.

A big Congratulation to our Young Entrepreneurs!!



Library at ESH

Rotterdam

April began with "April Fool's Day" or "Poisson d'avril". We used this day to educate students about fake news on the internet. We provided them with examples of stories that have been circulated in the past, some fake and some unbelievable but true!

April was also the month that we launched a reading challenge for S1 students. We challenged the classes to read 8100 minutes over 4 weeks. The picture below shows Ms Harrison's class with their reward for completing the challenge early. The experience was positively received. Meensy K, a student from the class, wrote "I started enjoying reading because of the assignment. I don't usually read, but this was very helpful. Because it was so simple to mark a new read, I found myself logging in almost daily in order to meet my goal and finish the book".

With the library closed for the holidays, we wanted to promote our online lending option in the form of BorrowBox. We suggested listening to audiobooks during long car journeys or reading books for free on their phone using the BorrowBox app.

May 9th marks Europe Day, celebrating peace and unity in Europe. Thanks to the generous donations from several European institutions, we were able to provide a fun day for the students, testing their knowledge of European geography, general knowledge of Europe and the European institutions where many of the students' parents work.

Last but not least, we have had several students helping out in the library as part of their "Make a Difference" program. This has been a positive experience for all.



Latin

Trip February & May 2023

S2 and S6 (former S5 Latin) Latin pupils visited in February 2023 the Drents museum and the exhibition : Dying in Beauty, where they had the opportunity to see authentic exhibits from the city of Pompeii.

S3 Latin pupils visited in May 2023 the RMO museum in Leiden, where they followed a workshop on archaeological finds and got a guided tour of the museum.



On the weekend of 13th and 14th of May the Physics department, English section organised a boot camp Physics to train for the written paper of the European Baccalaureate Physics. This year has a new syllabus and we wanted to prepare our students for the same to achieve highest outcomes.

13 pupils joined this intensive revision. The training went from 9am till 5pm- both days and the teacher was supported by three physics students from TuDelft. One of them was an old ESH student and another was an ex Brussels IV student, who were acquainted to the European BAC system.

Everybody worked very hard both days going the extra mile to be more confident with the new style of questions.

We all hope that this help the pupils. We are very pleased and thankful that the school facilitated this event since the event took place in the physics labs and the concierges came both days to open and close the school specially for us.

We wish all the pupils all the best in their BAC physics!

Reminders

2023

Calendar Reminders & Updates

Week 23

Week 23: S7 Bacculaureate

June 5: Danmark National Day

June 6: Sweden National Day

June 8 (17:00-18:00): S4 parents meet the Deputy Head of Secondary

Week 24

Week 24: S7 Bacculaureate

June 15 (19.30-22.30): ESH 10th Anniversary event

Walk-in at 19.30. Official Event start at 20.00

Week 25

June 19: S1 Efteling

June 19, 20 & 21: S5 & S6 L1 French workshops with a French author.

June 22 (9:00-11:00): S3 & S4 L1 & L2 French meet a French author

June 22 (from 12.30): Semester 2 Class Councils-school ends at 12.30

June 22 (17:30-19:00): Gifted & Talented Exhibition

June 22 (18:00-20:30): Night of all Talents

June 23: Luxembourg National Day

June 25: Croatia & Slovenia National Days

Week 26

Week 26: S4 L2 Trips

Week 26: S5 work experience

Week 26: S6 Cultural trip

Week 26: S7 Bacculaureate Orals

June 26-June 29: S2 Camp

June 30: P5 S1 Transition S1 mentors 2023-2024 visit Primary

Week 27

Week 27: S5 work experience

Week 27: S7 Bacculaureate Orals

July 3, 4, 5 & 6 (from 12.30 onwards): Semester 2 Class Councils-school ends at 12.30

July 7: Last day of school-school ends at 12.30

July 7 (afternoon): S7 Graduation 2023