

Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the new school year and to our first newsletter of 2016-2017. A special welcome to the new students and parents in Three Little Ships and Class A. We hope that you are settling in to our school and making new friends.

We have had wonderful weather in these first six weeks of term and the children have enjoyed playing and learning outside in the playground and in the school garden. As it gets cooler in the mornings, please remember to give your child a coat that they can put on and take off by themselves. It is also helpful if the indoor shoes for the children in Three Little Ships can be managed independently by themselves.

School was closed on 19th September for a staff Study Day. On this day we drafted a policy and procedures for intimate care of our students. We also had some training by Edwin Hertberg on child protection issues.

The school has an MR, which is a parent committee that helps review changes in the school and gives advice to us in some situations. If you would like to be a parent representative, please let me know. We need one or two volunteers. We also need one volunteer for the combined GMR, where the MRs from all the HSV schools meet. It is helpful if this representative speaks both Dutch and English. If you are interested in these positions, please speak to Helen Claus, Interim Director or Willy Grijze, Executive Director, for more information. If lots of people volunteer then we will hold a simple election!

Although we have only just started this school year, it is important for you to be thinking about your child's future too. If your child is in Three Little Ships and you want him/her to transfer to an international school next summer then we would advise you to put in application forms now, if you have not yet done so. There is a lot of pressure on international school places for five year olds and some schools already have waiting lists. There is currently no guarantee that your child can automatically transfer to an HSV school but to be considered for a place, you must complete an application form. Please see the schools' websites under 'Admissions' for more information.

Helen Claus (Interim Director) and the Lighthouse and Three Little Ships teams

Important Dates

5th October – school is closed for students. Staff are working on Individual Education Plans.

17th to 21st October – school is closed for Autumn half term break.

24th October – school is closed for students. Staff have a Study Day.

25th October – school opens as usual.

The school calendar for 2016-2017 is on our website

Happy Birthday to all those that celebrate in September and October

5th September 2016 – Willy Grijze (Executive Director)

21st September – Robert Jan van Leeuwen

13th October – Evelien Kortsmid

Staff changes

This term we welcomed Teresa Nuno Martin to our staff team. She is originally from Spain and is a qualified teacher. Teresa is working in the Three Little Ships class on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. She is working in Class R on Tuesdays and will also be working in Class A on some Fridays.

We also welcomed back Eva Dominguez on Wednesdays and Fridays in the Three Little Ships class.

Three Little Ships Open Morning

The first open morning was a great success in the Three Little Ships on Wednesday September 14th. The parents, children and teachers managed to survive the heat! The



children were very excited to have their parent/s visit the class and for them to show what exactly they learn throughout the day. This gave the parents some insight into the routines and activities that the children participate in. From musical circles to the very bright colour monster, the children presented their skills and some parents even joined in too 😊.

We had a fantastic music lesson from the Music and Movement girls with singing, and experimenting with different musical instruments. We wrapped up the day with a short discussion of what we learned and had done throughout the morning. We look forward to our next open Morning and we hope you do too!



News from Three Little Ships

It has been so much fun getting to know all the children in the Three Little Ships. In the last weeks the children have built friendships with one another and have learned the rules of the classroom and school. Some of the rules are still in need of perfecting, but luckily we still have some time to work on them 😊 The schedule of the day changed slightly as we introduced a 'snack bar' during free play in the morning. This allows the children to have continuous and uninterrupted play. So far, we have had great results and the children responded well to the change.

We started our first topic on 'All about me and my family.' The classroom is beautifully decorated with family trees of the children and they have been so proud when presenting them to the class. This has led to many discussions about who has brothers or sister, grandmas and grandpas and even aunts and uncles. In addition to learning about our families, we have had many interesting conversations about our bodies. Such as who has what colour of eyes and hair, counting our fingers and toes and our overall favourite; using our senses.



The snack bar is open...



Making and eating our rice cracker faces



Working very hard on our pencil control



Which sense are we using?

News from Class A

The beginning of the year has been a busy time for Class A. It has been a time for getting to know each other and learning how to work and play together. Marissa joins us for part of the day – it is lovely to see her. Andrea and Omar go to Class R for part of the day and have settled in well. We have had lots of sunny weather, so ice lollies by the sandpit have been much appreciated. Our topic at the moment is Shapes and Colour. Look out for our work on the notice boards. So far we have looked at circles and triangles.. The younger children are learning how to recognise and name the shapes and will be sorting and counting shapes. The older children are learning about the properties of the different shapes and will also be looking at 3D shapes.



News from Class R

Class R have held on to the summer holiday feeling by starting their IPC unit 'Airports'. We have looked at what happens at airports and in what order using a flow chart, why people go there and what passengers can look at while being at an airport. What things can we see from an airplane window and what do we eat on board of an airplane? The last question we answered by preparing airplane meals with the vegetables from our garden.

Talking about our garden: the AH moestuinzaadjes we germinated in spring gave us zucchinis, tomatoes, strawberries, beetroots, endive, herbs, fennel and more. Next month we will prepare the garden for autumn/winter and we would like to plant flower bulbs: if you have any spare flower bulbs, please send them in to Class R and come enjoy the flowers next spring!

Twitter accounts



You may notice that this newsletter has less pictures in it than in previous editions. However ... we have been posting lots of pictures of the children's learning on our Twitter accounts. So, please check in there and look at what we are doing and let family members know too. We love to have messages retweeted and quoted.

The accounts are: @lighthouse_se @tlsclass1 @LseAlison @LSEClassR