

American International School of Rotterdam



From the Director

As you read this edition of The Shark our soccer and volleyball teams are away at the end of season NECIS Tournaments. The U14 and U12 teams are in Düsseldorf while the older students on the Junior Varsity and Varsity teams are in Amsterdam for their tournaments. All the teams have worked hard throughout the season, some have a better won / loss record than others, but their spirits are high and like all AISR teams they have a positive "can do" attitude and will represent our school well. We wish them all the best and to enjoy and have fun with this experience.

The attendance at last week's Parent Teacher Conferences was quite good with about 75% of parents coming in to school to speak with teachers about the most recent report cards. We thank you for doing your part in maintaining the school - teacher - parent partnership. Of course the most im-

portant relationship in the school is that between the student and teacher, however, the next most important relationship is the one between parents and the teacher. If you have a question or concern regarding your child or some matter at school it is important to contact the teacher first. If the questions are not answered or the situation is not resolved then the next course of action is to contact one of the administrators.

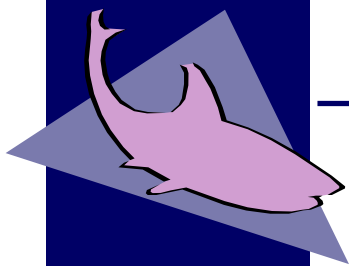
The Steering Committee for AISR's accreditation process would like to thank all of the parents who took the time to reply to the on-line survey developed by Endicott College in the United States. This survey is a new part of the accreditation process and the results of it will now be used as each of the working groups proceeds with their work over the coming months. Students and the

school staff also completed similar surveys. It is the similarities and differences among the three surveys that will now be analyzed and will help guide our self-evaluation process. Thank you again for taking the time to be part of and help us with this important process.

As of this Friday, 7 November, there are only six more weeks remaining in the first semester. It is a time for students and teachers to stay focused on the work of learning as we move into a busy time of the year with lots of exciting and enticing things to distract us.

Upcoming Events:

- Nov. 6th-8th HS Tournament @ ISA
MS Tournament @ ISD
- Nov. 12th Early Dismissal & Hunger Banquet
- Nov. 14th Demonstration on Korean Cooking
- Nov. 15th Craft Fair 11:00-16:00
- Nov. 27th-28th Thanksgiving Break



Elementary Principal Message

Where to start! This has been a very busy week in the Elementary School. Before I bring you up to date, I would like to say a very big “Thank you” to the PTSA for a wonderful Pot Luck Dinner last Saturday night. Despite the weather there was a very good turn out. The food was, as usual, superb. Mr. Ball and Mr. Shaw also did a great job soliciting money for the 50-50 raffle. A big “Thank you” to Tjeerd van Delden, for allowing us to use his kitchen, plates and glasses etc. This is another example of how we work together at AISR to help ensure that these events are successful.

Once again, we had a very large turnout for parent-teacher conferences. Maintaining a strong communication between school and home is vital for the successful development of the whole child. Please remember that if you did not get to meet all of the specialist teachers, it is always possible to contact the individual teacher and set up an appointment at your convenience. The same again can be said of the parents who came to last night’s ESL Information evening. Please contact either Ms. Moroney or Ms. Gilby if you would like more information regarding the progress of your own child.

If you thought that it was only the students who enjoy the Halloween celebration, then you are wrong. The number of parents who dressed up this year surpassed all others – getting into the mood was definitely the order of the day. Many thanks again to Elif Alptekin and her helpers for organizing the “Trick or Treat” program. And last but not least “Thank you” to our mystery Master of Ceremonies. He did a great job – let’s hope that we can encourage him to return next year!

Next on the list of celebrations for

AISR will be Thanksgiving. The Elementary students will put on a little performance before we sit down for the special lunch. Details about the program will be published in the next Shark. I am also including for your information the school policy regarding celebrations at AISR.

There are several events during the year that all staff and students in the Elementary School will celebrate:

Halloween :Organized by the classroom teacher and room parent(s). Each class will attend the Halloween Parade.

Thanksgiving: A Thanksgiving Lunch is organized by the PTSA. The students present a short musical interlude prior to the lunch.

Sinterklaas:This is part of the Dutch curriculum and is organized by the Dutch Department. Sinterklaas visits the school and all the students welcome him in the Gym with a program of songs and dance.

Christmas:This will be celebrated in each class. Each teacher will coordinate this with the room parent(s). These celebrations will not include a gift exchange. Each child in the Elementary School will give a little present – these will be collected and donated to a home for children in need.

Valentine’s Day:The Student Council organizes the sale of roses.

Easter An “Easter” activity is optional and will be organized by the classroom teacher

End of Year:There are several events to mark the end of the school year

Early Childhood - Spring Fair

Kindergarten - Celebration

Signing of Yearbook (usually takes place on the last Thursday between 2:00 and 3:00)

All students attend the End of Year Program (the last Friday)

All students receive an ice-cream before going home

In comparison to the last two weeks, the next two seem to be relatively quiet. The Nutrition Committee will meet again next Thursday, November 13. If you have any suggestions or information, please do contact me – my e-mail address is a.blitz@aisr.nl.

Good luck to all the students at NECIS this weekend. GO SHARKS!

Please remember that there is early dismissal next Wednesday, November 12. All students will go home at 11:30.

I will do my report from Gilford in another Shark – this has turned out to be quite a lengthy one!

Have a lovely weekend,

Anne-Marie Blitz,

Elementary Principal

From Our Classrooms: Kindergarten



Fran, Christian and Smilla change themselves into fantasy characters

This year Kindergarten has been exploring our new International Primary Curriculum through different topics or units of work. We would like to share some of the exciting things we did during our previous unit on 'Changes' at the end of the first quarter.

We learned that you can see changes almost everywhere. At the beginning of the unit we observed the changes in the trees. We went outside, collected leaves, made leaf rubbings and talked about why the leaves fall off some trees, but not off others. We also observed that leaves sometimes change color.

We read funny stories about animals. In some stories the animals had changed their sounds, like in Cock-a-Moo-Moo by Juliet Dallas-Conte. In another the illustrator had merged two animals and made them one animal. We thought this was really

funny and creative!

We even changed stories, songs and rhymes! Miss Sarah's class changed the story of the Little Red Hen. The children decided that the animals should help the Little Red Hen to make it a happier story. Miss Pilbrow's class changed the Three Little Pigs into the Three Fiery Dragons with a two-headed snake that lived under the bridge.

We loved having a silly fashion parade in the classroom. We all changed our appearances by putting on wigs, costumes or disguises. Mr. Atkins thought it was so much fun he came along to join in!

Perhaps the most interesting part of the unit was the science investigations. We found out how water can change from liquid, to solid ice, and also into steam. Some children thought the steam was smoke at first, but we caught the steam in a glass bowl and watched it turn back into water as it hit the glass and cooled down again.



Oscar tasting the egg change

We learned the names for the two parts of an egg – the yolk and the white. We learned that we could change the egg white by beating it.

At first some children thought it had turned into milk or yoghurt. It was hard to believe it was still egg because it looked so different!



Brooklynn, Attila, Vicky, Saskia changing their bodies to make an "M"

Everybody loved changing chocolate. We learned that by heating chocolate, we could change it from solid to liquid. Miss Sarah's class poured liquid chocolate into different shaped moulds, and Miss Pilbrow's class used the liquid chocolate to make the first letter of their names. We put the chocolate in the freezer to make it solid again.

And most importantly let's not forget about ourselves! You are welcome to look at the baby pictures in the hallway or in Miss Sarah's class, which show how much we've grown and changed over the last 5 years. It's also interesting to see which baby faces we can certainly recognize!

As you can see there's never a dull day in Kindergarten. We're always busy learning about each other, and about our world.

Trina Pilbrow and Sarah Lee.

Teachers

Counselors' Corner

AISR's Community of Respect is well under way and students, teachers and parents are starting to feel a difference. Effective character education is an essential part of school life. Why do schools have character education, such as COR, as part of their curriculum?

EFFECTIVE CHARACTER EDUCATION:

- Promotes core ethical values as the basis of good character.
- Defines "character" comprehensively to include thinking, feeling, and behavior.
- Uses a comprehensive, intentional, proactive, and effective approach to character development.
- Creates a caring school community.
- Provides students with opportunities for moral action.
- Includes a meaningful and challenging academic curriculum that respects all learners, develops their character, and helps them to succeed.
- Strives to foster students' self-motivation.
- Engages the school staff as a learning and moral community that shares responsibility for character education and attempts to adhere to the same core values that guide the education of students.

Engages families and community



Birth Announcement

Congratulations to Tracy VanderHave and Arno.

Tracy gave birth to a baby girl,

Hannah Elizabeth

Born on November 4th at 6:00AM.

members as partners in the character-building effort.

Evaluates the character of the school, the school staff's functioning as character educators, and the extent to which students manifest good character.

Any questions? Contact any of the following people:

Administration – Mr. Brian Atkins (Director) and Ms. Blitz (Elementary Principal)

Counselors – Ms. Ruth Lopez (Secondary) and Ms. Alison Lipp (Elementary)

Coordinators – Mr. Chad Van Cleve (High School) and Ms. Sudzina (Middle School)

AISR's Golden Rules

Show **RESPECT** for others

Be **CARING** towards others

Show **RESPONSIBILITY** with all of your actions

COOPERATE with others at all times

Show **TOLERANCE** in your actions towards others

Be **HONEST**, tell the truth at all times

Show **APPRECIATION** for AISR

BELIEVE in yourself



Birth Announcement

Congratulations to Melissa & Gerard van Ringelsteijn

on the Birth on their son

Hudon Jack Arie

Born: October 11 at 3:16 p.m.

Useful Tips on Getting Smaller Bank Notes from the Cashpoint/ATM

For those of you who struggle with getting 50 euro note bills from the Cashpoints/ATM here is how to obtain smaller notes and keep everybody happy!

1. Put in your code when asked:****

2. Choose: Biljetkeuze (choice of notes)

3. Enter the amount you want:

4 You then have a choice of all the different bills available (the last one is the best!)

5. Press Akkoord

6. Press: Nee

7. Remove your card and wait for the money!

I am not sure if all Banks provide this service, but I do know for sure the ABN AMRO has this option.

If you have a TIP that you have learned while living in Holland—about anything— that might help others. Please send it along to:

aisrwebmaster@gmail.com

Survey for New AISR Families

Attention - New Families at AISR

Dear Parents,

For those of you who have joined the school this year, you should have received our New Family Survey on the 30th October via your e-mail. If not, please feel free to click on the link below to access the survey online. We greatly value your contribution to the survey, which is anonymous, as it helps us to understand how we can better serve your needs while you are looking for a school and in the early days of your arrival here.

The survey will remain open until the 22nd of November so we ask you to kindly complete the survey before that date.

Please click on the link below which will take you to the survey site.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=EV3_2fMIPh8kz03C_2fJNeCR0Q_3d_3d

Thank you for your feedback which is greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Lesley Murphy

External Relations

Educational Events : Global Issues Network

On October 10 and 11, students participated in the European Regional Global Issues Network Conference in Milan. The theme of the conference was Peace and Conflict. Students made presentations on this topic, heard from experts on the topic, and engaged in debates and other problem solving activities. AISR was well represented and our students discussed and challenged the views and ideas of others to help create a better understanding of the topic. AISR students engaged others in a mature and positive manner that served as a model for other students. AISR received compliments from other advisors at the conference about the active participation of our students. We can all be very proud of the way our students represented AISR and themselves.



Curriculum Spotlight: An Accreditation Update

AISR has now started its self-study, the most important part of the entire Accreditation process. This normally takes more than one academic year to complete. Such an extensive commitment of time is justified by the ambitious requirements of the self-study. The school must learn the current opinions of its community: the board, management, staff, students and parents. During the self-study the school will develop a School, Community, and Student Profile which will reveal student aspirations, needs and abilities which must be accommodated by school programs.

Of special importance is the updating of the philosophy and objectives which conveys the school's fundamental beliefs about education, and what it seeks to accomplish for its students. Following a comprehensive review of its programs, the school must prepare thorough documents to enlighten a visiting team of evaluators who must then determine whether the school is worthy of accreditation.

Each team (listed below) will be undertaking the self-study:

- A Philosophy and Objectives
- B Curriculum
- C Governance and Management
- D Staff
- E Student Support Services
- F Resources
- G Student and Community Life

IPC in Action

Current and/or upcoming units are listed below:

Pre-K: All About Me

Kindergarten: Day and Night

Grade 1: Ourselves – My World

Grade 2: Celebrations

Grade 3: Money and Trade

Grade 4: Rainforests – Saving the World

Grade 5: The Physical World – Energy, Force, Light and Sound

Grade 6: Investigating Rivers – Go With the Flow, Rulers and Governments

Stay tuned for more to come!

Shark Tips: Where to find Sinterklaas

- Nov. 15th—Rotterdam <http://www.sinterklaasintocht.nl/>
- Nov. 15th—Den Haag <http://www.sinterklaasintocht.nl/>
- Nov. 15th—Schiedam <http://sinterklaas.101tips.nl/filmpje2.php>

Prepare for some singing when you see Sinterklaas:

http://rudynegenborn.net/sinterklaas/sinterklaas_in_english.pdf

Don't forget to get your chocolate letters. Here is a little history:

<http://www.stnicholascenter.org/Brix?pageID=521>

The History of Sinterklaas:

<http://www.stnicholascenter.org/Brix?pageID=521>

And also there are the poems to be written:

http://www.sintcursus.nl/eng/eng_presents.html

Artist(s) of the Month

Here we find Pre-Kindergarten students working as a team on their class 'Rainbow Dogs'. Always working with great enthusiasm, it is difficult to pick one student out from the classes, because they all deserve a special praise. Well done for all your efforts and creativity.



Posting from The PTSA Cont'd

Volunteers for Thanksgiving Lunch:

We need volunteers to help serve food to the kids and run food to the Pre-K classes. We need a minimum of 8-10 people as we are expecting to be serving roughly 400 students/adults that day. It will be on Wed Nov 26th. Mark your calendars and let us know if you can help.

Next PTSA Meeting:

Thursday Dec 4th 130pm-3pm in the student lounge. These are open meetings for all parents. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend - the more, the merrier! We look forward to seeing you.

A Basket of Ideas Anyone?

Each year, as part of our dinner dance, we have a silent auction. Each class puts together a big basket of items around a specific theme. Some of the entries last year were Family Night, Wine and Cheese, etc. We are looking for any new ideas for themes. Please feel

free to email the PTSA with any of your ideas! PTSA@aisr.nl or christine.x.shaw@gmail.com Thank you!



Looking for a fun, challenging role?

Every year the PTSA puts on a wonderful dinner and silent auction evening in March. It is our largest, most important fundraising event. Proceeds from this event allows us to purchase items for the school which benefit our children. We are looking for a committee chair for this event. We have lots of information on what to do for the event and plenty of people to help you. If you are interested please contact Christine Shaw, christine.x.shaw@gmail.com or 010 844 3482. Thank you!

Available now in the front office: **Thanksgiving Luncheon Tickets**



Come and join our children for a wonderful Thanksgiving feast on Wednesday, the 26th of November, 2008, between 10:50 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Please check the individual class dining schedule posted in the front office for your child's time slot. Tickets are 5 euros per person--students eat free of charge. Parents, grandparents and family members are welcome. The menu will be turkey with cranberry sauce, green beans, mashed potatoes and gravy, beverage, and dessert. Dessert donations are kindly requested. Hope to see you there!

Athlete of The Week

October 27th—31st

As captain of the U12 volleyball team, Lara encourages and takes time out to work to improve her team. She understands the game well and takes her role seriously and responsibly. She's 110 % committed to doing her best and at the same time ensuring that those on her team keep focused and play a good game of volleyball. Lara sets herself high standards, is dependable and able to motivate others.



Way to go Lara!

Around the Athletic Department

Field Trip to Klein Profijt near Rhoon

Written by: Autumn, Elliott and Brenna

On October 9th, Ms. Vanderlaan's Environmental Science class visited a wildlife reserve with Mr. Zielstra's 10th grade Physical Education class. It was a rare, beautiful, sunny afternoon. We were given a guided kayak tour of a freshwater tidal area off of the Oude Maas river. The instructor was very nice and well informed and guided us through the narrow canals of the reserve. Only guided tours of this area are allowed to help preserve this nature area. The tides bring in a lot of silt that nourishes plants, like water cress, growing by the banks. We saw water fowl waiting for the low tide to feed on stranded crustaceans and invertebrates. The guide informed us that parts of the area were man-made and used for the cultivation of softwood willows for houses and firewood in the Middle Ages. Today the cultivated willow is used to feed elephants in the Blijdorp zoo. On the other side of the river, the vegetation was allowed to grow wild. A lone beaver used to live in the area but recently died of old age. The guide then found a recent log that had been gnawed at by a new beaver. Hopefully this beaver will stay. We also had to be careful so that on the way back, we would not get our kayaks stuck in the mud due to lowering tide levels. Both classes thoroughly enjoyed this trip and thankfully no one fell into the water.

Athlete of The Week

November 3rd—7th

John

John started the soccer season on the U12 team with no experience as goalkeeper but very willing to learn. John has attended every practice and played every game. The U12's have struggled in some games this season but John has shown he is mentally tough, showing this week at ISA that his hard work has paid off, improving techniques and confidence. He is in charge of his goal area and he communicates effectively with the defense. The U12's now go to NECIS with "an experienced pair of hands". Well Done John.



So Young

So Young started the Volleyball season on the U14 team with no experience at all!! With her strong will and eagerness to learn, attending every practice, she has improved her skills. So Young's serve has become consistent and she fights for every ball, enjoying diving for the ball. With a smile on her face, So Young has become a strong player of our team. Well done So Young!!



PTSA Outreach Thanksgiving Drive

This is traditionally the time of year at AISR when we are thinking about the meaning of Thanksgiving, and what we can do not only to be thankful for what we have ourselves, but to help others as well. For several years now, we have had the Thanksgiving Drive at AISR, to collect useful goods for the homeless at the local Havenzicht Shelter. Traditionally, we have some Middle School students help to make the soup at school and it is taken and served to the homeless at Havenzicht by High school CAS students and some parents. We are very lucky to have Mrs. Pramanik taking charge of the soup making again this year. Karabi's soup was really a popular item two times at Havenzicht last year! Some of us are just blessed with a gift for making delicious food!

This year, the soup will be made and served on Tuesday, November 18. Hopefully, Middle School students will be able to join in the chopping and soup making at various times of the day on that Tuesday. Every evening, there is food served at several sittings at the Havenzicht homeless shelter. Traditionally, around €3.50 is paid by each client for a bread-based meal with coffee or tea or milk.

Desserts are also available for a little more. Included in the meal price, a bed can also be obtained for the night at the shelter, but arrangements have to be made beforehand. There are also beds in a medical section of the shelter, where sick clients can also be taken care of. This money comes from the Social Services and it is given to ensure that no one in the Netherlands needs to starve or to be without shelter. Our soup is given free of charge and is a particular treat because it is warm and filling on a cold winter's night. Also, AISR has built up a good name among the Havenzicht clientele for offering this service in a regular basis and it is something that is looked forward to every year.

Let us consider the plight of the homeless for a moment. It is difficult for us to imagine that people in such a position were very possibly once living in a happy family situation with high powered jobs. However, through trouble with an addiction, or mental illness, which can unexpectedly overcome each and every one of us during our lifetimes, this happy scenario may be lost and family ties may be broken. It is also hard to imagine that there are clients of the shelter who are highly educated and who may speak several languages. Ours is not the job to pass judgement and the serving of soup and talking to people at the homeless shelter is an excellent way for a CAS student to learn empathy and humility about the human condition.

By holding the Thanksgiving Drive at AISR, we want all of our students to appreciate the plight of the homeless at whatever educational level they can understand it. Up until Thanksgiving itself, we will be holding a school-wide collection of the following items in the front lobby, where boxes will be standing ready. The list has been made with the advice of one of the leaders there, with whom we have had contact for a number of years.

Please bring to the front lobby: Socks, Gloves, Hats, Travel sized hotel type toiletries, such as soap, toothpaste, shampoo and toothbrushes, which we will place in personal ziplock bags for each individual.

Added to this, the level of awareness will be heightened throughout the school by a number of story readings about kindness to the younger children by CAS students, as has been done every year that we have had the Thanksgiving Drive. Afterwards, the elementary children will be encouraged by the CAS students to make drawings about the stories they have heard. Our contact at the Havenzicht

Center has told us that these drawings done by the children often hold particular significance to the homeless at the shelter because they have often lost touch with their own families through the misfortunes that have overcome them in their lives. Apparently, many of them held onto these drawings for a whole year afterwards.

Information about the amount of goods we have collected will be made known during the morning announcements from during the weeks beginning November 10, November 17 and November 24. The goods collected will be taken to the shelter after Thanksgiving, which nicely coincide with the Dutch Sinterklaas celebration.

Our contact, Sheena, at the Havenzicht Shelter was glad to come and meet one of the Outreach parents and me a few weeks ago. We have built up such a good band over the years, and Sheena particularly likes it that we have understood how best to help her clientele in both a useful and respectful way. Let's make this the best year yet for the annual AISR Thanksgiving Drive for the Havenzicht Homeless Shelter. With the help of parents, teachers and students, we may show some empathy and kindness to others less fortunate than ourselves at a time of the year that is traditionally associated with acts of kindness and giving in many cultures.

Lynda Boot



CAS Round Up

This year, the High School Student Council has started like it means business. President Yu Bin and Vice-President Kim have galvanized the officers into shape and are busy arranging a number of events for the near future. Treasurer Kuba has authorized the purchase of a fussball table for the High School Lounge. It has already arrived and needs to be put together by Mr. Faling and some students. Later on, it can be used for some fun tournaments amongst the student body to raise money towards the High School Prom and some charitable causes.

The first big event of the year will be the Elementary Fun Night on Friday, November 21. A letter will be going out to all elementary students from Grades 2-5 on the same day as the Shark goes online, to invite them to come to a special elementary Fun Night that will be especially designed for them. The cost of a ticket, if purchased in advance, will be €5, and if purchased on the day, €6.00. There will be fun, games, snacks and drinks, and adequate teacher and CAS student care for the duration, which will be from 3.10 p.m. until 5 p.m. There will be no late buses, so parents will be asked to come and pick up their children, and to make sure that the office knows that their child will not be on the afternoon bus, if this normally is the case. The Friday after school sports practices will have stopped by then, so one of the fun stations will be a mini-soccer tournament in the gym. Face painting will also be one of the stations! This has been a very popular activity in the past, so book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Numbers will be limited for a safety purposes. The CAS students have been liaising with Mrs. Blitz, the Elementary Principal, who has been giving them safety and activity tips for the event.

Other officers in the High School

Student Council are: Jonathan as secretary, Won Young as International Liaison Officer, and Bilal, Yiming, Dong Hi and Won Taek as Business Associates. This last group has been asked by the President and Vice-President to come up with a business plan for the year so that a steady income will be assured for High School Student Council to be able to once again subsidize the High School Prom to a large extent to make it affordable for students to come. We shall soon be looking for a Prom Committee to start seeking out a venue and making all the necessary arrangements for Saturday, April 25, which will be the date of the High School prom next year.

There have been some pretty awesome CAS goings on in school lately.

At the recent Potluck Dinner, held by the PTSA, newly-trained DJ's Won Young and William got the parents all tapping their toes and dancing to their wonderful music selections, especially designed to be pleasing to the "older listener" (don't laugh parents). They have already cut their teeth in the DJ business by providing the wonderful music on UN Day on October 24. In addition to this, High School students Hayden, Michael, Zhiyu, Brenna and Ashley did a sterling job of babysitting on the evening of the Potluck dinner. The money earned by them will go into High School Student Council Funds. The young kids who were babysat apparently went home worn out from all the fun activities the student did with them. They fell right to sleep after their parents had had a wonderful night out at the Potluck dinner.

The United Nations Day, on October 24, was a most colorful and meaningful event. I must congratulate this year's 11th grade for really pushing the boat out by getting a Paralympic bronze medallist, in the form of Ed-

ward Maalouf, as our guest speaker.

He gave a really inspiring talk to the assembled gathering and appealed to old and young with his message that we always have to have a dream and



to keep trying to do our very best in whatever we do. It may not always work out as we want, but we can keep trying hard to reach our goal, if at first we don't succeed. We hope to keep in touch with Mr. Maalouf and hope that he keeps us informed of his sporting progress. The additional sales of Olympic style AISR bronze medals, as well as UN merchandise, facilitated for us by the Jeffery family, was a special addition. Don't forget that there are still limited numbers of bronze medals available for €3.50, a few key cords for €3.00, and the wonderfully priced photo CD's of the event of photos taken by Joyce, Bilal and Ashley, also only for €3.00.

There are unlimited supplies of



photo CD's for anyone who wants one. Simply fill out the form in this issue of the Shark and hand it in to Mrs. Boot c/o the front office. There are examples of some of the photos

CAS Round Up Cont'd



ers, who came a long way in just a few short weeks. Mr. Long needs special recognition for coming to school on his day off to bring us the mighty, mighty 2nd grade medley, and Mrs. Akhurst should be similarly recognized for organizing the helium balloons for the second year in a row, which were again a great success. The special words spoken by Ms.



taken on two boards in the front lobby. Don't miss this great opportunity to collect your Photo CD of one of the highlights of the AISR year! Please note that all profits from sales will go to the Fonds Gehandicapten Sport. A special note of thanks to Mr. Dailly for presenting us with the special 4th grade Latin Percussion group and for training the 11th grade sing-



I will keep everyone informed about how much profit we make from the continuing sales of CD's and UN merchandise. We are already into the profit zone. Let's make it a good sum for this most worthy cause!

Way to go mighty, mighty CAS students of AISR!

Lynda Boot

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Day



Peterson, as the early childhood section let off the balloons, were sadly missed by many, due to technical problems of the microphones, and a tad too much anticipatory excitement in the front courtyard by the assembled gathering. They should indeed be read by all and they can be seen on the photo bulletin board in the front lobby.

Global Issues Network: Hunger Banquet



Come join us for lunch.

The Global Issues Network Club is hosting a Hunger Banquet for students in Grades 5-12 on November 12th at 11:10 in the

cafeteria. Tickets cost €2 and money raised will go to A-CET, the Global Issues Network charity that builds

schools in Africa.

For those who participate in the Hunger Banquet, a meal will be provided that is the best equivalent that we can make for people who live in the least developed, developing, or developed nations. The percentage of people at AISR, who get each type of meal is an approximate to the percentage of the people in the world who eat the meal each day, worldwide. If you still have questions about what is going

on, GINC suggests that you participate. Experience can be the best teacher sometimes.

If you have questions, concerns or comments, please address them to Ms. Lipp, Ms. Dinse, or Mr. Van Cleve.

Stacy Dinse

s.dinse@aisr.nl

CAS UN Day



United Nations Day 2008

THEME: Enabling the Disabled: Dignity and Justice for all Humankind

To the Teachers, Students and Parents of AISR

The CAS students of AISR would like to say thank you for your support on United Nations day. There are still photographs, limited quantities of 'UN Day at AISR' medals and key chains for sale. Medals are now at the reduced price of €3.50 each, key chains cost €3, printed photos are €1 each, and CDs with all official photos taken are €3 each. All profits will go to support the achievements of the Dutch Paralympic athletes. The charity we will be supporting is Fonds Gehandicaptensport. If you wish to make a private donation, please let me know and I can give you the bank details of this most worthy charity.

We encourage your participation. Please send an envelope with your order and the correct money to school with your child and address it to Mrs. Boot/UNDay. This is sure to be a deal you won't want to miss!

Sincerely yours,

Lynda Boot (IB CAS Coordinator) and the CAS students of AISR

-----TEAR OFF SLIP FOR ORDERS OF UN MERCHANDISE-----

Name of student:
Grade of Student:

UN Medal: €3.50 (Amount _____) TOTAL € _____
UN Key Chain €3.00 (Amount _____) TOTAL € _____
UN Photo CD ROM €3.00 (Amount _____) TOTAL € _____

You may select individual photos from the display in the front lobby and pay €1 per photo at the front office for them.

Sinterklaas: The Tradition



You must have noticed that the Dutch still have a few traditions which are very much alive. Sinterklaas (Saint Nicholas) is such a tradition. Even in the Dutch immigrant societies in Australia and Canada, Sinterklaas has remained a tradition where other Dutch habits have disappeared.

Why is it that Sinterklaas is as dear to the Dutch as Saint Patrick is to the Irish and Santa Lucia is to the Swedish? Sinterklaas has been celebrated since the Middle Ages as a religious festival. A tradition that has survived for so long, however, has been subjected to some changes throughout the ages keeping up with new developments within society. Today the stores have their golden weeks to make sure that Sinterklaas will not get lost.

Sinterklaas arrives by boat (De Stoomboot) into The Netherlands – this could be up to three weeks before his actual “Saint’s day” on December 6th. His arrival is a huge event and is covered



by national television (Het Sinterklaas Journaal).

From the moment he arrives in Holland until his celebration on December 5, the children place their shoes in front of the door, or beside the fireplace. During the night Sinterklaas visits all the houses by traveling over the roofs on his white and grey horse, called a “schimmel” in Dutch. His little helpers, called “Zwarte Pieten” enter the houses through the chimney to put presents in the childrens shoes. This rather strange way of entering a house can account for their “sooty” faces. Sometimes the children put straw, carrots and water near their shoes for the horse.

On the eve of his feast day, Sinterklaas goes around to each house. After knocking on the door, he is invited to come in. This is the time that all Dutch children receive their Sinterklaas presents.

Early in the morning of December 6, Sinterklaas returns quietly to Spain.

The Dutch, young and old, love their Sinterklaas! In the same way that Santa Claus has survived the test of time, it is so refreshing to see such a simple and enjoyable tradition continues to be a very important part of contemporary Dutch culture.

Story idea:

SINTERKLAAS has a new hobby. He

got himself a Mercedes Cabrio SLK

A slick car indeed. He has Piet driving him around all the time now and leaves his horse in the barn.

He says he wants to give his horse a rest, because the roofs are getting higher each year. He doesn't mind the traffic jams as long as he can sit in his “Cabrio”



The Pieten are complaining, because they have to run so fast to keep up with him.

One of them is the “Tom Tom Piet” who runs in front of the car to show him the way.

Oh, Sinterklaas! We can imagine it is fun to drive a Mercedes, but what about the horse and the environment? We will give you some alternatives for your Mercedes.

Each class will design an alternative and present it. But to be honest: We love the horse!!! Wouldn't it be possible to bring your horse to school next year?

Drama Course



Do you have a budding actor or actress in your home? Commencing Monday December 1st ,there will be a drama course being offered after school for **Grades 4-7**. The course will be run by an English speaking drama teacher, Tjyying Liu.

Tjyying Liu has worked and lived as a correspondent for a Dutch newspaper in Beijing, China. In 2003, he decided to return to The Netherlands to pursue a career in theatre and film. After graduating from the Toneelacademie Maastricht he directed, performed in, and wrote several theatre productions. He has written the award winning short-film *Zucht (Breath)* and is working on his second film, *The Monkey King*.

He is currently performing in two theatre productions which tour in The Netherlands. He also teaches drama to young and old, at high schools and colleges.

The after school programme will comprise of two theater sessions. Each session will be 8 lessons of 90 minutes. The center of attention in both sessions is the body as an actor's instrument. How do you use your body and voice on stage? In the first session we will work on the awareness and the dramatic power of our senses. Do we see, hear, feel and smell enough? The focus of the second session will be on text. What is the power of text and when should we be silent? Both sessions will conclude with a small, 20 to 30 minute presentation in the final lesson.

The cost for the 8 lessons is 60.00 Euro and there is a minimum/maxium of 10 students in the class. **The drama course will be on Mondays from 3.15pm to 4.45pm. There will be no after school bus service available and parents are responsible for collecting their own child.** The dates for the lessons for the first session are as follows;

December 1st, 8th,15th, January 19th, 26th, February 2nd, 9th, 16th.

If you child is interesting in joining this group could you please fill out the form below, detach and mark it **ATTN: FIONA FARNHAM, AND RETURN TO THE OFFICE NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 14TH**. Please note that admission will be on a first come first served basis.

If you have any queries regarding the course please contact Fiona Farnham either by email; fionafarnham@hotmail.com or phone; 010 461 2001.

DATE: _____

GRADE: _____

NAME: _____

PARENTS/GUARDIAN NAME: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE CONTACT: _____

PARENTS/ GUARIAN SIGNATURE: _____

Please return this form no later than November 14th.

DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY



Craft Fair
Saturday 15 November 2008
From: 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

Vendors from various countries will be participating in this event. With the Holiday Season quickly approaching, this is a great opportunity to purchase unique gifts for family and friends.

If you are interested in participating at this event please complete the form below and return it as soon as possible to the AISR Front Office. The cost per table will be 20 euros.

This year all proceeds from this event will go towards the Senior Class Fund Raising Campaign.

The Senior's will be present to help run this event on the day. They will also be selling donated Baked Goods, Hot Dogs, Soft Drinks, Tea and Coffee.

If you need to have any further details please send me an email at:

a.george-kelso@aisr.nl.

Regards,

Aurora George-Kelso

American International School of Rotterdam

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Name:

Telephone:

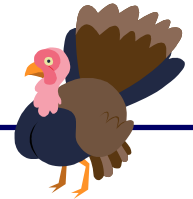
Email:

Cell No:

Description of Products:

Number of Tables Required:

Menu for November 2008



3 Pasta Day Spaghetti pasta & Napolisuace Healthy sticks/fruit or yoghurt (cheesesauce for vegetarians)	4 Broccoli mis Chicken leg/steamed rice Fruit yoghurt or fruit (vegeroll for vegetarians)	5 Chicken soup Hotdog or Tosti ham/cheese Milk or water Liga cookie or fruit	6 Meatball Pommes Parisenne, Cauliflower Fresh fruit or yoghurt (vegetable slice for vegetarians)	7 Chicken burger Potato slice/greenbeans Fruit yoghurt or fruit (vegeburger for vegetarians)
10 Mixed salad Maccaroni pasta Bolognese Fruit yoghurt or fruit (Cheesesauce for vegetarians)	11 Mex. Vegetable Mes. Beef taco/rice Pudding or fruit (vegetortilla for vegetarians)	12 Half Day	13 Domnio's Day Pizza pepperoni or mozzarella Cucumber sticks/fruit salad	14 Cheese Burger Potato slice/carrots Fruit yoghurt or fruit (vegeburger for vegetarians)
17 Cucumberstick Linguinapasta meatballs/tomato Fruit yoghurt or fruit (cheesesauce for vegetarians)	18 Chicken fillet +curry sauce Rice and Paris carrots Fruit or yoghurt (vegekroket for vegetarians)	19 Wienerschnitzel (chicken) Fresh cooked potato/gravy Peas and carrots Watermelon/fruit	20 Mix salad Lasagne Bolognese/slice bread Fruit yoghurt or fruit (spring roll for vegetarians)	21 Fish fingers Potato slice/carrot sticks Fruit yoghurt or fruit (vegeburger for vegetarians)
24 Mixed salad Spaghetti pasta tomatosauce Fruit yoghurt or fruit (cheesesauce for vegetarians)	25 Domino's Pizza Pepperoni or mozzarella Cucumber and carrot sticks Yoghurt or fruit	26 Thanksgiving Lunch Greenbeans/Mashed potato/Gravy Turkeyslice with cranberrysauce Wicky or Water and fruit	27 No School	28 No School

If you would like to place a classified ad in this section, please

Submit to:

aisrwebmaster@gmail.com

The Next Shark will come out on Nov.21st.

All submissions are due on Tuesday, Nov. 18h at 5 PM.

A new AISR family in Hillgersberg is looking for an English-speaking, fulltime au pair (live in or out) to look after her 1 year old baby boy.

For more details please call Sivan at 06 12966298 or email sivrotman@gmail.com

Classifieds & Community Announcements

BABYSITTING AND CHAUFFER

We would like you to feel at home in Rotterdam. Therefore we would like to welcome you with the services of Uit&Thuis Personal Freedom. We can offer you a complete night out with our Chauffeur and Babysitting services. Besides we can help your children with or supervise their homework. To get to know us we would like to offer you a reduction of 20% on the first 10 hours you make use of our services (the 10 hours may be split up in more occasions).

For more information, please visit our website: www.uit-thuis.nl/en or give us a call: 010-2653311.

Robert Baeldestraat 179
3061 TJ Rotterdam



Conversational Spanish Classes for 1st and 2nd graders

small group of four students
one hour lesson

To start in November

Berlitz trained teacher

if interested contact Barbara at barsultan@gmail.com

Boy Scouts Are Coming to the AISR Community!

Boy Scouts had its first informational meeting on Wednesday, October 22 at AISR. If you have a son who is in Grade 1 through 5 and you are interested in being involved with some great adventures and projects, Boy Scouts is right for you!

Please contact Rick Marsh at james.r.marsh@us.army.mil to get information about joining the Boy Scouts.

English classes for adults

If you would like to improve and practise your English, and at the same time make new international friends, why not join one of the English language classes for adults available at the school during school hours? These are small friendly groups and the lessons, ranging from beginners to advanced, are given by a British native speaker.

If you are interested and would like to know more, please ask at the reception desk or contact the teacher, Mary, directly via e-mail address: maryjt_nl@yahoo.com or telephone number: 010 4704424.

I'm looking forward to meeting you!

The Asian Lunch

Welcome all nationalities to a Pot-luck Lunch.

**November 25 (Tue.)
12:00PM onwards**

At the home of Shinobu Abe

Lindesingel 98

3053JL Rotterdam(Schiebroek)

Tel: 010-2518000

Invitation are open to all nationalities even younger children.

Please bring a dish of your country or your choice.

Dutch Lessons

Private lessons or Group lessons offered to all levels in your own home.

Please contact: Arjan Blokland on 0641585013

email:

arjan_translates@hotmail.com



American International School of Rotterdam

Verhulstlaan 21 • 3055 WJ Rotterdam The Netherlands • Tel: 31 (0) 10 422 5351

Fax: 31 (0) 10 422 4075 • E-mail: information@aisr.nl

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