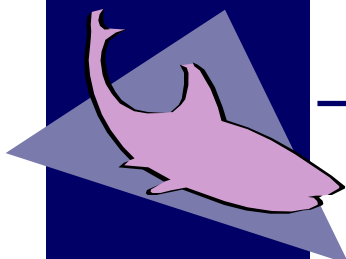


American International School of Rotterdam



AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF ROTTERDAM

THE SHARK

From the Director

Thank you to all of the families that have responded to our annual survey requesting information about your child(ren)s attendance at school next year. With the world economy in the state that it is and companies making significant changes in their workforce, this year's survey takes on a greater importance than ever before. We still need to hear from at least 45 more people, so please help us with this important information. To those of you with younger children who may be entering our three or four year old programs or wanting to enroll in Kindergarten, for the first time, we ask that in addition to the survey that you please come in to the Elementary Office to start the enrollment process for your son / daughter. The process of enrollment is completely separate for each child in your family and the sooner you do it the better your guarantee of a place in the class for August 2009. The information we gather from these surveys is some of the most important

information we receive from you all year. Thank you for your help in this effort.

Interested in being considered for a position on our Board or finding out more about our Board? Contact Ms. Clare Millard, the Chair of the Board's Governance Committee for more information.

It may seem cold in Rotterdam at the moment but as you read this, I am in the very cold center of the United States. It is -16C right now. This is the time of year when I travel to the United States to attend three international school teacher recruitment fairs. These recruitment fairs are the main vehicle for schools like ours to interview and hire our professional staff. Prior to these hiring fairs, we have also been interviewing local candidates who may also qualify for some of our openings. This year I will be interviewing teachers to fill three positions for the 2009 - 2010

school year at AISR. There are other tentative openings that I am interviewing for as well. Just like the movement of families in and out of the AISR community, this in-and-out of teachers is normal in the cycle of staffing in an international school like ours. During my absence, Mrs. Blitz will be the "acting director" and will be overseeing the daily operations of the school. After I return I will update you on the teachers who will be leaving as well as the new teachers who will be joining AISR next August.

It really will be warming up soon and it will quickly be March and time for the Annual Dinner – Dance, sponsored by the PTSA. The RSVP for the Dinner – Dance should be back to us by 3 March. Don't miss out on this year's event; it is always a fun time.

Lastly, we need your help with some communication channels at the school. If you are sending an e-mail to let us know about the absence of your child or need to communicate some information to the office, please use one of the two following e-mails: s.lolling-homma@aisr.nl or a.george-kelso@aisr.nl

Please do not use queries@aisr.nl as it does not get checked every day of the week. Thank you for your help.

Brian Atkins, Director

Upcoming Events:

- 31-Jan HS 4 School Tournament @ AIS
- 5-Feb 3:30 Middle School ISA home
- 10-Feb 2:15 Middle School @ ASH,
- 4:00 High School ASH home
- 12-Feb 4:00 High School ISSE home
- 13-Feb 5:30 Middle School Fun Night
- 16-Feb 3:30 U14 ISH home
- 18-Feb 3:15 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 19-Feb 3:15 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 23-27- Feb Crocus Vacation

Elementary Principal Message

The flu bug finally caught up with me last week! Being out of school for one week meant there were a lot of e-mails to be answered. So I apologize for the delay in getting back to you.

The weather is still very cold and a report out yesterday claims that the flu virus is returning to The Netherlands. So please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately when they come to school.

Keeping up with the theme of "Healthy Eating", here are some useful hints to encourage your children to try new things:

"If your child is a picky eater and refuses to eat or try new foods, the University of Maryland Medical Center offers these suggestions:

Set an example by eating various healthy foods yourself. Fix foods that are attractive. Decorate your child's plate with bright, colorful foods with

different consistencies.

If your child isn't hungry, don't force the issue. When children are hungry enough, they will eat.

Stay away from sugary treats. Instead, offer fresh fruits, vegetables, and whole grains.

Make healthy eating a tradition. Start early by offering a variety of baby foods when the child is as young as 6 months."

Don't forget to pick up your DVD of the Seasonal Program. If it is not possible for you to get into school, please send the correct money with your child and we will send it home with him/her.

There are still a couple of copies for sale, so if you didn't manage to order one on the evening,

now is your chance to purchase a memento of that wonderful evening. The price is 10 euros – first come, first served!

February 18 and 19 are two days that are set aside for **Request Parent Teacher Conferences**. Your child's teacher will contact you to set up a time if she wants to meet with you. If you would like to have a conference, please contact your child's teacher to make an appointment. Please remember that it is also possible to make an appointment to meet with one or more of the specialist teachers.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Anne-Marie Blitz,

Elementary Principal

From Our Classrooms: Third Grade

The grade three students have been very busy since returning from the holidays. There were many exciting stories to share about vacations and visits with old friends. Now we are back in full swing and ready to take on the remaining half of the third grade.



In IPC, the students are learning about Significant People who have made a dif-

Our Classrooms: Third Grade Cont'd

ference. We began this exciting topic with a Significant People Parade! Each student dressed up as a famous person and then presented the class with ten clues as to whom they were supposed to be. This was a fun chance to dress up and learn about a wide variety of people from both past and present. Come check out our pictures hanging in the halls outside our classrooms! To bring this unit to a close, we will be taking a class trip to Amsterdam to visit the Van Gogh Museum and the Anne Frank House. We are really looking forward to this exciting trip!



Both Students and teachers are enjoying our new literacy program. We are reading many exciting stories and trying some new writing projects as well. Recently, Miss Ballantyne's class has begun a pen pal exchange with a third grade class in Canada and Mrs. Yamamoto's class will continue exchanging letters with a third grade class in the States. This is a great way for students to improve their writing, while

finding out what school is like in another country.

As you can see, grade three is a pretty exciting place to be!

Silent Auction Baskets



PTSA Postings

Have you heard about the Annual Dinner Dance? Excitement is in the air with the Annual Dinner Dance soon upon us. For those of you who have not had an opportunity to attend, it is a wonderful evening put on by the PTSA. There will be a nice buffet with a variety of food and desserts. There will be music, dancing, and raffle prizes. Also, we will be conducting a Silent Auction. How does a Silent Auction work? We will have on display lovely arrangements of items put together by the different school classes with a bid sheet in front of it (see pictures below). People then have an opportunity to look at all the items available and place a bid on it. The highest bidder gets to go home with their prize. It can be a

lot of fun with a bit of friendly competition to see who can outbid who! But in the end, who is the real winner? Your children! All profits from the evening go right back to supporting our children and their teachers. We hope you can join us on Saturday, March 21st. Anyone can come so bring your neighbors and friends! Tickets are now on sale.

Haven't bought your Dinner Dance tickets yet? No worries! The PTSA will be selling tickets before and after school on Thursday, Feb. 12th in the cafeteria. So come on by! Also, you may purchase your tickets electronically by sending in your payment to ABN AMRO 478974876 AISR

PTSA. Our goal is to sell 150 tickets. Please help us reach that goal! If you are unable to attend, consider purchasing tickets as a gift for family or friends. It is a lovely evening out and would make a nice gift.

We need you! Our next **PTSA Meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 5th** from 1:30-3pm in the cafeteria. We need lots of people to attend as we will be working on tasks for the dinner dance. We will have delicious desserts at the meeting. So come on down, bring a friend, enjoy some yummy food while working with a great bunch of people!

Counselor's Corner

I hate to say it but the second semester will be filled with many activities and before we know it, we will be shepherding our older students through IB and finals exams and the year will be over! So now is the time to be thinking ahead, especially if you are leaving AISR at the end of this school year.

If you happen to be leaving, then let me make a few suggestions to help you and your child make the transition a bit easier. Sometimes the younger children really do not understand how and why their world is changing again when you make the decision to leave a community of friends. Now is not too early a time to begin getting them used to the idea that they will be leaving in a few months. On the other hand, there is still time to make plenty of memories before that last day of school. Sit down with your child and talk about the things that they have enjoyed while living in Holland and will remember later on. To help keep those memories, take lots of pictures, visit places you have enjoyed in the past and let your child spend time with their friends enjoying each other's company. Put together a booklet of photos and e-mail addresses so that everyone can keep in touch after you leave. Don't forget to do the same for yourself! As adults, we sometimes forget that it is those memories that we make with our friends that will sustain us a few months down the road when we are in the middle of a new transition either at another job, or in a new city. Children are sometimes afraid of leaving their friends because they might worry that they won't find new ones. Remind them of friends they might have left prior to coming here and how lucky they are to have those old friends as well as the ones they have now.

Some parents will be going through a

different transition, where they are not the ones leaving but their 12th grade student is, as they head off to university. Remember that you have been and will continue to be "home" to your older child. They will go through a transition of having to become more independent and you should encourage them to do so, but be there if they need you as well. In the past you might have wished that they would talk with you more about what was going on in their lives. Being far away sometimes encourages kids to do just that! So pick up that phone and call them because they will be missing you, too!

As I said at the beginning of this article, this semester will be filled with lots of activities. Please stay in touch with us: administrators, teachers, and counselors if you have any questions about your child's progress or upcoming activities. Communication is the most important thing and we will be happy to answer any questions you might have.

For parents of students in grades 9-11, it is never too early to begin thinking ahead regarding where your child might go to university. To that end, I would like to invite you to attend a presentation regarding University Admissions in the UK on Thursday, Feb. 12 at 8:15am here at AISR. We will have two representatives from The University of Essex and University Campus- Suffolk who will give a presentation about their schools as well as touch on the application process to the UK. All students in grades 9-11 will be attending and if you would like to join us, you would be most welcome. Please let me know if you plan to attend so that we can have enough seating for everyone.

Ruth Lopez, MS/HS Counselor

Alison Lipp, Elementary Counselor

Artist of the Month: January

Vegard, a seventh grader, was asked to look at the work of the 'Dutch masters' such as Vermeer and appreciate that the techniques and equipment they used enabled their "photo realistic" look, many hundreds of years before photography was developed. Then after carefully staging a 'high contrast' image, he set about enlarging and painting a photo realistic image of himself, with a limited tonal range.



From the Athletic Department

Athlete of the Week
January 19th—24th



Lisa is a member of the U12 Basketball team and has shown enthusiasm and willingness to improve her skills. Not afraid to go out onto the court and give it her best, Lisa listens well and is patient with others when the game is tough. She showed courage recently when she was made point guard against the big and skilled Amsterdam team. She demonstrates a great attitude toward the game and going beyond her comfort zone. Well done.



Athlete of the Week
January 26th—30th



Michael has not missed one practice or game this High School basketball season.

He has shown excellent improvement and leadership throughout. As our point guard, he organizes the team offense and when he can helps his teammates improve. Michael sets a good example of what hard work is all about.

CAS: Valentine Roses at AISR

The High School Student Council will again be selling Valentine roses starting next week, Monday, February 2, until Tuesday, February 10. The roses will be circulated on Thursday, February 12 this year, since the actual Valentine's Day falls on a Saturday this year. This huge sale of flowers is the High School Student Council's biggest money drive towards not only the High School Prom, but towards the support of such charities as AM-REF Flying Doctors.

The flowers will be on sale every day at the high school lunch times for middle and high school students, parents and teachers. For elementary students, it is simple. Parents need to fill in the form to

be found at the back of the Shark, from whom the flowers are coming and to whom they should be sent. All the details such as the grades or room numbers and the amounts of money involved, should also be filled in. The appropriate amount of money needs to be enclosed with the form in an envelope addressed to Mrs. Boot, and these envelopes should be turned into the front office. The CAS students will process the orders and see to the delivery of the roses.

The prices of the roses are very reasonable, and have not gone up at AISR for the past 5 years. They get cheaper when you order more, and compete very well with the prices of

roses in the local shops.

Please note that the PTSA will be selling raffle tickets in the morning, at school on February 12. The High School Student Council is pleased to offer a complimentary rose to the first 50 purchasers of PTSA raffle tickets, which could win you a myriad of wonderful prizes, including that fabulous air ticket for two to the USA.

ROSE PRICES Sales end on Tuesday February 10. Roses will be distributed on Thursday, January 12.

1 rose for €1.50
6 roses for €8.00
12 roses for €15.00

CAS: Valentine Roses—Order Form

(Please use one of these forms for each order. You may print it off from the online Shark)
Prices €1.50 for one rose; € 8.00 for 6 roses; €15.00 for 12 roses

Name of sender: _____

Grade of sender _____

Name of recipient _____

Grade of recipient _____

(If teacher, or other personnel, ignore the grade)

Number of roses for this order _____

Message for recipient _____

Money enclosed € _____



GIRL SCOUT COOKIES COMING TO AISR !!!

The Rotterdam Girl Scouts are about to begin their very first cookie sale. To help them make a success of it we are offering you a chance to pre-order your favourite Girl Scout Cookies.

For those of you who have never had a Girl Scout Cookie, now is the time to try them! If you want to more about the cookies then click on this link; http://www.girlscoutcookies.org/meet_cookies.asp

We are offering the following cookies for sale;

Chalets
Dosidos
Samoas
Dulce de Leche
Lemon
Tagalongs
Thin Mints



If you would like to pre-order please email Fiona Farnham fionafarnham@hotmail.com

The price is 3 Euro per box and payment is upon delivery.

FIRST IN, FIRST SERVED!!

ORDER NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.

Curriculum Update

WHAT: Coffee, Croissants & Curriculum

WHY: to support student learning at AISR

WHO: anyone interested in learning more about the curriculum at AISR

WHEN: TBD

WHERE: in the cafeteria

Specific topics could include:

What does the AISR secondary/elementary curriculum look like?

How can I best support my child's learning in the secondary/elementary school?

How can I learn more about the _____ (e.g., a particular subject, such as Math, Science) curriculum?

Content, Skills and Understanding: What does it all really mean?

How are different subjects integrated throughout the curriculum?

How does the IPC at AISR work?

What is learning and why do you teach _____ a certain way?

How do you maintain consistency from grade to grade, year to year and teacher to teacher?

How is school and learning different now than it was in the past?

How does the curriculum at AISR affect what happens to my child once we leave the school?

If this is something that would be of interest to you, please fill out the following form and return it to me directly, or simply send me a message via email with your particular area of interest.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like further information.

Sincerely,

Alison Lipp

Curriculum Coordinator

American International School of Rotterdam

a.lipp@aisr.nl

_____ I am interested in participating in conversations about curriculum and am most interested in number _____ on the above list.

_____ I am available during the day and would prefer to meet:

1. Fridays at 8:30am

2. Fridays at 10:00am

_____ I am interested in participating in conversations about curriculum but am unavailable to meet during the times provided.

NAME (please print): _____

EMAIL: _____

Honor Roll

Name	Honor	Status	Grade		
				Nicholas	Highest Honors 7
John	Honors		6	Hun Ji	Highest Honors 8
Julian	Honors		6	Jack	Highest Honors 8
Rebecca	Honors		7	Jan	Highest Honors 8
Brooke	Honors		8	Klaus	Highest Honors 8
Chufu	Honors		8	Sian	Highest Honors 8
Nikita	Honors		8	Toni	Highest Honors 8
Jyona	Honors		9	Alexandra	Highest Honors 9
Brenna	Honors		11	Loes	Highest Honors 9
Alejandro	High Honors		6	Marianela	Highest Honors 10
Chloe	High Honors		6	Michael	Highest Honors 10
Maria	High Honors		6	Anne Nicole	Highest Honors 11
Maurits	High Honors		6	Jakub	Highest Honors 11
Andrei	High Honors		7	Veronica	Highest Honors 11
Niko	High Honors		7	Won-Young	Highest Honors 11
So Young	High Honors		7	Brooke	Highest Honors 12
Thomas	High Honors		7	Jeet	Highest Honors 12
Vegard	High Honors		7	Jonathan	Highest Honors 12
Ryo	High Honors		8	Kim	Highest Honors 12
Yinka	High Honors		8	Yu Bin	Highest Honors 12
Dong Ju	High Honors		9		
Emil	High Honors		9		
Sarah	High Honors		9		
Ha Eun (Julie)	High Honors		10		
Yiming	High Honors		10		
Joyce	High Honors		11		
Matthew	High Honors		11		
Stephen	High Honors		11		
Artem	High Honors		12		
Alexander	Highest Honors		6		
Isobel	Highest Honors		6		
Lara	Highest Honors		6		
Marianne	Highest Honors		6		
Ryan	Highest Honors		6		
YeBin	Highest Honors		6		
Glara	Highest Honors		7		



2 Cucumber/ Carrot sticks Italian pasta with tomato sauce Fruit yogurt or fruit (Cheese sauce for vegetarians)	3 Fish Fingers *Potato slice/ Cauliflowers Fruit yogurt or fruit (Cheeseroll for vegetarians)	4 Green beans Chicken drumstick/ rice (steamed) Fresh fruit salad (Springroll for vegetarians)	5 (Oven) meatballs cooked potato/ gravy/carrots Fruit or yogurt (Vegaslice for vegetarians)	6 (Oven Grill) Chicken Burger Corn/ Fries Mousse or Fruit (Veggie roll/ bunz for vega)
9 Mixed Salad Spaghetti pasta with Bolognese sauce Fruit yogurt or fruit (Cheese sauce for vegetarians)	10 Broccoli mix Chicken wings/ pommes Paris Puding or fruit (Vega roll for vegetarians)	11 Fish Cooked potatoes Carrots Fruit salad	12 Swedish Meatballs in sauce Rice and broccoli Fruit or yogurt (Spring roll for vegetarians)	13 Mixed salad Hotdog/ fries Fruit yogurt or Fruit (Cheeseroll/ bunz for vegetarians)
16 Cucumber stick Penne pasta Carbonara or Bolognese sauce Fruit yogurt or fruit (Cheese sauce for vegetarians)	17 Wiener Schnitzels Mashed potatoes/ gravy/ green beans Pudding or fruit (Vega schnitzel)	18 Chicken noodle soup Hotdog or Tosti Fruit (max. 2 sandwiches per person)	19 Shoarma Meat Pita Bunz /salad/tomato Baked rice or Fruit yogurt (Vega shoarma for vegetarians)	20 Dominos pizza Pepperoni or Mozzarella Cucumber sticks or fruit salad (Mozzarella for vegetarians)
23 VACATION	24 VACATION	25 VACATION	26 VACATION	27 VACATION



Big Plate 2,75 Euro

2 Italian pasta with Tomato sauce Mixed salad Parma cheese	3 Baked Fish *Potato slice/ Cauliflower	4 Chicken drum- stick/ Rice (steamed) Green beans	5 (Oven) Meatballs Boiled po- tato/gray/ carrots	6 Italian pasta with Carbonara sauce Parmasan cheese
9 Spaghetti pasta with Bolognese sauce Parma cheese	10 Chicken Wings/ Pommes Paris Broccoli Mix	11 Fish Fingers Cooked po- tato/Carrots	12 Swedish meatballs in sauce Rice and Broccoli	13 Italian pasta Mixed pasta Tomato/chicken/ Green bean sauce
16 Penne pasta Carbonara or Bolognese sauce	17 Wiener Schnitzels Mashed Po- tato/gravy/ Green beans	18 Big Chicken stick Fries and mixed salad	19 Shoarma Meat Pita Bunz /salad/tomato Baked rice or Fruit yogurt	20 Mixed salad Italian pasta with bacon and cheese sauce Parmesan cheese
23 VACATION	24 VACATION	25 VACATION	26 VACATION	27 VACATION

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 Feb. 13th.

All submissions are due on Tuesday, Feb. 10th at 5 PM.

Nanny wanted for one or two days per week - Wednesday &/or Friday. Standard hours 1100hrs till 1830hrs (0800hrs till 1800hrs in school holidays), looking after 2 children. Previous experience with children required. References required. Contact Debbie 0648876307.

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!

English Yoga Classes

At www.villayoga.nl and starts on 1 February at 19.30. Newcomers are welcome, and you can contact me for more information.

Greetings,
Andrea

andrea_ani@hotmail.com



Classifieds & Community Announcements

BABYSITTING AND CHAUFFEUR

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



The Asian Lunch

Welcome all nationalities to a Pot-Luck Lunch.

Date: 19 February (Thu.)

Place: Mida's house

Pastor Canniuslaan 31

2661HW Bergschenhoek

Tel:010-524 8000

Invitation are open to all nationalities even younger children.

Please bring a dish of your country or your choice.

If you need a transport, please contact Shinobu(010-2518000).

DUTCH LESSONS FOR PARENTS

DATE: Every Monday from 9:00 - 11.00AM. Starting January 19th 2009

(First Monday after the Christmas break)

LEVEL: Beginners.

TEACHER: Arjan Blokland

LOCATION: American International School of Rotterdam (Cooking room, top floor)

PRICE: Depending on the number of students, between 15-19 Euros per person per lesson.

Interested please contact Arjan Blokland:

arjan_translates@hotmail.com



American International School of Rotterdam

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