



# ISG Newsletter

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April 27, 2006

## Letter from the Head...

As spring is now firmly with us we look ahead to some warmer weather and busy times at the ISG. The Spring Project starts next Tuesday, 9 May, involving MYPI-5. This year the theme lifts a statement from our mission statement - "Let's Make A Difference" and students will be involved in workshops where they will learn new skills and be faced with new challenges. For the first time we have involved MYP5 who will be assisting teachers as workshop leaders and providing extra inspiration and ideas for the younger students.

DP2 begin the most stressful time of their last two years as final exams loom. These start in force in the May holiday and will be based entirely in the Esserberg Villa. This means that MYP3, 4 and 5 will have lessons moved to the Hemmenlaan building for the weeks up to May 24. MYPI and 2 will remain in the Esserberg but must be outside when the weather is fine and on their best (quiet) behaviour! We wish DP2 every success for their exams.

I am sure that many of you have noticed our new boards - showing our new name. The front of the building has also - for the first time - been labeled with the new name and logo. We will be celebrating this name and logo with a special afternoon of activities on June 23, from 17.00. Please keep this time and date free - and watch out for more details (and requests for help!) in the near future!

In the meantime - enjoy the May Holiday and we look forward to seeing everyone back, fit and well, on Monday 8 May.

**Mike Weston.** Headteacher

## Coming up...

- DPI visit Munol - All but a few students are packing their bags to embark on a new role as members of a modal United Nations. From the 1 - 6 May they will be based in the town hall in Munich. This is really an experience of a lifetime for these students, a chance to really understand the workings of the UN and meet other DP students from all over the world. As they arrive back late on Saturday, 6 May, there will be no lessons for them on Monday 8 May. They will be expected back for a normal timetable on Tuesday 9 May.

**Spring Project** - this begins on Tuesday 9 May for all five year groups.

- MYPI, 2 & 3: Joining TTO2 the students will be investigating one of the following guiding questions:
  - ◇ Can I use art and sculpture to address the cultural needs of the blind community?
  - ◇ Do I dare to perform on the streets of Groningen with a red nose?
  - ◇ Can I encourage my fellow students to buy healthy lunch food rather than snacks and fast food?
  - ◇ Can I bake something I have never baked before and make money from it?
  - ◇ How can I write and tell an interesting story?
  - ◇ Can I use the millennium goals to make a difference in my community?
  - ◇ Can I surprise someone and make their day special?

Parents are invited to see the outcomes of the activities on Thursday, 11 May at 11.30 in the Hemmenlaan. This will be followed by a light lunch at the Esserberg - thanks to the PSG.

- MYP 4 & 5: MYP4 will have their own activity: "Can I discover and improve my strengths in communication?" which, amongst other things, will give them training to cope with presenting their personal project. MYP5 will be assisting teachers with leading the workshops.

Quote of the issue: "Never be afraid to do something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark; professionals built the Titanic"  
anon



**Wanted: Student accommodation**

An Italian scholar at the United World College in Singapore is considering to spend his final year of the IB Diploma Programme in Groningen. He is 17 years old, a full boarder in Singapore and now looking for accommodation options in the ISG area.

Are there any expats or local parents at the ISG/Maartenscollege who are willing to rent out a room?

For more information please contact Anita Anssems (06-1445 3578)

**Yearbook:** work is going extremely well on the yearbook - thanks to the committee for all their hard work! However there is still a need for more subscriptions. Please support your son/daughter by ordering this excellent memento - still only €20 from Stephanie Unrein

**Website:** the web site is slowly changing - check out the parents' section for the latest news and minutes from the meetings! See what's coming up in the PSG social calendar!

 **ISG NEWS** 

**DPI** - message to students and parents. Please can you urgently return your report cards to Ms Jansma. The final year report will not be issued until this card is returned. This will delay your final grades.

The last week of March saw the introduction to the personal project for students in **MYP4**. A wide range of interesting and stimulating topics have now been chosen and supervisors allocated. The personal project is a long term study and work should be getting underway - it is not something that can be left to the last minute or even until the summer holiday! By May 15 students must have met with their supervisor for the first time... please make an appointment now!

Students of the **MYP5** Business Studies course have been busy improving on their entrepreneurial skills. Two different shops have suddenly appeared in the common room offering a range of hot and cold meals, snacks and drinks. Queues of staff trail across the corridor awaiting a cheese toasty, slice of pizza or a chocolate brownie.

Students have boycotted the Shell garage for a cheaper and closer to home range of items... keep up the great work!

**Congratulations to Conor Thompson** for winning the Connect competition. His article about what it is to live in the North of the Netherlands can be found in the latest issue of *Connections*...

**Open Morning at the ISG...** 18 students joined us on the 27 April for an insight into the ISG. The day begun with a Science lesson where the students (and their parents) "oohed and aahed" as colours changed and new chemicals were made - the sunny weather allowed a drama lesson outside, interactive French, Humanities, Maths and English lessons were enjoyed by all. A session in Technology allowed the students to make cheese key rings! Pictures will be shortly on the website.

**Absence from School:** Please remember if you intend to take your son or daughter out of school on a school day a **written** request must be made to the school at least **one** week before departure. Permission will only be granted in accordance with the Attendance Policy, available on the website, under the *STUDENTS - RULES* tab. This includes leave up to and including 12 July.

**Dates for the diary:**

2 - 23 May (inc) : DP2 exams

9 - 11 May: Spring Project for MYP 1-5 including on 11 May Sports Day for MYP 4 & 5 only

10 May: 19.30 PSG Meeting - in the Esserberg

12 May: Sports Day - MYP3

23 May: No lessons after 15.00 (except by individual staff arrangement)

25 & 26 May: School Closed

5 & 6 June: School Closed