



## Newsflash Parent Association

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The school year is already in full swing, and the parent association has been busy organizing fun activities for the children together with the school. As parent association we would like to provide a regular update about via a newsflash to make you aware of the activities that are organized and how the voluntary parental contribution is spent.

### Children's Book Week

From Wednesday 5 to Sunday 16 October 2022, it was Children's Book Week. The theme was 'Gi-Ga-Groen' (very-very Green). The Children practice the Gi-Ga-Green theme song from Children for Children very often. Wednesday, October 5, the day was started with the song and accompanying dance. The auditorium was beautifully decorated with a tree and garlands.

All groups received a book from the parent association. These were awarded after dancing and singing.

A scavenger hunt was also organized. Attributes of animals, trees and shrubs were placed in the school and on the schoolyard. The children had a bingo card with some of these attributes on it. Each attribute contained a bag of cards with an image on it. The aim for the children was to fill up their bingo card as quickly as possible.



There is a strong focus on reading at the Schapendel. There is now even an entire classroom dedicated to it. A real library with hangout corners and Sanny's mini library hangs outside next to main entrance. We encourage everybody to exchange books here.

### Saint Nicholas

This year there was again a lot of fun at the Schapendel leading up to his visit of Saint Nicholas on 5 December. On November 18, all classes decorated 'speculaaspoppen' (Dutch version of a gingerbread man). They looked beautiful and delicious.

The kids were very excited about 'schoenzetten' (leaving a shoe in the classroom) on November 23, because how would their classroom look like the next day. Of course, 'rommelpiet' (the cluttery helper of Saint Nicholas) had been busy again in the entire school. It was a huge mess, and some shoes were even hanging from the ceiling. What a mess did rommelpiet made!! The teachers and the children had quite some work tidying up everything again.

All children had made a wish list and these lists were kept in the big book of Saint Nicholas. On 5 December it was finally time for Saint Nicholas and his 'Pieten' to visit!!!! All children were ready for the visit and eagerly waited outside for Saint Nicholas to arrive singing Saint Nicholas songs.

Saint Nicholas arrived in a very cool Cadillac, but without his 'Pieten'. Luckily Saint Nicholas received a call from his helpers saying they had lost Saint Nicholas, but that they found a ride and shortly after arrived in a fire truck.



After Saint Nicholas and his 'Pieten' visited all classrooms, the children could pick a present from the presents room (the door of the presents room was jammed, but luckily the children were strong enough to open it).

A very successful Saint Nicholas celebration and we hope to see 'Sint' and his 'Pieten' again next year.

### Christmas

After Saint Nicholas went back to Spain the parent association could get started with the Christmas celebration. The first activity was to decorate the school with beautiful Christmas decorations.

We also spent a morning making 'kerststukjes' (Christmas arrangements) with all the children. They all were proud of their creations!

During the Christmas dinner of the children the PA organized a Christmas café for all parents. With traditional Dutch split pea soup, satay and other delicacies. There was glühwein wine from the MR. It was a pleasant evening which we ended with children, parents and teachers singing Christmas carols together. We hope you all enjoyed it the Christmas café!



Like every year the PA, together with the school, picked a charity to support during Christmas. This year it was the 'voedselbank' (food bank). All children were asked to donate non-perishable products and on top of the products that were collected by all children the PA purchased additional products from the earnings of the Christmas café (193 euros). A couple of children helped to hand over the collected products to volunteers of the food bank.

### Sponsorship

Any costs associated with the activities organized by the PA are paid from the voluntary parental contribution. The costs for Saint Nicholas gifts, all necessary decorations and Christmas greenery for the Christmas arrangements, the books that are gifted during children's book week to all groups are all covered by the PA. Fortunately, we are also sponsored by local companies every year. The 'pepernoten' for the Saint Nicholas celebration were sponsored by Dirk v/d Broek, Mandarins were sponsored by Lidl, part of the greenery was donated by the flower auction and the delicious split pea soup at the Christmas cafe was made and sponsored by a mother of a PA member. We would like to say a huge thank you to those who made this possible!



## Voluntary parental contribution

The total amount of voluntary parent contribution that has been received by the PA this schoolyear is unfortunately lower than in previous years. If this remains unchanged the PA must explore opportunities to organize activities in a different manner than you are used from us.

In case you have forgotten, or do you still want to pay the voluntary parental contribution this schoolyear then you can still do that! This is possible via the link you received via your Schoudercom email on 26 September 2022. If you prefer to transfer it directly, you can also transfer the money to account number **NL09RBRB0200470450** in name of **Ouderstichting Schapendel**. Please include the name of the child(ren) you are paying the voluntary parental contribution for in the details of the transfer. The parental contribution for this schoolyear has been set at €45 per child. If this contribution is too high for you, you can also pay a smaller amount or transfer the contribution in multiple instances.

## Hester helps.



The municipality of Noordwijk also has funding available for residents with a low income. It is possible that you can get a contribution from the municipality for school costs, sports or cultural activities. More information is available via 'Hester Helpt' or via the website below.

[https://www.noordwijk.nl/Inwoners\\_ondernemers/Zorg\\_werk\\_en\\_inkomen/Hulp\\_bij\\_weinig\\_geld/Kinderen/Geld\\_voor\\_kinderen\\_voor\\_school\\_sport\\_en\\_andere\\_zaken](https://www.noordwijk.nl/Inwoners_ondernemers/Zorg_werk_en_inkomen/Hulp_bij_weinig_geld/Kinderen/Geld_voor_kinderen_voor_school_sport_en_andere_zaken)

## Looking for helping hands

We can always use extra hands when preparing for and during the activities of the PA. If you would like to support the PA occasionally or would like to become a permanent member of the PA, please let Collette Janssen know via Schoudercom.

