

# Newsletter

*International Montessori/ 02-767-6360*

Newsletter

April 2008



## Anniversary-Yearbook 2008

The spring term. Ahs started! With Easter having been so early, we hope for a nice long period with warm summer weather!

During the month of April we are finalising the content of our **ANNIVERSARY - YEARBOOK 2008**.

A special A4 hardback edition is in the making and it will contain 96 pages of documentation and lots of nice photos!

The book will contain:

- **The history of International Montessori.** How it started and evolved over the past 15 years. 'Historic' photos have been added of children and of teachers whom you know now as our current staff!
- **A section for each classroom:** All teachers made beautiful photos and collected artwork from the children. Each classroom will be featured by a groups photo with all current friends. Additionally photos with individual children and small

groups whilst working on their different activities and subjects. It will give a very nice overview of every child's daily school life.

- **The special events** of this school year such as photos of the RTBF filming, Family excursion in La Houte Fagne, St. Martin lantern parade at Savoorke, Christmas activities, Information sessions and 15 Year Anniversary Celebrations.
- **Friends from around the world** will be featured: Photos of children who have attended the school in the past and with whom we still have regular contact.
- **Happenings planned for the future** including your invitation to our big 15 Years Anniversary-Charity Concert in Autumn 2008.

The ANNIVERSARY-YEARBOOK will be printed in May and available from June 6 onwards. The number of books printed will be according to demand and you can now reserve your copy by handing in the enclosed order form!

### Montessori 15 Years Young:

- Reserve the unique edition:  
**Anniversary/Yearbook**
- More info on the International Baccalaureate Middle Year Program.

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## Easter Camp



2 Pharaohs, Kings, and Roman Warriors were some of the visitors at our most recent Easter Holiday Camp! With an "Archeology" theme our twenty campers transformed themselves each day with hats, masks, and on one day, face paint, following a different time in ancient history. We also enjoyed delicious lunches each day which followed us back in time as well. Dinosaur Sandwiches, Middle Ages meatball soup, and Roman pizzas were devoured by our hungry

Viking sailors. Appetites were strong with our many daily activities. Crafts included drawing, painting, clay work, and castle and pyramid building. We played games including "Wrapping the Mummy" and following obstacle courses. Our time outside was plentiful with the use of the school garden and also an area park where we enjoyed the playground equipment and snacks. We look forward to the next camp together; it will be a different theme with the same FUN!



## Summer Camps

Summer is around the corner and Laurence and her Camp Team are in the process of planning camps. These will be held in the school in Sterrebeek. In order for us to organise the right number of staff, we appreciate early enrolment! Attached to the newsletter you find the sign-up form for the first two weeks in July.

## The School Library

The school library has been given a total reorganisation by a team made up of Joanneke, Lisa and some of our Middle School graduates; Kai, Joukje and Jesper. It is looking great! Thank you so much!!



## International Baccalaureate

The International Baccalaureate Organisation is spreading World Wide! Diploma Courses are randomly available and the number of Middle Year Programs has grown closely to 600.



Our Middle school section decided to become part of this network for various reasons. The main reason being the compatibility of the Mission Statements.

IBO aims to develop

**INQUIRING  
KNOWLEDGEABLE  
CARING  
YOUNG PEOPLE**

Who help to create

**A BETTER AND MORE  
PEACEFUL WORLD**

through

**INTERCULTURAL  
UNDERSTANDING  
AND RESPECT**

### THE SCHOOLS VISION

**A world with independent and self-thinking individuals who help create a better environment for themselves and others.**

### THE SCHOOLS MISSION

- Helping children in developing their complete personality
- Helping children in becoming confident and enthusiastic life-long learners
- To contribute to peace and understanding by developing respect and valuing differences.

In order to achieve this, both IBO and the Montessori Curriculum emphasise integrated subjects. The world is becoming more and more complex and interrelated. For children to feel confident in the future, they need to see the connections.

This holistic learning has also a 'global side effect'. Individuals who understand the global connections develop empathy and respect for differences. A peaceful world can develop only through international mindedness.

## The Learner Profile

IBO principles are compatible with the schools educational approach. Academic knowledge is useful and necessary when an array of skills is developed alongside. Using the IB terminology, we are constantly working on the Learner Profile of the child:

### **INQUIRERS**

They develop their natural curiosity. They require the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research, and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning, and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

### **KNOWLEDGEABLE**

They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

### **THINKERS**

They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, -ethical decisions.

### **COMMUNICATORS**

They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

### **PRINCIPLED**

They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.



*Victor preparing donations for Burkina Faso.*

## LEARNER PROFILE: cont.

### OPEN-MINDED

They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities.

They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

### CARING

They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and the environment.

### RISK-TAKERS

They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their ideas.

### BALANCED

They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and for others.

### REFLECTIVE

They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.

Each classroom works on this Learner Profile albeit in different ways. With Toddlers and Children's House children it functions on an unconscious level. Each detail, activity and interaction contributes. At each classroom level, the multi-age range, the equipment, the freedom and limits, the teacher interaction and low Teacher to Child ratio make it possible for the Learner Profile to develop.



From Primary onwards, and with increased emphasis during the Middle Year Program, the conscious awareness is developed. Students reflect on their personal and interpersonal functioning. Consequently they become responsible and mature in their actions.

## Organic Food Delivery

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*"Reducing our  
Ecological  
FOOD PRINT."*

From April onwards, the 'Savoerke' garden house will be used as a distribution point for organic food.

Dairy products, vegetables, bread and meat can be preordered and collected every Wednesday evening between 19.00 and 20.00 hours.

Customers can order the goods through Internet:

The website is:

[www.voedselteams.be/](http://www.voedselteams.be/)

Also you can become a customer!! You can do so by registering yourself with the local coordinator

[marc.van.hummelen@telenet.be](mailto:marc.van.hummelen@telenet.be)

## 'The Food Team' - 'Het Voedsel Team'

The Organic producers have formed a cooperation named 'Het Voedsel Team'.

They receive funding from the Flemish government and therefore (unfortunately) all correspondence is in Flemish only. However, this should not stop anyone in becoming a member!

It will need a dictionary at first but gives you access to an array of organic producers. Interesting also is that this Team aims to reduce everyone's ecological Food Print by minimizing the distance between the producer and the consumer.



## ORGANIC FOOD IN SCHOOL

Our school has also become member of 'The Voedsel Team' and will buy organic produce for the lunches in the Toddler Communities and Children's Houses.

The percentage of organic content will vary according to the season and availability.

Families can help as well by providing the children with organic fruit for snack!

In Tervuren, the Middle school students are busily working in their glass house and garden and are aiming towards producing organic strawberries, raspberries lettuce, tomatoes, radishes and cucumbers!



## The school photographer is coming

Thursday April 17 is set aside for school photos at the Wezembeek-Oppem and Sterrebeek Location. It will be done between 9.00 to 12.00 hrs. On April 18 they will come to the two locations in Tervuren. The photographers will make groups photos of the classes, staff and whole school population. Additionally they will make

beautiful individual portraits of each child and siblings attending the school.

This year, they will also create the front and back cover page of our Anniversary Yearbook 2008! The outcome will be a surprise till the publishing date of this unique publication!

## Open Day

The school has its yearly Open Day on Saturday April 26 from 10.00 to 16.00. Sterrebeek, Wezembeek-Oppem and the two locations in Tervuren will be open simultaneously.

Would you help us advertise this event by passing on the attached Open Day poster to an interested friend or by

placing it in your supermarket, health club or other public notice board, THANK YOU!

We like this Open Day poster very much and it is made by one of the parents: Andrew Beithaupt. He is very creative! Thank you Andrew!

## Forthcoming Events

### Info session: Fantasy versus reality

Thursday April 24  
From: 19.30 to 22.00  
At the Wezembeek-Oppem location  
By: Annie Hoekstra - de Roos

After the two very successful language fairs, we will continue with an information evening on the importance of offering realistic information to young children.

We will talk about what is happening in the brain between the ages of 0 and 6. During this period of time the brain absorbs like a sponge. But what does it absorb exactly? Can it filter? Is it guided by the will? Interesting reflections that could influence our interaction with young children. This evening is interesting for families with children up to age 6!

## International Montessori

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and Woluwé

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*We're on the Web!*

[www.international-montessori.org](http://www.international-montessori.org)

## Family Excursion to Caste Reinhardstein

Family Excursion to A  
"LIVING CASTLE"  
Saturday May 17, 2008

Castle Reinhardstein  
Chemin du Cheneux 50  
4950 Ovifat (Waimes)

Join this excursion and enjoy a medieval time with the International Montessori community. Sign-up will be distributed closer to the date. For more information please visit the website [www.reinhardstein.net](http://www.reinhardstein.net)

## SHOW TIME

The children of the Primary and Middle School will start with song, dance and drama classes in preparation for the yearly SHOW TIME. Please mark Friday May 30 and Saturday May 31 on your calendars!

Every year we are treated with a great spectacle! Also this year there will be a special Production for all Children's House children and their parents on Wednesday May 28, at 11.00 in Cultural Centre 'De Kam'.

## Renovations in WOLUWE: 'Hof Kleinenberg'



The school in Woluwé is taking shape! The new roof is being completed, with the dormer windows now being put in. Internally, the concrete floors are being poured, which will be followed by the plumber putting in the floor heating. Externally, the water tanks are being placed and outdoor plumbing is going to commence after that. In the meantime, the preparation for the classroom activities is continuing. The handmade furniture is ready for pick-up and the Montessori materials are on its way!

Please visit [www.international-montessori.org](http://www.international-montessori.org) and see the new photo albums!