

## 1st Newsletter of the 2018/19 School Year

Dear parents and colleagues,

With this first newsletter of the 2018/19 school year we welcome the new pupils of the three first year classes and their parents to our school community. We hope the children have settled in and are already learning lots of new things.

Our new colleagues:

Frau Celeny (English in 1a, 2a and 3a, Art in 2a),

Frau Freeman und Frau Winkler (educators),

Herr Werner (Maths in various 5th and 6th year classes, Partner Language in 6euB) and

Herr Dafertshofer (Sport in various classes and Social Studies in 6a) are already busy teaching the pupils entrusted to them.

Frau Kähl and Ms Earl have passed their final examinations and have been taken on by us as fully trained educators. The trainee teacher Frau Meyer is now assigned to 3a and 5a and Frau Schleu will be doing practical training at our school until the end of January 2019.

The number of **interactive smart boards** will be increased to eight in the near future. In addition to the boards in classes 6a, 5a, 2euB, 6euC, 5euA, 5euB and 3euA, a board will soon be up in the English partner room of classes 1euA and 1euB. The boards have been distributed among the classes in accordance with the wishes of the teachers. The money for the new board will come from the school's contingency fund.

The liquidation of our teaching materials fund is almost completed. This was made necessary by the reintroduction of rules for free provision of teaching materials this year. We wrote to a total of 399 parents asking if they wanted their deposits back or if they wanted to donate the €40 towards new computers for the two computer rooms (the computers there are already old, very **slow** and liable to break down). To date, **185 parents** have had their deposits paid back, **155 parents** have expressed the wish to donate the money (€6,154.20) and we are still waiting to hear from **47 parents**. We have written to these parents one last time. With

the remaining funds we will have around €10,500 left over for the purchase of modern, faster computers, and we hope to completely reequip both computer rooms. The renewal is necessary because the old computers are too slow and very unreliable, leading to the lost valuable teaching time. We need at least 60 computers to complete the job. The proceeds from **Charlies Run**, to be held on Friday **12 October 2018**, will also be used for this purpose as we still need more money.

Last year's **Bookweek** was centred on our cooperation with the **Eco-Ecole primaire bilingue La Courbe in Aytre'**, under the slogan "Environment and Sustainability". This year diverse activities will again be organised around this theme in collaboration with our partner school in La Rochelle, and again the project will be financed by **Erasmus+**. And, once again, a class from France will visit us in May, during **Bookweek 2019**, followed by a week-long visit to our partner school by the pupils of the 5euB.

The proceeds from **Bookweek 2018**, which amounted to **€4685.22**, will be used for the purchase of new playground equipment. We want to buy a new **whirlwind** and share the cost with the **BBS**.

The proceeds from this year's **Summer Fête** amounted to **€2595.60**. That's a lot of money and we sincerely thank all the parents who have supported us in this way.

The new **Free Time Activities** calendar is almost ready, now that nearly all the contracts with the instructors have been signed. The new timetable with the individual activities will again be posted on the notice boards and published on our website. The courses are partly financed by the school and partly by the Support Association; all courses are free of charge for our pupils (the Pottery Club charges for material costs only). Besides **pottery, football for boys and girls, waveboarding and chess, origami** (in English) will again be on offer three times a week (Fridays in the Hort). The **Robot Club**, using the Lego Mindstorm sets donated by the Parents' Representatives Association last year, will again be led by Herr Korkot on Fridays. This time the course will run over 10 sessions at no charge to our pupils. A **yoga** course, where the children will also learn relaxation techniques, will be held on Fridays from 2.15 pm in the large

learning workshop in House 3. Please refer to the **Free Time Activities** calendar for the complete programme. All the **instructors are experts** with specialised knowledge in their fields and have been carefully selected by the school administrators. All activities are available to every child at the school.

The **painting work** which begun in the winter of last year is progressing well. Houses 1 and 2 are almost completely painted and work on House 3 will start in the new year. The wooden benches and tables are also looking very smart after being professionally repainted by the SPH company.

Yours faithfully,

22 September 2018

Frank Effenberger, Ralf Müller