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Important dates

- Tuesday 21 February - International Mother Language Day
- Monday 6 March - Ribbon cutting in the inquiry garden
- Wednesday 8 March - World Maths Day (info coming next Friday!)
- Wednesday 22 March - Group 8 open morning at ISH

Important dates in July

- Thursday 13 July - Group 8 PYP Exhibition
- Monday 17 July - Moving Up!
- Monday 17 July - Group 8 graduation

Whole School Information

School fees 2023-2024

As outlined in last week's parent newsletter, the annual school fees for 2023-2024 have been approved by the School Council and set at €4600. The Terms & Conditions 2023-2024 will be emailed to parents after the break and will also be available on our school website.

Ribbon cutting - official opening of the inquiry garden

The inquiry garden is complete and students are already out there learning! We look forward to seeing the lower groups taking field trips to explore, inquire and play there, too! We will hold a very brief ribbon cutting ceremony at 14:45 on Monday 6 March. All the students in Groups 5-8 will be in the garden for this, and the back gate on Jan van der Heijdenstraat will be opened at 14:40 for any parents who wish to come in and join the simple ceremony. When it is finished, parents will exit through the same gate, and meet their children at the regular school exits.

Save these dates

More details will be shared closer to these dates, but for now, please save the following:

- ❖ **Group 8 PYP Exhibition** will be open to the community on the evening of Thursday 13 July.
- ❖ Our **Moving Up!** ceremonies for Early Years to Group 7 will be on the morning of Monday 17 July. *Moving Up!* will take place at the Bethlehem Church, Loosdrechtseweg 263, Hilversum.
- ❖ **Group 8 Graduation** will be on the afternoon of Monday 17 July, at the Bethlehem Church, Hilversum.

School photographs

We are seeking parent feedback via a few quick questions about this year's school photographs so we can continue to develop this service to meet the needs of more parents. Please [click here](#) to complete a short survey. *Thank you for your time and feedback!*

Welcome banners

We are in the process of designing simple welcome banners for our school entrances. We want to make sure that your family's home language is included, and correctly spelt. Please [click here](#) to check, and leave a comment if any corrections are needed. *Thank you!*

Mid-year reports

Mid-year reports were sent out via ManageBac on Wednesday 15 February. Please note that if your child started school from January 2023, they will not be included in this reporting period. If you have any questions or issues accessing these reports, please email Sara, the acting PYP coordinator, at sphilippen-gibbins@ipshilversum.nl.

With thanks to the PSG

All the teachers and staff wish to extend our thanks and gratitude to the PSG for making our whole staff feel very loved and special. From the thoughtful Valentine's Day treats after school to organising flowers for class teachers, plants for other teachers and staff, and the staff appreciation luncheon, which was a wonderful team building event for our whole staff. And also a big thank you to all the parents who sent their children to school with a flower, donated food to the luncheon or helped on the day to set up or clean up for these events. Scan the QR code to view some short videos of the events!



Prelude to "My News" IPS Hilversum photography exhibition

Museum Hilversum - The "Zilveren Camera" exhibition provides a picture of an eventful year through the eyes of the most talented photographers in the Netherlands. The winners of the "Zilveren Camera" prize for storytelling, Paul Peters, and 215 other award-winning images, are now exhibiting in Museum Hilversum until 2 April. For more information:

<https://www.museumhilversum.nl/expositie>.

Group 8

ISH open morning for students

On Wednesday 22 February, International School of Hilversum (ISH) will invite our students to attend ISH to experience what it may be like to be a secondary student at their school. Students should meet Paula and Daniel at the back entrance at 08:50. They will be dismissed from ISH at 12:30 to go home. Those students who will not attend ISH or do not wish to go to the open morning will attend school at IPS Mondrian as usual.

PSG

Teacher Appreciation & Valentine's Day thanks

The PSG committee would like to give a huge thank you to all the volunteers who spent a lot of time planning, participating, cooking, setting up, and then cleaning up for the two events we had this week: Valentine's Day and Teacher Appreciation Day. Your help contributed to the huge success of these events. We hope to see you all again at another one of our events in the coming months.

COVID-19 UPDATE

The Netherlands has reverted to **phase 1 dark green**. This means that we continue with basic measures with regard to hygiene and health, and continue to ensure good ventilation.

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