

Friday 2 October 2026		Parent Newsletter	Volume 6, Issue 03
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Whole School Information

Smart Watches and Toys from Home

We would like to remind families of two school expectations that help us keep our learning environment focused and safe.

Smart watches

Students are not permitted to wear smart watches at school. From Group 6 upwards, students who bring a smart watch to school must place it in the locked box in their classroom at the start of the school day. It will remain there until the end of the school day.

Toys from home

We also ask that students do not bring toys(including fidgets) from home to school. This is a whole-school reminder, and class teachers will also continue to remind students about this at the beginning of the school day.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep classrooms focused on learning and ensuring that personal items are kept safely at home.

Kinderboekenweek

On Wednesday, Kinderboekenweek (Children's Book Week) began across the Netherlands.

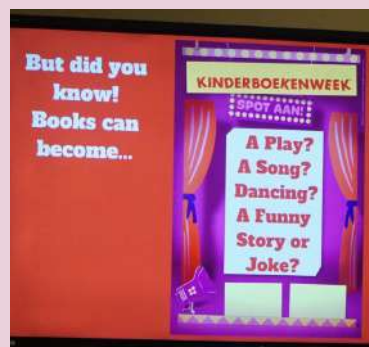
The theme of this year's 72nd Kinderboekenweek is 'Spotlight On!' ('Spot Aan').

Through reading books, we can experience all kinds of adventures and become anyone we imagine. One moment you might be a famous singer performing to a sold-out concert, and the next you might be the person making the whole class laugh with a great joke.

Last week at Rembrandt, Group 5B worked with our librarian, Grainne, to introduce the theme of Spot Aan to the school during an assembly.

The students acted out different stories to show how reading can be experienced in many different ways, not only through sitting down with a book.

Over the coming week, this focus will continue through Dutch classes and library sessions, giving our students further opportunities to explore stories, characters and the many ways that books can bring us into the spotlight.



Speech Therapy at School

"Speech and Language Therapy focuses on a wide range of skills that support learning and communication. Some of these include speech sounds and clarity, oral function (e.g., lip strength and jaw alignment), understanding and using language, social communication, listening and memory, literacy skills and fluency. We target functional areas that support learning in the classroom, and benefit everyday communication in different settings. For instance, by working on following instructions, staying attentive, and answering questions, children can confidently participate in classroom activities and positively navigate interacting with peers. We work closely with teachers and families to ensure skills learned in sessions carry over into real-life situations." For information you can email her:

jennifer@peakandlisten.nl

Motor Skills at School

Motor skills development screening and motor skills training.

"The body is not only to bring your head to school."

Motor skills training helps students in developing and improving motor skills. It is important to have a good balance between cognitive, social, emotional and motor skills development. Not only does it make your life easier when you feel confident with your body, it also is directly related to cognitive learning (to read, write, spell etc). By stimulating both brainhalves to work together, you create the best conditions to become a balanced person. At the IPS all (nearly) 5-years-olds are screened on their motor skills development. If students stand out either on their motor skills or behaviour in the gym, parents are invited for a meeting to gain more information about the screening and motor skills development. After consultation parents can decide to let their child follow motor skills training. Here we work on both big and fine motor skills (as you need in writing).

Upon request also older students are following motor skills training or handwriting training

For 25 years Marjoke van Alphen has been connected to the IPS, she works with children during school hours at the IPS location. For information you can email her: Marjoke.mrt@gmail.com

Celebrating Rainbow Week on Wednesday 7th October!

On Wednesday 7 October we invite all students to come to school dressed in rainbow colours! IPS Hilversum will again focus on inclusivity and diversity during Gooi & Vecht Pride month. During the day our assemblies will have the theme of Pride and students will create artwork inspired by the rainbow flag.

Click [HERE](#) for information on activities in the region.



Inquiry Insights

Korfball Tournament

On Wednesday 30 September, IPS took part in a korfball tournament with two teams from Groups 6–8. Each team consisted of five students who represented our school and enjoyed the opportunity to compete, work together and demonstrate their teamwork and sportsmanship.

Well done to all of our students who participated and many thanks to the parents for coaching and supporting the teams.



PTA

Halloween Disco

🎃 IPS HALLOWEEN DISCO – 29 OCTOBER 2026 🎃

Due to the fantastic response and high level of interest, we have moved to a larger venue and split the party into two sessions to allow as many children as possible to attend.

📅 Thursday, 29 October 2026

📍 NEW VENUE: The Amrâth Lapershoek Hotel, Hilversum

🎃 Session 1 – Rembrandt (EY–Group 5): 5:30–7:15 PM

🎃 Session 2 – Mondrian (Group 6–8): 7:30–9:30 PM

🎫 Tickets: €5 per person (also for adults accompanying)

⚠️ Tickets are allocated on a strict first-come, first-served basis. To request tickets, please email ips.pta.halloween@gmail.com. The order in which emails are received will determine the order in which tickets are allocated. As the event is expected to sell out, we recommend emailing as soon as possible.

Once your place has been confirmed, we will provide payment instructions.

👤 This is a non-drop-off event. Children must attend with a parent or another designated adult.

❓ Questions?

Please contact ips.pta.halloween@gmail.com for all questions regarding the Halloween Disco. As this is a PTA-organised event, please do not contact the school office or teachers about tickets or event arrangements.

We can't wait to celebrate with you! 🎃 👤

Community News

Amsterdam Swim

A short impression of the [Amsterdam City Swim](#). Thank you for supporting, spreading awareness and donating, Fritjof Troll.