IPS HILVERSUM International Primary Education

Friday 20 November 2026	Parent Newsletter	Volume 6, Issue 05

Contents

Whole School Information
- Yahoo and Hotmail emails
- Head Lice
- IPS Ambassador Programme
- Staff Update Group 3
- Surprises Workshop, Kijkavond & Sinterklaas

Inquiry Insights
- Our First Bird Feeders Are Ready!

PTA
- IPS Winter Gezelligheid

Community Corner
- Under 4's special Christmas class

Important Dates

- Surprise Workshop 25 November
- Photo Day Mondrian 30 November
- Kijkavond 1 December
- Sinterklaas at school 2 December
- Photo Day Rembrandt 3 December

- One page calendar-Digital calendar

Whole School Information

Yahoo and Hotmail emails

We are currently experiencing technical difficulties with emails being sent from the school to families using Yahoo and Hotmail email addresses. Although all school communications are shared through Toddle, the email notifications that alert families to new messages or updates are not always reaching these inboxes. We are also receiving bounced emails when sending directly to some of these addresses. We are working to resolve the issue as quickly as possible. In the meantime, we kindly ask families using Yahoo or Hotmail to log in to Toddle regularly to check for new messages, announcements and updates rather than relying on email notifications. We apologise for any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding.

Head Lice

Please be aware that the GGD no longer requires schools to carry out lice checks. This is primarily a parental responsibility. However, IPS will continue to support families by sending out regular reminders in the newsletters as well as informing the class parents when there is an outbreak.

Head lice is a common occurrence in schools, amongst children of all ages.

It is important to check your child's hair once a week for lice and nits (the eggs). If you are unsure how to identify lice in your child's hair, the following Dutch RIVM and English NHS websites may be helpful.

www.onceaweektakeapeek.com

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/

If you do find nits or lice in your child's hair, please follow our Head Lice treatment guidelines on the school website and inform the school administration.

IPS Ambassador Programme



Our international community is what makes IPS so special, and we know there are many ways for families to feel connected and involved.

We are inviting parents to join our **IPS Ambassadors Programme** and help us strengthen our school community.

As an ambassador, you can contribute in small but meaningful ways, such as welcoming new families, sharing IPS social media posts, making connections with local organisations or international companies, and sharing ideas and opportunities with us.

The best part? You can get involved from wherever you are, in ways that suit your interests and availability. There are no meetings, events to organise or regular commitments – every contribution is appreciated!

The programme is separate from the PTA, which continues to organise activities and bring our school community together. As a thank-you, we hope to bring our ambassadors together for an informal get-together at the end of the school year.

Interested in becoming an IPS Ambassador? Simply complete our short form and let us know how you would like to get involved. Every little contribution makes a difference! Click here

Staff Update for Group 3



We would like to share that Michelle Lewis will be leaving IPS at the end of December to take up a new position at ISH from January 2027.

Michelle has been part of the IPS team since January 2019 and, over the past seven years, has worked with students across Groups 6, 7 and 8. We would like to thank Michelle for her contribution to IPS and wish her every success in this next chapter of her career.

Surprises Workshop, Kijkavond & Sinterklaas

Surprises Workshop



During this friendly, hands-on session, we will help your child (and you, if you choose to join) get started on creating a surprise. You can then finish it at home if needed. Basic materials will be available, and we'll guide you step by step.

📅 Date: Wednesday, 25 November 2026
🕐 Time: 13:00–14:30
📍 Venue: Mondrian building (HCL room)

👥 Who:
Children may come on their own, but parents are very welcome to join and support. Please indicate whether your child will come alone or with you.

📝 Registration:
Would you like to join? Please email Juliska Blom at principal@ipshilversum.nl to sign up.

Kijkavond

This favourite Dutch tradition will take place at school on **Tuesday 1 December**

- The school will reopen between **16:00-17:00.**
- Both locations will be ready for students to bring their families to look around and see their classrooms decorated and lit up for Sint. The classrooms from group 5-8 are set up to display the *surprises* students make for their friends.
- Hot chocolate, Glühwein, and speculaas cookies will be served, courtesy of the PTA!

Sinterklaas

On Wednesday 2 December, Sinterklaas will be arriving at our Rembrandtlaan location, where the students will be ready and waiting to give him a warm welcome!

The doors will open at **08:45**, giving students time to go to their classrooms, put away their bags and collect their hats. Class teachers will then bring the students outside to gather in the playground, where they will welcome Sinterklaas with songs.

Parents are very welcome to join us for this special moment! We kindly ask that you stand behind the students so they have a clear view of Sinterklaas as he arrives.



Inquiry Insights

Our First Bird Feeders Are Ready!



Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful school community, we have collected plenty of recycled materials to start building bird feeders!

Birds are a gardener's best friend, helping to keep our gardens healthy by eating insects and other little creatures that might otherwise feast on our plants.



By hanging bird feeders throughout the colder months, we hope to attract a variety of birds to our school gardens and give them a helping hand when food is harder to find.
This is just the beginning!





We will continue making and putting up more bird feeders in our green spaces, including the Rembrandt small playground.

A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to making this project possible!

PTA


IPS HILVERSUM PTA
WARMLY PRESENTS
IPS Winter
Gezelligheid
A Festive Afternoon for the IPS Community
Dec 11 (Friday) 2026
3-6 pm
Mondrian
Entry is free.
Tickets are for raffle games, food and drinks!
LIVE MAGIC SHOW!

Community News

Under 4's special Christmas class

