

Minutes of the Primary School Council third meeting

Held on Thursday, June 15th at 6.00pm

1. Mr Jérôme THIEBAULT as a parent representative is nominated as the secretary for the session.
2. Agenda of this Primary School Council third meeting: approved.
3. Minutes for the Primary School Council second meeting held on Thursday, February 15th 2017: approved.
4. Primary (Nursery + Elementary) School News.
 - a. **Teaching news.**

School calendar 2017-2018

The Headmistress reminds that the calendar is approved by the AEFE¹ (Education Department) before being circulated to the families and published on the School's website.

It is also reminded that the school reports will be given to families on June 23rd and that the parents will be able to keep them until June 28th. They must then be returned to the School Administration to be filed.

Admissions to the next class level – Elementary school

The parent-teacher interviews will take place on a one-to-one basis depending on the recommendation given at the end of the year by the Teachers Council (Teachers and Headmistress).

In Elementary school, it is possible to appeal against the teacher's recommendation. The final decision comes down to the parents after a discussion among the parents, the teachers and the Headmistress. A final decision made to the parents' request is mentioned in the student's school report.

Being maintained in the same class level must be understood by the child for him/her to benefit from this decision. This may be considered when the child has not got a sufficient command of French language.

Music Day

A specific email will be sent on this topic. The School will open this international Music Day at 4.00pm on June 21st at the Trinité, for about 1h15mn – programme on the School's website.

End of the year performance

It will take place on June 30th. The organization of that day will soon be sent by email.

¹ AEFE (Agence pour l'Enseignement Français à l'Étranger): Agency for French Education Abroad, French Ministry of Education.

Access to the Little Theatre will be reserved for school ID cards holders. The other persons – relatives, friends – attending the performance will have to be introduced to the guards by the cards holders.

A parent is asking if the School will look for another venue next year, owing to the Little Theatre being overcrowded.

The Headmistress is stressing out that there is no other venue on the Peninsula that could accommodate the students to perform their show. Choosing a venue outside the Peninsula would induce other time-consuming logistic hindrances, which would prevent the whole event to take place within one morning.

The performance will take place in 2 steps: first Nursery then Elementary, so that the audience number can be balanced as much as possible.

The next School Year will start on September 04th. Induction day for teachers will take place on September 01st.

b. Teachers turnover.

Departures:

- Mr Christophe VAILLANT (Sudan)
- Mrs Emmanuelle MAGNO (back to France)
- Mrs Katy ATKUNA (back to France)
- Mr François MARTEAU (back to France)

Mrs Kate Fox, the English teacher in charge of EMILE teaching, will unfortunately leave the School at the end of the school year in order to take over the direction of another school – One Planet. The recruitment is ongoing yet delicate, EMILE teaching being so specific. No matching application has been received to date.

Arrivals:

4 new tenure core teachers: 2 from Zambia (French School of Lusaka), 2 from Ivory Coast – ie teachers used to the AEF network.

Internal turnover:

- Mrs Pascale BONNETTI will teach in GS B
- Mrs Juliette HILBERT and Mr Sébastien DREVETON respectively in MS A and MS B
- Mrs Suzanne NADEAU will teach in CE1 A.

To be noted for the coming school year: a TPS² class, open to the children born in the first term of the year 2015. These children will be integrated into the TPS-PS class.

After TPS, the child normally progresses to PS. The Cycle 1 teachers council, in link with the families, remains the decisional body for a potential anticipated move to MS class.

² TPS (Très Petite Section): in the French system, children below the age of 3 can be accepted to Nursery school in such classes.

c. Projected number of students

33 CM1 students and 27 CM2 students confirms that a double level CM1/CM2 class is effectively going to be created, and therefore so is a new position for an additional core teacher for the coming school year – which was budgeted by the Management Board.

The CM1/CM2 class will include a final number of 18 students: 10 CM1 students and 8 CM2 students.

For your information, a new class is also going to be created in the Higher Secondary School: Terminale class (final year of High School) with the S (scientific) and ES (Economics and Sociology) courses.

This brings to 327 students the projected number to date.

The average this year was around 315 students.

d. Running and investment

Summer works

The Headmistress has renewed her request to the Management Board so that the roof in Oysterbay can be refurbished.

In Msasani, the plot owner does not wish to undertake any further maintenance work, as the building is not intended for remaining as such as far as he is concerned. The School will have to consider the necessary maintenance during the time the premises remain to be used. A list of works is given to the Management Board so that it can be taken into financial account and implemented.

Digital equipment

The € 10,000 grant from French M.P. Alain Marsaud has enabled the School to further develop its digital equipment – 2 mobile boxes of 13 mobile tablets each. The next stage is about purchasing and setting software as well as training teachers for a more targeted use of digital resources in educational projects.

Every class of Cycle 3 (CM1, CM2, 6ème), Collège and Lycée is now equipped with a video projector and a laptop computer. 2 moveable video projectors are available for classes of Cycle 2 (CP, CE1, CE2) in Oysterbay and a desktop or laptop computer in each classroom. One fixed video projector is located in GS B classroom in Msasani along with a laptop computer.

The Internet Service Provider is Raha (fiber) in Oysterbay, and 2 modems from different providers in Msasani. Irregular bandwidth remain unsatisfying in both cases.

The School will certainly need to eventually get its own technician given the future development of its equipment: the new Primary School campus shall indeed have a digital equipment of 1 video projector + 1 laptop computer in each classroom, in addition to the computer room, the library, administrative offices... The Secondary School campus in Oysterbay will have to consider equipment standards that could meet those of the new Primary campus.

Supplies

An order for furniture has been placed: replacement of damaged tables, purchase of additional tables and chairs, standardized safety equipment in the science laboratory in accordance with the AEFÉ recommendations (after an AEFÉ Educational counselor for Life and Earth Sciences came to the School) – purchase of a ventilated cabinet (chemical products), a fridge, cupboards allowing materials and various products to be locked in.

The new campus shall be delivered in the year 2018.

It is reminded that the building fees of 2,000 € will be paid back to the families whose child(ren) was (were) enrolled before September 2016 (decision voted during the Ordinary General Assembly in June 2015).

The Headmistress is reassuring the parents who worry to see the construction budget rise as the construction of the new Primary School campus is actually delayed: the defined budget must remain within the determined amount. The management board is indeed working on that.

e. AES

From the next school year, enrolments in extracurricular activities will be taken for the whole year again, except for the Nursery School children.

The Elementary school students will be limited to 3 AES per week so as to avoid children to be too tired. It is thus reminded that the AES are not a daycare service, but genuine activities provided to the students (cf. AES rules).

Fixtures/ Sports events (tournaments) will be organized almost every month as much as possible, with the football time slots – and eventually basketball – lasting for 1h30mn.

The supervised study will take groups of 12 students at most.

A parent is asking a question about the possibility to introduce English classes in extracurricular activities.

The Headmistress reveals that there will be, during the class hours just as this year, English remedial classes for CM1 and CM2 students who speak no/little English. Yet this possibility in AES can be open.

Session closes at 7.50pm.