

Spotlight On Learning

Group 1

In Group 1 we have been sharing what we would like to be when we grow up! The children have been busy finding out about different jobs and the skills we need for each of them. We have been reading our class story 'Astro Girl' and have been finding out about space! We have been making our very own rockets and learning what it would be like to be an astronaut. If you walk by Juniper or Maple Class, you may spot a policeman, an astronaut, or a firefighter!



Group 3

All the children in Group 3 have been learning in so many ways. We have been working in IPC on the Stories People Tell including the stories of Egyptian Gods, Greek Gods, legends of different cultures, Native American stories, and Aboriginal stories. We are tackling digraphs and homophones in phonics; we had fun sorting and matching homophones in a recent lesson. The character in our book for English, Pattan, has a really big problem of saving his animals and farm from a flood. We have acted out the problem and wrote Pattan letters as ways to help him solve his dilemma. In Maths we have been working on making equal groups, multiplication and division. We look forward to the new challenges that our learning journey has in store.



Group 2

Moving to the new location here at Buitenrustlaan gave Group 2 teachers (Ms Angela and Ms Jeanne-Marie) the opportunity to develop and enrich the creative and role-play aspects of the curriculum, linking it as always to the current IPC theme. Our new room is called the Starlight Room, so named because the children must sign in and out on the door using a star system. It is currently housing The Magic Toymaker's workshop with a research centre for exploring Non-Fiction books about toys (housed in a circus tent for extra fun!!), a toy design area and a "Think Tank" table; this is where the Toymaker posts a research question for the children to explore and post him their answers (ready for a sticker reward of course!) The room also houses our mezzanine which now has been transformed into our very own Toy Museum. As you can imagine the Starlight Room is hugely popular and is a wonderful way of practicing and consolidating new skills and specialist vocabulary.

We are excited for the day when you can all step inside the school building and explore it for yourselves.



PE

In Group 1 we are working on different skills. For example we try to improve throwing and catching with different exercises but also climbing, balancing, aiming and lots of other skills. Each lesson there are 5 to 6 different stations where the students can improve their skills.

In Group 2 and 3 we are busy with IPC and this unit is called: Fundamental Sports Skills. With lots of different exercises and games we try to improve throwing, catching, dribbling, shooting and striking. We are not doing this only with our hands, but also with our feet. In each lesson there are 3 to 4 different stations where we play games or practice on 1 or 2 particular skills.



Dutch (Lower Primary and Upper Primary)

In Dutch we had a very busy time with all the festivities at the end of 2021, before the big move. Now we've all settled down a bit in our new learning spaces and we are getting back on track! We are exploring new topics and working hard on vocab and sentence structures. More and more students are feeling confident using the language skills they have learned in Dutch! The past few weeks we have focused on everything to do with the house, making drawings, writing words and sentences, and describing different rooms in detail. And maybe fun to practice at home: What do you see in this picture? Use these words: tafel, stoel, kruk, kast, boeken, kled, raam, bureau, digiboard, gordijn, muur, zolder, boven, beneden, vloer



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Group 4

This term in Group 4, we have enjoyed exploring everything about milk – from production, to marketing and the variety available. We have looked at the 3 different states of matter, in this instance, milk, and how things dissolve. This concluded with an Exit Point in which we made Ice-Cream and Milkshakes. It was amazing!



Group 5

For some of us it was nice returning to Schreveliusstraat and for some it was brand new, regardless of which, we have settled in nicely. In the pictures, you will be able to see a glimpse of our learning environment in our new classrooms. Now that a few weeks have passed, our walls are starting to fill with displays, and we have started to make the new building our own. Our displays show our learning on the Island Life IPC topic, Arthur and the Golden Rope, our English book, and Multiplication and Division, our Maths topic. Group 5 even has their own working station just outside our classrooms. Most conveniently, we are also next to the door which leads to the playground. During this term, we are focusing on taking pride in what we do, and this includes what we do with our environment. Hopefully, we will be able to show you around our classrooms soon.



EAL

In Upper Primary, we have been busy in our new Language Loft. We have been learning actions to help us improve the structure of our writing. We listened to Jason Mraz and found his missing song lyrics. Group 4 have been learning some icy vocabulary for their story The Ice Palace. Group 5 have been investigating countable nouns and have asked themselves the question 'Can you count money?' The answer might surprise you! Group 6 and 7 have been working on complex reading skills and are learning to work like detectives.



Group 6

In Group 6, we have been learning all about the human body in IPC. We investigated the different body systems: skeletal, nervous, respiratory, circulatory, and digestive. We gained new skills such as making models of neurons, labelling diagrams of various body parts, and researching scientific information. The Group 6 students put their creativity to work by making life-sized models of human body systems. They can now explain and understand how different body parts connect and the importance of keeping our bodies healthy.



Group 7

It has been very busy in the past couple of months in Group 7 and even with all the different changes, we have accomplished a lot! Most recently, we have finished our Coding unit in IPC. The students had a lot of fun coding different Scratch games. They really had to use their problem-solving skills to debug the game. It was great to see the collaboration between the students. They also had a special visit from Ms. Ana, a Design teacher in MYP, who set them a challenge of creating a keychain. Following this topic, we started our "Walk for Water" unit. The students recreated the experience of walking for water, by filling up buckets with their books and walking down to the canal!

In English, we ended 2021 with Odysseus. It was a lot of fun to experience the fantastic tales of The Odyssey alongside our unit on "the Great, the Bold, and the Brave." In 2022, we've been reading Clockwork by Philip Pullman as part of our study of "3D Designers." These are two very different books, but we've learned a lot exploring both. We've used each author's imagery to help visualize the settings, we've analyzed the characters, as well as their thoughts and motivations. For Clockwork, we finished with a class debate, arguing our viewpoint on which character was responsible for a character's death. It was a very lively and passionate debate, which proved how involved we had become with this story. In Maths, we have spent many weeks studying about fractions to give us a base to explore percentages and decimals. We are now able to compare fractions to decimals and to percentages. Through our studies, we can now see how the concepts are connected to real life examples.



Music

In Upper Primary each year group has been studying music using the IPC units being studied. The photograph shows Group 5 preparing to finish their unit All Aboard with a performance of train music that they composed themselves. They had listened to music by Villa Lobos and used ideas from his music in their work. Group 6 meanwhile have been learning about different genres of music and have done research to make a presentation showcasing their favourite types of music. Meanwhile Group 4 have begun to learn about how we record music on paper so that others may then play it. They began with using lines to show whether a sound went up or down and they have now started to use the standard music notation to show the same thing. As part of the "What Price Progress" Unit, we had a meeting of old and new ways of creating and playing music. We created 4-bar rhythms using music notation (ta-titi, whole/half/quarter/eighth notes and rests) and enjoyed performed these to each other over our self-created Garage Band tracks!



Spotlight On Learning

Design MYP 2

This year, MYP2 students have been actively working on the creation of a 3D printed chess set, focusing on the Key Concept of Aesthetics and the Related Concepts of Collaboration and Form. First, we conducted research online about chess sets and looked at images of chess pieces for inspiration. We worked in teams to choose a theme and developed design ideas that we presented to the class. We created a GANTT chart, imagining the most important milestones we would need to complete to successfully create our models. In order to give birth to our ideas, we used a software named Tinkercad to create the digital versions of our designs. After 3D printing our models, we designed and performed two tests, and improved the pieces based on our team's feedback. This links with the Statement of Inquiry of the unit "Aesthetically pleasing forms are enhanced through effective collaboration". Finally, the teams compared the chess pieces they had made, and chose the best ones to form their set. Afterwards, they compared their sets and voted on the best one in each class.

In 2P, the "Elements of Nature" set emerged victorious, but it was a slim victory and in 2R the set "Mushrooms" was the winner. The cherry on top of this unit is that we are playing a chess tournament and we are all very excited about it!



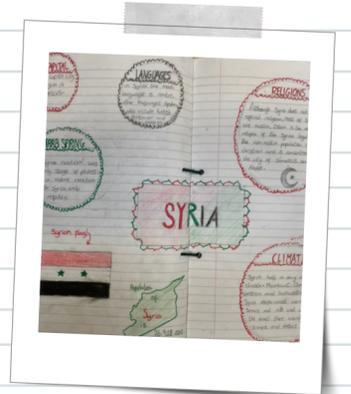
Visual Arts MYP 1

In Visual Arts, MYP 1 has been working on unit Creative Reuse: Fiber Arts. The unit is about finding the potential in unusable materials, using artistic innovation, hands-on making and caring about the environment. We have made mini cardboard weaving looms, to create a little unique woven wall hanging. We have been looking at textile art, sustainability and weaving around the world. Look at the photo from lesson time, and work in progress. Our final goal is to hang all wall hangings as a group, in the secondary school building.



ELL MYP 1

In MYP1 English Language and Literature, we have recently completed a unit on persuasive speeches. We looked at many different styles of persuasive speeches, from Nelson Mandela to Mikaela Loach. The students then wrote their speeches. We used the Sustainable Development Goals to decide on a topic that interested the students personally. They researched and then wrote and performed speeches to their classmates. We heard about the climate crisis, gender inequality and the importance of education for all, amongst other topics. We have recently started a new book, 'Boy, Everywhere' by A.M. Dassu. The book is based on a young boy from Syria who leaves his comfortable home in Damascus to seek safety in the U.K. We have contacted the author and are hopeful that she might join us on an online discussion to answer all the questions we already have!

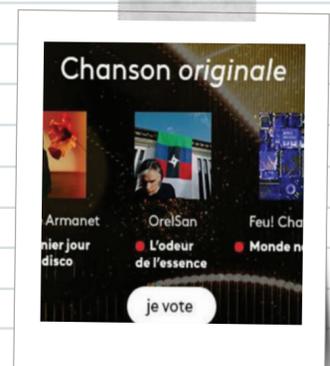


ELL DP

We studied how literature can inform the reader about a particular time and place, and through one of our novels, The Sellout, we got to read about the African American experience in the modern United States in a satirical book about race and politics. The students engaged with the material in many ways, and got to expand upon our work in class in their efforts at close reading and annotations of the book.

FLA MYP 4

Over the last five weeks, we have focused on a very entertaining facet of the French culture - "Les Victoires de la Musique" - equivalent to the Grammy Awards or the Brit Awards. We have spent some time during class listening to the five songs nominated in the category "Chanson Originale". Studying those songs has been a great opportunity for the students to explore various French music genres - pop, rock and rap - and getting to know prominent French-speaking artists. It has been a refreshing way to expand our vocabulary as well. We casted a vote for every song and by systematically justifying our vote, we have learned to express our opinions in a structured and nuanced way. But most of all, this musical journey has enabled us to work harder on our pronunciation. Both MYP4 classes voted for "L'odeur de l'essence" by Orelsan - a very political song! - and we are eagerly waiting for this 37th ceremony on Friday 11th February to see if the French agree with us!



Visual Arts MYP 3

In Visual Arts this term, MYP3 students have been brightening up our new school by creating tape murals. MYP3 students are working in small groups to create unique murals for our school community. The unit 'Tape it Up' focuses on the Key Concept of Relationships with a Global Context of Personal and cultural expression. With this in mind, students began researching about tape muralists that interested them and made a small presentation about what ideas and styles they found inspiring by these working artists. Students then used the ideas and inspiration from the artists they researched, as well as those presented to the class to plan their own murals. Students sketched ideas individually before bringing their ideas together with their group and creating a collaborative final idea. In the last few weeks, MYP3 students have begun to realize their ideas all over the Junoplantsoen Secondary School bringing our students' personalities, color and life to our new environment. We are looking forward to seeing the finished murals soon!

