

**Nursery & Infant School**

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Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2007

Dear Parents,

I should like to welcome you all to the new term at the British School of Amsterdam and hope that the coming year will be happy and productive. We are joined this year by Mr Nigel Rackham who is replacing Mrs Mansbridge as Deputy Head of the Upper School. She is now safely in the UK awaiting the imminent birth of her first child. Also joining us are Mr Neil Schofield (English and Drama) and Mrs Lynn Shore (Year 6). We wish them a happy time here at the British School.

We said goodbye at the end of term to a number of students too but I am very happy to inform you that our pupil numbers continue to grow. We have over 190 students now at the Upper School – we are just 9 students short of tripling in size over the last three years. We now have three Year 5 classes, three Year 6 classes, two year 7 classes, two Year 8 classes, one Year 9 class, one Year 10 and one Year 11.

There has been a change in the structure of the day for Upper School. We now have 7 lessons a day rather than 6, although only for Years 7 and upwards. This is to allow for an Enrichment Programme to take place on Wednesday afternoons. The programme will include the opportunity to go sailing, kayaking, do fencing, Ceramics, Drama and Music. The programme will rotate over the year giving opportunities for Ice Skating too. Additionally, the students in Y10 and Y11 will be given the opportunity to begin the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. This is a very exciting development for us.

The students will be issued with a new Homework Diary and we should like to rely on your support as parents in encouraging the children to use it. You can help by checking the diary weekly and signing it. The form tutors will also be checking them regularly. We shall also be offering two homework clubs after school and another during one lunchtime. Details of this will be coming out shortly.

Finally, I should like to say that we will be offering school dinners to every student this week free of charge. Those of you who wish to continue with school dinners can do so at a charge of 50 Euros per fortnight, beginning on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Laytham  
Head of Upper School