



In the first Newsletter of the year we would again like to welcome all „old“ and „new“ parents and pupils and allow ourselves to begin with parents' association matters:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All parents are once again invited to attend this year's parents' association AGM on **25th October 2007** at **19.30** and we really hope that many of you will be able to come this year. The AGM is your chance to get to know your parents' association representatives and to get involved yourself. The European School system gives parents the right to be represented with the school management, teachers and pupils and member states on the Board of Governors and therefore it is important that we are active and take advantage of these opportunities.

There are many vacancies on the parents' association board this year and we would greatly welcome your participation in either offering yourself as a candidate or proposing someone you think would make a good contribution to the association's work. Candidates are required from all sections of the school.

An important part of this year's AGM will be to thank some of our long-serving board members, Mrs. Gabrielle Stärker and Mrs. Claudia Pap, as they leave the board.

MEMBERSHIP

The parents' association represents parents' interests within the school and on the Board of Governors in Brussels. The association is a non-profit making organisation and membership is voluntary. The annual membership fee is currently €15 per family.

Membership of the parents' association automatically involves you in a dialogue with the school community and gives you a number of concrete advantages:

- The PA offers support in solving conflicts which may arise within the school.
- The PA supports many important activities which pupils may be involved in and which are part of the rich variety of school life at the ESK. In recent years we have been able to offer subsidies to the „Abi-Ball“, pupils taking part in the Model United Nations and the Model European Council, pupils taking part on other study trips, the Kangeroo Maths Competition, the St. Martins' procession in the nursery and primary school and much, much more.
- In special cases of financial hardship we are also able to support members in order to allow individual pupils to join in with class trips or study trips.

You will find further information and membership forms on the ESK website (www.eskar.org) or from the parents' association office which is on the first floor of the admin block and which has the following opening hours:

Thursday	08:15 - 12:12	Fr. Meyer (Transport)
Friday	10:00 - 12:00	Markus Gammelin

If you are already a registered member you need only pay the annual membership fee at the beginning of the new school year. Your membership will be automatically extended. Membership from the previous year expires on 30th November 2007 so after this date you will need to fill in a new membership form.

Please make payment – €15 per family – to the following account:

Eltervereinigung der Europäische Schule e.V.

Kontonummer: 128597

(account number)

Bank: Volksbank Karlsruhe

BLZ: 661 900 00

(bank code)

Name des Kontoinhabers falls anders als Familienname _____

(Account holders name)

Angaben über Kind/er: Vorname, Familienname, Sprachsektion/Klasse KG/GS/OS

(Children's details: full name, language section / class – nursery, primary, secondary)

INTERPARENTS MEETING AT THE ESK

We are pleased to be able to welcome parent representatives from all European Schools to the ESK on 18th October when we will be hosting this year's first Interparents meeting.

Interparents is the umbrella organisation of the European Schools parents' associations which represents the parents' interests in Brussels within the Board of Governors. It is therefore an important organisation for all of us. Interparents meets 4 or 5 times a year, usually in Brussels, to discuss issues, agree policy and prepare for the Board of Governors' meetings. Once a year this meeting takes place in one of the other schools. This is a way to get to know the peculiarities of each school, understand better the circumstances of each one and be able to represent their situation towards the BoG. This year it is Karlsruhe's turn to host this meeting and we are looking forward to making our partners feel welcome here.

Our guests arrive on Thursday, 18th October and are then invited to join an informative tour of ITU. In the evening we plan to take our guests to the Badische Brauhaus. If you are interested in the work of the parents' association and especially in the work of Interparents you may take the opportunity to join us and our guests there. It is important that you let us know of your interest per email to the parents' association by 10th October at the latest, so that we can make the necessary arrangements with the Brauhaus.

On Friday, 19th October, Interparents will begin with its real work and has, as usual, a very full programme.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Dear Pupils,

All new extra-curricular activities begin in October. Some courses still have free places, eg.

Chinese for beginners, Art I, Football as well as all upper school sports activities.

You can find all the details on our website at www.eskar.org - *Elternvereinigung - Außerschulische Aktivitäten.*

If you have any queries you may contact me on sabine.chenu@gmx.de. Please register using the forms you will find on the website (www.eskar.org) or on the table in front of the parents' association office in the administration building.

And don't forget! Your family must be a member of the parents' association in order for you to join in with the extra-curricular activities. Membership forms can be picked up on the website or from the parents' association as well.

Have fun in all our great school clubs!

Sabine Chenu

SCHOOL LIBRARY

We would like to take this opportunity to refer you once more to the Online-Catalogue of the school library. Interested pupils and parents can access the catalogue via the school's homepage www.eskar.org by clicking on the link *Bibliothek-Katalog*. Here you can not only research in our stock but also check your own account or your child's account, renew books or contact library staff.

All you need to access this facility is the account number which you will find on the Bibcard under the barcode and the date of birth. We also print the account number on any reminders or correspondence sent to pupils in the primary school or secondary classes 1 – 3. Please contact us at any time if you have queries regarding the library.

We would also like to say a very big THANK YOU to all mums who help or who have helped in the school library – many have worked with us for many, many years. Thanks to their support we have always managed to maintain our opening hours and thus to open the wonderful world of books to all classes in the primary school. All our helpers work with enthusiasm and pleasure and give our library its friendly, positive atmosphere.

Best Regards

The Library Team
Renate Kirmse, José Krijnsen

NEWS AND DATES FROM THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT

Dear (new) parents - Welcome (again)!

It is really difficult to feel pessimistic in the European School Karlsruhe:

- We have started with many more pupils than last year. In the Nursery alone there is an increase of more than 45%. We again had to say no to around 400 families wanting to enrol their children in ESK this school year. This, of course, is always sad and difficult.
- The school's intake area is growing, especially in the direction of Strasbourg and Heidelberg, but also to include areas around Mannheim and Stuttgart.
- We have said welcome to many new members of staff, including our new Deputy Head for Nursery and Primary, Mrs Dana Pavličíková from the Czech Republic.
- Parallel to the daily importance of teaching, pupils, parents and staff are already involved in many activities in and outside of the school – well actually, inside and outside of Karlsruhe and Germany.
- Mrs Furtak, our Bursar, is at work on our new security concept (a thank you goes to all parents who participated in the preparation) and Mr Da Torre, our Deputy Head for Secondary, is very engaged with our new school rules and value basis (again thank you to all parents who participated in the preparation).
- Mrs Pavličíková, Mr Quéré, ITU, the Institute for Transuranium Elements, and I are intensively negotiating with the City of Karlsruhe about establishing a new institution for 0 to 3 year olds on the premises of the ESK. MoMi has added NaMi (Nachmittagsbetreuung) to its programme which means even better service for our families.

- On 15th November 2007 a big celebration will officially start the building of our new canteen. Guests of honour on this special day will be the Lord Mayor of Karlsruhe, Mr Heinz Fenrich, (who is also a grandfather of two of our pupils at ESK) and Mrs Renée Christmann, Secretary General of the European Schools.
- Normally we do not like to involve parents in financial developments but you might like to know that the school budget 2008 is approximately the same as was the budget for 2000, namely EURO 12 million. In 2000 the EU Commission contributed more than 60% to the budget (EURO 7.8 million). Now it is only around 20% (EURO 2.8 million). This is due to direct contributions from the City of Karlsruhe, from the Baden-Württemberg government and it is also due to the school fees you pay. We are grateful and will, in future, do our utmost to keep the school fees as low as we can.

I look forward to another year of good cooperation for OUR European School Karlsruhe. To be your Headmaster is a privilege which I enjoy each day.

Tom Høyem

NEWS AND DATES FROM THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

New Head of Nursery and Primary

Dana Pavličíková, the new head of the nursery and primary school, took over the reins at the beginning of the new school year and is already well-known to many of you. In the name of the parents of the ESK we would like to welcome her.

Mrs. Dana Pavličíková is very pleased to be at the ESK and would like to take this opportunity to introduce herself and tell parents something about herself.

Mrs. Pavličíková comes from the town of Prachatice in the Czech Republic, which is in the three-country triangle formed by Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic.

She has been working in education for more than 25 years, ten of them as deputy head of a Czech primary school. Mrs. Pavličíková worked on a number of school development programmes and was honoured with a prize for her work at the Educational Research Centre in Prag.

Through developing and working on school partnerships with schools in Bavaria, Austria, Switzerland and working on Comenius projects with schools in Denmark, Greece, Cyprus and Slovakia Mrs. Pavličíková has developed a multicultural, European spirit and she already feels at home in our multinational community.

Mrs. Pavličíková has two daughters who are currently studying in the Czech Republic.

SEPTEMBER IN THE NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Building improvements - Block B has started the new school year with freshly painted walls and door frames in the corridors. The new toilets were also ready for the beginning of the new year.

The Welcome Ceremony for new pupils in the assembly hall was again a great success. Thank you to all pupils and staff who organised the programme.

Lecture - Pupils in year 5 and years 1 and 2 of the secondary school were invited to attend a lecture about the endangered African white rhino.

Opening of Otto Herbert Hajek's exhibition in the ZKM Karlsruhe on 14.9.07. Mr. Høyem and Mrs. Pavličíková took part in this opening. Mr. Hajek is an honoured citizen of the town Prachatice in the Czech Republic, where there is a cultural centre named in his honour. Mr. Hajek's grandchild is a secondary pupil at the ESK.

African Days – Pupils in years 3 to 5 experienced African culture through song, dance and storytelling on 17.09.07.

School Council – The first meeting of the primary school council (years 3 to 5) took place with the head, Mrs. Pavličíková on 24.09.07.

OCTOBER IN THE NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sports Day – On **2.10.07** we will be ordering fine weather and the Olympic Spirit will be arriving at the ESK for a day of „Fair Play“ at this year's Sports Day. If you would like to be there and support your child / children, please let us know as we still need parent helpers.

Fit Macht Fun Woche - 08.10 – 12.10

Frau Ebert has again planned many interesting activities with the teachers of the nursery and primary schools. This year's themes and activities are:

- ❖ The food pyramid
- ❖ Everything about teeth, A teeth memory game - KG F,
- ❖ No kisses on demand - how to say „No“ - 1. GS D, E, F
- ❖ Class 2000 – 2. GS D
- ❖ Baking Healthy Pizza – 5. GS D +1. GS F
- ❖ Mixing Vitamin Drinks - Smoothies - 3. GS E
- ❖ And probably hearing tests for 4. GS

..... in addition individual classes will receive extra sports lessons in the period from 08.10 to 26.10.07!!!!

Children's Marathon - Training for the children's marathon will begin again in October. The first session will be with Mrs. Graham on 8th October for a group of 4th and 5th year pupils.

Another Day in Africa – On 23rd October from 13.30 to 14.30 pupils in years 1 and 2 will also be „visiting“ Africa through storytelling, song and dance.

OTHER NEWS

„Harmonic Tower“ and Shoe Carton Project

Both our values project „Harmonic Tower“ and our shoe carton project will continue in this school year.

Playground Construction

Preparations for the construction of a playground in front of Block A (in the autumn holidays) are in progress. Plans are available to anyone who is interested.

NEWS AND DATES FROM THE SECONDARY SCHOOL

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening for all secondary classes is Thursday 4th October.

GETTING INVOLVED IN THE NEWSLETTER!

The newsletter is written by parents for parents. I would therefore be pleased to include your contributions to this important source of information and communication.

Please send any contributions or queries to: Andria Mang (mang.ag@t-online.de)

You can always find the most up-to-date information at www.eskar.org

DISTRIBUTION OF THE NEWSLETTER

If you do not yet receive the newsletter by email please give your email address to your class rep, who will then be able to send you future copies of the newsletter.