

VNS Newsletter

January 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! All of us at HSV and the VNS location wish you a healthy and prosperous 2017.

January is a dark, cold month, with few of the festivities that feature in the closing months of the year. However, it is a time to look forward and once again refocus on school business: learning! All year groups have begun a new IPC theme of learning and class teachers will be contacting you with the curriculum aims for this half-term. Visits are being planned and we expect lots of exciting learning!

On Monday 9th January, the staff said goodbye to Mr Grijze, our Executive Director who has retired after more than 42 years in education. We also welcomed Mr Hans Van der Vlucht who will be the interim Executive Director. We also welcome Ms Manon van Pagee, who is Australian who has most recently worked in the AICS in Amsterdam. She has been appointed as a cover teacher whilst Ms Katie is on maternity leave. She will cover classes whilst teachers work on special projects. We hope she will enjoy her time with us.

Kind regards,

Kay Wilson

VNS Location Leader

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HSV/VNS Location

Van Nijenrodestraat 16,

2597RM Den Haag,

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School Council

In pupil council, we have been preparing our playground safety presentation. We have been working in partners, and we have come up with either a PowerPoint or poster to illustrate important playground safety rules and handy tips.



We have started to discuss in our next meeting we will put out a suggestion box somewhere in the school. In the next few weeks, we will be asking the pupils to put forward their ideas in the box and the pupil council will decide from this what our next aim will be to focus on.

Voorleesdagen/Read Aloud Days: 25th January-4th February 2017



We will soon be celebrating the [Voorleesdagen](#) in school. This is when we invite parents and guardians to come into school and read a story to the class (in your mother tongue language). This is a wonderful opportunity for all children and teachers to listen to stories in other languages. We warmly encourage your participation in this special event - please contact the class teacher if you would like to read a story in school.

Specialist Teacher Visit Week

We will have our annual open week to see the specialist lessons of Gym, Music, Handicrafts and Dutch during the week of



6th February. Further information will follow closer to the time, but we hope that you are able to come in and see these lessons in action.

School Disco

The Parents Association are organising a disco for VNS children to be held on the evening of **Friday 3rd February.** This year's theme will be 'Carnival' so be sure to plan a suitably festive outfit! More details will follow but please note the following times:

15:15-16:15 IDR, 1 & 2 disco
18:00-19:30 KS2 disco



Forthcoming Holiday Dates, Study Days and Early Closures

Study Days

Our next study day is **Wednesday February 1st 2017.** On this day there will be no school for children in ID R, 1, 2, 3, NA 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Early Closures

School will close early on Friday 24th February at 12:30.

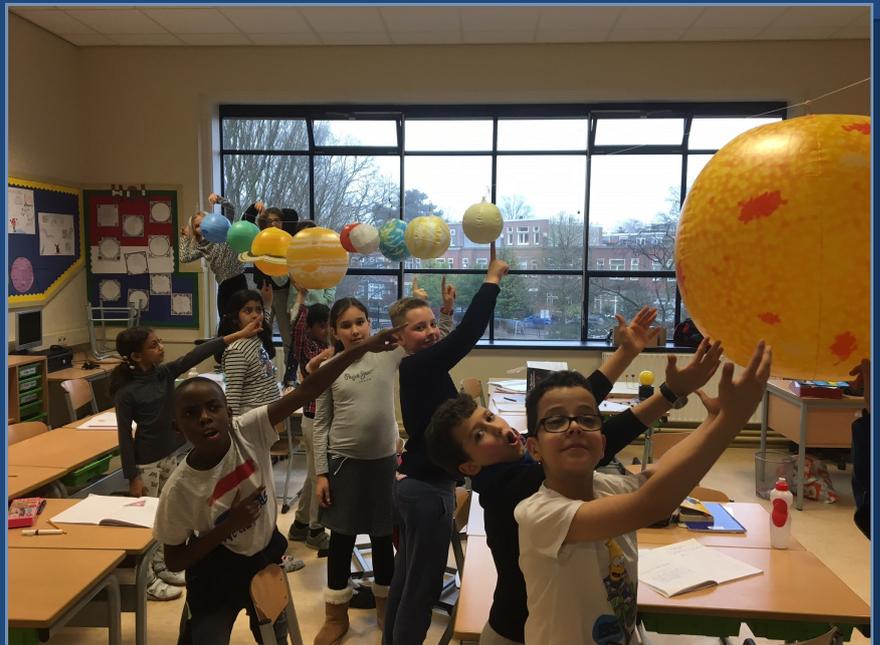
Half-term Break

School is closed for the half-term break from **Monday 27th February until Friday 3rd March.** The children return to school on **Monday 6th March.**

Spotlight on ... ID5

This term ID5 will be learning all about Space, in our new IPC topic "Mission to Mars". We have an exciting entry point where the pupils will be doing astronaut training as part of their gym lesson.

We will also be going on a trip at the end of January to the Space Expo centre in Noordwijk as part of this topic. The children will have a workshop and tutorials where they will learn more about the history of space and the astronauts involved.



In maths we are learning about fractions. We started off learning about equivalent fractions, how to add and subtract fractions with the same denominator and how to convert a mixed number into an improper fraction and vice versa.

In Literacy, we are continuing with the Power of Reading theme, and we will be studying the novel "Cosmic". The pupils will learn to draw inferences, such as inferring characters feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, justifying these with evidence from the text.