



## Pre-School & Primary School

### Thursday Pack

The Thursday Pack is our weekly communication document sent to Parents and Staff to keep everyone updated with events, updates and household business at United World College Maastricht Primary.

Thursday 23rd September 2010

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## Urgent request for help from parents for H&W



We urgently require parent volunteers on a daily basis to support the classes with the gym lessons. The volunteers will be responsible for walking the children to and from the gym facility with the class teacher(s) and supporting Ms. Carla Robinson with the Health and Wellness lessons once at the gym facility. If you are interested and able to commit to regular volunteer work, please contact Diane Clark from the PSG.

## MR: UWCM Division Council

Dear Parents and Staff,

The new division councils of the primary and secondary school had their first meeting on September 13th. Topics that we discussed were the legal background and regulations for the new councils, the plans for the new campus as well as some other current issues. More information about the council and its members can be found on the PSG board in the primary school. You will also find there approved minutes of the meetings. In the near future this information will also be available on the school's website. If you have any questions or concerns, you can send an email to [uwcm.council@gmail.com](mailto:uwcm.council@gmail.com) or contact one of the members personally.

Best regards,  
Your division council members

# Book Week

From 6<sup>th</sup> October - 16<sup>th</sup> October we will celebrate Book Week. The theme for Book Week is **Books from Around the World**, which is very appropriate for UWCM! Book Week, as usual, will be filled with fun and interesting activities related to this theme.

Please find attached the separate information letter from our Book Week Committee, Mrs. Pamela Kajero and Mrs. Alison Smeets.

## Visit by a Dutch author



On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September Mr. Jacques Vriens, a well known Dutch children's author, will be coming into school to read a part of his book to the Year 6, Year 7 and Year 8 students as part of their Dutch studies. The children have read two of his books during the Dutch lessons and on Monday he will read 'Het geheim van opa' (Grandpa's secret). The students have been given a free copy of this book and if your child wishes to have Mr. Vriens' autograph, please be sure to bring the book along on Monday so he can sign it!

Thank you to Ms. Maddy Koekkelkoren, our DAL Coordinator, for arranging this fantastic opportunity for the children! We look forward to reporting more about this event in next week's Thursday Pack!

# University Maastricht Language Centre Invitation

## Dutch lessons

Coffee, vlaai and a presentation at UWCM!



**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

In the UWCM Primary staffroom after morning drop off.

**UWCM Parents are invited to a presentation with coffee and vlaai!**

The presentation will be delivered by the Teacher from University Maastricht, who currently teaches Dutch to UWCM Primary staff! The presentation is an introduction to the Dutch language courses, which we hope to run for parents at school. If you are interested in learning Dutch or simply wish to find out more, please come along next Thursday morning.

## Third Culture Kid Workshop (TCK)

On **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October** after morning drop off in the UWCM Primary staffroom, Parents are invited to attend the TCK coffee/workshop which is hosted by Mrs. Gerda Bonten (Year 3 Teacher) and Mrs. Dorine Lemmens (UWCM Counselor).

There will be a presentation addressing issues surrounding internationally mobile families who have just arrived in a country and an opportunity to share and talk about your experiences with others. Useful advice is also offered to help you adjust into your new life here in The Netherlands. Please see the separate flyer for more details.

Parental feedback from previous workshops has always been positive and most of all you will realize that you are not alone in your fears, concerns and anxieties but most of all your desire to get the most from the experience of living abroad!

# Reading assessments and CAT testing



The reading assessments started this week. This test supports teachers with the assessment of reading skills and will inform which level of book best supports your child's reading. As soon as the tests have been completed the reading book will start to come home!

The digital cognitive ability testing will also take place over the coming weeks in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. There is nothing specific that your child can do to prepare for this test we just kindly request that your child gets a good night rest during the testing week. The results will be made available to parents as soon as the individual results have been compiled. Please find attached a separate letter from Mrs. Alison Smeets, our SEN Coordinator, responsible for organizing the testing.

## Please contact your Class Reps

Our PSG Class Reps play an important role in communication between parents and school. The Class Rep will communicate information to you about upcoming events, information and requests for help in your child's class. We as a school cannot provide the PSG class reps with your personal e-mail details because of privacy issues. **Therefore, if you wish, we kindly request that you make contact with your class rep to share your contact details. Please find below the e-mail addresses of the class reps:**

Year Representatives 2010/2011	
Pre-School	Beverley Cain <a href="mailto:Beverley.Cain@planet.nl">Beverley.Cain@planet.nl</a>
Kindergarten	Ellen Galka <a href="mailto:elliemmg@yahoo.com">elliemmg@yahoo.com</a>
Year 1	Fiorenza Boudeaud <a href="mailto:fdemonti@gmail.com">fdemonti@gmail.com</a>
Year 2	Alexandra Katerberg <a href="mailto:alexandra@katerberg.eu">alexandra@katerberg.eu</a>
Year 3	Dor Dagai <a href="mailto:dordagai@gmail.com">dordagai@gmail.com</a>
Year 4	Amy Raslevich Kelly <a href="mailto:araslevich@gmail.com">araslevich@gmail.com</a>
Year 5	Karin Potts <a href="mailto:karenliu5@yahoo.com">karenliu5@yahoo.com</a>
Year 6	Rafaella Vismara <a href="mailto:raffa.raffi@orange.nl">raffa.raffi@orange.nl</a>

# Thursday Pack

If your child has a special achievement in their hobby or interest, please do not hesitate to inform us. We always enjoy sharing the skills and successes of our school community! Please send any information to [n.cooper@uwcmastricht.com](mailto:n.cooper@uwcmastricht.com)

If you would like to include something in the Thursday Pack, please submit your request by lunch time on Wednesdays to [n.cooper@uwcmastricht.com](mailto:n.cooper@uwcmastricht.com).

## UWCM Clothing

If you would like to purchase UWCM clothes: sweatshirts, t-shirts, shorts and sweatpants, they will be for sale at the Welcome Picnic on Saturday and after school this Friday.

## After school pick up



The after school pick up is a very busy time of the day! The teachers will bring the children out of the school and your child should follow the teacher to a space in the playground where you can come and collect them. There is a very simple rule of having eye contact with the teacher before taking your child!

In order to allow this to happen smoothly we kindly request that you wait at least 5 meters away from the doorway to keep the doorway clear.

We are planning to use paint and signs to create more distinct collection areas, however in the meantime a temporary chalk line has been drawn on the floor!

We thank you for your understanding and greatly appreciate your support for a safe pick up procedure.

# Playground

This school year we aim to continue with the playground developments at UWCM Primary. A group of IB students have volunteered to support these developments and we hope to combine this initiative with the classroom Service & Learning projects.

If you have any ideas, talents and or contacts that you feel could support this project we greatly appreciate your ideas to create a better outdoor space for our children. Please e-mail [n.cooper@uwcmastricht.com](mailto:n.cooper@uwcmastricht.com)

## International Peace Day



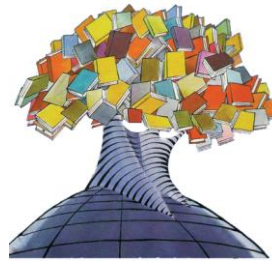
On Tuesday all of the children embraced International Peace Day! The wearing white theme really added to the spirit and the singing in the playground was wonderful. In addition every child tied their Peace Ribbon on to the playground fence, which is a simple but symbolic gesture. Year 2 and Year 3 also sang in the secondary building and created a beautifully peaceful atmosphere which was admired by the silent onlookers!



Here is the fantastic display that was made with all of the Doves that the children decorated!

Thank you to all staff who realized this event for the children and special thanks go to Mrs. Gerda Bonten our Global Concerns Coordinator.

# Book Fair



The Book Fair was a great success yesterday. Many people took the opportunity to purchase books. All proceeds are channeled back into purchasing books for the school.

## Postal Addresses of New Families

We are busy entering all of the new children's details into our administration system. In order to do this we have to have up to date addresses for all families. We appreciate that when some families completed the registration forms that addresses were not always known however we ask you to ensure that your new address has been communicated to Mrs. Gonnie Crawford, our financial bursar at [g.crawford@uwcmaastricht.com](mailto:g.crawford@uwcmaastricht.com).

## Link to the welcome guide

There have been some queries about where to find PSG Parent Welcome Guide on the website. It can be found under News Letters -> Thursday Pack -> 9<sup>th</sup> September Thursday Pack. We trust that this offers you a wealth of information!

# UWCM Welcome Picnic



**WELCOME PICNIC: Sunday 26th September** the PSG would like to invite you to our Annual Welcome Picnic held from 13:00-16.00 at school. Everyone is welcome! This is a great opportunity to socialize with old friends and make some new ones. There will be some fun activities for the children. The picnic is pot-luck! This means **you bring a dish of food you would like to share**. The food will then be set up in a buffet style. The PSG will provide drinks, plates and utensils. *Please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the notice board (outside Primary School Admin Office) or contact any of the PSG members.* For those of you who haven't had the pleasure of a welcome picnic yet, you are in for a great treat.....

## Events in the local area

25-26 September, 09:00-19:00

[27th International Dogshow](#) at [MECC Maastricht](#)

24-26 September

Pasar Malam Asia at [MECC Maastricht](#)

[Pasar Malam Asia](#) is a yearly Indo Eurasian festival that is held at MECC Maastricht.

25 September

[Flikkendag Maastricht](#), [Flikken Maastricht](#) is a popular Dutch television series about a police team which is shot in and around Maastricht and aired on Dutch television channel "Nederland 1" on Friday evening (20:30). This coming Saturday is Flikkendag and the Maastricht emergency services

(police, ambulance, etc.) will give some spectacular demonstrations on river Meuse and a few other Maastricht locations. Also, the cast of Flikken Maastricht will be present!

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I trust that this information has kept you fully informed of events to date. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me or another member of the Primary Management Team.

**Regards,**

**Catherine Copeland,**

**Principal of UWCM Primary**