



## *January 2012 Newsletter*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

### **Dear Parents,**

Happy New Year and welcome back to school. We hope you enjoyed a lovely holiday with friends and family. It is great to see the children so happy and excited to be back at school. It is a pleasure to welcome our new student, Nicolas Ntjam, to the preschool class.

### **Announcements:**

Congratulations to Lighthouse therapist, Jantien Knoester, for the birth of her son, Elias!  
New Staff: We are pleased so have many qualified volunteers and teaching support staff at Lighthouse. Colleen Peters and O.J. Akana are studying early childhood education and are doing their internships at Lighthouse. Elaine Gibb and Colleen Peters are working as both volunteers and as staff members. Our new volunteers are: Katerina Kokkinou and Natasha Panidou. We are so grateful for their support, as well as the continued support of the volunteers who have been with us over time: Angelika Matthias, Elizabeth Rutten-Ng, O.J. Akana, and Katrina Watson. We have asked our volunteers to use name tags to help you know who they are.

### **Punctuality:**

We kindly ask all parents to bring their children to school promptly in the mornings and to collect them on time in the afternoons. Arriving on time gives the children a good start to the day. At the end of the day, teachers need time to meet with each other and to prepare for the next day.

### **Fundraising:**

Many thanks to those who participated in the calendar sale which has yielded a profit of more than €250 to purchase books, materials and supplies for the classrooms.

### **School Photographer:**

It is once again time to capture a memory of your child through school photos. We have arranged for the photographer to take photos of all children and classes on the morning of **February 8th**. Please make sure that your child arrives on time and is wearing bright, colourful clothing that day! Solid colours seem to generally look best. Information on purchasing photos will be sent home once we receive them from the photographer. For those who have siblings at KSS, you will have the opportunity for sibling photos on March 22, which is the day KSS will have photos taken.

### **Appreciation Tea:**

Lighthouse will host an appreciation tea for the members of the American Women's Club (AWC) for their generous fundraising support. The proceeds of the AWC gala have brought new technology, curriculum, assessments, and play equipment to Lighthouse. Please join us in our appreciation by attending the tea on February 15, from 2:00 – 4:00.

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

Lighthouse Preschool Advisory Meeting: February 2nd from 8:30 – 10:00.

Lighthouse MR meeting (members only): February 8th at 19:00.

Appreciation Tea: AWC members, parents and staff on February 15<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 4:00.

### **Parent Evening:**

Parent Evening will be held on March 15th for the parents of children attending Lighthouse and Three Little Ships. We will have coffee and tea ready from 18.00 and you will be able to visit your child's classroom as well as select books from the book fair. Parents evening will finish at 20.00. We hope that many of you will be able to come to the parents evening to spend time with your child's teachers and to see some of the activities that your child has been working on during the year.

### **Book Fair:**

On Thursday, March 15th we will be holding a book fair with representatives from Usborne and Rainbow books. These are excellent quality children's picture books with a good selection of both fiction and non-fiction. The fair will be open from 14.00 – 15.00 and from 18.00 – 20.00. We encourage you to browse through the selection of books with your child. If you are unable to come, you may send a maximum of € 10.00 with your child and the teachers will help him/her to choose a book within the price range. Please send the money in an envelope with your child's name on it. The more books that are sold the better, as the school will receive free books to the value of 10% of all sales, so please come and buy. I am sure there will be books to please all of the children as well as their brothers and sisters.

### **Adult Education Spring Signup at the American School:**

Online Registration Open or Register In Person on January 18th-19th: Online registration for the Spring Semester of the ASH Adult Education Enrichment Program is now open at [www.ash.nl/adulted](http://www.ash.nl/adulted) until Sunday, January 29th. There are many new and exciting tours and culinary, language, health and fitness, arts, personal growth classes this semester. Register quickly to ensure your place. You can also sign up in person at ASH in the front lobby on Wednesday, January 18th (08:30-10:00 /13:30-15:00) and Thursday, January 19th (08:30-10:00/14:30-16:00).

If you do not have internet access or a Dutch bank account, come and sign up in person where cash or PIN payments are accepted. Take advantage of this wonderful enrichment program to learn a new skill and make new friends.

### **School Closures**

**Spring Holiday:** February 27 - March 5 (March 5th is a teacher study day-no school for children). School closes at the regular time of 3:00 on Friday February 24th.

**Easter Weekend:** School will close at 12:15 on April 4th and will reopen on Tuesday, April 10th. (April 5th is a teacher study day-no school for children).

**Study Days remaining this year:** There is no school for children on: January 27th, March 5th, April 5th, June 4th.

### **Website**

With thanks to Mrs. Michela Quaglia, our websites are updated frequently and offer a quick way to keep up on school-related information. Please take a minute to browse our websites at [www.lighthouse.nl](http://www.lighthouse.nl) and [www.threelittleships.nl](http://www.threelittleships.nl).

*Sincerely,*

*Cynthia Jaeger  
Director of Special and Preschool Education*