

**Three Little Ships
Parent Advisory Committee
Agenda/Minutes
October 27, 2011**

Committee Members Present: Cynthia Jaeger, Tara Vandertoorn, Susan Obuchowski-Berman, Julien Afolabi, Jeannie Brenne, Franziska Eckelmanns

Greetings and Introductions –

The discussion of an appropriate day and time to hold the TLS Parent Advisory Committee meeting, to ensure attendance by interested parents, resulted in the decision to have the meetings on Thursday mornings from 8:45 –9:45.

Purpose of the Parent Advisory Committee –

It was determined the committee should understand the rules and protocols of the preschool, discuss issues of interest and concern and determine an appropriate course of action, and be a means to get to know and work with other parents of TLS to contribute to the preschool in a positive manner.

Assignment of Parent Advisory Committee Roles –

The requirements of the positions were discussed and parents volunteered for the following roles:

Chairperson – Tara Vandertoorn

Secretary – Susan Obuchowski-Berman

Treasurer – Julien Afolabi

Art Masterpiece Program - Carolyn Thompson, a former parent of TLS, is interested in bringing this program to the preschool with the assistance of other TLS parents and high school students from the American School of the Hague (ASH) who are earning volunteer service credits.

The Art Masterpiece Program takes place in the ASH Elementary School and is run entirely by volunteers from the school community. These volunteers (a.k.a. Art Guides) help foster an appreciation of art through classroom discussions and assisting in student projects that are grounded in particular works of art, but also flow from the experiences of the students themselves. Students, teachers, and parents alike learn not only how to look at art, but also about core visual concepts and have a lot of fun in the process. The ultimate goal is to encourage children of all ages to contribute and to demonstrate how beautifully open-ended art works are.

The Parent Advisory Committee will work with Carolyn and coordinate the program activities with Genevieve for the preschool class.

Fundraising Activities -

The preschool students are currently making pictures with themes including winter, trees, doves, reindeer, etc. that will be used in the creation of holiday cards. A set of four cards will be sold for eight euros, and two euros per sale will go to the school. Card samples will be available at the Parent Evening on November 17th and orders will be taken at that time.

Another fundraising activity the Parent Advisory Committee will undertake is the creation of a self-portrait gift mug through Countryside Art, a school giftware company based in England. The Earthenware mugs will provide a class portrait of TLS students and teachers and each child's portrait will be drawn by the students themselves. An example of a similar mug is available in Cynthia's office. It is estimated the mugs will be available for purchase, at a cost of five euros per mug, in time for the December holidays.

Usborne books and Rainbow books will be sold at school on November 17th from 14:00 – 16:00 and from 17:00 on though the duration of the Parent Evening. A portion of the sales from these books will go directly to the school (30% from Usborne books and 10% from Rainbow books).

Scholastic Book Club information flyers and letters will be sent home with TLS students shortly, and describe the simple process parents can use to order and pay for Scholastic books on-line. Book orders will be delivered to the school and can be claimed while you are dropping-off or picking-up your child. The school will receive 10% of the costs associated with the book purchased by TLS/Lighthouse School families.

Coordination of TLS Parent Advisory Committee with the Activity Committee –

As there is a duplication of topics and efforts between the two committees, the possibility of coordinating the meeting dates and times was discussed. However, due to the fact that the best time for the Parent Advisory Committee meet is Thursday morning and the meetings for the Activity Committee are typically held in the evening, the subject remains undecided and will be discussed further at the next Parent Advisory Committee meeting.

The Next TLS PAC Meeting –

The meeting will be held on Thursday, December 1, 2011 from 8:45 to 9:45.