The Merite Jeunesse activity should restart in January with the School, APEEEL2 and Merite Jeunesse Luxembourg collaborating together. This year the coordinators of the programme are Mrs Fiona Ruxton, an L2 English teacher at Lux2 and an experienced Merite Jeunesse coordinator, who continues to be involved in running the program at the school and Ms Hayley Montague, an external expert, who has experience running Merite Jeunesse programs in other schools in Luxembourg.

Mérite Jeunesse is part of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award. The Award is based on long-term participation in three areas: **a physical activity**, **a skill and volunteering**. There is a fourth section which is often the highlight of the Award – the Expedition.

- At Bronze level (aged 14 and up), students complete a two day, one night expedition.
- At Silver level (aged 15 and up), it is three days and two nights.
- At Gold level, it is four days and three nights.

Each level of the Award requires two expeditions, a practice and a qualifying. The Award allows students to develop key skills of organisation, teamwork, leadership and time management.

To prepare the expedition and to learn how to hike and camp on their own, pupils will attend a weekly session (lunch time on Thursdays).

There are 3 levels: bronze, silver; and gold. Each level is usually completed in a year and awards are presented to the students at a ceremony after they have completed a level. More information about the award can be found on the following links http://merite.jeunesse.lu/ and http://mjlux2.org/ and http://www.intaward.org/

The fees for Merite Jeunesse have increased this year in Lux2 because teachers who previously coordinated the program left the school last year and we now need an external expert to join the Lux2 team. The fees for the different levels are as follows:

Bronze – 4th year	200 €
Silver – 5th year (did Bronze last year)	250 €
Silver – 5th year Direct Entry (did not do Bronze last year)	270 €
Gold – 6th year (did Silver last year)	290 €

Payments should be made by bank transfer to APEEEL2 (IBAN **LU05 0019 3855 8091 6000**). Please indicate MJ + Name of your child + level + class + section

There is a minimum number of participants that must subscribe to Mérite Jeunesse in order for it to go ahead.

<u>Pupils must register by 18 January 2018.</u> Inscriptions will be valid only after payment has been received. Fees will be returned to those who have paid if the minimum number of paid-up participants has not been achieved by the cutoff date of 18 January 2018.

Classes will begin on Thursday, 25 January. They will be held each Thursday and students will have the choice of attending one of two sessions being provided during the two lunch breaks: 12:20 – 1pm or 1:15 – 2pm.

Once all registrations have been submitted we will be able to finalise our calendar of events. We will aim to inform you of the dates of activities in good time.

If you have any questions about the program itself please contact the Merite Jeunesse team at <u>info@mjlux2.org</u> . For questions about payments, please contact APEEEL2 office at <u>office@apeeel2.lu</u> .