Feedback from the 2nd Nursery and Primary Education Council

on 13/12/21

Attended by APEEEL2 Representatives.

To prepare for this meeting, APEEEL2 consulted all Nursery and Primary Class Representatives and suggested they send us questions concerning their class. In most cases, these queries could be discussed as part of the Education Council's agenda.

Your APEEEL2 representatives attended the 2nd Nursery and Primary Education Council on Monday 13/12/21 and are pleased to share with you the main topics which were discussed at this meeting.

Review of the first trimester

Covid is still taking a significant place in the school life and teachers must adjust their daily work to the Covid-19 situation (scenario B implementation, self-tests organisation…). Despite this situation, there are many interesting projects running at class level and at cycle level.
The traditional Christmas Card Competition was organised as usual, and the school thanked APEEEL2 for purchasing the prizes for the winners. More information about the competition and the winners is available on https://www.apeeel2.lu/christmas-card-competition-2021/.
In Primary, some events could take place, such as the "Journee des langues", "Santa Lucia" in the Italian and Danish sections and "Saint-Martin" in the DE section.
The Primary library has reopened for Primary classes with visits scheduled every 2 weeks.
In Nursery, "Saint-Nicolas" and "Santa-Lucia" were also celebrated. Some classes organised a Christmas show which was recorded for parents.
Material for the pedagogical garden has finally been ordered and will be delivered soon. APEEEL2 funded part of the project.

The school has worked on 2 new documents which will soon be sent to parents:

- A *communication policy* to ensure successful learning and teaching, as well as a healthy working environment and a transparent, effective, and efficient communication between all members of the school community.
- A *behavior policy* to provide teachers, parents, and all staff with comprehensive guidance on the promotion of the desired behavior of children at our school.

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These documents were presented and discussed during the meeting. APEEEL2 remarks and comments were considered and integrated to the documents.

Possibility of opening the school at 08:00 in the morning

APEEEL2 raised this question on parents' request, as before the start of the Covid-19 crisis, the school used to open at 8:00 for pupils. The School Management explained that, for the time being, the organisation in place was the only possible option for the school considering their available staff.

Lost and found items

Parents would like to have the possibility to enter the school and visit the different L*ost and Found item*s places to look for their children's belongings. The School Management will check with the School Security Officer whether a visit could be arranged when pupils are not at school.

Soft mobility and awareness

With the winter conditions and nightfall starting early, APEEEL2 raised the question of prevention for pupils riding and walking to school. The school confirmed that this type of prevention was usually done by class teachers, but they agreed that an overall reflection was needed. Last September, P1 pupils benefited from a national measure and received a yellow jacket from the authorities.
APEEEL2 and the school should work together on a general prevention project.

School trips

We have received no update on school trips since the announcement of the Zinal's cancellation for P5 pupils. School trips for P2, P3 and P4, as well as a different trip for P5, are being prepared. Contacts and bookings are made with all the different organizations, but no action requiring a payment or with a financial impact has been processed yet.

Swimming lessons

As planned last September, Primary pupils had swimming lessons until All Saints holidays. The swimming pool is now fully busy with lessons for Secondary pupils, but due to Covid restrictions, pupils from different cycle cannot be mixed.
APEEEL2 raised the question of swimming lessons for Nursery pupils. According to the School Management, there is no possibility yet to organise any lessons for this cycle. They expect to know more before the Carnival holidays.

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Nursery pupils' arrival in the morning

APEEEL2 relayed some parents' voices complaining about the fact that, when they arrive in the morning, despite winter weather conditions, Nursery pupils must stand outdoors next to their teacher for 20-25 minutes. Gates in Nursery are open from 8:15 until 8:40. The school has implemented this organisation because parents are not authorized to enter the Nursery building.
The school explained that pupils are not actually waiting for 20 minutes outdoors, as pupils already present at 8:30 are accompanied to their classrooms. Pupils arriving between 8:30 and 8:40 leave the playground at 8:40 to go to their classroom.
The school acknowledged that it was not an ideal situation when weather conditions are bad, but unfortunately, they cannot offer any other option for the moment due to staff constraints.
The issue about incidents during breaks in the Nursery playground which are not reported to adults was also discussed. The School Management will investigate, and a follow-up will be presented at the next Education council.

More visibility for parents about Nursery

APEEEL2 explained the frustration of Nursery parents who cannot see their children's art works, as they are not allowed to enter the school building. Some parents also complained that they were not always informed about projects carried out at school. The School Management answered that it was the role of the class teacher to inform parents on all the projects done in the class. A reminder will be sent to teachers.
Parents of M2 children would also appreciate to have the possibility to visit the Nursery building before their child leaves this cycle. The School Management explained that, unfortunately, it cannot be allowed at the moment, but they will check again with the School Security Officer what could be feasible.

Miscellaneous

Parents with children needing speech therapist sessions asked for the possibility to have these sessions taking place within the school premises. The school confirmed that some experts, such as speech therapists, are already present at school, but only accessible for pupils with special educational needs and benefitting from a tripartite convention (between parents, the school and the authorities).

APEEEL2 Nursery & Primary Education Council Committee – December 2021

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