Feedback from Nursery & Primary Education Council on 21/06/2023

Attended by APEEEL2 Representatives.

Your APEEEL2 representatives attended the last Nursery & Primary Education Council for this school year on Wednesday 21/06/2023. We are pleased to share with you the main topics which were discussed at this meeting:

2022/2023 school year in review in the Nursery/Primary cycles

This current school year was marked by the resumption of activities in all projects which were stopped during Covid-time. So, it's been a busy year for the nursery and primary school teachers, and pupils have been involved in many various projects with their class, L2 groups, and/or European Hours groups.

School trips:

It first started with P5 pupils going to Zinal (Switzerland) in December 2022 for a 7-day ski trip. P3 pupils went to La Bresse (Vosges - France) in April for 5 days. P2 pupils went to Lalaye (Alsace - France) for 3 days. Lastly, all P4 pupils went for 5 days in De Haan (on the Belgian coast).

A Folk Ball was organized in May and attended by many classes with the presence of an orchestra in the Salle des Fêtes.

Sports days: These days were organized at the beginning in June at the Mamer stadium and were very successful with pupils. The School thanks the Mamer of Commune for their precious collaboration, as well as volunteer parents who accompanied the children. APEEEL2 also underlined the great help provided by some S3 students who were invited by their sports teachers to assist during the whole day.

10th Anniversary: Teachers invested a lot of time in this ongoing project throughout the school year. Work done by pupils on this theme is visible in the Primary building halls. Parents have been invited to visit this art exhibition on Thursday 29 and Friday 30/06/23. More than 400 people came on-site to admire our pupils' artwork.

P5 Football Derby with Lux1. Even though our Lux2 team lost, our P5 pupils won the Fair Play prize. The event was organized as part of the 10th Anniversary celebrations but will take place again next school year as Lux1 will celebrate its 70th Anniversary.

Maths Olympiads on Matific: This is the first time that primary pupils from our School can participate to these Olympiads. Some of our pupils won with very good results. Matific is an online learning platform for Maths which will be available to all classes from P1 to P5. As this platform is linked to the European Schools' syllabi, the idea is to develop it in multiple ways.

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La Bresse watercolour landscapes – P3

New school year 2023/2024

The number of pupils in Primary should remain stable, but it will slightly decrease in the Nursery cycle.
The number of merged classes will remain the same: P1 and P2 classes will be merged in the CS, DA, DE, and HU sections as well as P4 and P5 in CS and DA sections. In the HU section, P3 and P4 classes will be merged.
As every year, some teachers will be leaving, either because they have reached the end of their secondments, or for personal reasons. New seconded teachers will arrive next school year and the School is also currently recruiting a few locally recruited teachers.
There will be a 4th P5 class in September in the FR section.
Beginning of July, all parents will receive some information about the school start, but a more complete brochure will be sent out end of August. All dates of meetings with parents will be notified in this brochure. As September is a busy month for everyone, we encourage all parents to save the date as soon as dates will be known.

School trips in Primary in 2023/2024

The School Management informed us that the school trip organization is being reviewed in collaboration with Lux1 for more harmonization between the 2 schools - even though trips will not be completely the same. Our School Management will endeavour to give more attention to sustainability as well as pupils' and teachers' fatigue. The length of the trips will be reduced, and destinations will be located at a more reasonable distance from our School, with hopefully a

positive impact on the cost for parents. For organizational reasons, all trips will take place during the second semester.
Parents will be officially informed in the brochure that they will receive at the end of August about destinations and expected costs. However, we can already share with you a summary of what has been presented in the meeting:

- P2 trip will be cancelled.
- P4 trip to De Haan is already booked and will take place in June.
- For the P3 trip, the School is working on 2 different options, either in France or in Belgium.
- P5 trip will not be a ski trip any longer, but rather a cultural trip in a European city, maybe in Germany, Belgium, or France to limit the number of bus travel hours.

APEEEL2 offered its help for consulting parents and running a survey. We acknowledged that more and more parents are concerned about the length of the bus journeys and the fact that many pupils are coming back sick or very tired from the school trips.
Despite expressing our concerns about the trip costs, we voiced our dissatisfaction that P2 trips will not be organized any longer.

Regarding Denatravel, the travel agency the School must use to organize school trips, our Management will be stricter when specifying constraints, and will insist more on looking for a pedagogical project and not a specific destination. The project will need to include various options and alternatives which teachers can choose form and select for their classes.

Transition

Transition from Nursery to Primary
The day was well organized, as M2 pupils visited the Canteen. They were accompanied by P5 pupils who took their role as guides very seriously, clearly explaining and taking care of the young M2 pupils.

Transition from Primary to Secondary
This day was also very well organized. Feedback from P5 and Secondary teachers was very positive and APEEEL2 was warmly thanked for its participation. The idea of a free *brioche* for every P5 pupil was really appreciated. More details on https://www.apeeel2.lu/p5-transition-day-to-secondary-13-06-2023/
APEEEL2 participated in a survey run by Interparents on how each European School facilitate the transition between Primary and Secondary. We are pleased to report that our School is doing much more than the other European Schools in terms of transition. APEEEL2 is proud to support all these events, as we know how they can considerably reduce the stress of future S1 pupils.

P5 Ceremony: The yearly event is planned for Wednesday 5/07 and all P5 parents have been invited. We expect again this year a well-attended and enjoyable ceremony. Once more, APEEEL2 is pleased to support this event and offer snacks and drinks after the Ceremony.

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Miscellaneous

Nursery entrance: Some plants in wooden boxes will replace the barriers currently in place to separate the entrance for Nursery pupils to the exit for Primary pupils.

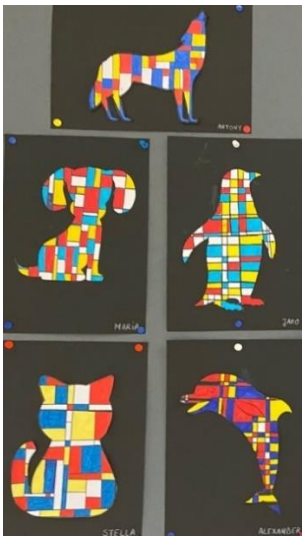
Chess project: One of the Primary Danish teachers initiated a chess project in Primary. Even though it was under development this year, it was a big success. More teachers will be trained for the project to be further developed.

Religion lessons: Upon parents' requests, APEEEL2 asked about the possibility to create a new course for the Muslim religion. Interest parents are kindly invited to inform the pedagogical secretariat, copying APEEEL2 on office@apeeel2.lu, so the School can assess the needs and contact the religious officials accordingly. We kindly remind you that any change for religion/ethics lessons in the Primary cycle is submitted to rules and should be approved by the School Management. However, it is worth making yourself known to assess needs, and see if there are enough interested pupils.

Aikaterina Raftopoulou's departure: Ms Raftopoulou's secondment comes to an end. APEEEL2 wanted to thank her for the great work she did as coordinator for the Nursery cycle. She initiated many great common projects in which all Nursery classes were involved. She also created a fruitful team spirit, and a cohesion group among Nursery teachers whose Nursery pupils from all sections have all benefited from. We wish her all the best with her new projects.

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APEEEL2 Nursery & Primary Education Council Committee – June 2023

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