



Merger newsletter

Summary

19-03-2021

Dear parents and carers of the children at Dr. Ariëns Elementary School and Holthuizen Elementary School,

In this merger newsletter summary, we would like to talk you through the steps we have taken recently.

Review of study day 19 February

On 19 February, the working groups had an enjoyable and productive session on the sub-assignments. The working groups have investigated how work is being done in both schools, where there is overlap, the differences, and how they can develop a new approach for the merger school.

Introducing: the working groups

As described in the merger newsletter of 28 January, we have set up six working groups involved in preparing for the new school year. We have now added another working group, the Educational Assistants working group. In this merger newsletter, two of these working groups will introduce themselves to you.

Partnership Working Group

As the Partnership working group, we have been given the task of ensuring that children, teachers, parents, and other stakeholders from both schools can positively form a new school. We will document the different conversations, focus on class rules/school rules/rules of conduct and 'golden weeks'.

Ownership Working Group

As the Ownership working group, we work on a wide range of sub-tasks. We have recently identified the talents and specialisations in both teams and how we can make the most of this knowledge and expertise. The working group will also define how the pupils can develop a sense of ownership; we will also deal with the reports, the professional culture within the school, and other practical matters in the groups.

Group division 2021-2022

We are currently working on the group division for the school year 2021-2022. The teams of both schools and the children are involved in these decisions, and we take into account their wishes and needs. We must also ensure that the groups fit within the available budget. Due to the combination and merger of both schools, this requires extra time and effort. We will provide more information as soon as we can be more specific about this.

Parental Consultation

In addition to letting them operate together in one building, the Stichting Keender wants primary school Dr. Ariëns and primary school Holthuizen to merge into one primary school. The Participation Council (MR) is asking for your opinion on this matter. We call this a 'parent consultation'.

The parent consultation consists of two parts: a digital survey and digital panel interviews.

You receive the digital survey on 26 March 2021 via email. If you want someone to help you complete the digital survey, please contact:

- The class parents (primary school Dr. Ariëns)
- Anke Noordink: e.a.noordink@home.nl (primary school Holthuizen)

In addition to the digital survey, small groups of parents will discuss the digital survey results. We call these meetings 'panel discussions'. The panel discussions take place digitally.

The panel discussions for parents of primary school Dr. Ariëns are scheduled for:

- 13 April: 19:00 - 20:00h
- 14 April: 20:15 - 21:15h

The panel discussions for parents of primary school Holthuizen are scheduled for:

- 13 April: 20:15 - 21:15h
- 14 April: 19:00 - 20:00h

At the end of the digital survey, you can indicate if you want to participate in the digital panel discussions.

New name for the merger school

Parents/carers and students at primary school Dr. Ariëns and primary school Holthuizen have sent in as many as 70 creative and original ideas for the merger school's new name. Out of all ideas, we will select a top 5. In the week from 22 to 29 March, each family can vote on one of the top 5 names.

If you have any questions about the merger of Dr. Ariëns Elementary School and Holthuizen Elementary School, please check the FAQs under the merger button ('fusie') on the school website. If the FAQs do not answer your question, you can email your question to VragenFusieschoolAriensHolthuizen@keender.nl. We will ensure a quick and careful response.



Timeline

This will give you a look at the timeline of the merger process. As the process progresses, the timeline will be completed further.



With kind regards,

Henri Verheij, interim Principal at Dr. Ariëns Elementary School
Mirjam Haverkate, acting Principal at Holthuizen Elementary School

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