

ISW NEWSLETTER

FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS **OCTOBER 2025**

BACKERSHAGENLAAN 5, 2243 AB WASSENAAR, WWW.INTERNATIONALSCHOOLWASSENAAR.NL



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL WASSENAAR
RIJNLANDS LYCEUM

OCTOBER EDITION

The International School of Wassenaar's Bi-Monthly Update for Parents & Students



UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES:

- **31 October** - MYP Halloween
- **3-14 November** - DP Resits
- **13 November** - Lea-Lina Oppermann visit MYP5
- **18 November** - MYP4 WWI Poetry
- **19 November** - Personal Project Exhibition
- **20 November** - Assembly
- **26 November** - MYP1 Anti Vaping Workshop



A WORD FROM MR. VERLOOP

Immerse yourself into the world of the ISW - Enjoy the newsletter!

Dear Students, Parents, Guardians and Staff,

October was a busy month at ISW. We hosted the German exchange and welcomed visiting students into classes, homes, and daily routines. DP1 spent several days on Texel, balancing outdoor activities with learning about marine biology and DP2 travelled to Berlin for their final school trip together.

Alongside these highlights, departments continued with creative classroom projects as usual.

Inside this newsletter issue, you'll find lots of photos, student reflections, trip summaries, and updates from a range of subjects and activities. Thank you for taking the time to read the October newsletter!

Kind regards,
Robert Verloop



INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Dear Students, Parents and/or Guardians,

New Application Management System

The Admissions Department is pleased to inform you that we are transitioning to a new application management system called OpenApply. This change is part of our ongoing efforts to enhance the efficiency and accessibility of the admissions process.

All future applications, including those for younger siblings of current students, may be submitted through OpenApply. You will find OpenApply on our website under “Apply Now.”

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we implement this improvement to better serve our school community.

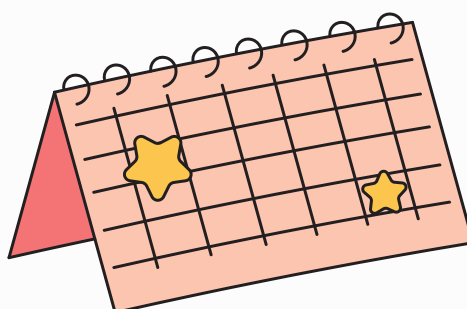
Attendance Reminder

We would like to remind parents of the importance of notifying the school office of any student absences by 8:30 a.m. each morning. Timely communication helps us ensure the safety and well-being of all students and allows our staff to maintain accurate attendance records.

If your child will be absent, please send an email to: office@rijnlandslyceum-rlw.nl or leave a voicemail message on 070 512 1801 before 8:30 a.m. on the day of the absence.

We appreciate your cooperation and support in helping us keep our attendance procedures running smoothly.

Kind regards,
ISW Administration Team



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

With the school's commitment to the MYP enhancement beta trial, service as action has now become community engagement.

The name change also comes with a few exciting updates! One of the changes is that more community engagement projects will now be directly linked to subject units. Some things remain the same, though. Everyone will still need to write a reflection after each community engagement project and the aim is still to make a positive change in our communities.

This year, our school is once again supporting the Teach Nepal Project again. Walk for Nepal began on Monday 29 September and will run till Sunday 16 November. I very much enjoy seeing the photo updates on Strava! Fundraising started a little later, but everyone has now received a QR code and sponsorship form, and the Teach Nepal Project has started to receive the first donations!

Please keep up the great work and continue to raise money. Every euro really will make a difference!

You can find the QR codes for each year group below, and more information can also be found on Managebac.

Happy walking and fundraising!



MESSAGE FROM THE MR (JOINT PARTICIPATION COUNCIL)

Julien Buc in DP2 has been elected MR student representative in the recent election. The elections were open for voting to all of our students; 259 students voted.

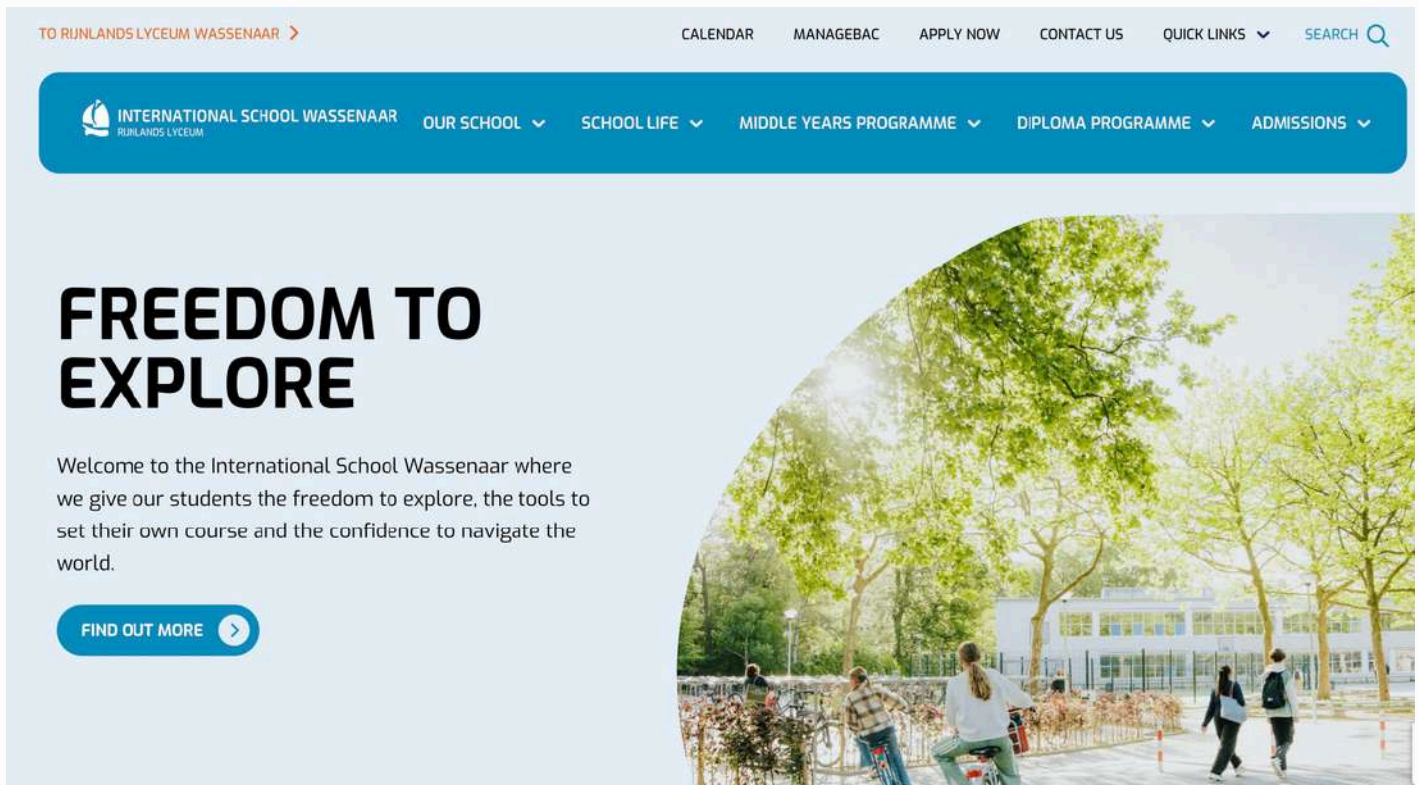
Julien joins Duarte Batenburg from 6V on the MR as a student representative. We look forward to working with them both!

Aside from Julien, ISW is further represented in the MR by Vidya Krishnamoorthy, mother of Nidhi Atre (as parent representative) and myself (as staff representative). The MR further consists of another three members of staff, including support staff, and one other parent.

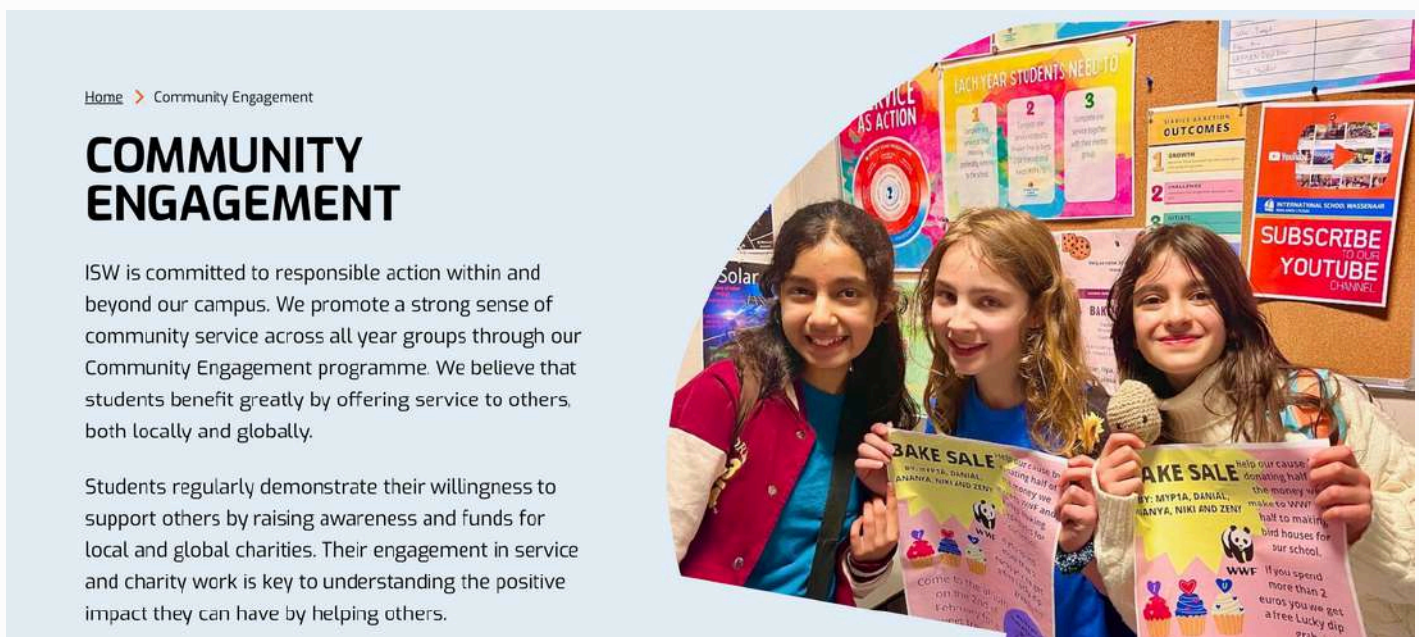
On behalf of the MR,
Vesna Anic



NEW WEBSITE



We are delighted to announce that our new website is now live! We have worked hard to include more useful information on the website. You will find information about school life such as clubs, trips, assemblies and International Award. We have also included more information about both the MYP and DP programmes, including aspects of the core such as Community Engagement, Personal Project, CAS, Extended Essay and Theory of Knowledge. Potentially most importantly we have a new look calendar which we will be keeping up to date.



[Home](#) > [Community Engagement](#)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ISW is committed to responsible action within and beyond our campus. We promote a strong sense of community service across all year groups through our Community Engagement programme. We believe that students benefit greatly by offering service to others, both locally and globally.

Students regularly demonstrate their willingness to support others by raising awareness and funds for local and global charities. Their engagement in service and charity work is key to understanding the positive impact they can have by helping others.



GERMAN EXCHANGE

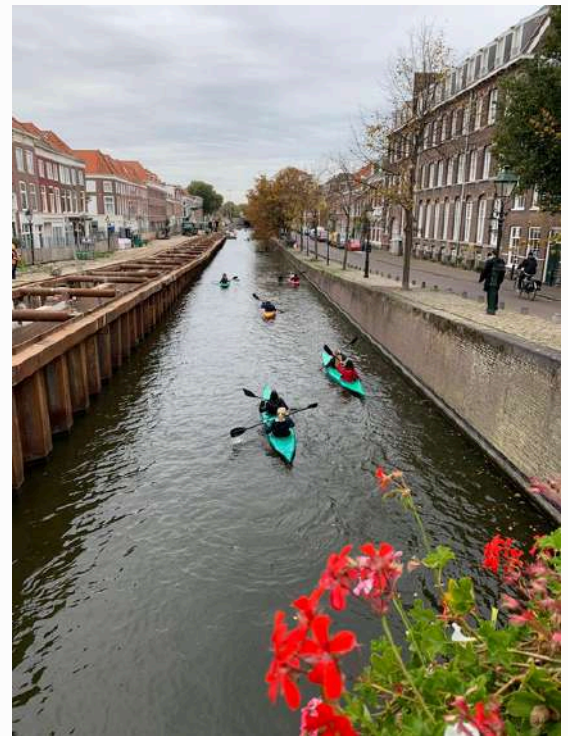
The German exchange was an amazing experience, with our exchange partners, we went to many interesting places and participated in fun activities. My favourite part of the trip was when we went to Leiden, since the museum was very interesting and we got to walk around in Leiden afterwards. I also enjoyed playing board games with my exchange partner after the long school days. I think the IB profile traits I developed were risk-taker, since I had someone who I had never met before coming to my house for a week. Overall, I had a very eventful week, and I can't wait to go to Germany!

Aliz Labody, MP4A

The German exchange was truly a wonderful and unique experience, as we met people from different backgrounds, and gave them insight into our culture. Personally, I really enjoyed when we went bowling, as I think up until that point, it was quite awkward between me and my partner. That competitive environment made it easier to bond, and was overall just more fun for everyone.

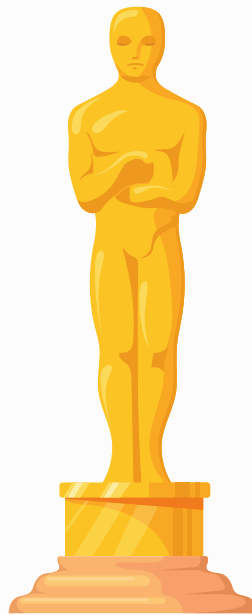
I believe it the IB learner profiles it relates to are, risk taker, and communicator. On both sides of the exchange (The students coming from Germany, and the host students) risk was taken, as it is quite 'weird' to have someone who you do not even speak the same language as, stay with you for a week. That brings me to the second IB learner profile trait, communicator. Due to the language barrier sometimes being an issue, we had to find other ways to bond and understand each other, like relating over cultural similarities and differences.

Ryan Gracias, MP4A



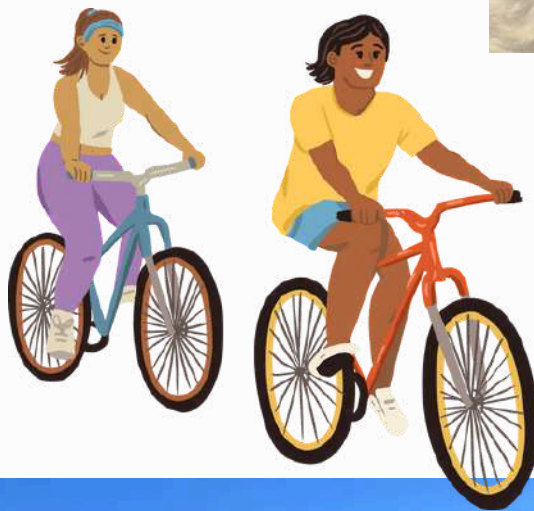
A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS

At the start of October, our MYP2 and Brugklas students rolled out the red carpet for a glamorous Oscars-themed party! Dressed to impress, students enjoyed an evening of music and fun featuring a lively disco, a cozy movie room, and some friendly table tennis competition. A huge thank you to our amazing House Captains for helping organise and run the event – true stars behind the scenes!



DP1 TEXEL TRIP

Texel may not be the first place that comes to mind for a school trip in September. The battering sea winds were a concern that had some of us worried as we left Tuesday morning, but those worries were quelled when we arrived and only validly recurred when we started biking. The days were spent minigolfing, bowling, enjoying a bonte avond, archery tag, bubble football, and even a beach battle. A lot of us learned what it was like to fly during bubble football as we crashed into each other and sent each other rolling.



DP1 TEXEL TRIP

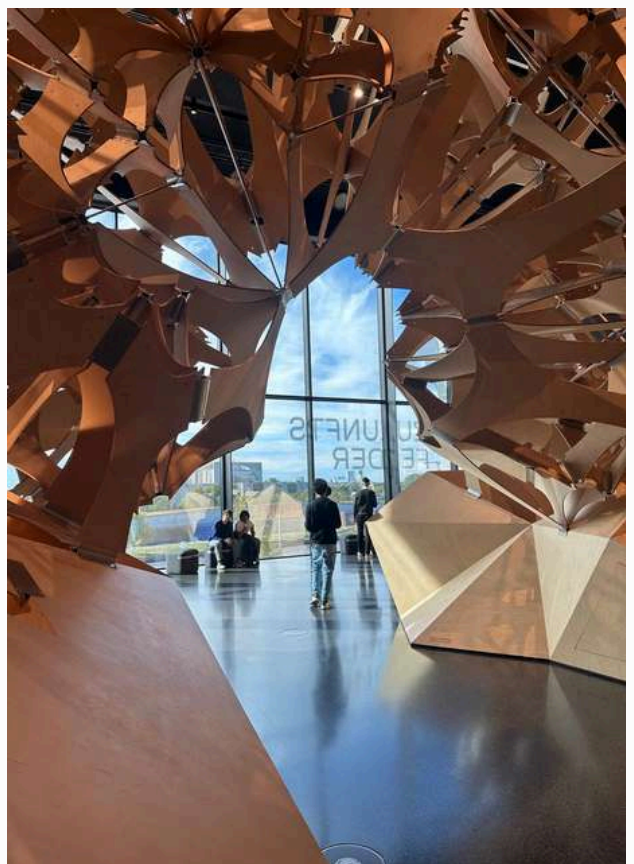
The trip included not only fun activities but also educational ones. We collected data for our biology and ESS classes (the chemistry and physics students were included). We also visited Ecomare, a seal and seabird rehabilitation center and museum, where we witnessed adorable seals being fed by the caretakers. As DP1s, we were given quite some freedom, and the allotted free time meant we could go for runs, walk on the beach, or even go to Jumbo to buy snacks. Snacks and drinks were bought and consumed at an alarming pace in our tents while we played games and chatted. Luckily, the continuous biking to get around Texel helped us burn those calories and also stay warm. I went for morning runs with my friends and saw the sunrise while a few others decided to go swimming in the North Sea. Although at the moment we were chattering from the cold and huffing and puffing from the biking, looking back it was an unforgettable and delightful experience. A hard-earned tip for next time: definitely bring an extra blanket and some hot chocolate!!

Written by Hanna Kim



DP2 BERLIN TRIP

The Berlin trip was one to remember, filled with new experiences and opportunities. Berlin wasn't just any trip, it was our home for a week. From the Berlin Wall to the River Spree, we had an absolutely amazing time. Our first day was interesting to say the least. After an eleven hour train voyage, we finally made it to our home away from home, our hostel. The first night was marked by a visit to the Brandenburg Gate and the Holocaust Memorial after having an Italian dinner.



DP2 BERLIN TRIP

Over the next three days we completed many activities from visiting museums like the Deutschland Museum and the Jewish Museum, to going on a boat tour and bowling. Our trip was made even better by our wonderful mentors who were helpful and kind while guiding us through Berlin. They truly made this trip one of a kind.

Overall, Berlin was amazing, we had time to bond with one another while exploring the depths of what Germany had to offer. Because of everyone's energy, Berlin was the perfect culmination of our time at ISW, blending education with fun.

Written by Ahmad Akhdar



ISW/RLW FOOTBALL MATCH AGAINST THE BRITISH SCHOOL

On Friday 3 October a combined RLW/ISW team played incredible football to beat the British School 5-1. Man of the match was Lidetu who scored 3 goals. It was amazing to see the students work together in both Dutch and English.



GO TEAM!

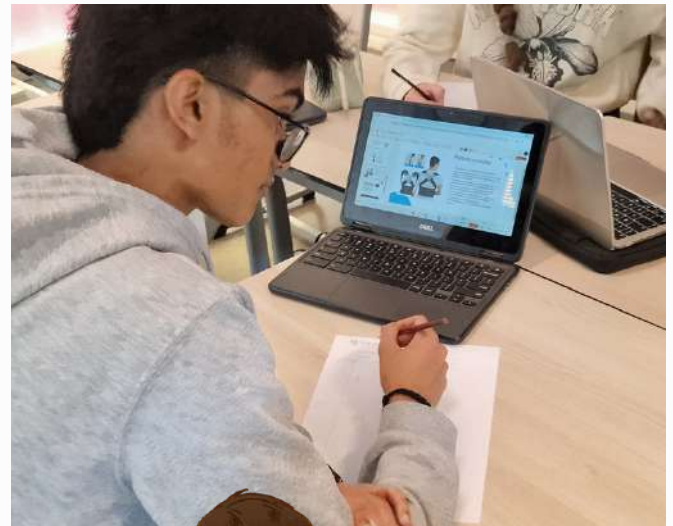


DIGITAL DESIGN

This term, our MYP5 Digital Design students took on an exciting real-world challenge, designing wearable medical devices that could help people manage or monitor their health.

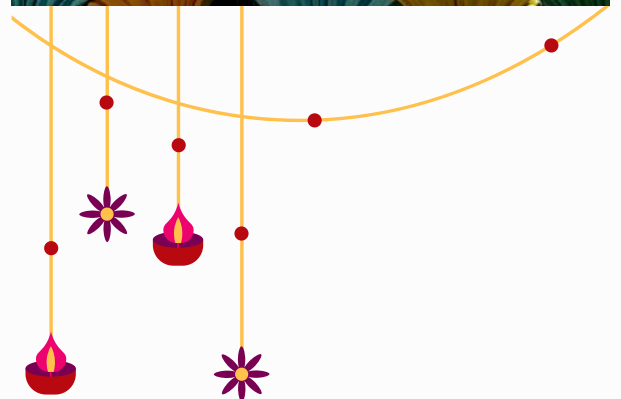
Working in teams, they researched different medical conditions and brainstormed creative ways to combine technology and aesthetics to develop streamlined product design solutions.

To make the experience even more inspiring, we invited Master's students from TU Delft who study Biomedical Engineering. They shared stories from their own projects, showed some examples of state-of-the-art medical technology, and gave our students thoughtful feedback on their ideas.



DIWALI

Our school community came together to celebrate the Festival of Lights with an evening full of joy, colour, and togetherness. Students and families enjoyed beautiful singing, energetic dancing, captivating storytelling, and of course, delicious food! A heartfelt thank you to Miss Mehta and to all the parents and students who helped make the evening such a wonderful and memorable experience.



VISIT TO THE INDONESIAN SCHOOL

On Tuesday 28 October 2025 a small group of our MYP students visited the nearby Indonesian School to join in the celebrations for “Bulan Bahasa Indonesia” (the Indonesian Language Month).

The students were greeted with a Sumatran Welcome Dance after which our students recited four poems in the Indonesian language. The students were then taught how to make Indonesian fried rice and chicken skewers with spicy peanut sauce (Nasi Goreng with Sate Ayam). We all had the chance to eat this delicious Indonesian food during a communal meal which was a great opportunity for our students to get to know some of the students from the Indonesian school. We hope to do more events with the Indonesian School in the future.



CHESS CLUB

The Chess Club meets every Tuesday during lunch break. It is open to all students who would like to play chess in a relaxed and social setting. Students from different grade levels come together to enjoy the game, practice their skills, and connect with others who share an interest in chess. There is no need to register – everyone is welcome to join whenever they wish!

Mrs Asli



MOVIE NIGHT

Our MYP1 students enjoyed a cosy Movie Night with their mentors – complete with pyjamas, teddies, crisps, and drinks! It was the perfect way to unwind together after a busy week and enjoy some relaxed Friday fun.

