



# Merger newsletter

Summary

19-02-2021

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.

## **A look back on the study day on 2 February**

On Tuesday, 2 February, the working groups worked digitally on their partial assignments to prepare for the new school year. We look back on a successful joint study day.

## **Introducing: the working groups**

As described in the merger newsletter of 28 January, we have set up six working groups that are involved in preparing for the new school year. In this merger newsletter, two of these working groups will introduce themselves to you.

## Working Group Support Needs

We have been instructed to identify the support needs of the different groups. This information will help us best combine the groups for the next school year and maximise the support. The group division proposal is discussed with the management and the team and finally submitted to the representative advisory board.

## Working Group Relocating and Moving in

We are working on the new name for the merger school. More information about this will follow soon. We also focus on the introduction/collaboration of the pupils of both schools. We are organising an exciting and fun communal closure of the current school year and the opening of the new school year.

In the next merger newsletter, two other working groups will introduce themselves to you.

## **A look back on the 28 January information meeting**

On 28 January 2021, we organised an information meeting on the merger of the Dr. Ariëns and Holthuizen primary schools. The report of this information meeting is available. Parents/carers received the report by email on 19 February 2021. You can also read the report on the websites of both schools under the 'Fusie' (merger) button.

## **Communication**

Several weeks ago, you received the communication plan. This is an internal (work) document, which was accidentally distributed more widely among both schools' parents. The communication plan was created after interviews with parents, team members, management teams and the municipality. In terms of content, we would like to make a brief comment on the following:

Both schools are grateful for the intensive participation of parents/carers, the participation advisory boards and the parent councils. However, it has proven difficult for some parents, because of a language barrier and limited digital skills/capabilities, to remain involved in the merger process, among other things, during the pandemic. The communication plan has explicitly taken this into account.

## What can you expect from us in the coming period?

In addition to advisory board meetings, a preliminary investigation (already carried out) and the legally required parent consultation, you can expect several information meetings, Q&A sessions and periodic information bulletins. Once a month, we will keep you updated of everything in our merger newsletter. A summary of this newsletter is also published in English and Modern Standard Arabic. These issues will appear a bit later than the Dutch original. All merger newsletters are collected on the websites of both schools under the 'Fusie' button.

## 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

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](mailto:VragenFusieschoolAriensHolthuizen@keender.nl). We will ensure a quick and careful response.

