



3+

26th of May, 2017

Dear Parents,

Thank you very much for your visit to the school last Friday, when we presented the results of the Project Week. The presentations were certainly all a great success. So our little children, our pupils and our teachers did a very good job!

I am also happy that the flea market turned out to be a nice event and I would like to seize the opportunity to say thank you to all the dedicated parents who organized the flea market.

As you read in the letter from the president, Branko Wehnert the school has succeeded in getting an experienced headmaster who will be working at the GSIS as from the 2017/ 2018 academic year and I am very happy about that.

At the beginning of June, I will have the chance of making the so-called handing –over journey with Mr. Nagel for an entire school week, when I will be introducing him to the work and life at the GSIS.

Since the **Monday Ritual (5.6.2017)** falls on that day, he will be able to briefly introduce himself. At the beginning of August he will be taking over the running of the school and during the preparation week he will work together with the teachers in preparing for the new academic year which will begin on the 14th of August, 2017.

As in every academic year there are going to be some changes in the coming one as well also with regards to the GSIS-Team.

Our intern, **Theresa Bäuerle** will be completing her year long *Kulturweit* internship at the end of the academic year.

Ewa Martinowski, who substituted Nina Amstadt in the nursery/ kindergarten and After School Care during her maternity leave will be returning to Germany. **Frau Adamek** is also returning to Germany. She and her two children have been with the GSIS for 5 years in all.

Dr. Shome Yeboa will only be in school for two days in a week and will be working as a counsellor, translator and coordinator for the extra curricular activities. She is handing over her duties with regards to the Cambridge Programmes to Victoria Dzandza and Oko Tetteh.

Frau Sawyer has decided to go on retirement after having worked at the GSIS for 47 years. She will only be offering her extra curricular art sessions.

These changes had been planned long ahead of time . However what really comes as a surprise to us is the termination of Janine Priest’s contract. Unexpectedly, her husband had to make changes related to his profession and so the family is returning to South Africa. It is very sad for **Janine Priest** as well as for the kindergarten. I will do my best to get a new English-speaking kindergarten teacher for the beginning of the new academic year. In case you know of anyone who would qualify for the position, please let me have the person’s contact.

We will officially say good-bye to all the teachers during our End-of-Year-Party.

The new teachers who will be joining us are **Jana Schanzmann (Class teacher for 1/ 2)** and **Angela Nagel (subject teacher)**, the wife of the headmaster. Both of them are qualified teachers, Ms. Schanzmann for primary, grammar and comprehensive schools and Mrs. Nagel for Primary school.

The English team will have a new member, **Samuel Panford**. He has a Bachelors degree in Mathematics (City University of New York), much experience in teaching the Cambridge Curriculum especially the subjects Mathematics and Science. What is especially valuable is his experience with preparation towards the Cambridge Checkpoints and the IGCSE.

All the other teachers are going to remain in our team: Jana Schanzmann/ Tori Dzandza/ (classes 1/2) Danja Mäder/ Joanna Klu (classes 3/4), Mareike van Eerd/ Oko Tetteh (classes 5/6), Jörn Hoffmann/ Oko Tetteh (classes 7-9). The subject teachers, Joana Agbovi-Piper, Kevin Stepper and Kobina Baidoo Angela Bempong will also continue working as a teaching assistant in the new academic year.

Additionally, we have also been able to employ a trained **Nursing Sister Lucy Esinam Kugbe** who will be working fulltime at the school.

We will also get a new *kulturweit* intern **Elrike Reinalter** and a National Service Personnel, a student who is studying German and she will be supporting the library team, work in the Early Childhood Department/After School Care and assist with school activities.

Please check the movable pin wall for the **profile** of further information about the new teachers.

The new timetables for the next academic year are still being worked on and as always, will be distributed on the first day of school.

In the 2017/ 2018 academic year as you were informed, we will limit the teaching across classes in the higher classes. So the subjects Science, History, Geography, Social Studies will be taught in classes 7/8 **separately** from class 9. There are no pupils in class 10 for the next academic year. This implies that the learning groups are very small which will make it possible to promote individual learning even more. In all other classes we are going to maintain the teaching across two classes which is functioning well.

Most likely we will once again have about 130 children and youth in our school, 55 of them in the Early Childhood Department and 70 in school.

Our cooperations with partners and projects will continue during the new academic year as well. The **Volksmusikprojekt** participants are planning a trip to Leipzig scheduled for September 2017, close **cooperation with Chance for Children and the Ghana Mountaineers** as well as **participation in the Olympics** in the southern part of Africa. There are still some question marks with regards to the venue and date. The new headmaster, Steffen Nagel will keep you updated at the appropriate time.

Please take note of the **survey on school leavers at the end of the 2015/ 2016 academic year** on the movable pin wall. A total of 8 pupils participated in the survey. You will also find the results of the **Thuringian benchmark tests**, which serve in the further development of lessons. The results of the **Cambridge Checkpoints** are expected in the month of August.

We are also happy about the admission of one of our pupils to the Lincoln Community School in the 2017/ 2018 academic year. She passed the admission test without problems and will have a seamless transition from class 9 at the GSIS to class 10 at the LCS.

In the course of the coming days your children will receive the **registration forms for the Tft-activities** for the 2017/ 2018 academic year, please take time together with your child to decide which activity to choose. Some activities can take only a limited number, so in case the demand is higher we will have to cast lots and ensure that the activity is offered in the second semester as well.

The form with the options should be returned to the class teacher latest by **Thursday, 09.7.2016**.

The lists for the extra curricula activities in the 2017/ 2018 academic year will be on the notice board as from the second day of school. This will enable the new families to have equal chances of choosing the activities offered. As usual the extra curricular activities will begin in the second week of the new academic year.

At **5 p.m. on Wednesday, 21.06.2017** the End of Academic Year Celebration will be taking place on the basketball court. The school community will be saying good-bye to the pupils and teachers who are leaving the GSIS with a programme filled with variety. After that as usual we will have some refreshments. It would be good to note the date in your calendar.

The **yearbook** will be distributed to the pupils on 22.06.2017.

The last day of school is Friday, 23.06.2017 and the pupils will receive their report cards on that day.

I would like to wish you all a good weekend – you can contact me whenever you have any questions.

Best regards,

Ariane Pentz