

EB² NEWS

A classroom
project

Lights, Camera, Action!

The English Literature class is an additional subject, aimed at developing the language skills of students with a high level of English. It's an enjoyable class where the students get to learn about expression in the English language, through poetry, novels, theatre and other literary forms.

Grade 7, taught by Mr Glackin, spent their one hour a week taking on the monumental task of preparing a stage adaptation of *West Side Story* this school year. They will present their hard work to their fellow students and families at the end of June. *West Side Story* was originally a Broadway musical theatre show sixty years ago, and was adapted into a movie in 1961. The award-winning story, based on Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, is set in 1950s New York. We learn about the violence between two teenage street gangs of the

city at that time: The Sharks, who were immigrants from Puerto Rico and their rivals The Jets, who were of white American origins. When Maria, a young Puerto Rican girl and ex-Jet, Tony, fall in love, we see a tragic story of love, gang warfare, social issues, and death unfold. This powerful storyline enchanted the whole class who found it exciting. We interviewed some of the students to get their take on how preparations were going. Dalya (playing Maria) said it was a "very ambitious, motivating and effort demanding project". Gabriel (playing Maria's lover Tony) also thought it was a great idea and was convinced it was going to be a great play as long as everyone tried their best.

The overall opinion from the class was positive and they believed that they had learned a lot during the year, although they would



have liked more time to prepare for the final performance.

It is via the show that they will get to showcase their musical talents. There were very funny moments, sad moments where people cried, and a whole lot of singing.

We are looking forward to watching the show at the end of June before students break up for the summer vacation.

The class has not only learned about the story behind the story but also the music.

Charlie Letort and Clara Allous



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Budding Ambassadors

The finals of the 5th edition of Ambassadeur en Herbe, a worldwide debate contest, took place in Paris. Bringing students together to discuss their opinions on matters of the 21st century, this contest focuses on a linguistic and educational encounter.

Since 2012, the educational service of the AEFÉ (Agence pour l'Enseignement Français à l'Étranger) has incorporated all the institutions of its network in this global project.

This project highlights the international characteristic of the French educational establishments abroad. It also encourages students to take an interest in international issues, to think about them, and to discuss them in the context of their host country, while exercising their oratory capacities.

Ambassadeur en Herbe is a three tier contest. The first part takes place at the participants' school,



the next is on regional level and finally there is the international level. For this 5th edition, more than 10,000 students from over 100 schools participated. The regionals were held in 10 strategic world zones and the finalists gathered in Paris for a three-day event, where they debated about "the values of Olympism". This was held in the conference center of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This year, Lycée Vincent van Gogh was represented by Eléa van der Helm-Kurtycz (class 5).

"All our students participated with enthusiasm and presented really good speeches," affirms Eric Ballet, the teacher responsible for the participation of Lycée Vincent van Gogh in Ambassadeur en Herbe.

According to him Ambassadeur en Herbe is a great experience that enriches one's knowledge, and enables students to meet



people from around the globe.

"And, not only is it fun," explains Eléa, "it is also very educational. It helped me and my team to gain self-confidence."

"The fact that someone in my class won Ambassadeur en Herbe this year, motivates me to do it next year," says Yara, who was deeply inspired by this year's event.

*Yara Hariz and
Eléa van der Helm-Kurtycz*



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The Incredible trip to Apeldoorn

On Tuesday, April 18th at 7:50am, 65 students from the 5th grade were waiting to get on a bus that would take them to Apeldoorn, 110 kilometers east of Den Haag.

The bus arrived at around 9:25. The 12-year-old students followed their 5 teachers to a lovely castle. Designated groups visited the inside of the castle in order to discover how people lived in the Middle Ages. They were all curious to learn different things. After having visited every room inside the castle, the happy yet hungry students ate their lunch at a nearby park.

After the lunch break, the visitors went to a Watermuseum where they learned that water management in the Netherlands is very important and they also learned about the flood which occurred in 1953.

At around 7pm, the students and the teachers went to the youth hostel where they would stay for three days. Students were assigned their rooms (4-6 per room) and when everyone was finished preparing their rooms, they all headed to the dining room and had a delicious dinner. They went to their rooms at 9pm and lights off was at 10pm, although some people went to bed at 3:30!

The next day, the group met for breakfast just before 8am and prepared lunch before leaving to visit the Paleis Het Loo.

Everyone was given headsets which became their personal tour guides. This location picked the students curiosity as they loved learning about the story of Willem V. Lunch was then at a nearby park in the play-ground Kröller-Müller Museumd. The next destination was an art museum which had a lot of Van Gogh's paintings. Here, a contest was organized and the person who created the best painting would emerge the winner. In the end, 3 girls won the contest.

The next morning, the students went to an area where they learned how to farm and how people lived in the 1880s.

Everyone was allowed to make their own little bread and it was absolutely delicious. After lunch, the new task was to make films of approximately 6 minutes long. Everyone had fun but all things must come to an end - and that was the end of The Amazing Trip to Apeldoorn!

But all's well that ends well, right? Not quite... because, what fun is a school trip without an accident? Following snack time, a boy named Gabriel de Solages fell off a wall of the museum.

"I think I was dreaming", Gabriel recalled, "and then I felt something and then nothing else. My body hurt like crazy." Thanks to the museum's taxi services, Gabriel was safely transported to the hospital only to return 3 hours later with JUST a broken wrist.

His friends were very happy to see him. "We hoped it wasn't serious," declared Jeanne Goyon who was present when Gabriel had fallen. "We hoped he was okay and that he would come back" said Charlie Letort.

While Gabriel went to the hospital, the other students visited the yellow and green prairies of Netherlands by bike. A fun time was had by all despite the minor pitfalls. After 2 hours of biking they returned to the hostel and, upon Gabriel's return, the teachers announced that there was going to be a party. Everyone danced. It was such great fun because there was food, music but, mostly importantly, there were friends.

Gabriel de Solages



Tech News

Hey! Do you want to work on a computer but it doesn't work?! We will help you fix it!

Verify the cables:

The cable problem is common. Here is the solution.

The problem is usually with the cables going to the monitor. If you do not see 2 cables going into the monitor, then there is a problem. There should be one cable lying around somewhere otherwise you will not be able to use the computer.

Verify that the computer and the monitor are on: Sometimes, the computer monitors aren't on. Some monitors won't even go on. In that case, try to unplug the power cable. If it still doesn't work, well, you can't use it.



Apps: Did you start your session but would also like to go on the internet? Oh no, Google doesn't work! What do I do? Go to the "start" menu and search for "Firefox" or "Internet explorer", and use them instead.

Don't be mean: After using the computer do not switch off the monitor. Turn it off using the following steps: go to the "start" button, click "arrêter" and then, leave the computer as is. If there is someone waiting, please don't turn it off.

Bonus: Was there ever a moment in a class when the teacher wanted to show a video but the smart board didn't work? Here's a quick fix for the next time:



Check the TNI cables that go either to the computer or the wall. There needs to be a blue cable that goes from the computer to the wall. If it is not plugged in then... plug it in. Then check that the TNI is really "ON". If none of this works then there may be a problem with starboard tablet so open "starboard" and follow the instructions on the screen.

To prevent computers from not working, the school should put the Gigabyte BXi3-5010 on all monitors (the gigabyte computers are the ones at the Vie Scolaire). The only problem is that they cost 150 euros each. The school could also put Windows 10 on all the PC's or deactivate automatic updates: as they slow down the computers.

Emad Eghtesad and Tom Vadot

The Flying King

Recently, information has leaked out that the king of the Netherlands, Willem Alexander, also has a job as a pilot in the KLM Dutch airlines.

When flying an airplane, he is usually airborne for 30 minutes to 3 hours. Around twice a month, he makes short flights to famous cities around Europe, using the city hopper. He ended his 21 year career as a regular guest pilot on KLM fokker 70, another city hopper plane

He added cheekily that very few people recognize him as he walks through Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport, dressed in his KLM uniform and cap.

Even when he makes occasional announcements to the passengers, King Willem Alexander says that,

as the co-pilot, he doesn't have to say his name and people don't usually recognize his voice!

-“Most people don't pay any attention anyway!” he added cheerfully at the end of an interview.

Willem Alexander has given up his position as pilot in the Dutch Cargo Company: Martinair. The Dutch King is envisioning a training course to fly a Boeing 737, since the Fokker 70 fleet is going out of service, and they will no longer be available.

The 50-year-old father of three princesses, and monarch to 17 million Dutch citizens, calls flying a “hobby” as piloting planes enables him to forget his royal duties, putting them aside (on the ground) as he takes off! He prefers flying during the nighttime.



Although the information, that the King of The Netherlands was also a trained pilot, was not withheld from the public, his exact piloting schedule has been unknown until now. Willem Alexander said in an interview with a Dutch newspaper:

- “I am rarely recognized by passengers, especially since the security was tightened on board planes after the 9/11 attacks.

Before September 11th, on a day where I was flying a KLM plane, the cockpit door would sometimes pop open. As I was noticed, passengers often came to have a look, and thought it was pleasantly surprising that I was sitting there!”

Loic Ruiz-Le-Moing; Gaspard Moyroud and Olivier Krayenbuhl



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AnimeCon

What is AnimeCon?

AnimeCon is an annual conference that takes place at the World Forum in The Hague. This year's event took place from June 9th to 11th. It's a place where you can express your love for anime, cosplays, games, mangas and other forms of popular modern Asian culture.

What can you do there?

You could dress up in a cosplay of your favorite fictional character or sing the intro song of your favorite anime, or you could even test games and video games that you have never played before.

Who participates?

AnimeCon is visited by computer geeks from all around the world. There are people who come from USA, China, Vietnam and

many other places. Buyers, retailers and journalists are also present at this event.

Can you purchase items there?

Of course! You can buy retro consoles and their games, collectible cards, fan art and posters, figurines, weapons and a lot more.

Are there themes?

Yes, this year's theme was Marieke's Magical Miracle.

How long has AnimeCon been around for?

This was the 19th edition of AnimeCon. It was first created in 1999. It's also the longest running festival in the Netherlands dedicated to popular modern Asian culture.

Were there any contests?

There were a few competitions such as "Anime's got talent",



an AnimeCon quiz, Dutch manga award, Nippon Bingo, AMV (animated music video), an otaku quiz, Jan Ken Pon, Pokémon league, cosplay competitions and a lot more.

Were there any other activities?

If you thought that was all, you were wrong! There were a lot more activities, like workshops, martial art classes, manga laboratory workshops, lectures, shows and much more.

Were there any sponsors?

There were many sponsors including Wacom, Red Dot Commerce, Game Mania, Embassy of Japan, The Japan Foundation, NWTV, AFK, VUE, Game rooms, Aniway, Archonia.com, Bit agency, Crunchyroll and Bandai Namco.

Martin Afriat and Damien Hernan



by Dalya Levin and Camille Marchandau

The Pier of the Year

About two years ago, the pier of Scheveningen was closed because the owners went bankrupt. But a couple of months ago, The Hague Beachfront Committee began rebuilding the inside of the Pier and since then, it has become a Wonderland...

On the pier, you can find many fun activities, such as a Ferris Wheel. There is also a zip line that connects one side of the pier to the other and even a bungee jumping cord, where you can jump from the end of the pier, and skim the surface of the sea below.

On the Ferris Wheel, there is a VIP cabin where you can eat, as well as enjoy the beautiful view. The best moment of the day to ride in it is at the sunset.

The Ferris Wheel was the first ride to be built over the sea, and it is more than 40 meters high.

There are also many restaurants, cafes and shops on the pier. A new O'Neill store recently opened, and you can enjoy instrumental, but also vocal concerts. Festivals and events for children as well as for adults are also held there and suites with a view over the sea are available for rent.

On the premises for rent, one can also enjoy the terrace Jacuzzi and very comfortable king size beds. A mini bar and a Nespresso machine are also at the guest's disposal among other amenities. The pier is a very attractive location to go to and a person who frequently visits the pier said in an interview:

"I think that the pier has been modernized and the zip line and the Ferris Wheel will attract more visitors. I really recommend visiting the Pier."

Before the renovation, the pillars of the pier were white and grey and esthetically unpleasant. But they have recently been repainted in lots of lovely and bright colors (blue, green, yellow, orange...) by the team of Akzo Nobel. Positive comments about this new façade have been sent to the owners of the Pier and the vibrant colors can be seen anytime.

The pier, Scheveningen's new addition, is fun and attractive.

Solène Kahane and Elise Finel



WHEN THE ONLY
ANSWER YOU
KNOW ON THE
TEST IS YOUR
NAME...



GEMINI TURBINE PARK

The twins of the Future

In the North Sea, a wind turbine park was recently opened by John Brace, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Gemini, on the 8th of May 2017.

The park is one of the biggest in the world, and powers 800 thousand houses in the Netherlands with sustainable energy. Over the next fifteen years Gemini will meet the energy needs of 1.5 million consumers.

Matthais Haag, Managing Director of Gemini, said at the opening ceremony: “We successfully completed Gemini ahead of schedule, under budget and with an excellent safety record. Now fully operational, Gemini will reduce the Netherlands’ CO₂ emissions by 1.25 million tons. We are proud to make this contribution to the realization of the Netherlands’ sustainability targets.”

The Netherlands signed a treaty with the European Union for the production of green energy in the future. Other countries are trying to find ways of producing green electricity to replace unsustainable energy and fossil fuels.

The turbine park is separated into 2 sections: One section is located opposite the island of Ameland, and the other is stationed beside the island of Schiermonnikoog.

The creators of the park named the two sections Gemini, which means twins in Latin, to represent the 75 identical turbines in each part.

The wind power which ranges on a scale from 1 to 12, is powered by the 36 kilometers per hour winds from the North Sea. Though the turbines begin turning at the power of 2, 6 is the ideal condition required to produce energy. Once the wind scale reaches 10, the turbines automatically shut down, as a safety precaution.

The turbines are not unanimously accepted by the public though, as some citizens think that they are visually unpleasant while others complain about the ongoing noise that the turbines generate. For these reasons, turbine parks are more commonly erected in the ocean, far from the coast, but some do exist on land.



Telling us about Gemini’s close bond with nature, Matthias Haag says: “We worked closely with the Wadden Sea Association in order to respect the natural environment.”

Gemini marks a turning point in the way we think about wind energy. We look forward to seeing the development of Gemini, the twins of the future.

*Lucia Babic, Dalya Levin and
Camille Marchandeanu*

