



DSK NEWSFLASH

Newsletter of the German International School Cape Town



Principal's Message

Dear Learners, Parents & Colleagues!

Welcome to the new school year! We hope you all had a fantastic start and enjoyed the holiday break.

This year promises to be thrilling, as we continue to advance our school development with a focus on academic excellence, global connectivity, and sustainable growth. Beyond learning, we emphasise shared experiences, the joy of everyday school life, and countless moments outside the classroom.

The value of respect takes center stage, as we continuously engage with it in various ways and integrate this important principle into our school life.

But that is just the beginning. We eagerly anticipate an exciting and eventful year, kicking off with the Sportolympiade in the first quarter.

Warm regards
Sabrina Gellermann

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Read Sabrina Gellermann's insightful article, "How Businesses Can Support STEM Education" – now featured in **Business Live!**



IN THE FOCUS

COMMUNICATION



A strong start to the new year

Von Sabrina Gellermann

Even before the official start of the new school year, we were busy preparing. This time, we kicked things off a bit earlier with one of our key themes: communication.

Our colleagues had the wonderful opportunity to sign up as multipliers for a communication workshop. Over the course of two days, a fantastic team worked together to explore the fundamentals of effective communication and deepen our knowledge through numerous exercises.

The insights gained were then shared with all employees with great enthusiasm. It was an excellent start for our whole team, and everyone is entering the new school year with renewed motivation.

We look forward to offering more workshops in the near future, tailored specifically to the needs of all colleagues.



„KOMMUNIKATION IST NICHT NUR EINE TECHNIK UND ES IST AUCH GAR NICHT ALLES MACHBAR. WENN SIE ZWISCHEN UNS GELINGT, IST DAS AUCH EINE GNADE UND EIN GESCHENK.“

FRIEDEMANN SCHULZ VON THUN

STRATEGY

DEVELOPMENT GOALS THAT WILL SHAPE OUR
PATH FORWARD

Humanity Project

By Paulette Preyser

Our Humanity Project stands as a bold commitment to fostering an environment where respect and inclusivity are paramount. This initiative is dedicated to honouring every individual, irrespective of culture, gender, or background, and celebrates the rich diversity that defines our school community. With the Humanity Project we are sending a clear message against racism and fostering a deep understanding of intercultural connections.

Integral to this initiative is the **MOT** programme, empowering young people with the courage to confront discrimination and champion equality.

A COMMITMENT TO RESPECT AND INCLUSION

MOT is an international educational programme dedicated to empowering young people with the courage and resilience needed to make positive life choices. Originating in Norway, MOT— which means "courage" in Norwegian— emphasises self-awareness, social responsibility, and respect for diversity.

In South Africa, MOT plays a crucial role in anti-racism education, equipping learners with the tools to challenge prejudice and advocate for equality. Through interactive workshops and activities, MOT encourages learners to stand up against discrimination and become proactive agents of change within their environment.

We aim to further cultivate this mindset and approach at the DSK and are excited to collaborate with MOT over the next **three years.**

MOT

“IT TAKES COURAGE TO GROW UP AND
BECOME WHO YOU REALLY ARE.”

E.E.CUMMINGS



Implementing MOT

MOT implements its programme across three key levels:

- **Community unification:** MOT acts as a cohesive force within the community, fostering unity and collaboration. *Here, our commitment to being a “Begegnungsschule” is once again brought into focus.*
- **Integration into school life:** The programme is seamlessly woven into the school's daily routine, becoming an integral part of the educational experience. *In the first year, we will work with grades 7 to 9. Initially, senior management and teachers will receive training, followed by the Parent Council.*
- **Empowering youth messages:** MOT delivers impactful messages to every young person involved, ensuring they are equipped with the values and skills to thrive. *The MOT team was introduced during our first assembly, where the learners were the first group to become acquainted with MOT.*

Trained coaches lead the programme, utilising a didactic approach that ensures inclusivity for all participants. Through this comprehensive method, MOT successfully reaches and influences a diverse group of young individuals.

Outcomes of the MOT programme

The MOT programme instills core values that significantly benefit learners, schools, and communities:

- **Empowered and self-aware youth:** Learners develop into self-aware, active citizens who serve as role models both in school and their communities.
- **Responsible decision-making:** Learners acquire to make conscious choices, taking responsibility for their own lives and futures.
- **Culture of respect and inclusion:** A class culture based on respect, accountability, and inclusion flourishes, benefiting everyone involved.

In the next issue we will talk about

Digitalisation



Top: Sabrina Gellerman, Mbali Ndinga, Tyron Auras, Lea Schoof, Juli Schoof, Paulette Preyser

Bottom: Zachariah Hartnick, Mia Lategan, Riley Damnert, Isabella Daehnke, Isla Stauch, Milena Pugliese

Building a community

From the SRC

Giving every learner a voice

As your Student Representative Council (SRC), we are dedicated to fostering a strong, united school community where every learner feels heard and valued. Community is more than just a word—it is about creating an environment where everyone belongs, respects one another, and works together towards shared goals.

Why it matters

A strong school community empowers learners to thrive. It is a space where ideas are shared, differences are celebrated, and teamwork drives success. When we come together, we build connections that make our school not just a place of learning but a second home.

Your voice counts

The SRC is here to ensure your voice is heard. Whether you have ideas for new events, feedback on school policies, or suggestions for improvement, we want to hear from you. Together, we can address concerns and create solutions that benefit everyone.

The truth about vaping

Vaping might seem harmless, but it comes with serious risks. Most vape liquids hold nicotine, an addictive substance that can harm teen brain development, affecting memory, attention, and learning. Vaping can also damage your lungs and throat, causing inflammation and potential long-term health issues.

At the DSK we have taken the initiative to bring in Jedi, the sniffer dog. He will keep the learners safe and prevent vapes from being brought onto campus. Do not worry nor fear, he is a friendly dog and if you see him feel free to say hello.

Remember, vaping companies target teens with fruity flavours and flashy ads, but your health is more important than a passing trend. Stay informed, think critically, and say no to peer pressure. Your future self will thank you!





DATES TO REMEMBER

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL CEREMONY - GRADE 1

Wednesday, 22 January at 9:00

DIGITAL LAW ACADEMY - PUBLIC TALK

Monday, 27 January at 17:30

SPORTOLYMPIADE - INFO SESSION

Thursday, 30 January at 18:30

STAFF TRAINING (*SCHOOL ENDS AT 11:15*)

Thursday, 13 February from 11:15 to 16:00

OPEN DAYS

Primary School Tamboerskloof Campus

Friday, 21 February at 9:00

Primary School Tygerberg Campus

Thursday, 6 March at 12:30

Middle School Tamboerskloof Campus

Friday, 7 March at 9:00

SPORTOLYMPIADE KAPSTADT

14 - 20 March

CIVVIES DAYS

FRIDAY, 31 JANUARY

FRIDAY, 14 FEBRUARY

FRIDAY, 14 MARCH