

## Invitation: Children's Book Market

The Children's Book Week (*Kinderboekenweek*) is coming! It's time to enjoy great stories and discover new books. That is why we are organizing our annual rug market (*kleedjesmarkt*) on Wednesday, October 7th!

Dive into the bookshelf with your child and gather all the books they no longer read. Make someone else happy with them and snap up a exciting, funny, or beautiful new story yourself for just €1!

### Market Details & Schedule

- 08:30 AM: Children can set up their rugs and display their books.
- 08:30 – 09:15 AM: Book market sale (every book costs €1).
- 09:30 AM: Lessons start, and the regular school day begins.

### Locations by Grade

- Ground floor: Grades 1 to 3
- First floor (including the gym): Grades 4 to 6
- Second floor: Grades 7 and 8

Due to expected crowds, we kindly ask that no more than one parent per child comes inside.

Leftover Books Have any books left over? You can place them in the book swap cabinet (*boekenruilkast*) near the assembly area (*de kuil*).

Let's make it a wonderful morning filled with books and reading fun together!



## UNICEF Initiative

This year, we want to support UNICEF during our annual book market. This initiative is co-led by our Student Council, who are actively involved in organizing this fundraiser.

On October 7th, an official UNICEF donation box featuring a QR code will be located at the school entrance. Any contributions are completely voluntary.

This year's book market coincides with Children's Book Week, where we encourage children to discover the joy of reading. Unfortunately, quality education is not a given for millions of children worldwide. Especially in crisis situations, children lose their safe space to learn as well as access to education and learning materials.

UNICEF supports children in these circumstances with clean drinking water, nutrition, medical care, and protection. They also ensure children can resume learning as quickly as possible by providing temporary learning spaces and educational supplies.

Together with the Student Council, we want to celebrate the fun of reading while raising awareness for children for whom learning to read and write is not a guarantee. If you would like to support UNICEF, feel free to use the donation box or QR code at the entrance during the market.

Thank you in advance for your support, also on behalf of the Student Council!

### **Call for Volunteers: School Library Parents Needed!**

Our school library collection has grown significantly over the past few years, giving our students access to great books every day. To keep the library organized and help students find what they need, we are looking for parents who can lend a hand for about 30 minutes during school hours.

What does it involve?

- Returning checked-in books to the shelves.
- Helping children find a book when they need inspiration.
- Time commitment: Low. Each day of the week has a rotating team of parents, meaning you will only be scheduled once every 3 to 4 weeks.

If you are interested, please contact Jeanine (Group 3B) and let her know which day of the week works best for you. We will arrange a short orientation morning so you can see how it works!

### **Smartwatches at School**

As a school, we have noticed an increasing number of children coming to school wearing a smartwatch. We completely understand that many parents/carers consciously choose a smartwatch as a helpful stepping stone toward a smartphone. It provides peace of mind to know where your child is and makes it easy to quickly get in touch.

However, in practice, we notice that smartwatches disrupt the calm atmosphere at school. To maintain a pleasant, safe, and inspiring environment where children can learn and play without distraction, we ask for your cooperation regarding our school agreements.

Why we are cautious about smartwatches:

- Distraction during class: Sending messages, watching videos, or playing games subtly pulls attention away from schoolwork and lessons.
- Encouraging active play: Recess is meant for blowing off steam and playing together. We prefer to see children actively moving outside rather than looking at a screen.
- Building independence: Sometimes children call home immediately during a minor conflict, or parents call their child during school hours.

We want to help children resolve these situations independently (or with a teacher's help). This also prevents class disruptions.

- Privacy and safety: Many watches can record audio, take photos, or film. To protect the privacy and safety of all students, parents/carers, and staff members, we must handle this very carefully.

## Our School Policy:

We apply the same rule to smartwatches as we do to mobile phones:

- Phones and smartwatches are not to be used during school hours.
- If a device is visible or heard during the school day, it will be put aside by the teacher. Your child can collect it to take home at the end of the school day.

## Important to Know:

- Liability: Because we do not have lockers, we cannot securely store these expensive devices. The school is not liable for loss, theft, or damage to items brought to school.
- Emergency Contact: If you need to reach your child urgently or if there is an emergency, please contact the school directly via phone, email, or Parro. We will ensure the message reaches your child right away.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in keeping our school a calm, enjoyable place for all our students!

## Youth Health Care (Jeugdgezondheidszorg)

Every year, the Youth Health Care team from the Parent and Child Team (*Ouder- en Kindteam*) offers support to parents regarding children's health and development at school. You can reach out if you have questions about growth, potty training, bowel movements, hearing, vision, or other health topics.

## Contact Details

- **Céline Bickel** (Youth Nurse): 06-48433606 | [cbickel@ggd.amsterdam.nl](mailto:cbickel@ggd.amsterdam.nl)
- **Marieke Mol** (Youth Doctor): 06-43428240 | [mmol@ggd.amsterdam.nl](mailto:mmol@ggd.amsterdam.nl)
- **General Email:** [jgzdijkmeerlaan@ggd.amsterdam.nl](mailto:jgzdijkmeerlaan@ggd.amsterdam.nl) (*Please use this address if you are emailing for the first time or do not receive a response, as team members may be away*)

## Vaccination Campaign

- **Appointments:** You will receive a letter with an invitation specifying your assigned time slot.
- **Missed a vaccination?** You can visit the walk-in clinic (no appointment needed) every **3rd Wednesday of the month between 3:30 PM and 4:30 PM** at **Dijkmeerlaan 571**. For more information, visit: *Spreekuren 4-18 jaar prik gemist* | GGD Amsterdam.