

## **Thank you for your understanding regarding the post-holiday start**

The start of the school year after the Christmas break went differently last week than we had hoped. On Wednesday, the school was closed due to "Code Orange" weather warnings, as were many other schools. Additionally, some children were unable to attend due to the poor weather conditions, and several staff members could not be present due to illness or unsafe roads.

We would like to sincerely thank you for your understanding and flexibility. It was wonderful to see how parents, caregivers, and children did their absolute best to make the school day go as smoothly as possible despite these challenges. Our team also deserves a huge compliment for their dedication and commitment during this unusual week.

Thanks to the cooperation between parents, caregivers, children, and staff, the start after the holidays was successful after all. We look forward to working together fully in the coming weeks to make this a pleasant, safe, and educational school year.

Thank you once again for your support and involvement!

## **Please check Parro daily**

We would kindly like to ask you to check Parro every morning. We use this platform to share important announcements, such as teacher absences or urgent updates regarding the group.

You can also report your child's absence due to illness directly through Parro. Many parents are already doing this, thank you!

By checking the app daily, you ensure that you are always up to date and that we can communicate quickly and effectively.

Thank you very much in advance for your cooperation!

## **The National Read-Aloud Days are coming!**

The National Read-Aloud Days (*De Nationale Voorleesdagen*) are about to begin! This annual event highlights the importance and the joy of reading aloud to children.

Reading aloud is one of the most beautiful gifts you can give a child. It is not only a moment of calm and connection but also lays a vital foundation for the future. Children who are read to regularly develop a larger vocabulary, a stronger sense of language, and a rich imagination.

Why reading aloud is so important:

- **Language Development:** Children learn new words and sentence structures that they may not hear as often in daily conversation.
- **Imagination & Emotion:** Stories help children empathize with others and better understand the world around them.
- **Focus:** Listening to a story and looking at pictures together helps practice concentration in a relaxed way.

The National Read-Aloud Days are the perfect opportunity to (re)discover how wonderful it is to dive into a book together. Whether it is a thrilling adventure, a funny picture book, or a lovely bedtime story: every fifteen minutes counts.

Tip: During the National Read-Aloud Days, local libraries often host extra activities, and special editions of the best picture books are available.

Let's work together to inspire a new generation full of reading pleasure!



## **Semmi Training for Parents: Powerful Parenting and a Strong Connection with Your Child**

In February 2026, Semmi will launch the training course: Powerful Parenting and a Strong Connection with Your Child in Amsterdam East. This training is free of charge for Amsterdam-based parents with children attending any primary school in the city. Registration is required, as spots are limited (maximum of 10 participants).

In this program, you will work on your personal role as a parent. You will exchange experiences with other parents and practice the latest insights on upbringing and parenthood under the guidance of expert professionals. Using methods from psychomotor therapy and dance & movement therapy, we won't just talk—we will focus on doing, practicing, and experiencing.

The attached information letter provides further details regarding the content, structure, and the expertise of the trainers.

### **Practical Information**

- Online Intake Interviews: 15-minute introductory calls by appointment on Wednesday morning, February 4th.
- Session Dates: Thursdays – Feb 12 & 19, March 12 & 26, April 9, and May 7.
- Time: 09:00 – 10:30.
- Location: Theater Hall, Community Center "De Meevaart," Balistraat 48A, Amsterdam.
- Cost: Free.

## Registration

Sign up here: [Aanmeldformulier Semmitraining voor ouders - Formulier invullen](#)

## What Previous Participants Had to Say:

"Superb trainers who challenge you to think just a bit deeper and reflect on your own behavior and family system."

"Refreshing exercises and wonderful fellow parents to share experiences with."

"The sense of calm, trust, and openness with both trainers and other participants."

"Concise theory that provides very valuable insights."

**Please Note:** Participants will be placed after a screening of the registration form and based on availability. You will receive a notification confirming whether you have a definitive spot, along with an invitation for the online introductory meeting on February 4th.

We look forward to receiving your application!

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## Lunch break arrangements

Sometimes plans change and your child might not stay for the lunchtime break (TSO), for example, to enjoy lunch at home or with a friend. If this is the case, we kindly ask you to inform the group teacher. This helps us ensure that everyone is in the right place and allows us to coordinate properly with our lunchtime supervisors. For safety reasons, if we haven't received a notification, your child will be required to stay at school.

Would you like to see how our lunchtime break works? You are more than welcome to join us for a day and experience it firsthand! To make an appointment or if you have any questions, you can contact our coordinators on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays:

- Maartje: [Maartje.Niemantsverdriet@kcwa.nl](mailto:Maartje.Niemantsverdriet@kcwa.nl)
- Angelina: [angelina.moolenijzer@kcwa.nl](mailto:angelina.moolenijzer@kcwa.nl)

For any other questions, please feel free to contact the Director-Administrator of KCWA, Bregje Droog, at [bregje.droog@kcwa.nl](mailto:bregje.droog@kcwa.nl). She will be happy to assist you.