

Important information regarding class transitions for the 2026-2027 school year

Dear parents/guardians,

While we are fully enjoying the current school year, behind the scenes we have already begun preparations for the upcoming year. As Principal, I look not only at staffing but primarily at how we can keep our education qualitatively strong, substantively rich, and financially healthy. I would like to inform you about an upcoming change in our group structure.

Currently, we see that student numbers in a few year groups are on the smaller side. Maintaining very small classes is costly and, unfortunately, not financially sustainable in the long term. To ensure our resources are used responsibly for all our students, we have decided to form new multi-grade (combined) classes next school year.

At this moment, together with the team and the Participation Council (MR), I am carefully assessing which groups would be the best fit to combine. We are weighing very deliberately what represents the best pedagogical and educational match for the children. As soon as this puzzle is finalized, we will, of course, inform you immediately.

As a Dalton school, we do not see a multi-grade class as a makeshift solution, but as an opportunity that aligns perfectly with our vision. In our Years 1/2 (Group 1/2), we have been working this way for years with great success. A multi-grade group truly brings our Dalton core values to life:

- **Independence:** Students learn even better how to plan and execute their own work while the teacher provides instruction to the other year group.
- **Collaboration:** Children of different ages learn from one another. Older students grow in their roles by helping younger children, which fits beautifully with our philosophy of "learning from and with each other."
- **Responsibility:** In a dynamic group of a healthy size, children learn to take ownership of their own learning process.

I understand that a change in group structure may raise questions. I hope to have informed you sufficiently for now. As soon as there are new developments, I will update you accordingly.

Starting the day together in a calm way

A good start to the school day is very important for both students and teachers. Starting on time together ensures a calm environment and a clear focus within the group.

We would like to remind you that classes start promptly at **8:45 AM** every day. This applies not only to classroom lessons but also to **PE (gym) classes**. We kindly ask you to ensure that your child arrives at school (or the gym) on time, so we can begin our instructions immediately.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us maintain a focused start to our lessons!

The Parent Council is building the Dalton Lab!

At our school, we are constantly looking for ways to strengthen our Dalton education. One of the core pillars of Dalton is collaboration, which begins with a strong connection between school and home. We are proud to announce that the Parent Council (OR) has taken the initiative to launch an inspiring new project: the Dalton Lab!

The power of our community

Over the past period, the Parent Council has already been actively reaching out to parents and caregivers to help shape this initiative. The goal of the Dalton Lab is to utilize parental involvement in a structured and positive way. By pooling the talents and support of our parents and caregivers, we can support our teachers and make our children's education even more multifaceted.

What does this mean in practice?

While the exact details are still being refined by the involved parents and the Parent Council, the vision is crystal clear:

- **Supporting teachers:** By involving parents, we create more peace and space within the classrooms, allowing teachers to focus on their core educational tasks.
- **Dalton in practice:** Together, we give meaning to values such as *responsibility* and *collaboration*, even beyond the standard curriculum.
- **For and by parents:** The Parent Council is leading the way and actively involving the expertise and enthusiasm of our broad parent community.

To be continued...

The first group of enthusiastic parents has already been approached, and plans are being further developed behind the scenes. We are very much looking forward to seeing how the Dalton Lab will bring extra color to our school in the coming period.

More information regarding the progress and how the collaboration between the Parent Council, parents/caregivers, and the team will look in practice will follow soon.

Creatief met juf Susanne

Tijdens de tussenschoolse opvang is groep 4A flink creatief bezig geweest! Samen met handvaardigheidsdocent Susanne hebben de kinderen prachtige kunstwerken geknutseld. Het was een gezellige en inspirerende middag vol mooie creaties.

