



The International School of The Hague

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The registration for Mother Tongue as an after school activity for this year is now open. Term II classes will begin on Wednesday, March 07 for Lower School and Thursday, March 08 for Upper School.

We will be carrying on with the following language groups: Dutch, German, Spanish, French, and Portuguese. In addition, the school will be hosting classrooms for BCS, Russian, Italian, Hebrew, Slovakian and Hungarian. ***Please remember registration will be open only to children who have one of these languages either as a Mother Tongue or Identity Language.*** The official Mother Tongue and Identity definition at ISH is as follows:

The term 'mother tongue', or identity language, may refer to several different situations.

Definitions often include the following elements:

- the language(s) that one has learnt first
- the language(s) one identifies with, or is identified as a native speaker of (by others)
- the language(s) one knows best and/or the language(s) one uses most.

'Mother tongue' or 'identity language' may also be referred to as 'primary' or 'first language'.

(UNESCO, 2003)

If you are not sure if your child's language(s) meet this definition or wonder how their languages may fit into ISH after school Mother Tongue Programmes, please contact:

Sue Tee (s.tee@ishthehague.nl)

Mindy McCracken (m.mccracken@ishthehague.nl)

Mother Tongue Content:

Lower School (R-Y2) classes will focus on the development of specific academic vocabulary using an IPC topic from our school curriculum. Students will also explore phonetic sounds and begin reading and writing at the appropriate time. There will be no homework assigned, however children will be encouraged towards reading in their own language and will therefore bring books home in their Mother Tongue to read with you.

Upper School (Y3-Y6) children will develop their reading and writing skills to higher levels, by taking a closer look at spelling, verbs and grammatical concepts. Homework will be assigned and children will be asked to complete some additional reading in their Mother Tongue.

Your child will also receive a Mother Tongue report from the MT teacher at the end of each term explaining their progress.

Mother Tongue Tutors:

An experienced native, language tutor teaches all Mother Tongue classes. A teaching assistant will be added to the largest language groups when needed. We typically require a minimum of six students to open a new language group. When groups become too large for tutors to manage effectively, we then try to split them into two sub-levels, depending on tutor availability. Occasionally, there is a request to start a group for less than six students. This may still happen, with the addition of a small fee needed to secure a tutor. Please follow the steps below to apply:

- Fill in this online form. The Mother Tongue Tutor will then contact you to confirm the lesson's starting date. Fees will be €12.50 per lesson.
- Fees should be paid directly to the tutor on the date of the **first lesson**. (*Once you have registered your child, we will use this as a definite registration and no refund will be issued*)

- After receiving all parent applications, initial language groups will be formed.

May we kindly remind you to pay the fees directly to the Mother Tongue Tutor?

Finally, unless your child is picked up by after school care or has a valid Gate Pass, you will need to be in the Glasshouse at the end of Mother Tongue lesson to collect your child. The school cannot provide late supervision after the usual pick-up time so please be prompt. Also, please keep the Mother Tongue calendar accessible, so you are aware of scheduled lesson timings.

We hope your child greatly enjoys their Mother Tongue lessons.

With kind regards,

Sabrina Arnold

Mother Tongue Registration Coordinator

s.arnold@ishthehague.nl

Mother Tongue Calendar

Term II

Session Dates: 07 March until 14 June, 2018

LOWER SCHOOL (R-yr2) Wednesdays, 12:30; 20 min. lunch finish at 13:50.	UPPER SCHOOL (yr3-yr6) Thursdays, 15:00, 15 min snack finish at 16:15.
<div> <div>07 March</div> <div>Parent /Teacher Consultaions14 March</div> <div>21 March</div> <div>28 March</div> <div>04 April</div> <div>11 April</div> <div>Student Led Consultations18 April</div> <div>25 April</div> <div>Holiday 02 May</div> <div>Holiday 09 May</div> <div>16 May</div> <div>23 May</div> <div>30 May</div> <div>06 June</div> <div>13 June</div> <div>Make-up:*</div> <div>20 June</div> <div>27 June</div> </div>	<div> <div>08 March</div> <div>Parent /Teacher Consultations15 March</div> <div>22 March</div> <div>29 March</div> <div>05 April</div> <div>12 April</div> <div>19 April</div> <div>Year 3 Camp26 April</div> <div>Holiday 03 May</div> <div>Holiday 10 May</div> <div>17 May</div> <div>Year 4 Camp24 May</div> <div>31 May</div> <div>07 June</div> <div>14 June</div> <div>Make-up:*</div> <div>21 June</div> <div>28 June</div> </div>

* Make-up lesson: in case a lesson had to be cancelled, this will be the date the make-up lesson will take place.