

# @ISRLO

Magazine for  
**international  
students**

What if  
**you need**  
a little **help?**

This is **how**  
**things work**  
at **ISRLO**

No school bus?  
**Take a bike!**

Have a **look**  
**around!**

Discover **your talent**



International School  
**Rijnlands Lyceum**  
Oegstgeest

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## colophon

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# International School Rijnlands Lyceum Oegstgeest: a great experience!

Welcome to the International School Rijnlands Lyceum Oegstgeest! ISRLO is an international school with a Dutch touch: it is fully embedded in RLO, which offers Dutch national programmes (HAVO-VWO) We are a small school in a big school: around 350 international students in a school of around 1400. But who better to tell you about our school than the students themselves? In this magazine our students will tell you what they like about our school, how to feel at home here and what to expect from 'the Dutch'.

**Have fun reading and  
we hope to welcome you soon!**





# School life at ISRLO

What if you are late to class? Can you bring your mobile phone to school? And how do you find your way around? At our school it might work differently to what you were used to at your previous school. Don't worry! Daan, Shriya and Indi will tell you all you need to know!

## How do you make sure you feel at home here?

Daan: "Just know that people here are really kind! The international school community is very welcoming and everyone will help you fit in easily." Indi: "Everyone is super friendly. Also the teachers are helpful! Making friends is very easy."

## How do you find your way around?

Indi: "You get a tour at the beginning, during which they will explain everything." Daan: "In the first week you get a buddy, a fellow student who knows the school. Your buddy shows you around. After that you learn to find your own way really quickly."



## Is there a school uniform?

Indi: "No, there isn't! I love it. I don't like wearing the same thing every day."

Shriya: "It is fun to wear different things. Although sometimes it would be easier if there was a uniform. Then you don't have to think about what to wear when you wake up." Daan: "The main benefit of not having to wear a uniform is that it gives freedom of expression. It looks less bland."

## What is typical of going to a Dutch school?

Indi: "Most students bike to school! Also, the schoolwork feels a little harder, wait no, different." Daan: "There is a lot of homework and study involved. My advice: don't leave homework for too long. Set priorities."



Name: **Indi Van Uden** (age: 11)  
Class: **MP1**  
Nationality: **American/Dutch**





Name: **Shriya Ravishwaran** (age: 11)  
Class: **MP1**  
Nationality: **Indian**

### Can you bring your mobile phone?

Indi: "We are allowed to bring our phones, but not allowed to use them in lessons." Shriya: "Phones can be a bit distracting. The advice is to put your phone in a red box in the front of the classroom before the class starts."

### Lockers: nice to have or useless?

Shriya: "It can be useful to keep your books in. If you have them all in your bag it might be too heavy." Indi: "I don't use mine. I prefer to use my bag."



### What happens if you're late for school?

Shriya: "If you are late, you have to get a note from the reception desk and get to school early the next day." Daan: "School can be pretty strict. If you are late you have to report to the reception desk at 8:00 the next day."

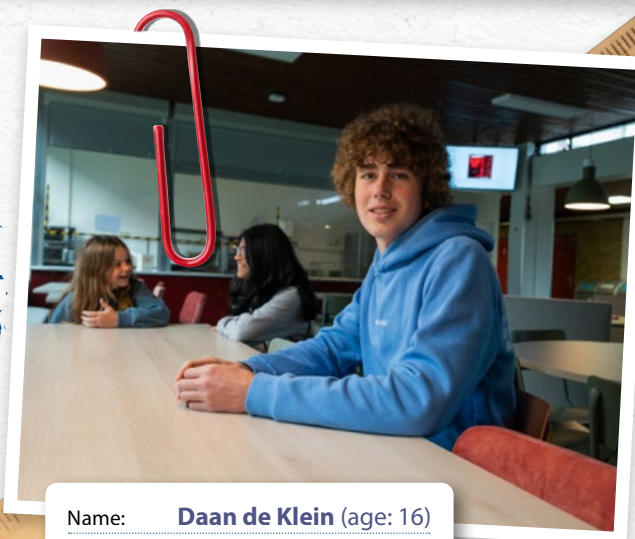


### Is there an app you use for asking questions about homework and other school stuff?

Indi: "We have a group chat in WhatsApp with our classmates." Daan: "Yeah, but we don't use it that much." Shriya: "We do have a school app in which you can ask questions. About homework, for example. Your classmates can answer, but so can the teacher."

### How do you know your schedule?

Indi: "We have an app for it. There is one app for our homework and a separate one with the schedule. You can check the apps on a computer, but also on your phone!"



Name: **Daan de Klein** (age: 16)  
Class: **DP1**  
Nationality: **Dutch**

### How long is each lesson?

Indi: "We have a 75-minute schedule. So each lesson takes 75 minutes. This means you have fewer classes in a day. I have four classes a day for example." Shriya: "It depends on the class, but when it is a nice subject: time flies! Some days in the year our lesson get shortened to 60 minutes."

### Where to park your bike?

Indi: "There is lots of space to park your bike. But keep in mind that your bike can get knocked over." Daan: "Don't get a really expensive bike. Other bikes do fall on it sometimes."





Olivia: "People here are very open-minded."

# This is the MYP!

**The IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) is designed for students from 11 to 16 years old. Jessica, Olivia and Adrian are students in this programme and they will tell you what you can expect.**

In the MYP, you get lessons in eight subject groups: Language Acquisition, Language and Literature, Individuals and society, Mathematics, Design, Arts, Sciences and Physical and Health Education.

Jessica: "I've always been in international schools and I'm familiar with this programme. This school is very different to a British school. The students in the MYP come from many different places, cultures and backgrounds. I think that's great to develop your own background and future. In this school, I get more connections with people from everywhere. It's very open-minded."

Olivia: "My brother and sister already attended this school, so it was pretty obvious that I would go here too. Like Jessica said, people here are very open-minded and it's a great opportunity to see and meet different people. I also attended a Dutch school, but I like this better. In my spare time, I still enjoy the Dutch way of living and culture. I can speak Dutch and I am a member of a sports club."

Adrian: "Same here! Like the girls said, it's good to be here!"

## Personal project

Olivia: "In MP5 you do a Personal Project. This is something you have to create yourself and something you find interesting. For instance, I made a book. I produced paper and learned how to put the book together. It's a fun way to explore different things in life that you find interesting. Things you usually don't learn at school."



Jessica: "The focus is on 'how' instead of 'what'."



Jessica: "This is something I have to do next year. I'm planning to try and create perfumes from natural sources. A very creative project, but I guess I will have to do some time management as well. It is great to improve personal skills that are useful in life, like organization and research. It gives you a better idea of what you want to do later on."

Adrian: "At the moment the personal project is a few years away. I'm currently busy with the eight subject groups. My languages, besides English, are Dutch, French and Spanish. Depending on what you want to do, you have to choose between certain subjects later on. For instance, I have to decide whether to follow Spanish or French. I already know a little Spanish, so I think I will choose French."

Olivia: "In MP4 you travel to either Nice or Malaga, so France or Spain. You stay at a host family. I went to Malaga! It really was a great experience. In the lower years there are daytrips."

Adrian: "In the first few weeks of the year there are all sorts of activities to get to know each other."

## A special school?

Adrian: "What makes ISRLO special? I'm not sure. It's different, I think. For example, how they teach Maths. I have had Maths at another school and we were always looking for the answer. Here we are trying to find out how to get the answer."

Jessica: "That's true. The focus is on 'how' instead of 'what'. On the process. Like in History, we look how things from the past have an impact on today's life and society. What is the effect of the African slave trade on modern day trade? It gives you a much better perspective."

## Service as Action

Jessica: "And then there's the Service as Action. It's part of the programme and it's something you do for your community, like a charity event. It starts in MP1, but in MP5 it's a bit different: one activity for ten weeks."

Olivia: "For the Service as Action I organized a book club. Together we read about global stuff and discuss things afterwards. It's a great thing to do!"

Adrian: "It's good to be here!"

Name: **Adrian Ward de Paz** (age: 12)  
Class: **MP1**  
Nationality: **Spanish/American**



Name: **Jessica Gardener** (age: 14)  
Class: **MP4**  
Nationality: **British**



Name: **Olivia Alwayn** (age: 15)  
Class: **MP5**  
Nationality: **Canadian/Dutch**



# With a little help

ISRLO has an excellent reputation when it comes to supporting out students who need extra language help. Your English doesn't need to be perfect. Lucía and Haruka explain how they get extra help with their English.

"The extra lessons really help me to speak English better."



Name: **Haruka Alegría Nishikawa (age: 13)**  
Class: **MP1**  
Nationality: **Japanese/Ecuadorian**



Name: **Lucía Puig de la Bellacasa (age: 11)**  
Class: **MP1**  
Nationality: **Spanish**

"Everyone was so sweet to help me."

Lucía: "My English was not good enough to keep up in class. On Thursdays, students like me get together after school to get extra English lessons. Together we practice reading, grammar and writing. In Spain, most lessons were in Spanish of course and English was not commonly spoken. Here it's different. English is everywhere and there is no way to avoid it, haha. Sometimes I have to look for the right word, but everyone is very helpful. The extra lessons really help me to speak English better."

Haruka: "I'm also taking the extra lessons. I used to go to a Dutch school, but it was a bit hard for me to get to know new friends and I wanted to meet more people from other countries. I also had issues with speaking Dutch and English. It is great to be joined by other students who encounter the same problem. I was a bit nervous at first, but everyone was so sweet to help me. My English is really getting better, now I'm far beyond 'hello' and 'one two three', haha. English grammar is still a bit hard for me though. But everyone is eager to help."



# Sports in school

Rugby, basketball, football... Brothers Henry, Alfie and Ben love sports.

And no wonder! With a dad who has been into cricket, cross country running and rugby (to name a few sports) it is clear that the love of sports runs in the family. So who better to ask about sports at our school than these three!

## Did you know?

Our school has some very cool sports facilities. There is even an indoor climbing wall!



Name: **Henry Brees (age: 13)**  
Class: **MP3**  
Nationality: **British**



Name: **Ben Brees (age: 17)**  
Class: **DP2**  
Nationality: **British**



Name: **Alfie Brees (age: 15)**  
Class: **MP5**  
Nationality: **British**

Ben: "Doing sports is a good way to clear your head and get out of the school environment. It is also a good way to make new friends!" Alfie:

"During sport classes you get to communicate with other students, which is fun, since we have students from lots of different backgrounds in our school."

## Great football fields

Ben: "The students of ISRLO can use the football fields from the next door football club. It's very nice." Alfie: "Football is a really popular sport in this school, lots of people play it. Also, our 3 indoor gyms are pretty good, one of those is massive!"

## Sport Studio

Henry: "In the first two years there is a thing called Sport Studio. This is part of the programme, and you have to choose at least 3 sport workshops." Ben: "There is a wide range of activities. For example: skateboarding, frisbee, rugby, golf, judo, yoga and bouldering."

## Not just exercise

Ben: "PE, physical education, is about taking a risk. For example: you chose frisbee and might end up hating it. Or you love it and find a new hobby. Just give everything a go and encourage other people to participate." Henry: "Don't expect everyone to play at the same level." Alfie: "PE is not just exercise, it is also about collaboration. Never leave people behind."

## Joining a team outside of school

Ben: "There are no sports teams in school, so I play football at a nearby club." Henry: "I play rugby in Leiden." Alfie: "If you don't know the Dutch language, it shouldn't limit you to do sports outside of school. Coaches here are very inclusive!"



# This is the DP!

DP is short for Diploma Programme. To be honest: it is pretty hard to tell you everything about the Diploma Programme, so there's a brochure on the DP should you want more information. Of course you can also check our website ([www.isrlo.nl](http://www.isrlo.nl))! More important is what our students think of the programme! Stella, Alexia, Herrie and Kiki share their feelings.

The DP Programme is a two-year pre-university programme comprising six subjects: three higher level and three standard level within different subject groups. The decision to take a subject at higher or standard level is determined by your interest and academic abilities and also by the requirements of institutions for higher education.

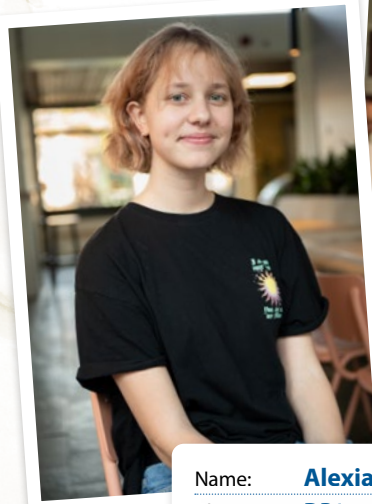
Herrie: "In the last year of the Middle Years Programme you have to choose between the six subjects: Studies in Language and Literature, Language Acquisition, Individuals and Societies, Sciences, Mathematics and The Arts. So you can choose three subjects to do on a higher level and three at a standard level. Or 4-2. And there's a possibility to do extra subjects. The focus is really on 'academic', so getting prepared for university. It's a very challenging system and at a high level. It's hard work!"





Kiki: "DP is comparable to the Dutch VWO: it prepares you for university. But I feel that the DP is more challenging than other programmes. I must say going from the MYP to the DP was a challenge in itself. DP is more about how to use what you have learnt so far. But challenging is alright! You strive to get the best."

Name: **Herrie van Rooy** (age: 18)  
Class: **DP2**  
Nationality: **South African**



Name: **Alexia Korink Romani** (age: 16)  
Class: **DP1**  
Nationality: **Brazilian/Dutch**

Alexia: "Following the DP, I feel I will enter university better prepared than other students."

Stella: "What is interesting about this programme is the component Creativity Activity Service (CAS). You can do all kind of different things, something for your own community, be an assistant at the school musical or whatever. You have to show initiative to find something that you want to do. Of course you can look for possibilities and reflection with your tutor, you get support from school and teachers are always willing to help you out."

Kiki: "CAS can be a lot of fun actually! I'm helping children of refugees who have just arrived in the country. They usually don't know how things work at schools in The Netherlands."

Alexia: "Stella and myself participate in the International Conference of IB Schools. ISRLO is an IB School and we are the representatives. It's very interesting and it gives you an insight on how things work."

Stella: "I come from a pretty large British school. ISRLO is much smaller, but that's just the way I like it. You bond with a lot of students and teachers."

Herrie: "Small is good. Everybody knows everybody."

Kiki: "DP2, the second year, is pretty hard work like Herrie said, but we go through it together. We will send text messages to each other after school and everybody's helping each other. We're very close, it's a group of friends. I have not experienced that feeling at other schools."

Stella: "Yes, I recognize that feeling. Getting together and enjoying each other's company. We went to the isle of Ameland together, in the North of The Netherlands. That was nice. Are we well prepared for university after the DP? I don't know yet, I will find out once I get there, haha. But everybody says so. It's an achievement to get the diploma!"

Name: **Kiki den Boer** (age: 17)  
Class: **DP2**  
Nationality: **Dutch**



Name: **Stella Cecchini** (age: 16)  
Class: **DP1**  
Nationality: **Italian**



# Have a look inside!

Five students show their favourite spot in our school to give you a feel for the school.



Name: **Beatriz de Araujo Possollo Soares** (age: 15)  
Class: **MP5** Nationality: **Portuguese**

## "A cozy art vibe"

Beatriz: "I really love the art room. It is such a great place to be and I really like the big pieces of art that are all around. There is a great cozy art vibe in the art room! There are paintings in progress and all sorts of finished pieces. It shows a great deal of creativity and that's very inspiring to me. I love to paint and draw, it's a great hobby."

## "The library"

Siena: "I like the art room like Beatriz does, I've been doing arts since I was about 5 years old. The library is a wonderful place as well. The book selection is representative of the different cultures in the school. That is a unique aspect. To me, it's very calming to read and the library is a quiet, nice place to relax and get inspiration."





Name: **Agata Szczepaniak** (age: 13)  
Class: **MP3** Nationality: **Polish**



## "Great to practice before class starts"

Agata: "We didn't have a music room in my school in Poland, so finding such a place in this school was a big surprise. There are all kinds of musical instruments, like guitars, drums and even a grand piano. I have played the piano myself for almost 10 years now, mostly classical stuff. It's nice to practice on the grand piano before class starts!"

Name: **Britt Mannaerts** (age: 15)  
Class: **MP5** Nationality: **Dutch/Swedish**



## "The reception is a welcoming place"

Britt: "It may sound odd, but I really like the reception area. It's the place where you enter the school and there's usually a lot of buzz there. There are several pieces of art that students have produced. You may find one of your own creations there. The area has plenty of seats and places to do some homework or just have a chat with your friends. There's a piano as well. Agata plays it sometimes!"

Name: **Leandro Rinaldo** (age: 16)  
Class: **DP1** Country of origin: **Italian**



## "The personality of the History room"

Leandro: "I love the atmosphere of the History room. Obviously, I like History, it's my favourite subject. But the History teacher has really put his personality into the classroom, adding all kinds of stuff. It really inspires me. For instance, there's a big map of Europe with a lot of details that I like. I would like to become a teacher myself and try and express myself through the classroom, like my teacher has done."

Name: **Siena Frankland** (age: 17)  
Class: **DP1** Nationality: **Australian/New Zealander**





# How to get to school

How do you find your way to school?  
Maisie and Ila have some advice for you!



Name: **Maisie Yildrim** (age: 17)  
Class: **DP2**  
Nationality: **Turkish/Dutch**



Name: **Ila Auton Mossop** (age: 14)  
Class: **MP4**  
Nationality: **British**

## No school bus

Maisie: "I knew beforehand that there is no school bus here. One good thing about this is that you have more freedom to go somewhere after school. I go to school by public transport. It is not necessarily hard, but it takes a while." Ila: "I go to school by bike. It is easy to cycle, because it's quite flat here. And it's nice in the morning. It wakes me up!"

## About the fast pass

The special 'fast pass' is given to students that leave home before 7:30. If you are late, for example because the bus was not running, you show your fast pass and that's it! (Just don't make it a habit...)

## Arriving late

Ila: "If you're late to class you have to come to school at 8:00 the next morning. If you arrive late 3 times, then you have to report at 8:00 for a whole week." Maisie: "If you have a good reason, it will be ok. There is also a fast pass. You can get it if you live far from school and if you have to leave home before a certain time. When you're late you can show this pass and it is ok."

## Learning by doing

Maisie: "It can be hard to figure out the way to school on your own, you learn by doing. You are not the only one using public transport. Talk to your class mates and ask them about it. You can also go to the administration office for advice." Ila: "If you can, practice with your parents or go with a friend at first. Just so you get used to the way. Oh, and don't panic too much about it. That doesn't help!" Maisie: "And you don't need to. School is understanding, especially when you're new."



# Teamwork!

Do you have any questions? Is something bothering you and would you like some help? Or do you have a brilliant idea to pitch? These people are here for you!

## The international administrator

When you arrive at our school our international administrator is there to help you settle. She makes sure you can use the online school systems and school e-mail, and helps you with all you need for a good start.

## The tutors

Your tutor is always the first one to go to. Finding your way, problems in school or at home, exam stress or career questions, your tutor is there to listen and help.

## The team leaders

If your tutor can't help you, you can go to our team leaders. They will always answer your questions (if they can).

## Career counsellor

What subjects to choose? What subjects to drop? The career counsellor is there to help you with career choices. The counsellor gives advice and helps with your university applications.



**Marija Selier** (Tutor MP1 & Confidential Counsellor)

**Mathijs Hekkelman** (Head International School)

**Karen Roest** (Administrator)

**Graham Parker** (Tutor DP1)

**Jon Symmons** (Team Leader IB-DP)

**Anne Lamers** (Career Counsellor)

**Sophie Auton** (Tutor MP4)

"School needs to be a safe place for everyone. This school should not just be a school, but should feel a bit like home."

## The head of international school

The head of ISRLO is there for you when your issues or questions cannot be handled by your tutor and team leaders. We try to be approachable at our school, so we like to think you can go to the head of school for anything.

## Confidential counsellors

If there is something confidential you'd like to discuss and you don't feel comfortable doing that with your parents, tutor or the team leaders, then our confidential counsellors are there to listen and give you advice.

## Fellow students

At our school students support each other. The first days we'll arrange a buddy who will show you around. Do you need some help with your school work? Then you can ask your tutor about our peer-to-peer tutoring.



# Showtime!

Are you crazy about theatre and musical? Then ISRLO is the place for you! Every year our theatre group takes the stage with a spectacular show. Pietro, Mia en Saugaat can tell you all about it!



## "Everyone can audition"

Pietro (orchestra): "Everyone can audition for the show. You can sign up for 3 different things: orchestra, acting or production. The show changes every year: one year it is a musical, the next year a theatre piece. It's all very well organized. The show has – just like the school – a Dutch and an English part. I think that's cool. The script is written in such a way that everyone understands the play. Even if you don't speak Dutch or English. We practice a lot to get the show perfect. Most reactions from the audience are positive!"







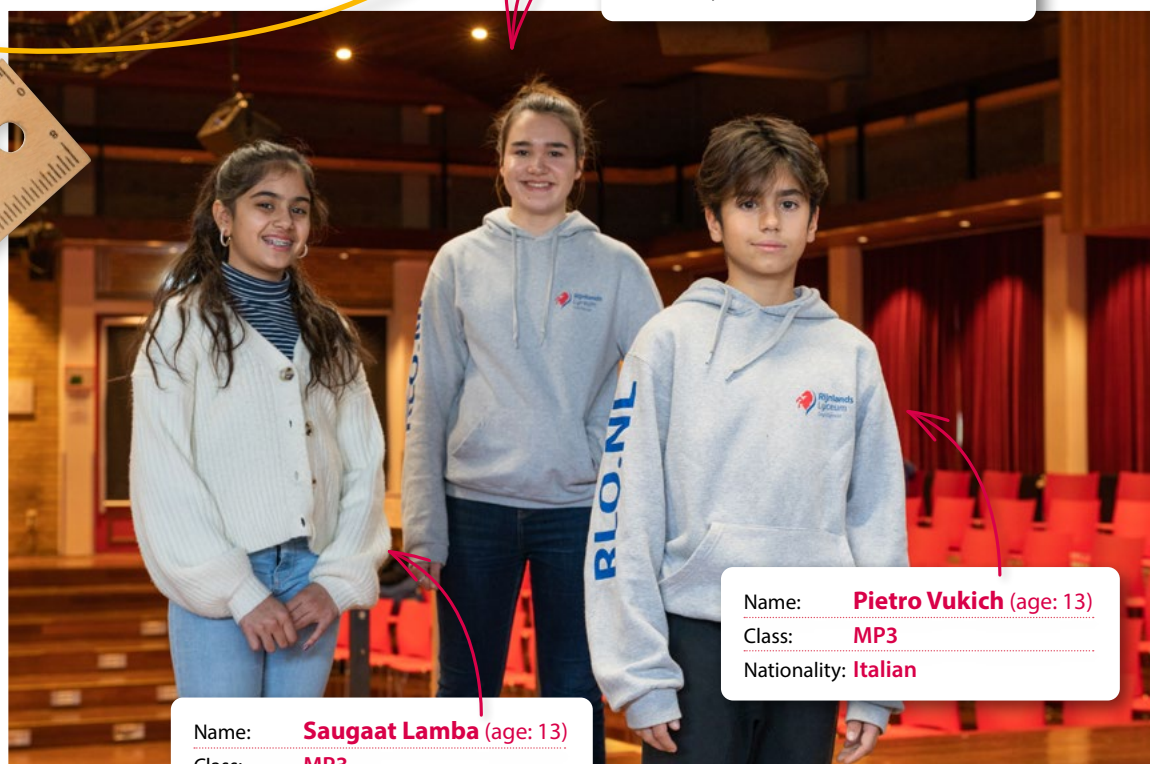
## "Being on stage makes me happy"

Mia (cast): "Because the show is played by Dutch and international students, you meet students that you normally wouldn't meet at school. Making friends is easy. The first time I was in the show I was the youngest of the cast, but I was immediately welcomed into the group. The director makes us work hard, but we get a lot in return! Participating in the show made me realize that I want to do a theatre degree after high school. I would love to be on stage when I am older. Being on stage makes me really happy!"

## "A great way to make friends!"

Saugaat (production): "Every year it is either a musical or a theatre play. For a musical you have to be able to dance, sing and act when you're a part of the cast. For theatre it is mainly acting. I am part of the production team. We order and make the clothes for the play, for example. I also helped design a painting for the play. Joining the show is a great way to make friends. Everyone is so kind and unique in their own way! Last year I didn't know many Dutch students, but because of the play I got to know so many new people."

Name: **Mia Zeppenfeldt** (age: 17)  
Class: **DP2**  
Nationality: **Dutch/British**



Name: **Pietro Vukich** (age: 13)  
Class: **MP3**  
Nationality: **Italian**

Name: **Saugaat Lamba** (age: 13)  
Class: **MP3**  
Nationality: **Indian/Dutch**





# Making school a better place

## Join one of our student committees!

Do you want to speak your mind? Do you have a million ideas to improve our school? Then join one of our student committees! Caroline, Ruben and Alex can tell you why having a say in things at school is useful and fun.



Name: **Alex Graham** (age: 16)  
Class: **MP4**  
Nationality: **British**

Name: **Caroline Le Gascoin-Girard**  
(age: 17)  
Class: **DP2**  
Nationality: **French/Dutch**

Name: **Ruben Naud Fernández** (age: 18)  
Class: **DP2**  
Nationality: **Dutch/French/Spanish**

### Caroline is part of the student council

"Joining the student council makes school more than just education. It gives you responsibility and you get to know a lot of people. The student council organizes small things such as the Valentine's campaign, but also does bigger things such as helping to design the new canteen. It's a good way to prepare for college. You learn to communicate, manage budgets and lead."

### Alex is part of the technical committee

"With the technical committee we arrange lighting and sound for events like the school play, music evenings and school parties. I think it's good when students are involved in what happens at school. Also, joining a committee gives you the opportunity to meet people from around the school."

### Ruben is part of the student council

"Adults view the world in a different way than students do. That's why students relate more to the student council. I joined the student council because I wanted to learn about politics within school and the council itself. By joining a committee you train your communication skills and learn how to speak your mind. Skills you can apply later on in life."

### Which committees can you join?

- Student council
- Party committee
- Sport committee
- Technical committee
- De Roskam (school paper)
- Green Team
- GSA (Gender and Sexuality Alliance)



# When your passion is SCIENCE!



Are Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) really your piece of cake? Join the Science club! Ethan, Lenka and Aliz will tell you all about it.

Name: **Lenka Huang** (age: 15)  
Class: **MP5**  
Nationality: **Taiwanese**



Name: **Ethan Thiébaud** (age: 15)  
Class: **MP5**  
Nationality: **French/German**



Ethan: "I started the SCIENCE club to create an environment in which students with a similar passion for SCIENCE could get together. The club currently consists of about ten people and recently a student from the Dutch department of the school joined as well, so all in all it's a great way to meet new friends who like SCIENCE too. The school has a wonderful SCIENCE lab, which is a great place to get together, share ideas and to work on different projects. We're currently working on a Rubik's Cube Solver. We're brainstorming and looking for ways to develop a chess playing robot. But we're also looking for other subjects in the field of SCIENCE. We're mostly self-supporting and get together once a week."

Lenka: "Our first project was to create a drawing robot. We really learned a lot, including how not to do it, haha. I'm more into developing software myself, but I also enjoy

Name: **Aliz Baksa** (age: 12)  
Class: **MP2**  
Nationality: **Hungarian**



doing something more hands-on. I think being a member of the SCIENCE club also helps in the normal classes. It gives me more insight into subjects and it's good for critical thinking. Oh, and I enjoy working in a team."

Aliz: "I'm the youngest member of the club and joined just recently. I feel I can really learn a lot from the other members and they tell me they can learn from me. I try to make videogames myself. I'm preparing to finally launch a video game, I've been working on it for over 2 years. I find it interesting to see how the others try to solve things from their point of view. I've been into the STEM-subjects for over 3 years now. It's great to create new things that can help people and humanity."



# Meeting new friends!

Name: **Tarana Saha** (age: 16)

Class: **MP5**

Nationality: **Indian**



Name: **Kiran van Brandenburg** (age: 15)

Class: **MP5**

Nationality: **Indian/Dutch**



You might be a bit anxious about meeting new people at our school. Questions like 'Will I really get along with people from all over the world?' and 'Won't I be left out?' are answered by Kiran and Tarana. Their main answer: don't worry!

Kiran and Tarana entered ISRLO together, coming from the same primary school in The Netherlands. Nevertheless, they too have learned to meet new people and make friends. That didn't appear to be as difficult as they first thought.

Tarana: "You have to remember that this is an international school. All students, teachers and staff are very open to meeting new people from everywhere."





Kiran: "Most students are very experienced at meeting new people, they are used to going to international schools and are interested in making new friends. Going to a new school is sometimes hard, but it's also an opportunity to make a new start. I look at it as an advantage. And there's always someone for everyone. Tarana and I are lucky, we've known each other since primary school and started here together in MP1. Even then, sometimes classes were rearranged, so you got into a class with new people you didn't know yet. But we've learned that meeting new people is a very interesting thing to do and that's why everybody sees it as an opportunity to meet somebody new when a new student comes to ISRLO."

Tarana: "To help new students get around, the tutor asks the class if someone is willing to become the new student's buddy. The buddy helps you to get around and it's a great way to get to know each other and other students."

Kiran: "The buddy is like a kind of consultant, you can ask him or her anything and it's nice to get to know the school and other students through the eyes of your buddy. And your buddy knows what sandwiches and snacks in the canteen are the best!"

Tarana: "There are a lot of clubs you can join, depending on what you like best of course. Whether you like science, sports, art, making music or the school's annual show, it is a great way for meeting new people and making friends. ISRLO is also a school for MUN, Model United Nations."

Model United Nations is an simulation of the United Nations in which students play the role of delegates from different countries and attempt to solve real world issues with the policies and perspectives of their assigned country.

Tarana: "The MUN Debate Club is for students of MP4 and up. It's another great way to make new friends."

Kiran: "Teachers and staff are also very helpful in welcoming new people. They will always check and ask if you're alright or need anything to make you feel at home. So, there's really no need to worry about making new friends here!"





# Let's get creative! This is Art Studio



Have you been dreaming of becoming a rockstar? Would you like to learn more about photography or get some painting skills? In Art Studio you get to choose from a wide range of creative workshops.

## What is Art Studio?

Giulia: "Art Studio is a mandatory class, but you get to choose what you want to do. For example acting, art, photography or music. You only have Art Studio in MP2 and MP3." Danyel: "You have Art Studio 2 terms a year. Each term you can choose a different workshop."

## Finding a new hobby

Giulia: "If you really like something, for example playing an instrument or acting, you can actually do it at school. But Art Studio is also nice if you want to try something new. You might find a new hobby! The workshops are in small groups, so it is not too chaotic." Danyel: "This means you can listen to the teacher better and really improve." Giulia: "Nice to know: we are not graded, so there is less pressure."

### You get to choose from workshops related to:

- Dance
- Theater
- Photography
- Singing
- Playing an instrument (or in a band!)
- Painting

### About Art Studio

- It consists of different art workshops
- It is only for students in MP2 and MP3
- You attend 2 workshops each year
- Teachers are professionals from inside or outside the school
- At the end of a term you present your results during a show or exhibition

## Meeting Dutch students

Danyel: "You take Art Studio together with the Dutch students. That's a lot of fun." Giulia: "Being mixed with the Dutch students you get to socialize more instead of staying in your own little group."

Name: **Danyel El Hamel** (age: 12)  
Class: **MP2**  
Nationality: **Italian**



Name: **Giulia Marliani** (age: 12)  
Class: **MP2**  
Nationality: **Italian**

"It's all  
about fun!"





"I think they learned from us, **but we also learned a lot from them.**"

# To Ethiopia for charity!

Every year we organize 'Action Horsepower' at the RLO. With this campaign we raise money for the development of education in developing countries. This is done together with Edukans. Maas and Mirte were lucky enough to be invited to see for themselves how the money is spent in Ethiopia.

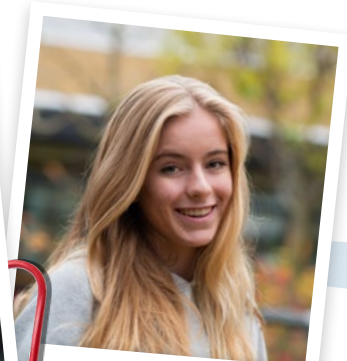
Maas: "With Action Horsepower every student at RLO and ISRLO tries to raise money for students in developing countries. You are supposed to do that by earning money doing chores, washing the neighbours car for instance, but anything will do. Unfortunately, we were not able to do the fundraiser last year due to COVID. The plan was to raise money for schools in Uganda. Then we decided that somehow we wanted to cover the distance between our school and Uganda, about 10,000 kilometres, with a sponsored run, or by cycling a few kilometers. There were even students who knitted a lot of meters! In this way we covered that distance in all kinds of ways and earned money with sponsorship. Together we raised almost 23,000 euros!"

Mirte: "Action Horsepower is a joint venture with Edukans, which is a national foundation. Every year Edukans invites students from The Netherlands to come along and Maas and myself were very lucky to go to Ethiopia together. It was a once in a lifetime experience, the trip was unforgettable, even though there were some difficult moments. Together with a buddy, we went to see how children go to school to learn. Then you realize how rich we are in the West. I think they learned from us, but we also learned a lot from them. Back in the Netherlands, we gave a presentation to the whole school to show how important it is that we help each other. It was a great experience!"

"Together we raised almost **23,000 euros!**"



Name: **Maas Westerterp** (age: 19)  
Grade: **former RLO student**  
Nationality: **Dutch**



Name: **Mirte Meijer** (age: 18)  
Grade: **former ISRLO student**  
Nationality: **Dutch**



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