

Edition 2 | December 2023

Dear students, parents/guardians, teachers and others,

The collaboration with parents/guardians plays a very important role in our tutoring projects, so also in our project 'Bridge HDT Amsterdam PO'. We believe that, as well as with teachers, a good collaboration with parents/guardians makes it possible to help every student reach their potential, in terms of mathematics as well as motivation and self confidence.

We work targeted on the triangular relationship between parent/guardian-child-tutor. Asides from the three-weekly phone call with parents/guardians, we organise a few "open house" tutoring lessons for the parents/guardians. The first one had a high turnout and quite a few parents/guardians have been able to attend a tutoring lesson. These are special momnets for the parents/guardians, our students and ourselves. The parents/guardians can see how a tutoring lesson goes, and the students can show the what they have learned so far and explain the structure of the lesson. Some parents/guardians and students even do some math work together. This often leads to beautiful moments of thankfulness, pride and joy for each of us. At the end of the lesson, the parents/guardians are invited to write a 'shout-out' for their child: a written compliment that they hang on the wall so that they can always look at it.

In December and January, we also have meetings with all the teachers of 7th grade. During these meetings, we discuss how we experience the collaboration and how the students who participate in Bridge HDT are doing. We find it very interesting to hear from the teacher how it's going in class, and of course we also like to tell them how each student is doing in the Bridge HDT lessons! We attach great importance to these meetings because we find it important to exchange information and make sure to align our vision with the school. We want to thank all grade 7 teachers for their involvement, tips and tops, help and answers to our questions!

We wish all students, parents, guardians and school staff happy holidays! And we look forward to making 2024 a spectacular year!

On behalf of the whole team,

Lieselot Roelandts,

Site Director of Bridge HDT Amsterdam PO

### Math riddle

Do you know the answer to this wintery riddle?

$$30 + 3 + 3 = 30$$
 $30 + 3 + 3 = 2$ 
 $30 + 3 + 3 = 2$ 













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#### Parent walk-ins

The first parent walk-in of this year was on November 7 and 9. A nice opportunity for tutors and parents to see each other in real life, in addition to conversations over the telephone! The parents were able to take a look at the classroom and received an explanation from the tutors and their children about the lesson. This way, parents were able to get an idea of what an HDT lesson looks like and see their children in action! At the end of the lesson, each parent wrote a Shout-Out with a compliment for their child.

Thank you to all the parents who came to visit!

For the parents who weren't there, don't worry! There will be another opportunity to watch with your child during the HDT lesson later in the year! When the time comes, the tutor will let you know during the parent contact as soon as it is known when this will take place!

## In the spotlight!

To motivate the students, we put a duo in the spotlight every now and then! These are students whose tutors agree that these students are trying very hard and who have already grown a lot this school year. In each group, two students were "spotlighted" by their tutor; the students beamed with pride as the tutor talked about them while holding a creative "poster" which states how the students have improved and perhaps even excelled. A big compliment for those in the spotlight and an example for the other students!



Two students of the 'Morgenster' are put in the spotlight by their tutors, miss Emma and miss Anouk!

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

## Why does the tutor call the parents/guardians every three weeks?

We believe it is important to build a bond not only with the students, but also with the parents/ guardians. This way, students see that their tutor cares about them and has knowledge of their living environment. By calling every three weeks, the tutor can tell the parent many positive things about their child, because they are not just calling with bad news. In general, parents appreciate that they are kept informed and they like that it is reciprocal: the tutors also ask the parents how things are going at home and can ask them for advice on how they can help their child even better.

### How does a tutor lesson work?

Every tutor lesson has the same structure: the concentration exercise, the Ready To Go, the lesson and the Ticket To Leave. We start the lesson with a concentration exercise in which the student focuses on himself, so that the student can start the lesson with concentration. During the Ready To Go, at the beginning of the lesson, and the Ticket to Leave, at the end of the lesson, students independently make sums on a whiteboard. This way the tutor knows what the students can do on their own. During the rest of the lesson, students have the opportunity to ask questions, receive explanations and do assignments from the curriculum.











