

A word from our Director

Dear TES Community,

Today began with our celebration of German Unity Day hosted by our German-language department and their students. Thank you to those who organised an engaging assembly for our students this morning, including a performance by our school band!

Speaking of music, yesterday, we celebrated the International Day of Music with two wonderful concerts for our Nursery, Primary, and Lower Secondary students. Thank you to Annika Land-Reisser for inviting these talented performers to our school and keeping this tradition alive!

On Monday, our Secondary students elected their student council president for the year. Congratulations to Yenlik Mussagalee for her victory, and I look forward to collaborating with her, and the entire student council, on their ideas for improving school life.

Throughout the entire week, we have had students and teachers away from school on two very exciting projects:

Accompanied by Jennifer Lyall and Guilherme Struecker, a group of Upper Secondary students attended Moot Court Europe in Romania where high school students from several countries met to debate and develop knowledge of international law, civic education, human rights, rule of law and international justice.

And in Copenhagen, Suviliis Sakk, Kenty Dubois and students from our Eco-Schools Committee spent the week at Copenhagen European School as part of an Erasmus+ mobility focused on sustainability and our Baltic Sea project. From exploring sustainable urban development and renewable energy to marine life and protecting our waters, the week gave students plenty of opportunities to learn, exchange ideas and share their own work.

Finally, you will notice that our official weekly newsletter is back thanks to our new Communications Specialist, Irene Lauri! Please join me in welcoming her to the team! If you have been paying attention to our social media, you will notice she jumped right into the role and ensured that this week's events (and a few from last week) got the attention they deserved!

I hope you enjoy this week's newsletter, and I wish you all a wonderful weekend!

Best regards,

Ian Karell

Director

German Unity Day at TES

We started Friday by marking **German Unity Day** together at TES.

Our German-language department and students prepared a special assembly featuring a **Kahoot quiz about German history, songs and a performance by our school band**. Students even spent the previous day baking cookies for the celebration. It was an opportunity to learn more about German reunification while reflecting

on peaceful change, democracy and European unity, with music, food and a little friendly competition along the way.

A big thank you to our German-language department, students and everyone who helped make the morning happen.

Alles Gute zum Tag der Deutschen Einheit!



International Music Day: a school with soul

On Thursday, TES celebrated **International Music Day** with two very different musical experiences in our Assembly Hall.

The morning began with **Mikk Kaasik and Marten Männa**, who performed for P3–P5 and S1–S3. With voice, piano and percussion, the duo showed how just two musicians can create the energy of an entire band – and explored what actually makes music *groove*. Later, storyteller and musician **Polina Tšerkassova** took our students on another kind of musical journey, combining storytelling with fascinating instruments and sounds.

And because you can't celebrate International Music Day without talking to someone who lives and breathes music every day, we asked our music teacher **Annika Land-Reisser** five quick questions.



Five questions with Annika

If you were a song, which song would you be? “I wouldn’t want to be just one song. I would change with my mood – sometimes happy and energetic, sometimes calm and thoughtful. Music reflects who we are and how we feel.”

If you could see any artist or band live – past or present? Queen with Freddie Mercury.

What was the first album, CD or cassette you ever owned? Roxette’s *Joyride*, a gift from a friend from Sweden.

If you weren’t a music teacher, what would you be doing? “I would probably be a festival or concert producer or manager. I love music, but I also enjoy organising events and bringing people together through music.”

And finally: a school without music would be... “...just a house without soul.”

Thank you to Annika, our performers and everyone who helped fill our school with music this week!

A week of sustainability in Copenhagen



Last week, our Erasmus+ project team travelled to Copenhagen European School for a week focused on sustainability, international cooperation and our shared Baltic Sea.

Students explored sustainable urban development in Nordhavn, visited CopenHill, a waste-to-energy plant that doubles as a recreational space, and learned about marine life and protecting our waters at Den Blå Planet.

A highlight was Sustainability Day at Copenhagen European School, where our students joined international workshops on sustainable fashion, cooking, art and energy and confidently presented their own project work to students and teachers.

As one student summed it up: *"This exchange has been very useful and eye-opening!"*

A big thank you to Kenty Dubois, our students and Copenhagen European School for an inspiring week full of new knowledge, ideas and friendships.

From the classroom to the courtroom: TES at Moot Court Europe

Seven TES students from S5–S7, accompanied by teachers Jennifer Lyall and Guilherme Struecker, are currently in Câmpulung, Romania, participating in Moot Court Europe 2026 from 28 September to 7 October. The mobility takes place under our Erasmus+ School Accreditation programme 2021–2027 and brings together students from different countries to deepen their knowledge of international law, civic education, human rights, the rule of law and international justice. Our students are putting that knowledge into practice through simulated trials, competing against students from 13 other schools. Along the way, they are developing their research, argumentation, critical-thinking and public-speaking skills in a truly international environment.

We wish our TES team the very best of luck in court!

Meet our new Student Council President



The votes are in!

Congratulations to **Yenlik Mussagalee**, who was elected **TES Student Council President** by our Secondary students on Monday.

Yenlik is already starting her term with plans on the table. Her priorities include organising a **Halloween Carnival**, reaching out to the Estonian Ministry of Education regarding the school timetable and 10-minute breaks, and strengthening cooperation between the **Student Council and Parent Council**.

Congratulations, Yenlik, we look forward to seeing those ideas take shape!

From Uruguay to TES



International exchange also came directly to our doorstep this week as TES welcomed a delegation of **seven educators from Uruguay**.

Our guests represented the Council of Teacher Education, part of the National Administration of Public Education, and the Department of Agricultural Sciences at the University of the Enterprise. Their work focuses particularly on **scientific education, teacher training and STEAM**. Our colleagues **Vittoriano Reno, Triin Rusanov and Adrian Graziatti** introduced our visitors to TES and the European Schools system and gave them a tour of our school – **all in Spanish!** Thank you to our colleagues for the warm welcome and to our visitors from Uruguay for spending time with us.

Next stop: Iceland!

Another international adventure is approaching for TES. Six students from **S4–S7**, accompanied by teachers **Gerry and Hanna**, will participate in the final meeting of the Nordplus Junior project “**Bridging Minds and Cultures Through Stories.**” Our students will travel to **Ólafsfjörður, Iceland**, where they will be hosted by students from Tröllaskagi Upper-Secondary School and join project partners from Oulu, Finland. The project brings young people from different countries together through stories, cultural exchange and shared experiences – creating opportunities to learn not only about one another, but from one another.

We wish our students and teachers a wonderful journey and we’ll be waiting to hear their Iceland stories when they return!

A new TES project takes its first steps

This week, TES submitted a new Youth Exchange project proposal, “**EUth matters. Bridging young minds through civic engagement,**” to the Estonian National Agency for Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps at HARNO.

The proposed project would bring together young people aged **13–16** from TES and partner schools in **Romania and the Republic of Moldova** to explore youth participation and active citizenship. Students would help shape the project themselves through activities including educational videos, podcasts, debates, roundtables with decision-makers and school and community events. If funded, the project will begin in **January and run for 14 months.**

A big thank you to Ana and teachers **Gerry and Tom** for developing this new opportunity involving our S3B students. Fingers crossed!

Monday is Teachers’ Day!

TEACHERS DAY

MONDAY, 5 OCTOBER

There will be a flower stall on the day, so children can bring a few coins to buy a flower for their teacher. A little note or card would mean a lot as well.

The parent council is collecting contributions to get a gift for every teacher!

Parent Council of Tallinn European School
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Please volunteer to watch the classes between 13:45 and 15:25, to give teachers a little time to relax

On **Monday, 5 October**, we celebrate the people who bring knowledge, patience, encouragement and care into our classrooms every day: **our TES teachers**.

Together with the TES Parent Council, we're inviting our entire school community to help make the day special.

Flower stall from 8:00

The **Parent Council flower stall opens at 8:00** and will remain open while stocks last. Students of all ages can bring a few coins and choose a flower for a teacher for just a few euros.

And remember: it doesn't have to be only your current class teacher. Perhaps there is a subject teacher, former teacher, librarian or another member of our community who deserves a little thank you too.

Teacher Appreciation Box

Our **Teacher Appreciation Box by the front door** is waiting for your messages.

Students can make or buy a card, write a message to a teacher and drop it into the box. Just remember to put the **teacher's name clearly on the outside**.

Forgot to prepare one at home? There will also be a **card-making station on Monday**, while supplies last.

And from 13:45–15:25...

Parents and students will help with classes so our teachers can enjoy some **well-deserved time together**.

There may be something special waiting for them too – but we're not spoiling the surprise. We'll tell you all about it next week.

Whether it's a flower, a handwritten card or simply saying **"thank you"**, let's make Monday a day that reminds our teachers how much they mean to TES.

KiVa Parent Breakfast – can we make it 20 this year?

Our next **KiVa Parent Breakfast** will take place on **Wednesday, 21 October, from 8:15–9:00**.

It's an informal opportunity for parents to meet, talk and learn more about KiVa and how we can work together to support a safe and positive school environment. And we have a small challenge for this year: **Last year, 18 parents joined us. Can we make it at least 20 this year?**

Please sign up by **14 October** and join us for a morning coffee and conversation. We'd love to see you there!

SIGN-UP HERE:



Around the TES Community

More football, anyone?

Extracurricular football for **Primary 3–5** is looking to open a second group on **Tuesdays from 16:50–17:35**, provided there is enough interest. Families can register their interest directly with coach **Christos Patsias** at topcornerclub@gmail.com.

What's cooking at TES?

There are still **four spots left** in the **Sizzle & Drizzle Cooking Club** for Primary students.

Every Tuesday, young chefs cook something new, discover flavours from different cuisines and get creative in the kitchen.



Firebirds sports shirts – order by 16 October

Our **TES Firebirds sports shirts** are available to order for students, parents and family members.

The student-designed shirts can be personalised with a **name and number** and are the official TES tops worn at sports competitions. Students representing TES on a team will need one, and the shirts can also be worn during PE lessons.

Price: €25–€35, depending on the final number ordered

Order deadline: 16 October

Questions? Contact **Tom Flowers** at tom.flowers@est.edu.ee.



Go Firebirds!

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