
TES Weekly Newsletter | 16 October 2026

A Message from Our Director, Ian Karell



Dear TES Community,

As we approach the end of term, teachers and students are wrapping up units and activities and completing final assessments before the break. Just one more week to go before our well-deserved rest!

Throughout the week, we hosted teachers from Poland who came to learn how topics such as entrepreneurship, ecology and energy transformation are taught and promoted in our school through subjects and activities. Thank you to everyone from our staff who hosted and spoke with our guests, shared our wealth of knowledge and experience, and generally made them feel at home here at TES!

Yesterday, our school was awarded the Erasmus+ Golden Participation Apple for the Model European Council student mobility project led by Jennifer Lyall and Guilherme Struecker. The project was commended for “shaping young people’s democratic participation by involving students, year after year, in international parliamentary simulations—experiences that provide them with practical skills in forming opinions, making collective decisions, and acting as European citizens.”

Congratulations to Jennifer, Guilherme, and our Erasmus+ project coordinator, Ana Ichim, for this outstanding recognition!

And today, our Nursery and Primary 1 and 2 students stayed warm outside with a special “Move Your Body” event led by our movement teacher, Matuž Lazorik. Thank you to our Nursery and Lower Primary teams for giving our students this opportunity to dance, move around, and simply have a great time!

I wish everyone a wonderful weekend, and I hope you enjoy this week’s edition of our newsletter!

A Golden Apple for TES! Celebrating Excellence in Erasmus+



We have some wonderful news to share: **Tallinn European School has received the Erasmus+ Golden Participation Apple Award** for our involvement in the **Model European Council (MEC)** student mobility project!

Presented at an Erasmus+ awards ceremony on Thursday, the recognition celebrates our contribution to democratic participation, European values and active citizenship through international learning experiences.

For three consecutive years, TES students have participated in the Model European Council, stepping into the world of diplomacy, parliamentary debate and European decision-making. Through this experience, they have developed their confidence, critical thinking, negotiation skills and understanding of what it means to be an active European citizen.

The project supports one of the four Erasmus+ priorities: **Participation in Democratic Life, Common Values and Civic Engagement**.

Jennifer Erin Lyall, one of the teachers leading the project, reflected on the recognition:

"This Thursday, we were invited to an awards ceremony for Erasmus projects and recognized with a Golden Apple for our work on the Model European Council, which we have participated in since its establishment for Accredited Schools three years ago. This was a very pleasant surprise for us.

Our work with the MEC has been incredibly meaningful - seeing the investment of students and their growth through this event has been profound. We hope to continue the project each year for the foreseeable future, giving our students the possibility to participate directly in diplomacy, democracy, and European citizenship.

These opportunities have been supported by so many – students, parents, colleagues, local embassies, and of course our Erasmus Coordinator, Ana. We thank everyone who has been supportive of this endeavour, but especially the students themselves."

A huge congratulations to **Jennifer Lyall, Guilherme Struecker and Erasmus+ Coordinator Ana Ichim**, and heartfelt thanks to the students, families, colleagues and local embassies who have supported the project.

And there's more to look forward to: **TES is planning to host the Model European Council in Estonia in 2029!**

Learning Across Borders: Welcoming Teachers from Poland



This week, TES had the pleasure of welcoming **five educators from Stowarzyszenie Oświatowe Rodzice-Dzieciom**, a Polish educational association based in Rybnik.

From **14–16 October**, our guests joined us for a job-shadowing visit to explore how entrepreneurship, ecology, energy transformation and related skills are integrated into teaching and learning.

They were particularly interested in how European Schools encourage initiative, creativity, problem-solving, collaboration and project-based learning, as well as in the organisation of our Primary and lower Secondary education.

Throughout their visit, the teachers observed lessons, exchanged ideas with TES staff and explored educational practices they could share with schools in their own city and region.

Our guests particularly appreciated the teaching methodologies, classroom organisation and positive learning environment they experienced at TES, including our students' engagement and focus during lessons.

Thank you to everyone who welcomed our visitors, opened their classrooms and shared their expertise!

A New Chapter for French Poetry: Congratulations, Elena!

Elena Truuts

Et tu sais



574^e Encres Vives

We are delighted to celebrate a special literary achievement by our French language teacher, **Elena Truuts**!

Her poetry collection, *Et tu sais*, has been published in France by **Encres Vives**, a publishing house founded in 1960 and dedicated exclusively to poetry.

Elena is a French-speaking author whose poetry has appeared in French publications on numerous occasions. She also explores sound poetry in collaboration with **Martin Kikas of Ö Stúdio in Tartu**, bringing together language, voice and artistic experimentation.

Congratulations, Elena! We are proud to celebrate the creativity and accomplishments of our TES teachers, both inside and outside the classroom.

French Teachers Sharing Ideas: Journée pédagogique at TES

On **26 October**, Tallinn European School will welcome French language teachers and specialists for the second edition of our **Journée pédagogique**.

Organised in collaboration with the **French Institute of Estonia**, with communication support from the **Association of French Teachers in Estonia (APFEST)**, the event will bring educators together to exchange teaching practices, share resources and learn from one another.

Know a French teacher who might be interested? Please spread the word!

Date: Monday, 26 October 2026

Location: Tallinn European School

Registration: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/PP7967WZEt>

For further information, please contact **Elena Truuts** or **Ekaterina Kazakova**.

Move Your Body! A Friday Full of Energy



Who says autumn weather has to keep us indoors?

Today, our Nursery, Primary 1 and Primary 2 students took part in a special “**Move Your Body**” event led by our movement teacher, **Matuž Lazorik**.

With dancing, movement and plenty of opportunities to have fun together, our youngest learners enjoyed an active and energetic end to the school week.

A big thank you to Matuž and our Nursery and Lower Primary teams for organising such a lovely experience!

Bob Is Back! Can We Beat Our Pumpkin Record?



Our favourite skeleton is back, and he's got a bone to pick with last year's record!

Bob the Skeleton is inviting the TES community to take part in our annual pumpkin collection for the zoo, running from **19–23 October**.

Last year, our school collected an impressive **126 kg of pumpkins**. Can we beat that this year?

If you have spare pumpkins at home, bring them to school and help us make this year's collection even bigger!

A few pumpkin rules to remember:

- Pumpkins must be fresh and not spoiled.
- Please do not paint or draw on the pumpkins.
- Students are also welcome to create drawings and letters for the animals, which can be submitted separately.

Let's turn our autumn pumpkins into something wonderful for the animals!

TES Carnival Is Coming – 20 November!



Step right up! The TES Carnival is coming to town!

On **Friday, 20 November**, our Secondary students will transform the school into a carnival full of games, creative challenges, exciting activities and delicious treats.

Each class will prepare and run its own activity room, giving students and families plenty of opportunities to explore, play and enjoy an afternoon together.

Carnival schedule

- **13:45–15:00:** Set-up
- **15:00–17:30:** Carnival
- **17:30–18:30:** Clean-up

Tickets cost €1 each, and different activities will require different numbers of tickets.

Costumes are highly encouraged, so start planning your carnival look!

The **Carnival Café** will also be open in the Assembly Hall, where Secondary students will sell homemade treats and other goodies.

Important information for families:

- Secondary lessons are cancelled after lunch to allow students to prepare their activity rooms.
- Children from Nursery to Primary 2 must be accompanied by an adult during the carnival.
- Extracurricular activities are cancelled on this day.
- Aftercare will remain available as usual.

We can't wait to see our school community come together for an afternoon of creativity, laughter and carnival fun!

Have Your Say! Student Council Wants Your Feedback on Break Times

Should school breaks be 10 minutes long?

Our **Student Council** is gathering feedback from the TES community about the school schedule and the possibility of introducing 10-minute breaks.

Before taking the discussion further, the Student Council wants to hear as many perspectives as possible.

Students, parents and staff are encouraged to share their thoughts through a short survey.

Your opinion matters, and every response helps!

[Fill in the Student Council's feedback form](#)

Thank you for helping our Student Council represent the voices of our school community.

Primary Student Council Presents: Pyjama Day!



Who says pyjamas are only for bedtime?

On **Thursday, 22 October**, our Primary Student Council invites all Nursery and Primary students to come to school wearing their favourite pyjamas!

Whether they're colourful, cosy, covered in stars or decorated with favourite characters, it's time to bring a little bedtime comfort into the classroom.

Let's make it a fun and cosy day and turn TES into one big slumber party!

Learning Together: A Visit from the Northern Tallinn Youth Centre



This week, we were pleased to welcome visitors from the **Northern Tallinn Youth Centre** to Tallinn European School.

Connecting with organisations in our local community creates valuable opportunities to exchange ideas and explore ways to support young people's interests, wellbeing and development beyond the classroom.

Thank you to our visitors for taking the time to connect with TES!

A Reminder for Primary Parents: Check MySchool Regularly

A friendly reminder to all Primary parents to **check MySchool daily** to stay informed about their child's learning progress.

Subject teachers regularly share grades and comments to celebrate achievements and provide valuable feedback on learning.

Taking just a few moments to review these updates helps families stay connected with classroom learning and support their children's progress.

Thank you for your continued cooperation!

Looking Ahead: Primary Independent Project Day

Our first **Independent Project Day** of the school year will take place on **Friday, 13 November**.

On this day, Primary students will work independently from home on cross-curricular projects, while teachers meet with families to discuss students' learning and progress.

Class teachers will share further details about the projects and how to book progress review meetings.

We look forward to another opportunity for students to develop their independence and for families and teachers to connect.

Irene Lauri

Communication Specialist

Email: irene.lauri@est.edu.ee



Tallinn European School

Tehnika 18

10149 Tallinn, Estonia

Phone: +372 56849429

tes.edu.ee

 [Affiche 14.10.png](#)