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Dear parents,
Dear students,

Today I invite you to explore many aspects of school life, through a variety of articles – my thanks to all the colleagues whose intense commitment has made this possible.

Our diversity is our potential, because it opens up new perspectives for all of us. Every individual has strengths and talents. We want to identify and promote them. Excerpt from our [guiding principles](#)

Retrospective

2,503.23 euros donated for earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria

The earthquakes in Turkey and Syria on February 6, 2023 shocked people around the world. The Schiller community started a donation campaign, to show our concern and support the earthquake victims.

Individual classes and courses organized sales booths between February 13 and February 24. A total of 2,503.23 euros was collected from the sales.

The money was donated to the German Red Cross' fundraising campaign.

AG Flight and Escape 2021 - a brochure

AG Flight and Escape was active in the last school year 2021/2022 (workshops, conducting interviews, and researching) and was supported by the **House of the Wannsee Conference**. This school year, we waited very patiently until the graphic design of our project was complete. The time has come! Thanks to everyone for their committed work. Here is a link to the brochure in English and German.

<https://www.ghwk.de/de/bildungsangebote/projekte/flucht-und-migration-in-historischer-perspektive>

Ben Kempler

“Youth debates” club - now at Schiller Gymnasium

The *“Youth debates” club* took part in the “Youth debates” regional competition for the first time in 2023. Two of our students reached the final round for their age group and qualified for the state final, which was held on March 31, 2023. In the preliminary round, there was a lively debate on the topic “Should hybrid teaching and independent learning times be expanded in the upper classes?” We look forward to holding this competition annually at Schiller Gymnasium. Everyone from 8th to 12th grade who enjoys debating is heartily invited.

Mr. Bohn, school coordinator for [“Youth debates”](#)

Debating club

The *Debating club*, consisting of 8th and 9th-graders from the German and SESB branches, took 3rd place at the International Debating Contest. Three students were recognized as “Best speakers” – congratulations from the Schiller community!

Farina Gohla, English Department head



Prix des lycéens allemands - debate on youth novels

Following an old tradition, the advanced French class (Q2) once again took part in the “Prix des lycéens allemands”, in which they debated on three current youth novels. In the next step, two delegates from the advanced class discussed the books with students at other Berlin high schools at the state panel on March 7, 2023, at the Institut français. One student from the advanced class at Schiller Gymnasium was selected for the panel at the national level. She represented the state of Berlin in an online debate on March 31, 2023, and has also been invited to the awards ceremony at the Leipzig Book Fair, together with her teacher. Chapeau!
Ms. Schwarz, French Department head

Internet team French competition - LK wins

The learning groups 8 E2 (Ms. Hildebrandt), 10EU2 (Ms. Schwarz), LK French Q2 (Ms. Schwarz) and Q4 (Ms. Schmedding) all took part in an online internet team competition on January 19, 2023, answering a variety of questions about the French language and culture. The advanced French course (Q4) took first place at its level in all of Berlin.
Ms. Schwarz, French Department head

Vive la langue française, vive l’absurde!

The Carl Orff Elementary School held its annual Soirée française on March 20. Class 7G, which has French as its first foreign language, delighted the young audience with a [video](#) of a play that was recorded by Louise, our foreign language assistant. It was an exciting evening that will not be easily forgotten. Vive la langue française, vive l’absurde!
Ms. Shukeir, French teacher

“The Impact of the media on society”

As part of their fourth course semester, with the thematic focus “The Impact of the media on society”, students from the advanced English class on the German track watched the movie “She Said” in the theater and then discussed the relevance of investigative journalism. The students highly recommended watching the film.

The 8th-graders in the German branch also went to the movies. The film “Wonder” was on the program. The screen adaptation of the eponymous novel deals with topics like friendship, family, and otherness. Thanks to preparation during English classes, the students were able to follow the original-language film effortlessly.
Farina Gohla, English Department head

Visit to Deutsches Theater - Ring Parable

What can the Ring Parable still say to us nowadays? How can we understand Nathan’s progressive message today? Three Q2 German classes explored these questions during their visit to the Deutsches Theater and subsequent workshop. They experienced a play in which no stone was left standing and an ensemble of the Young DT brought Lessing’s utopia into the present day, at times relying on their own experiences and family histories. It was a loud, wild evening at the theater that left a lasting impression.
Ms. Kunze, Ms. Jula, and Mr. Bohn



Poetry slam - Workshops and closing event

On February 14, 2023, our Aula hosted the closing event of a series of poetry slam workshops. At the event hosted by Wolf Hogeckamp, students from different schools appeared and arranged a varied program. Students from 10eu2 and the 10th-grade German elective class presented their own texts, which they had authored in class and during the workshops.
Ms. Jula, Mr. Bohn - German teachers

Interview with Andrew Edwards on “Romeo und Julia: Liebe ist alles”

Following their reading of Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet” in English class, the students of class 9eu2 are currently working on their own creative takes of this drama. They gained inspiration from Andrew Edwards, who is the creative co-director, set designer, and costume designer of the new musical “Romeo und Julia: Liebe ist alles”. During a workshop held at the school, Andrew Edwards talked about his working process and showed sketches and pictures of the production. In the evening of March 30, 2023, 17 students in 9eu2 visited the Theater des Westens to see the musical live on stage.

Mr. Hannon, German/English teacher

Workshops with the photographer Émilie Delugeau

On January 9, 2023, a workshop with the French photographer Émilie Delugeau, who lives in Berlin, was organized for class 10G, which has French as its first foreign language (Mr. Lutz), with the help of the Institut français. Mme Delugeau first presented her works, which deal with the theme “At home”, to the class. Because portraits of her daughter made up a part of her series of photos and we were covering self-portraits in class anyway, we spontaneously had the idea of intensifying the work with her in the following week. Inspired by the works of Émilie Delugeau and the French artist Sophie Calle, the students created their own photo series based on self-portraits. Having the opportunity to connect language classes with art was an exciting experience for all of us.

Mr. Lutz, French teacher

Villa Oppenheim - Meeting with the Israeli artist Inbar Chotzen

On February 28, 2023, classes 10EU1 and 10EU2 took part in a workshop with the Israeli artist Inbar Chotzen at Villa Oppenheim, in cooperation with the House of the Wannsee Conference. Inbar Chotzen guided the groups through the museum. By chance, a video team from ZDF was also there. If you’re interested in the exhibition and would like to see how Inbar Chotzen interacted with class 10EU2, take a look: <https://www.villa-oppenheim-berlin.de/ausstellungen/sonderausstellungen/chotzen>

ZDF Mittagmagazin (min. 42:35) from March 14, 2023.

<https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/zdf-mittagsmagazin/zdf-mittagsmagazin-vom-14-maerz-2023-100.html>

Carla MacDougall, English teacher

Advanced Geography class - day excursion to Hamburg

The advanced Geography class traveled to Hamburg by train for a day excursion. They started on platform 8 at 8 a.m.

One thematic focus involved exploring the Speicherstadt (warehouse district) as part of Hamburg’s historical urban development. To this end, the class split up into small groups, to get the most diversified impressions possible. An exciting highlight from the day was a trip on a launch boat on the Elbe River, to get to know the Port of Hamburg as a center of logistics and business. In addition to facts and figures about the port,



Captain Schwarz also told us the latest information about individual container ships and their freight. The students used their free time in the afternoon to experience the Hanseatic city – one of Germany’s biggest tourist draws – in small groups. The weather played along, fortunately, with the announced rain showers failing to appear. The eventful excursion ended back at Berlin’s Central Station at 8 p.m.
Ms. Gärtner, Geography Department head

Five days on the trail of the ancient Romans...

This was the aim of the 2023 trip to Rome for the students of the Latin elective course, which resumed after a pandemic break. During these five days of summer-like weather, the students not only had the opportunity to discover the “eternal city” and its attractions like the Colosseum, the Forum Romanum, Castel Sant’Angelo, the Trevi Fountain, and the Capitoline Museums, but also the ancient port city of Ostia just outside of the city limits. A trip to the beach in Ostia, as well as Italian culinary delicacies – especially pasta, pizza, and gelato – rounded out the discoveries.
Lisa Grasler and Mr. Bohn - Latin teachers

Erasmus+ student exchange Wroclaw-Berlin

In the framework of the Erasmus+ program, 15 students from 10th grade and Q2 took part in an exchange with Liceum Ogólnokształcące Nr. IV in Wroclaw (Breslau), Poland, together with Ms. Ertürk and Mr. Barnes.

The students took part in a variety of activities, all centered on the focus topic “Democracy in Europe”.

The students from Wroclaw and their teachers were in Berlin from October 17-21, 2022, where they visited the Bundestag and attended a plenary session – and then met with representative Axel Schäfer (member of the Parliamentary Committee for the Affairs of the European Union, member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe). They explored the city together and also attended a workshop at Schiller Gymnasium.

The return visit in Wroclaw took place from March 20-24, 2023, where we attended a workshop on the topic of *Media and Democracy* and visited an exhibition on *Solidarność*, a labor movement that played a decisive role in the revolution and reforms of 1989. Interactions with our Polish friends were the main highlights of the trip. Many students have made close friendships and remain in contact with one another.

The project was funded by the European Union through Erasmus+. The exchange will take place once again in the 2023/24 school year with a new group of students.

Ms. Ertürk and Mr. Barnes (ErasmusPlus Wroclaw-Berlin project leads)

Erasmus+ student exchange with Open Gate School in Prague

From March 22-24, 2023, 15 students from class 9EU2, accompanied by Ms. Sauer and Ms. Hannon, visited our partner school, the Open Gate School in Babice, near Prague, in the Czech Republic. We stayed in the school’s boarding facilities.

The Schiller students worked together with 17 students at the Open Gate School on a joint project titled “Multilingualism and European identity”. The project will continue through to the end of April through digital group work. A digital exhibition on this topic will then be published.

The project with the participating students started a year ago with an exchange of correspondence. Students from the Open Gate School visited Berlin in the fall of 2022.

According to feedback from the students, the trip’s highlights were a scavenger hunt in Prague, visiting the “time machine” in the newly renovated Prague National Museum, and



above all interactions with our Czech friends. The project was funded by the European Union through Erasmus+.

Mr. Hannon, project lead; Ms. Sauer, project lead, Erasmus coordinator for Schiller Gymnasium

Student exchange with Lycée Charlemagne in Paris

“During a 7-day student exchange with ‘Lycée Charlemagne’, we, 20 10th-grade students, were in Paris with Ms. Türemen and Ms. Rausch shortly before the winter vacation.

Our program included a wide variety of activities, including a visit to the Louvre, the Musée d’Orsay, and a trip on a hop-on, hop-off Batobus (water taxi) on the Seine.

We also had a guided tour of the Le Marais and Montmartre district, during which we also gained insights into history. Our tour of the catacombs, which we already knew about from class, is also worth mentioning. We experienced the extraordinary everyday life of Parisians the hard way on our very first day, when we were welcomed by a strike. The trip was an experience that got us closer to the French language and culture, which we will remember for a long time.

We’re looking forward to the return visit by our exchange partners in March, when the roles will be reversed!” (Inge, Jara, and Yosefa from 10G) Regrettably, the return visit was called off on the French side, due to the extremely complicated situation in Paris right now.

Ms. Türemen, Ms. Rausch (project leads)

Voluntary social commitment

Support for the “Wärmestube” (warm bank) on Bundesplatz – which involved ten students (9th grade through Q4) helping to distribute food and taking time to talk with the visitors regularly, usually once per month, over a four-month period – will end on March 31, 2023. Their efforts there have been recorded and, after 20 hours worked and a review meeting, will be rewarded with JugendKompetenzPässe (youth skills passports), issued by the district’s “Junges Engagement” (youth commitment) team.

Ms. Jula, BSO coordinator

The Uganda aid project

The Uganda aid project is organized through the Uganda working group of the Lichtenberg Evangelical congregation. I take part in regular monthly videoconferences, which are also joined by the school principal, during which the current situation, distribution of donations, and other subjects are discussed.

The 8th-grade Art elective class is currently creating new, colorful and informative donation boxes for an aid project that will be set up after the Easter vacation. Our school has been collecting deposit bottles for six years, with all revenue (more than 280 euros last year alone) sent to St. Peter’s Secondary School in Bombo Kalule, Uganda. The donations are used there to pay for state examination fees – or simply for food. They lack practically everything and the current global crises have also worsened the situation in Uganda. The aid is perfectly organized and the money is guaranteed to be sent exactly where it is needed.

Ms. Kühl, Art teacher



Garden working group “Kopfsalat”

“Kopfsalat”, our garden working group, spent the winter semester with cooking, baking, and recovering food. We used forgotten supplies in the cabinet of the school kitchen to prepare delicious meals and then enjoyed them. We empirically determined that food is almost always still edible after its best-before date! Now spring is coming and we can once again plant fresh ingredients in our raised-bed gardens. We would love to have your support with planting radishes and cress, as well as with the subsequent harvest and eating! (Meeting point: Wednesday afternoons in the schoolyard)

Ms. Kühl, head of the working group

The future after the abitur

At the Future Skills Days, Q2 students attended several workshops to find out about possibilities for their “future after the abitur”.

Team members of the learning provider Studio2B and our tandem partners at the Jugendberufsagentur provided information on paths after the abitur, on application processes in general, for universities, and in assessment center processes. They also presented possibilities for filling gap years.

Ms. Julia, BSO coordinator

Outlook

Talent parcours and reality check for 8th grade: Apr. 20-21, 2023

Students in 8th grade will experience their first deep dive into working life after the Easter vacation by exploring their talents at a variety of stations. The event will be carried out by team members of the learning provider Studio2B. Ms. Julia, BSO coordinator

Girls’/Boys’ Day for 7th+8th grades Th. Apr. 27, 2023

Interested students in 7th and 8th grades can request to participate in this day and take advantage of one of the many offerings for finding out about the working world. Additional information is also provided in Lernraum and in the BSO display case in the A wing. Ms. Julia, BSO coordinator

Student work placement for 9th grade: April 17-28, 2023

The student work placement will be done after the Easter vacation for the first time this year (instead of in January). The 9th-graders have prepared for this through several workshops since the start of the school year and a visit to the Career Information Center (BIZ). They will be documenting their experiences during and after the placement period, according to specific instructions. The

“Betriebspraktikumskurs 2023” in Lernraum provides information about the overall

procedure. Ms. Julia, BSO coordinator



“Schrillerzeitung” school paper now available in digital form

I am also pleased to announce the first digital issue of “Schrillerzeitung”:
<https://www.schrillerzeitung.de/>. I hope you find it an enjoyable read.

Many thanks to the School Paper Club (AG Schülerzeitung), led by Carla MacDougall.

Abitur 2023

The teaching phase is complete and all students qualified to sit the abitur exams. Congratulations to this year’s students for this excellent performance.
Now that the 5th exam module was completed before the vacation, written exams will start on April 18. The oral exams will take place from May 23-25, 2023. Best of luck to all abitur candidates.

Please note the upcoming dates (see calendar)

April 17-28, 2023	Student work placement 9th grade
From April 18, 2023	Written abitur
April 19, 2023	MSA German
April 20-21, 2023	8th grade talent parcours
April 20, 2023	5th meeting of the school development working groups
April 27, 2023	3rd school conference (Gesamtkonferenz)
May 2, 2023	Staff study day – no classes for all grades
May 4, 2023	MSA 1st foreign language
May 4, 2023	3rd school conference
May 9, 2023	MSA math
May 18-21, 2023	No classes

Andrea Kunze, Principal