



SECTION INTERNATIONALE  
La Celle-Saint-Cloud - Noisy le Roi

*Over 20 years of bilingual education!*

# SECTION INTERNATIONALE HIGHLIGHTS



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# A Message from the Head Secondary Teacher



In the beginning there was the visionary aspiration of creating an international section where none existed.

A handful of motivated parents, notably Ann Boylan, Eric Leprince-Ringuet, Niki Sclison, and Ruth Hasid, now Head Primary Teacher, combined forces with the principal of Collège Pasteur to bring APESEB, now known as the *Section Internationale*, into being.

The year was 2002. A group of four intrepid students entered *6ème* with Avona Rebours as their teacher for both English and History-Geography.

When this group moved into *5ème*, Sandra Boussageon came on board, followed by Eileen Amoroso when the group entered *4ème*. As colleagues from the SIS primary programme, they persuaded me to join the team in September 2005, teaching *4ème* and *3ème* English.

For the well over 200 students in the Section today and their families, these names seem like ancient history. In the 20 years of its existence, there has been impressive growth: the Wednesday primary programme, *Anglais après la classe*, the integrated Pasteur primary programme, the integration of the fledgling La Quintinye section, the IGCSE/OIB *lycée* programme. Milestone after milestone.

Hundreds of students have now passed through the Section, and nearly 90 have obtained their *baccalauréat* OIB at Lycée Corneille and gone on to diverse university studies and careers. I am coming to the end of 17 years with the Section, 12 in *collège* and 5 in *lycée* teaching *1ère* and *Terminale* OIB English, succeeding Penny Rosenfeld when she retired, as well as being Head Secondary Teacher.

What the numbers do not tell is the development of an international section that can hold its head high in the competitive world of international sections in the western suburbs of Paris. Smaller class sizes enhance learning in a friendly environment and facilitate student progress in the challenging academic programme. Our graduates have gone on to pursuits as diverse as prestigious *classes préparatoires* and cinema, interesting lives in France and around the world.

Reflecting on all this, how then to condense the hours of class preparation, marking, organisation, human relationships, highs and lows into one newsletter article? In OIB Literature, the assessment criteria include being selective, “some telling use of detail”. So here is a selection of the highs.

*Continued on next page*



Trips are daunting to organise, but the adventures of college trips to the Isle of Wight and England are indelible highlights. I look forward to visiting London without shepherding 50 young teenagers, but I delight in the selfies that former students have sent me, posing in front of the Shakespeare Globe, a reminder of the rewarding hours we spent together, both on the trip and in the classroom exploring English literature.

Christmas sketches and parties, graduation ceremonies – the rituals that celebrate the students' achievements and the fruit of our collaboration in the learning process are also among the highs. Seeing our graduates go on to varied and fruitful horizons has been deeply satisfying and is the ultimate joy of the years of student/parent/teacher partnership in the Section Internationale.

As the Section turns 20, it continues to evolve. A new head of Section and a new Admissions officer have enthusiastically begun contributing their experience and passion for international education. The *bac* continues to change as the BFI replaces the OIB. I am on the way to becoming part of the “ancient history” of the Section. It is not easy to leave this vibrant community and what has been a rewarding profession. It has helped me to consider that separation is often connected with creation, the one being necessary for the other. We are separating; we are creating something new.

There are three groups I would especially like to thank. First, it has been a privilege to work with various school administrations, and it has been an enriching partnership as they have welcomed and accommodated the Section in the respective schools.

I would also like to thank the successive *conseils d'administration* of the Section, all of whom have given generously and ceaselessly of their time to develop and manage the administration and finances of the Section. In particular, I am grateful for the efforts made over the past ten years to improve working conditions for the staff.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank my secondary colleagues. They are competent, reliable and dedicated, navigating crises like the Covid-19 lockdowns and exam upheavals with assurance and resilience. They balance the academic expectations of the demanding programme with genuine care and concern for student well-being, making the Section one of the most positive aspects of our students' secondary years and equipping them for success.

“To teach is to learn twice”. When I saw this citation by Joseph Joubert over the library entrance of my alma mater where I studied to become a teacher, I had no idea I would spend my teaching career in the country of its origin. Now, as an older teacher, I recognise the truth of it more fully. Thank you to the entire *Section Internationale* community for the teaching and learning of my years with you.

*Ann King, Head Secondary Teacher*

# Announcing Our New Head of Section

For the past twenty years, the *Section Internationale* La Celle-Saint-Cloud – Noisy-le Roi has succeeded through a combination of highly-committed teachers, administrative staff, and volunteer parents. With a presence over four sites and a growing number of families, the time has come to enhance the management and governance structure with a Head of Section.



The Head of Section will oversee the Section's day-to-day administration and coordinate our educational offer at the primary and secondary levels at École and Collège Pasteur, Collège La Quintinye and Lycée Corneille. This new position will enhance the SI's ability to respond to the needs of students, families, employees, and other stakeholders.

We are happy to announce the recruitment of Michele May as our new Head of Section. She will be joining the administrative team and teaching History-Geography part-time starting in September 2022. Mrs. May has a PhD in history from the United States and wide-ranging work experience in international education and management in France and the U.S. Mrs. May has most recently worked in the *Sections Internationales de Sèvres* as Head of the History-Geography Department and she is looking forward to contributing to the SI's unique intercultural dynamic.

*The SI Committee*

# BIENNIAL SCHOOL FAIR

On Saturday 26 March, Jodie Sokhan (Admissions Manager) and Elise Barth (HR & Operations Manager) represented the *Section Internationale* at the Association of American Women in Europe's (AAWE) School Fair. This biennial event, which last took place in February 2020—on the eve of the first Covid-19 lockdown—was held at the American Church.



Aptly entitled, "Which School is Right for My Child?", the fair is an excellent opportunity for families to discover and learn about different bilingual and international school options in the Paris area. This year, over 50 schools were represented, from kindergarten through *lycée*.

The AAWE fair, which is free and open to the public, is also a wonderful way for the *Section Internationale* to network with directors, faculty members and parent representatives from other schools. Ms. Sokhan and Ms. Barth were happy to participate in such a productive and enjoyable afternoon!

Stay tuned for the next edition in 2024!

*Elise Barth, HR & Operations Manager and Jodie Sokhan, Admissions Manager*



# Secondary News



## Poetry by Heart Contest in Paris

This national contest is held at Ecole Jeannine Manuel in Paris every March. For the past two years, due to the pandemic, we have had to send in filmed entries. But this year, we could finally attend!

Therefore, on 12 March, our two *Section Internationale* finalists, Martin Landowski (*Troisième*) and Irène Martinez Alonso (*Seconde*) gave up a precious Saturday morning to participate in the contest. Sadly, their parents could not attend due to the sanitary situation, but I did my best to accompany them both, including jogging back and forth between the *Seconde* and *Troisième* auditoriums.

Inspired by similar contests held around the world, and in particular in the UK, this competition enables students to learn and recite poems by heart. It is hoped that pupils will foster deep personal connections with the chosen poems, bringing poetry alive for friends, families and communities. Advantages to students include enjoying and understanding poetry more deeply, embracing new challenges, improving memory techniques and gaining confidence about speaking in public.

It can be a great personal challenge to recite two poems in front of a large theatre full of strangers. I congratulate both our contestants for their courage and their nerves of steel.

Performances by all contestants were impressive and at times very moving. In the final stage of the contest, we all gathered into one theatre to hear the winners from each level recite their poems again in front of everyone and a final overall winner for France be chosen.

Well done, Martin and Irène, for your powerful performances. I felt so proud of you both. You were excellent representatives of our *Section*.

*Debbie Rattier, Troisième and Seconde English Teacher*



# Drama Night at Lycée Corneille Is Back!

In April, we were delighted to celebrate the return of the *Section Internationale* Drama Evening.

Two years ago, all the hard work by the *Seconde* (now in *Terminale*) and *Terminale* students in preparation of the Drama Evening came to nought because of the first Covid-19 lockdown. Last year, with Covid still very much in evidence, once again we could not prepare a drama evening.

But on Thursday 7 April this year, conditions were auspicious, and so the SI *Seconde* students came on stage and performed brilliantly!



Firstly, Irène Martinez Alonso, one of our *Section Internationale* candidates for this year's national Poetry by Heart contest, recited her two poems with great gusto and power. One could have heard a pin drop in the amphitheatre as the audience fell under her spell.

Then all 14 *Seconde* students worked to enact an extract from *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller, which they studied for their Cambridge IGCSE exams this year. There were 12 actors, with 1 student helping backstage and another filming the show (now available on Google Drive for *Seconde* students and parents to relive the evening).

Lycée Corneille Principal Mrs Semeria and Vice-Principal Mrs Lallemand sat enthralled near the stage. Mrs Lallemand wrote a glowing article in the high-school newsletter about the evening, of which here is an extract, as it really does credit to the students' hard work:

*"L'amphithéâtre du lycée Corneille a bruisse d'enthousiasme et de compliments, hier soir ! Les spectateurs ont été captivés par tous ces jeunes talents, qui n'ont reculé devant aucune difficulté pour interpréter un extrait de la pièce exigeante, témoin de l'histoire des Etats-Unis, mais dont les thèmes restent pourtant si actuels (...) Un immense bravo à nos forts talentueux acteurs."*

I can only echo what she said: well done, *Seconde* students, for all your hard work and for putting so much expression and feeling into your acting. Thanks to you, we watched a powerful performance and had a night to remember.

After the performance, it was lovely to have a happy gathering of actors, parents and friends in the student foyer so that people could chat over snacks and a glass of wine. Many thanks to parents Sarah Regnard and Orla Cohen for organising the buffet and all the parents who contributed. And thank you, Ann King, for helping us out at the last minute with some vibrant costumes, your helpful advice and for manning the curtains!

*Debbie Rattier, Seconde English Teacher*

# Primary News



- Well done to the 14 after-school Drama Club students who did a wonderful job performing *Snow White* on Tuesday 31 May. They had been writing and improvising their adaptation of the well-known fairy tale since October under the guidance of three actresses from Drama Ties. They appeared to have fun on stage, all the while giving the audience a few laughs along the way!
- Scholastic Book Club fundraiser – thank you to all families who ordered books, enabling us to select some informative and fiction books for the school library at all levels. We received nearly 200€ worth of free books!



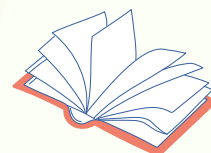
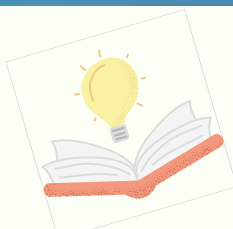
- The CM2 Integrated class went to Normandy on a school trip organised by their French teachers. Ruth Hasid, the SI class teacher, was able to accompany them. It was an interesting visit, which also enabled the Section to strengthen ties with the French staff.
- The end-of-year show for the integrated classes will take place on 23 June. The students are working hard on learning their lines and songs! We look forward to seeing the performance. Stay tuned for a recap in our next Newsletter!
- We wish lots of happiness and success to those students leaving the Primary Section this summer. In particular, we'd like to congratulate those students who passed their entrance tests to continue their studies in an international section at *collège* level. We're very proud of you: keep up the good work!
- The teachers and students would like to thank Janine Szabronski, CE2 class teacher, who will be leaving at the end of June, for her years of commitment and dedication to the Primary Programme. We wish her all the very best in her new adventures.



*Ruth Hasid, Head Primary Teacher*



# Book Character Day, April 2022



*Above and below: CMI Integrated pupils had fun coming to English class dressed as their favourite book characters.*

*Above: A CMI pupil from the Primary Wednesday Programme was a bewitching Hermione from Harry Potter.*





# Primary

## End-of-Year Party

SI Primary pupils and their families gathered at Parc du Butard in La Celle Saint Cloud on Sunday 12 June to share a picnic brunch, play games and have fun! While parents mingled and relaxed, children had a blast bowling, drawing pictures and playing tug-of-war. A big thank you to Primary Parent Rep Adeline Wohlhuter and all the Primary Class Reps (Marie-Blandine Ferrer, Irene Vignon, Carole Massaglia, Andreani Ionides Sterckx, Elise Reboud, Celine Tocque, Emma Mtibat, Lisa Regan, Gina Cottet, Heather Olson Marchand, Juliette Duval and Made Delplace) for their time, creativity and impressive organisational skills that helped make this event, and so many others this year, not only possible but such successes—despite Covid! Below is a selection of highlights from the party.





# Section News & Events



*Above:* SI President Yvonne Rémond Murphy and former Wednesday Programme Parent Rep Made Delplace's smiles shone at an in-person gathering.



*Top right and right:* SI Primary Wednesday, Externée, Integrated and *Collège* parents enjoyed a long-awaited lunch get-together on 20 May 2022. In between festive toasts and laughs, those present also expressed gratitude and recognition for having such an approachable and dependable English-speaking community like the Section so far from home.



## Spring at Last in (the) Paris (Suburbs)!



*Left and below:* CMI Integrated and Externée pupils enjoyed a playdate on a sunny Wednesday in April 2022. After lunch, they had fun playing at a nearby park.





# Section News, continued



*Left: Better late than never! The SI Première parents finally got together for a Section "potluck" one lovely May evening at O Gout du Monde in Noisy-le-Roi. Besides the perfect weather, cozy terrace and tasty fare, Section parents enjoyed sharing friendly and meaningful conversation.*



## Collège Teacher Vacancy for Next September



**JOB OFFER:**  
**History-Geography Teacher, Collège Level**  
**Limited number of hours 4h/week -**  
**Based in College de la Quintinye Noisy-Le-Roi**

The Section Internationale La Celle-Saint-Cloud & Noisy le Roi, created in 2002 and accredited by the French Ministry of Education, is one of the principal English-speaking international sections in the western suburbs of Paris. It is comprised of over 230 international students at four sites and ranging in age from 5 (GS) to 18 years old (Terminale). It is managed by an Executive Committee, elected by the Association des Parents d'Elèves de la SEction Britannique (APESEB), families in the Section.

**The SECTION INTERNATIONALE is now looking for an a 4h/week History-Geography Teacher for Collège level to start in September 2022.**  
**(students between 11 (6 eme) and 13 (5 eme) years old ).**

Possibility of teaching 2 hours in Noisy le Roi and 2 hours at the Lycée in La Celle Saint Cloud, depending on training and experience.

Successful candidates should be native English speakers with some teaching experience. Teaching is performed in English, but some fluency in French would be helpful. Candidates should be located within easy reach of both La Celle St Cloud and Noisy-le-Roi (Yvelines 78).

**HOW TO APPLY:** Interested candidates should apply enclosing a CV together with a brief statement as to why they are applying.

# Section News, continued

## Upcoming Events

### SI Book Sale

This Sunday 19/06  
At Place Berthet **9am-5pm**  
La Celle-Saint-Cloud



SECTION INTERNATIONALE  
La Celle-Saint-Cloud - Noisy le Roi

*Over 10 years of bilingual education!*



**Cash only**  
1€/book

Please  
bring  
change



**Come choose great books for this Summer !!!**

Free time to help out ? Contact 0699045916 (Adeline)

### Annual General Meeting

*Save  
THE  
Date*

**The next Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on 22 September 2022  
(Salle Charles de Gaulle in La Celle Saint Cloud).**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**GET INVOLVED!**



# SECTION EVENT

**Saturday  
27 August**

**You're invited!**

Section Internationale  
La Celle-Saint-Cloud – Noisy Le Roi

## BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC



Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2022  
12.00 – 15.00



Lycée Corneille, 4 avenue Pierre Corneille  
78170 La Celle-Saint-Cloud



What families can bring  
6<sup>ème</sup> to Terminale: savoury and wine  
GS to CM2 : sweet dishes and soft drinks



Come to meet old and new families from Grande  
Section to Terminale



# A Taste of Home

Please find below my go-to recipe for tiramisu, a favourite in my house. It is based on the BBC Good Food recipe that can be found [here](#). I have adapted the recipe by using amaretto instead of marsala.

I also make a more decadent version by substituting Baileys Irish Cream for the marsala and adding 2 Tbsp amaretto to the coffee.

Tempted by a fruit-filled variation bursting with flavour? Strawberry tiramisu is the favourite of one of my daughters and easy to make. Simply dip the lady fingers in Prosecco (or water mixed with strawberry jam and some balsamic vinegar) instead of coffee, and layer strawberries on top of the mascarpone mixture. (I also add Prosecco to the mascarpone mixture.)

This versatile dessert is perfect for summer BBQs. I hope you all enjoy whatever version you choose.

*Lynne Mphande, SI Vice President*



## Tiramisu



### Ingredients

568 ml heavy cream  
250 g mascarpone  
75 ml amaretto  
5 Tbsp light-brown sugar  
300 ml strong coffee, made with 2 Tbsp coffee granules and 300 ml boiling water  
175g lady fingers  
25g dark chocolate  
2 tsp cocoa powder

### Instructions

1. Put the cream, mascarpone, amaretto and sugar in a large bowl.
2. Whisk until the cream and mascarpone have completely combined and have the consistency of thickly whipped cream.
3. Pour the coffee into a shallow dish. Dip in a few lady fingers at a time, turning for a few seconds until they are nicely soaked, but not soggy. Layer these in a dish until you've used half the lady fingers, then spread over half of the creamy mixture.
4. Using the coarse side of the grater, grate over most of the dark chocolate. Then repeat the layers (you should use up all the coffee), finishing with the creamy layer.
5. Cover and chill for a few hours or overnight. Will keep in the fridge for up to two days.
6. To serve, dust with the cocoa powder and grate the remaining chocolate on top.

*Is there a recipe that you would like to share with our Section community? Please email: [mschmit@sectioninternationale.org](mailto:mschmit@sectioninternationale.org)*

# SECTION INFORMATION

## JOIN US!

### Upcoming Executive Committee Meeting Dates

(8 pm at Espace Jonchère,  
2-10 avenue de La Jonchère, La Celle St-Cloud)



8 September 2022  
20 October 2022  
17 November 2022

To participate, please email:  
[secretary@sectioninternationale.org](mailto:secretary@sectioninternationale.org)

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Cover art: 'The Oak Tree' (2021), by  
Yvonne Rémond Murphy. (Indian  
ink on black paper.)

## How can I stay informed about Section news and activities?

In addition to reading the *Highlights* Newsletter, parents are encouraged to check the Section website and Facebook pages regularly for updates. Please note that there are **two SI Facebook pages**: a public page, which displays official information and yearly events for the public, and a Family Facebook group for current SI families. The latter displays unofficial SI events, individual class gatherings, information about carpooling, babysitting, book club, book sales and other happenings that we prefer to keep amongst the SI community.

To gain access to the SI Families group, please send an email to Mrs. Yvonne Rémond-Murphy ([president@sectioninternationale.org](mailto:president@sectioninternationale.org)) or to your SI Programme representative and specify the email address associated with your Facebook account. You will then be sent a link to join.



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