



Gaesdonck Parents letter

Nr. 10/2020-21

18.09.2020

Dear Gaesdonck-Families

Despite Corona and the peculiarities associated with it (which will again make up a large part of this letter to parents), everyday school life has returned to us. In most classes and courses the **first papers and exams** have been written or are due at short notice. We wish all our students every success and good luck in these first big tests of the school year. (The fact that "luck" is usually associated with a little effort and diligence is not a new insight...)

Rejoice with your children when the first grades give reason to do so and encourage them not to give up when things have not worked out so well!

Even though we have had to deal intensively with changed conditions such as face-masks, keeping distances and additional hygiene regulations since the beginning of the school year, it is still a good moment after the first few weeks to realise that - as far as we can see - we have still come through this pandemic **well and healthy in our "Gaesdonck family"**. Neither our students and their families nor our colleagues here on campus have experienced Covid-19 diseases. Whether or not our hygiene measures were a decisive factor here or not, we will probably not find out. However, this interim insight may provide the motivation to continue to accept the often annoying restrictions. Let us simply continue to take good care of each other!

Taking good care of each other also means that we continue to observe the situation on our school buses very closely.

Special bus timetable until the autumn holidays

As you may have read in the media, the State of North Rhine-Westphalia has announced that it will provide funding for additional bus services to transport schoolchildren until the beginning of the autumn holidays in order to improve infection protection. The additional buses are intended to create a larger distance between pupils and reduce the use of standing room in the busses.

In this context, special thanks are due to our colleague Mr Klein in the administration, who not only succeeded in the past two weeks in an intensive process with the authorities to ensure that we as a private school could also benefit from this arrangement, but who also succeeded in the not so easy feat of organising the additional bus capacities required for this measure at short notice, so that - as your children will have told you - we have already been operating with considerably more buses since this morning.

And the first attempt has already worked "almost quite well". Some coordination difficulties between the individual lines will certainly be better under control by next Monday.

On the basis of the registered bus students with the allocation of the entry and exit stops, as well as taking into account the number of seats in the buses used, we have now reorganised the lines until the autumn holidays. In general, the lines will simply be divided and the bus stops will be approached in the known order. So for most of our pupils, nothing will change. On four lines, however, individual sections of the route have to be merged, so that individual stops are now served by other lines. This may result in slightly different departure and arrival times. A closer look at the attached **special timetable** is definitely worthwhile!

So until the autumn holidays we will operate

- 13 (instead of 7) buses on the outward trip in the morning from Monday to Friday,
 - 8 (instead of 4) buses on the return trip at midday from Monday to Thursday,
 - on the return trip at noon Friday 13 (instead of 7) buses,
 - 8 (instead of 4) buses on the return trip in the evening from Monday to Thursday
- On the return trip in the evening on Friday 4 buses will continue to operate. The normal timetable (lines 51 - 54) will continue to apply.

The organisation of this measure involves an enormous planning effort. If something should not work out as planned, please contact Mr Klein directly (02823-961-105).

Due to the increased number of buses in service, our Gaesdonck bus station on Groote Laarweg will naturally be very busy during the morning arrival times and Friday noon departure times.

In order to avoid accidents, we would like to draw your attention to the following

1. If children are brought to Gaesdonck by car, they should not be dropped off or picked up at the bus station but at our main car park (access Gaesdoncker Str.). In this context, we would like to remind you of the parking regulations stated in the last letter to parents
2. Bus students are only allowed to get off directly at the bus station, i.e. in case of traffic jams, bus students may have to wait until the bus can pull forward to the bus station.
3. all 13 buses will be waiting for students on time for the return journey on Friday at noon. This means that some buses will stop in the second row. To avoid accidents, all buses will not depart until all students are on the buses and the doors are closed.

Finally, there is something pleasant to report for the pupils from Kevelaer: From Monday, 21.09.2020, the bus stop Buchfinkenweg (Aldi) will again be served as normal.

Safety first – Note on crossing Gaesdoncker Strasse from the cycle path

The above topic is matched by a note we received from our bus drivers:

Unfortunately, when crossing Gaesdoncker Straße, some of our pupils behave as if they had right of way when crossing the street at the level of our Madonna. This is not the case! The crossing aid in front of the Madonna is not a zebra crossing and does not give right of way to pedestrians or cyclists in front of the moving traffic on Gaesdoncker Straße. As a precaution, please inform your children of this once again.

Have a good weekend!

We wish you and your families a continued healthy journey through the Corona Pandemic and our boarding students a good weekend with their families until their return on Sunday evening.

With kind regards from Gaesdonck campus

Dr. Markus Oberdörster
Director

Doris Mann
Haedmistress

Michael Gysbers
Head of boarding houses

Please also note the following information from our Sports teachers and our Spiritual:

Gaesdonck helps - fundraising campaign for Moria

Dear parents,

With a fundraising campaign next Wednesday, 23.09.2020, we as the Gaesdonck school community would like to support the refugees in Moria, Greece. The foundation "Aktion pro Humanität" from Kevelaer is also involved. The foundation has the necessary contacts to Greece and will use the donations to buy urgently needed medicine.

During the breaks on Wednesday, students of our school will hand over the popular jams of Sr Theogarde for a donation of at least 2 €. Should you wish to donate more, please give your children a sealed envelope with the appropriate amount. This can also be handed in at the stand.

Bless you!

Many greetings and many thanks,

Christoph Schwerhoff
Spiritual

Gaesdonck Inline-Skating-Marathon on 26.09.2020

Dear parents,

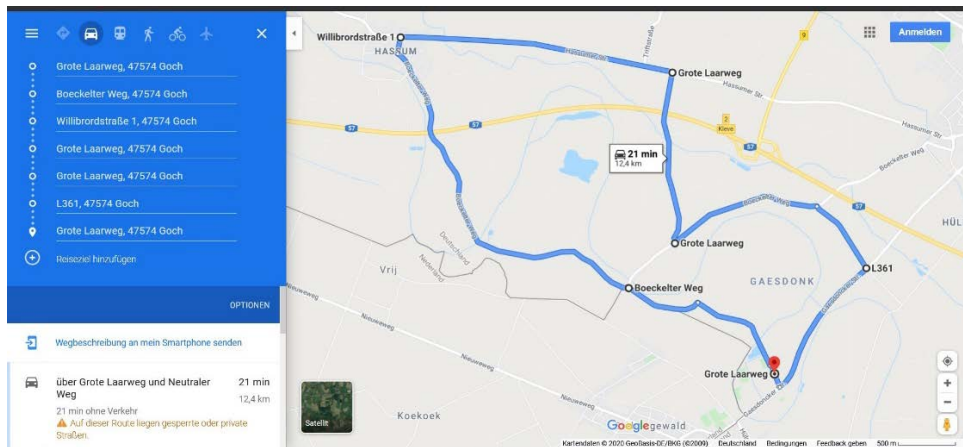
due to the current corona pandemic, this year's inline skating marathon in Berlin on 26.9.2020 will unfortunately not take place.

As our students were of course very well prepared and looking forward to it, we will be holding the inline skating marathon at Gaesdonck instead of Berlin.

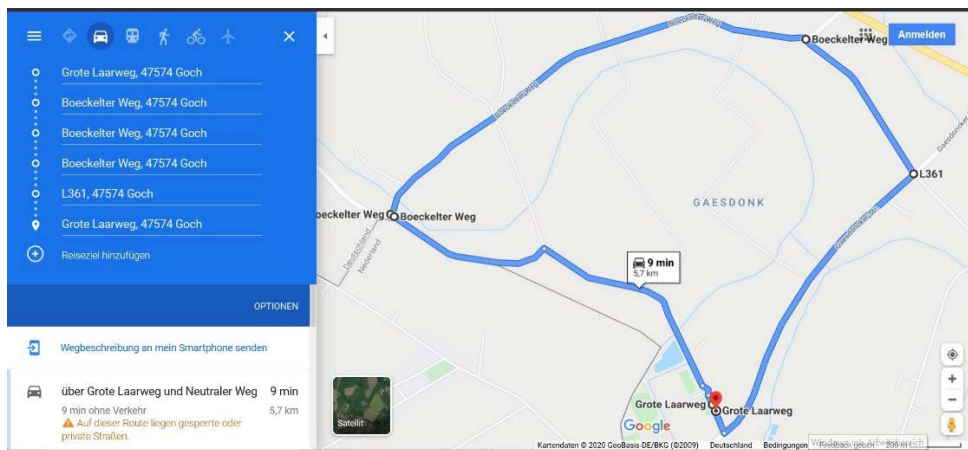
The start will be at 15:45 at the school's bus car park and on this fan mile everyone is looking forward to a lot of support. So, if you have time and desire to cheer on our inline skating course, you are cordially invited. As with all school events at present, the regulations of our Corona protection concept apply: To enter the campus you need to fill out a visitor's pass and wear a mouth-nose cover.

For a full marathon course, students run the following laps:

Route 1. of 12.4 km twice directly after the start,



then three times the route 2. of 5.7 km.



We are looking forward to a great run!

Alexa Bogers & Pawel Zalewski
Sport teachers team

