



# Gaesdonck Parents' Letter

No. 17/2025-26

13 June 2026

Dear Gaesdonckers

Thursday was the big day: long queues of A-level students formed outside Headteacher Ms Schleede-Schmalz's office to find out their Abitur results. An exciting moment. Anticipation, excitement, nervousness and anxious hope – it was all happening at once in our foyer. In the end, there was a bit of disappointment here and there, but most left the office feeling quite satisfied. We're keeping our fingers crossed for everyone who is now sitting their resits. To everyone else, we'd like to say loud and clear: **CONGRATULATIONS ON PASSING YOUR ABITUR-EXAMS!**

We look forward to your graduation ceremony, the presentation of certificates and your prom. But more on that at the end of this letter.

## Gaesdonck Campus Festival 2026



for a reunion.

It takes many hands to make a successful festival – so a **big thank you** to everyone involved: our students in the boarding and day-school sections, our colleagues in boarding education, the maintenance team, and especially those in the kitchen and housekeeping, the parents who were on hand at the information stand for discussions, the Scouts, and many more.

As always, you can find plenty of pictures in the News section of our website.

Our Campus Festival on the last weekend in May was a wonderful day with lots of guests.

As well as the new Sextans and their families, we were also delighted to welcome several families interested in boarding school, as well as many Gaesdonck families who simply made the most of the day for a short outing. There was a very pleasant atmosphere in the evening too, which quite a few alumni – particularly those from recent graduation years – used as an opportunity



## Photo shoot with Julian Huke

“Pictures” is a good keyword. Our photo shoot last week with Cologne-based photographer Julian Huke for new Gaesdonck images was an exciting moment not only for the students but also for the adults involved.

We are very proud of your children: over 190 students agreed to take part and lend their faces to Gaesdonck! To be honest, we were a little nervous before the shoot given the sheer number of ‘models’, but what can we say: your children did a brilliant job. They were disciplined yet full of enthusiasm. Their enthusiasm was infectious, even for our photographer.

We’re happy to share his feedback: *“I’d like to thank you very much for the fantastic shoot. It far exceeded my expectations. You certainly didn’t praise your students too much – they really are brilliant. It’s a joy to see that there are still so many wonderful children and young people around today. [...] Best regards, Julian Huke”.*

The photos are still being processed and are far from finished, but a very small preview is certainly in order at this point...



1 play, 2 evenings, 2 different casts, 1 madness



Show your face and have the courage to step forward. This also applies to the students in the literature class in Lower Primary (Q1).

They cordially invite you to **the play "Adventure: Flat Share"** on **22 and 23 June**

The questions to be answered are:

What exactly is the stage here, and why do gangsters from 1950s Chicago play a part?

What do dumplings and houseplants have in common?

And do we really need 23 series?

The literature class looks forward to your visit. So treat yourself to a lovely evening!

Admission is free.

**The event starts at 7.00 pm.**

## Calendar update



On **Friday, July 3rd**, we will be holding a graduation ceremony for our Abitur students.

**Lessons will end after the 4th period for all students, regardless of their attendance arrangements.** The buses will run accordingly.

Boarding students will start their weekend trip home after the 4th period. There will be no supervision at the day boarding school.

*Despite the current changeable weather, we sincerely wish you a relaxing weekend and are already looking forward to welcoming you to one of the upcoming theatre performances in our auditorium.*

*Best regards*

**Dr Markus Oberdörster**  
Headteacher

**Sabine Schleede-Schmalz**  
Headmistress

**Michael Gysbers**  
Head of Boarding