

**General information
group 3
school year 2024-2025**



Personnel

group 3		
Mon	Anna van der Keemel	anna.vanderkeemel@wijwijzer.nu
Tues to Fri	Joyce van den Brink	joyce.vandenbrink@wijwijzer.nu

organisation		
Special needs co-ordinator Mon, Wed, Fri	Petra Voorderhaak	petra.voorderhaak@wijwijzer.nu
Team leader Mon to Fri	Cindy van Nobelen	cindy.vannobelen@wijwijzer.nu
Head Mon to Thurs	Lisa ter Veen	lisa.terveen@wijwijzer.nu

Start of the day

The classroom opens at 8:05am and lessons start at 8:15am. We expect group 3 children to come into the classroom on their own, whenever possible, because this helps them to become more independent. You can say goodbye to your child at the outside door.

Physical Education (P.E.)

We have P.E. lessons every Monday and Friday. Mr Max is the P.E. teacher. Please provide your children with sports clothes and training shoes in a gym bag. The children in group 3 get changed in the changing rooms in the gym. Children with long hair will need hairbands to tie their hair up, it might be a good idea to put some extra hairbands in your child's gym bag.

Food and drink

The children keep their snack in their bag. The bags are kept in a specific place in the corridor. We think it's important to give your child a snack that is as healthy as possible. Wednesday is 'gruitdag', so all the children must only bring fruit or vegetables, for their snack, on this day.

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Birthdays

We celebrate your child's birthday in the classroom. Your child can give a treat to their classmates.

A children's birthday party is, of course, very pleasant for your child and the children who are invited, but to avoid the other children's disappointment, we request that you hand out the invitations outside the school and not in the classroom.

Subjects and course books

You can see which other subjects and courses we follow in the school guide on the website. Please see below for extra information about the subjects that are particularly relevant for the children in group 3.

Arithmetic and numeracy

We use the following maths course in the maths lessons; De Wereld In Getallen 5 (WIG 5) (The World in Numbers). This course offers plenty of repetition of the material. The children are given two blocks to master new strategies. After the two blocks have been completed the children will be tested to check whether or not the goals have been achieved. This course provides a great deal of differentiation as well as repetition and has been designed to enable the children to practise at different levels according to their abilities. From group 7 there will be an opportunity for children who find maths difficult to work on a separate learning path (Fs). We will, of course, consult parents to discuss whether this is acceptable or necessary.

In group 3 the children learn addition, subtraction, and division of numbers up to 20. They will also learn how to count using money, learn the hours when telling the time and learn the months of the year. In addition to this they will learn about weights and measures, how to read maps and learn how to understand the number line up to 100.

In addition to the above course, we also use the coursebook 'Met sprongen vooruit' (In leaps and bounds). This course focuses on mental arithmetic using mathematical games.

Technical reading – phonemes, decoding words and phonics

In group 3 we concentrate on helping the children to learn to read. It's an exciting time for you as parents. Perhaps your child suddenly recognizes the 'p' on the peanut butter jar when they are eating their breakfast!

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Your child will learn letters and words in a systematic way. The course we use, to teach the children how to read, is called "Veiling Leren Lezen" (Learning to read in a safe way) The course follows 8 core learning points with a starting point and a closing point for each core area. A core area lasts four weeks and after each part the children's knowledge is tested. Spelling, creative writing, reading comprehension and vocabulary are all integrated into the course.

At the end of each core learning point, your child will receive a workbook to take home. You will be able to see what they have learned during the previous four weeks and there is a special parent page at the back of the workbook which you can complete.

As well as "Veilig Leren" we also use the course "Zo leer je kinderen lezen en spellen". This teaches the children how to write the letters correctly. We no longer teach the children to learn words by breaking them down into different sound parts. So instead of b-oo-m boom (tr-ee tree) we sing the letters altogether as a word: boooooommmmm. This is known as 'buzz reading'. When we teach the children how to spell, we still teach them how to recognise the different sounds in the words.

Spelling

In groups 3 to 7 we are working with a new language and spelling course known as Staal 2 this year (group 8 will start next school year). Group 3 will start on the spelling part of the course after the Christmas holidays.

Staal is based on the proven, preventive spelling approach developed by José Schraven. The fixed rhythm, repetition every lesson and daily dictations (spelling tests) ensure optimal results in spelling. Staal also combines spelling and grammar and is the first method to do so. The children learn the names of new categories and the corresponding new rules alongside previously learned categories and rules which are repeated every day. As a result, the children's knowledge expands and builds on previous information to ensure they learn more effectively. The children learn more effectively when the category and spelling rules are explained in the same way and this is continued and built on throughout the school years.

Writing

We use the method Pennenstreken (pen strokes) to teach the children how to write quickly and legibly. We teach the children to write the letters separately first, so the letters are not joined up. The lessons are short and compact. Pennenstreken works well with the other courses we use to teach the children, such as Veilig Leren Lezen, and they learn how to write the shapes of the letters in a fluent, natural way making sure that the letters are clearly identifiable.

English

We use the "Blink Engels" course to teach English. Each lesson focuses on a well-known song. Music has a positive impact on children and encourages them to move, which also helps them to remember the things they have learned. During the lessons the children sing songs, have short conversations (in English!), listen to stories and play games on the Interactive Whiteboard. They work in pairs or while sitting in the circle.

In groups 3 and 4 the children also learn English with Okki the DJ.

The themes they learned in groups 1 and 2 are repeated and expanded. Within the themes are well-known pop songs and points to discuss as well as Do it yourself worksheets for the children to complete. We also sing popular songs such as 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes' and many more.

Creative education lessons

We teach creative education using the "Laat Maar Zien" course. This course focuses on visual and cultural education. The children have music lessons every week. Once every two weeks a music teacher from Pier K teaches music in the classroom. The following week the class teacher gives the music lesson. During the creative education lessons, we also pay attention to ICT skills and media literacy.

Parental involvement

An important part of your child's growth is the golden triangle between children, parents and the school. Your child's well-being is paramount and this triangle is essential to ensuring that your child develops according to their abilities. The chart below shows you how you can support your child.

How can I support my child's education?		
I am involved	I help my child	I know what my child can and cannot do
For example: I	For example by:	For example:
Show interest in school, I ask: what did you learn today?	Eating healthy food	Learning, behaviour and attitude to work at school
Talk about how things like Dutch, English and maths are going. Talk about their behaviour too	Going to bed at bedtime and sleeping well	What my child understands or doesn't understand. Things I can ask or tell my child and things I cannot
Help my child to do the best they can at school	Getting enough exercise	What my child can achieve, not only this
	Coming to school on time	
	Knowing what my child is doing and who they are with	

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Do educational things together	Making sure that my child doesn't spend too much time on their Ipad or mobile phone or watching television	school year, but in the future and after primary school
Stand by the school rules		
Say something nice or kind about the teacher or to the teacher	And....	And....
Think along the same lines as the school		
And....		

Marleen Buwalda & Maaike Monsees (2024), inspired by Debora van der Heuvel & Myrthe Drexhage (2024). Source: Met plezier naar school: de onmisbare rol van ouders in het succes van kinderen (Pameijer, 2021)

Important dates and events in group 3

Progress meeting:	5 November 2024
First round IEP-tests:	January/February 2025
Report 1 to be taken home:	14 February 2025
Progress meeting:	27 March 2025
Second round IEP-tests:	June 2025
Report 2 to be taken home:	4 July 2025
Letter party:	January/February 2025

A number of other trips and activities will be planned during the school year. We will let you know about these extra activities and will also request your help on these special days via Parro. If you have the time and would like to come along to help us on these days – please check Parro!

We are looking forward to a great school year and would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Anna van der Keemel and Joyce van den Brink

Our school guide is on the homepage of our website.