

dialogue

PRINTEMPS 2021



In memory of
Clyde Javois
C'est avec un grand plaisir que nous
annonçons la mort de notre collègue et ami
Clyde Javois, professeur et directeur de l'école.
Clyde a été un homme d'action, un homme
d'engagement, un homme de bien.
Il nous a quittés le 15 mars 2021.
Il nous manque énormément.
Clyde Javois, 1945-2021



Nouvelle Direction | Jean-Yves Vesseau

JEAN-YVES GREW UP in the Ardèche region of France and completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Montpellier. He started his career in education as the French version of our School Life Assistant while taking graduate classes and training to become a certified teacher. He then taught English at various schools across the world, from Rome to Los Angeles, before becoming an administrator at the Lycée français de Shanghai where he served as Deputy Head. He later took over as the Head of Lycée français de Taipei, where he stayed for seven years before being appointed as Head of School at The École in the summer of 2020.

Jean-Yves has a wealth of experience in bilingual education and has built a strong reputation as a leader in his field. He strongly believes that education is about building bridges, and he enjoys the strong sense of community that he feels at The École. Jean-Yves is also convinced that one should never stop learning, which is why he recently enrolled at the University of Staffordshire and completed an MA in Philosophy.

For his general contribution to the field of education, Jean-Yves was awarded the Palmes académiques by French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe in 2017. Jean-Yves is well aware that he owes much of his success to his wife, Andria, and to the support she has given him over the years.



Table des matières

- 2 Looking Towards the Future
- 3 New Perspectives
- 4 Pre-Elementary School | Maternelle
- 12 Elementary | Élémentaire
- 23 Souvenirs
- 24 Middle School | Collège
- 30 What I Learned At The École
- 33 8th Grade Graduates through the Years
- 34 Administration and Specialist Teachers
- 36 Enhancements
- 39 Parents Association
- 40 Tournés vers l'avenir
- 41 Nouvelles Perspectives



The École remercie ses photographes sans qui on n'aurait pas pu produire ce magazine : Matthieu Guillot, Vitor Rossiti, The École parents and staff. All Rights Reserved.



Designed and produced by
Alouette Communications.
www.alouettecommunications.com

Looking Towards the Future

When the weather allows it, I tie on a pair of sneakers and go running along the Hudson. On the way back, legs heavy, I am welcomed and reenergized by a huge mural painted on the pier. Giant red letters stretch across the façade of a building, spelling out this simple phrase, visible from afar: I WANT TO THANK YOU.

When I packed my bags and left Taiwan last summer to move to New York and take charge of The École, I didn't fully realize what to expect. Ten months later, on this first look back on my time here, it is this mural that comes to mind. It perfectly sums up what I want to say to you, and it beautifully captures the sense of gratitude that I am feeling.

I am not going to talk about the year that we have had, except to say that we had to be very optimistic back in September to think we could do it; what we have accomplished together can and should be a huge collective source of pride for us. Today, instead, I want to look towards the future.

It is the future of our 8th graders, who are venturing off to new horizons. I know that they are ready to take on new challenges, strengthened by all that they have gained from The École. The future is also that of our students who are going to be leaving us. Whether they are going to England, to Korea, to France or not quite so far, they are taking with them a little bit of our school, and we will think of them often. These students who are leaving, along with their families, know—I hope—that they can come back to see us whenever they would like. The École is their home.

The immediate future is also colored by the good news that we recently received: our French teachers will be able to return to France this summer. You don't need to be an expert in teaching to understand that the students will benefit from having teachers who are well rested and who will have had the pleasure of seeing their family and friends after so many long months of not being able to leave the country.

Finally, the future is, of course, what awaits our students next year, their new teachers and new classmates. This strange year, which we are celebrating in this yearbook, made us think about our methods. And just like we all want to restore the things that make The École such a special place, we are also committed to not simply going back to the way things were before. So, we will be moving forward, with innovations that will bring The École even more in line with the needs of our community.

It is precisely this entire community that I would like to thank. For you, I would draw, if I could, huge red letters on the walls of the school to let you know loud and clear: I WANT TO THANK YOU.



Since that is not possible, a huge thank you goes to Philippe and Laurence for giving me this opportunity and always being there along the way. A huge thank you goes to all of our families for the great discussions we've had and for your support. A huge thank you goes to the teachers and the whole staff for their talent, their determination and their constant commitment. A huge thank you goes to the students who quickly accepted me and whose resilience (which we are meant to teach them) is actually a beautiful lesson for us adults. And finally, thank you to Andria, my wife, my refuge, without whom I would not have always had the necessary strength.

I wish you all a wonderful summer 2021. I am already looking forward to seeing you again at the rentrée.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' and 'V' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

JEAN-YVES VESSEAU
Director

New Perspectives

Dear Families,

This year was unique... unique, of course, because of the global pandemic that we are still going through, but even more unique in our eyes because of the incredible response of our community in the face of this pandemic.

Thanks to your collective and continuous efforts as well as the carefulness and caring of each and every one of us, we were able to offer all of our students—from Nursery through 8th Grade—the possibility of coming to school onsite all day, every day since September 1st, 2020. Through the outstanding collective management of what was both a health and social crisis and by keeping children and their families at the center of all of the decisions and steps that were taken, our community helped put The École at the top of the list of schools of its kind.

We would like to sincerely congratulate all of our students for their resilience, all of our families for their full cooperation and all of our teachers and staff for their unconditional involvement. We would also like to take this opportunity to recognize and express our gratitude for the meticulous work of our Back Onsite Committee. They were able to define and implement a robust and comprehensive plan—and to adjust it as required by the changing situation.

For us, this pandemic (with a little luck, this will be the last time we have to say its name: Covid) was a revelation—as if we needed one—of the force of our community, of the proof that, together, we can do so much for the well-being and the development of our children, which make up the very building blocks of our school.

This school year was also the first for our new Head of School! As you know, Jean-Yves Vesseau took charge of The École in the summer of 2020. From the beginning of the hiring process, we placed our absolute confidence in him. Not surprisingly, that turned out to be a more than wise and well-deserved decision. Throughout this year, with the passing weeks and weekly letters from Jean-Yves, we have been impressed by how quickly he became part of our community, how he understood our strengths and what makes us unique, all while identifying ways of moving forward to be explored and orchestrated. Like a conductor, Jean-Yves guided and coordinated the teams through a school year where agility has been the key word.

In the middle of such a complicated year, Jean-Yves, in concert with the teachers, even succeeded in establishing some new teaching practices with the view of improving the learning experience for students on a daily basis—a plethora of small details that make all the difference! Because our community is open to change and is always ready to welcome new ideas for the benefit of our students,



this year—amongst other initiatives—we were able to put in place an invaluable and reinforced EST/Counseling team; to develop several new features in Focus (our online portal for families, teachers and the administration); to apply for and receive the authorization from the DOE and DOH to open our first Pre-Nursery class in Maternelle in September and more! Simply managing the crisis that descended upon us, immersing himself in our school's philosophy and getting to know our community would have been enough. However, since January, Jean-Yves had already started working with us to put in place some key changes for the *rentrée* in September 2021.

And that's just the beginning! From our weekly meetings as well as our informal chats about this or that, we know that new perspectives are on the horizon for The École! One pandemic later, together with our new Head of School and the whole of our community—stronger than ever—we are going to build The École of tomorrow for our students, so that we can make sure they have a bright future in a world that is constantly changing.

We hope that this summer will allow you the pleasure of being with your family and friends. We would like to thank you heartily for your daily trust and support. We will meet again in September to write a new page in this beautiful human story that seeks to serve the most precious thing in the world: children.

PHILIPPE & LAURENCE ROUX
Benefactors of The École

Pre-Elementary School | Maternelle



JULIEN BUDRINO | KINDERGARTEN
Grande Section, Français



PIERRE LE ROYER | PRE-K
Moyenne Section, Français



MANU GARCIA-GUILLÉN |
KINDERGARTEN
Grande Section, Français



VIRGINIE MARTIN MUGGEO | PRE-K
Moyenne Section, Français et
Co-coordinatrice de la Maternelle



ANDREA GRASSOTTI | NURSERY
Petite Section, English



ENID RAMIREZ-GALVIS | PRE-K
Moyenne Section, English



BEN HAYES | KINDERGARTEN
Grande Section, English and Maternelle
Co-Coordinator



ALISHA SOTO | KINDERGARTEN
Grande Section, English



JOANNA JEAN-DELÉTOILLE |
NURSERY
Petite Section, Français



SAMANTHA SUGARMAN | PRE-K
Grande Section, English, Maternelle
Co-Coordinator

Nursery | Petite Section

Bianca, Bilal, Bodhi, Delila, Gabriel, Ina, Isla, Joseph, Khalil, Lily, Maya, Nathan, Nora, Rita



Pre-K 1 | Moyenne Section 1

Alexander, Angantýr, Calie, Dýri, Elizabeth, Hanna, Isabel, Lucca, Melody, Richard, Solan



Pre-K 2 | Moyenne Section 2

Andrea, Axel, Blake, Cato, Clara, Joseph, Lisa, Maren, Milán, Tallula



Pre-K 3 | Moyenne Section 3

Alessandra, Anna, Chloé, Luca, Niamey, Orion, Roxane, Stella, Yacoub



Kindergarten 1 | Grande Section 1

Eliot, Fiona, Henry S., Joseph, Joséphine, Liam, Louise, Scott, Veda



Kindergarten 2 | Grande Section 2

Alessandro, Anaïs, Emilie, Ismaël, Jack, Julie, Logan, Raphaël, Rayaan, Stella



Kindergarten 3 | Grande Section 3

Alice, Beatrice, Charlize, Henry, Leeloo, Lyes, Nathan, Phélim, Raphaël, Ulysse



Elementary | Élémentaire



NICOLAS BEAU | 2ND GRADE
CE1, Français



BENOÎT BRISSET | 2ND GRADE
CE1, Français and Cycle 2
Co-Coordinator



CHRISTELLE BEAUJON | 5TH GRADE
CM2, Français



LOUISE COHEN | 3RD GRADE
CE2, Français



ISABELLE BELNEAU | 4TH GRADE
CM1, English and Cycle 2 and 3
Co-Coordinator



EVELYN CORDISCO | 5TH GRADE
CM2, Français



CÉDRIC FONTENAUD | 4TH GRADE
CM1, Français



CARA FREY | 1ST GRADE
CP, English



KYLE HACK | 3RD GRADE
CE2, English



VINCENT PAUCHON | 1ST GRADE
CP, Français



DARA HERSCHENFELD | 2ND GRADE
CE1, English



DANIELLE RICHARD
Elementary, Art and School Life Assistant



NADIA LAMARTI | 1ST GRADE
CE1, Français



MARION SABAT | 3RD GRADE
CE2, Français



FRANCK LE MARTELOT | MIDDLE SCHOOL
Collège, Français, Langue, Littérature et Théâtre, Cycle 3 Coordinator, and Library Assistant



MARINE SOYER
Elementary and Middle School, Français langue étrangère

First Grade A | CP A

Alix, Andrea, Eloise, Hugo, Lara, Melchior, Oliver, Oscar, Ronin, Sophie, Veronica



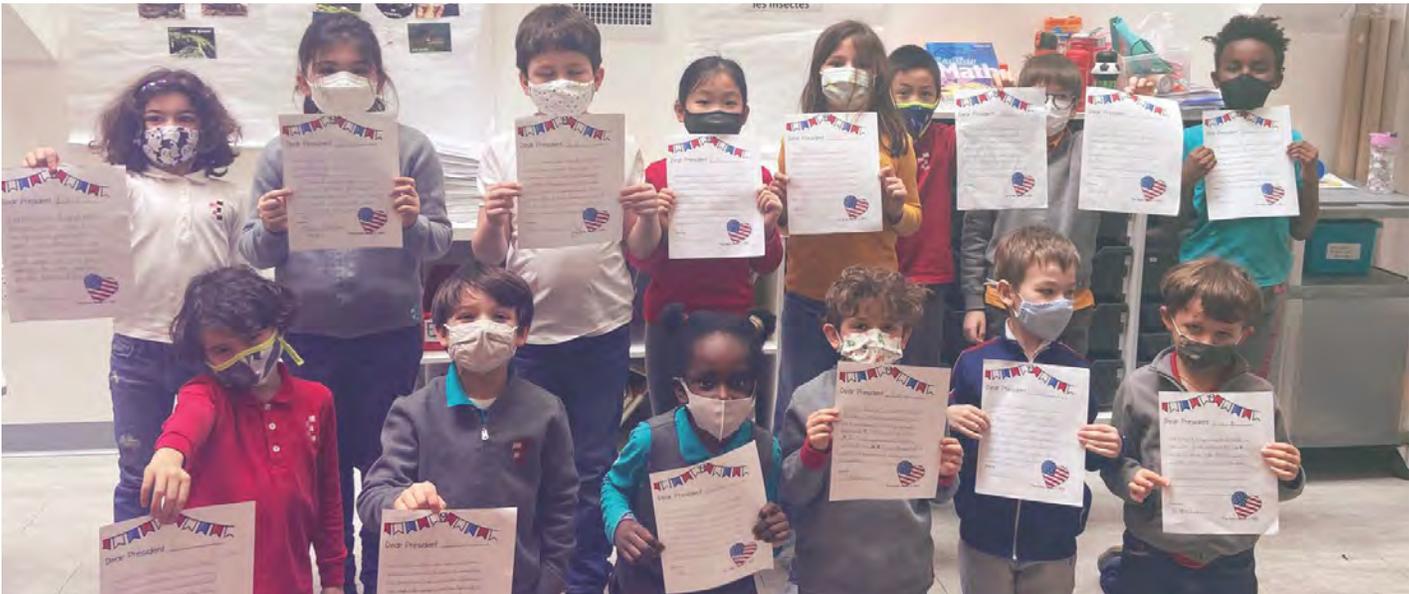
First Grade B | CP B

Alexei, Ali, Elyne, Gaele, Ilyes, Joseph-Georges, Juniper, Mia, Nathan, Nicolas, Niki, Sophia



Second Grade A | CE1 A

Aïa, Arabella, Augustin, Clément, Daniel, Daria, Léo, Mathias, Nadia, Nathanaël, Nia, Nolan, Paul, Rafée



Second Grade B | CE1 B

Aglae, Annabelle, Eli, Elisa, Gabriela, Joseph, Kenzo, Lena, Maxwell, Nicola, Reda, Samuel



Third Grade A | CE2 A

Ana, Bodhi, Ethan, Gloria, Layla, Lucas, Miyuki, Pierre, Skander, William



Third Grade B | CE2 B

Emily, Eva, Hugo, Kuzey, Kyla, L lio, Lucian, Rachel, Sofia, Theo, Thomas, Xul



Fourth Grade A | CM1 A

Amine, Anaé, Aniela, Camille, Elisheva, Emmett, Louise, Seraya, Sophia, Tess, Tyler



Fourth Grade B | CM1 B

Alexandre, Chloé D., Chloe P., Ella, Emma, Eva, Gauthier, Hugo, Louise, Marceau, Paula, Yael



Fifth Grade | CM2

Aindriú, Aurélien, Ethan, Léa, Lélia, Luc, Lucas, Maël, Malo, Mayleen, Noane, Thomas, Valentin



Souvenirs

Middle School | Collège



NOWAKI ASADA
Histoire et Géographie en français



COLIN CAVARROC
Maths et Sciences en français



LAURENCE BENDINELLI
Histoire et Géographie en français



LAUREN GAGNE
Elementary and Middle School, Spanish
Educational Support Team



GAYLE HAMPTON

Math in English



REGINALD MAGLOIRE

Science in English



ANNIE HUANG

Elementary and Middle School, Mandarin



MELISSA MILLAN

Humanities in English



CHRISTINE KAPLAN

Elementary and Middle School,
Mandarin Substitute



RÉMY SOUCHON

Théâtre en français



CHRISTINE KECSKEMETI

Elementary and Middle School,
English as a Second Language



LAURENCE VAN KONINCKXLOO

Sciences Physiques en français



FRANCK LE MARTELOT

Langue, Littérature et Théâtre en
français, Cycle 3 French Coordinator, and
Library Assistant



RODOLPH VEMAZ-COLAS

Musique en français



RACHEL LOBLE

School Life and Middle School Director

Sixth Grade A | 6ème A

Sasha, Faustin, Joe, Jules, Kevin, Liel, Lucas, Madison, Nina, Zacharie



Sixth Grade B | 6ème B

Capucine, Kenji, Lalie, Matteo, Miguel, Nael, Rowan, William



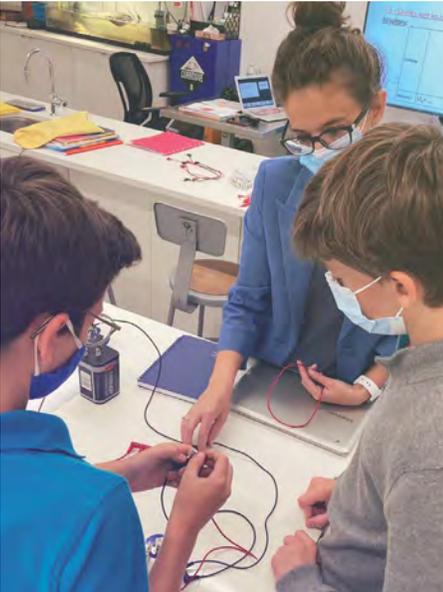
Seventh Grade | 5ème

Charlie, Heather, Sidonie



Eighth Grade | 4ème

Alexandre, Angelin, Athena, Jacob, Kalista, Liu-Jane, Matteo, Sabrina, Zachary



What I Learned At The École

THOUGHTS FROM THE 2020–2021 8TH GRADE GRADUATES



Jacob

In my past three years at The École, the two things that I learned that stood out to me the most was learning trigonometry with Mr. Cavarroc and learning Spanish with Señora Gagne.

I retained many things over COVID-19, but the largest one for me was launching eggs with a small handmade parachute off the Mezzanine to the first floor above Tony's desk for the Science Fair. Though the nine eggs we used all exploded upon contact with the floor, for me it's a moment that I'll be able to remember for a while if not the rest of my life. I'll remember that because it was the only time we were allowed to make a big mess in the school (though we had to clean it up afterwards) and because we learned that even if we have the right material for a parachute, it doesn't matter if how high we drop it from if the parachute is large enough and doesn't have enough time to slow down completely.



Angelin

One thing I learned from my time at The École was English. Before coming to this school, I didn't speak a word. When I think of my first year at The École, one side was amazing because I was very happy to have a new life in New York. On the other side it was not amazing because my English was not great. In summary, my English is much better because I have taken it step by step in the past three years with the help of my teachers and my classmates.

Last year, I did school remotely because of the Coronavirus. The first time it was very difficult for me because I had a lot of emails and at the end of the day I was very tired. I learned a lot of things during this time: how to use Google Meet, Zoom, how to organize my day with a calendar, to do my homework in advance and using technology.



Athena

I've spent the last five years at The École believing that school is a never-ending experience and that's just how it feels. But now I see that I was mistaken. It comes to an end. Yet I wish someone had warned me that, strangely, leaving this school is one of the most difficult aspects.

The École taught me to be more self-sufficient, mature, and open minded, not only about cultures and diverse viewpoints but also to view life from a different perspective and learn from new experiences. This school has provided me with several opportunities, such as the 5th grade trip to Paris. But also, to meet new individuals and create meaningful connections with them. Even though school wasn't always easy, it was an experience I won't forget.



Alexandre

I have been at The École, or formerly EINY, for 10 full years now, pretty much my whole scholarship. I have learned many new skills, discovered many new passions and much more in this fantastic school. If I were to list everything I learned at The École, this paragraph would take the whole yearbook. So, let's put it that way, I have learned an uncountable amount of information that will help me become the best student I can be.

In addition to all of that, The École teaches not one, not two, but three languages! I chose Spanish as my third language in 6th grade, and I have improved from just being able to say "Hola" to being able to write and speak complex sentences. ¡Gracias, Señora Gagne por tres años increíbles! Also, all, yes all the teachers are very approachable and willing to help or explain further if you need.

In this year of 2020–2021, which is a particular one due to COVID-19, I have reinforced many new skills like organization and time management. I was lucky enough to be able to attend class in person all year long, which in my opinion is a huge advantage. Many people think that being in a small school is a disadvantage but on the contrary, small classes make it easier for students to understand and the teachers are closer to students and willing to help each one if they need it.

To conclude, I have experienced 10 amazing years in this wonderful school, and I am totally ready for high school and the upcoming challenges.



Kalista

Middle school is often viewed as a preparation for your studies in high school, or a steppingstone to discover yourself before high school or college. When I first came to The École, I did not have much experience with people let alone friendships. However, throughout my three years here I'm pleased to say that I have matured and changed. The École taught me how to be kinder, more social, and more aware of other people's feelings and needs. I quickly learned that people mature and change— and that you will change over the course of your life.

I am not the same person now as I was in 6th grade, and I will not be the same person now as I am in 10th or 11th grade. It goes the same way with my classmates, which is why it's okay for a change of scenery or new ideas to open up. Middle school was an experience for me, and I definitely had my ups and downs, but I am excited to start a new chapter in my life in high school.



Liu-Jane

Even though my time here was short and very unexpected, this school made me learn about the differences and qualities of both American and French teaching/learning programs. For example, I've loved having access to the American Math program, in addition to the French one, it allowed me to see a different perspective of math and its endless possibilities, which I really enjoyed!



Matteo

I came to EINY in third grade, knowing very little English and with weak French. Believe it or not, my first language was German. Yes, German! I started learning English and French in a whole new way, and now I can confidently say that I am bilingual.

By fifth grade I'd become a bit of a troublemaker, and never thought of the consequences. That quickly stopped with multiple talks with Mr. Riveau I understood that I had to change. And that's exactly what I did! I worked on how to treat myself better but especially how to treat others in a fairer way.

The start of middle school. It's the beginning of a new chapter. I do have a hard time thinking that grades are important, but I did start working more at school, which resulted in better grades. I guess hard work really pays off. Middle school went well until mid-March of seventh grade, when we were on full lockdown for three months.

Now that I've reached my last year, eighth grade, I can say one major change is that I have gotten better at math. I guess you could say it's still a work in progress... I at least have put in the efforts, Mr. Cavarroc and Miss. Hampton! Speaking of Mr. Cavarroc, if you ever read this, I will miss your jokes. They were actually quite funny!

To conclude on my experience at The École, I have learned that being part of a community is what makes all the difference and being part of a community is what The École does so well. All of the teachers and staff have been consistently there for us, no matter what. That's what makes The École a school that will forever be a shining example of community, thanks to their teacher-to-student ratio that other schools will never be able to achieve.



Sabrina

At The École, I learned to be strong. I learned that not everything is easy. I learned that life can turn things upside down. But I also learned that no matter what, I should always keep my head up. With a positive attitude and lots of hard work, everything will eventually fall into place. I also learned the importance of cherishing my friends because the time we shared together went by too fast! But I'm not going to leave The École sad. No, I am going to leave with a spirit of adventure for what awaits me in the future.

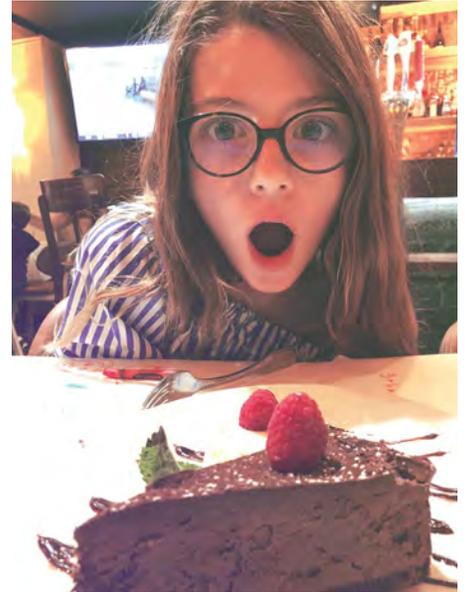


Zachary

Throughout my three years at The École, I have learned and experienced many things. Some of which are how I developed my writing, or how I stared at a computer screen during lockdown for 10 hours a day. But I think that the most important thing that I have learned or experienced during my time at this school is how I learned to explain myself.

And by explaining myself, I mean not only in one language. My French has grown so much in the past three years that when I look back on what I wrote and how I spoke in French class for the first time I start laughing. So, in conclusion, when you make no sense speaking a certain language, you'll get better — and also find yourself to be amusing in the future.

8th Grade Graduates through the Years



Administration and Specialist Teachers



STÉPHANIE ANTOINE
Psychologist, EST and Counseling Team



LEVAR BURNES
School Life Assistant



LUCIE ASSOGBA
School Life and Library Assistant



JANE COWAN
School Counselor and Educational Support Team



MIREILLE DESALM
Director of Admissions



DAPHNE ROSE-JEVREMOV
Finance Director



ANNE HAERLING
Marketing and Communications
Manager



EMMA SACKEFIO
School Life Assistant



ALAIN HASPIL
Extra-Curricular Program Director and
Athletic Director, Middle School Physical
Education



JAN SALAMON
Building Maintenance Specialist



CIARAN MCELVANEY
School Life and Library Assistant



AVIVA SITRUK
School Life Assistant



FAWZIA MOHAMED
School Life Assistant



SIRINE TORRES
Office Manager



BOLEK PONIATOWSKI
Deputy Head of School



MARIE WELCH
School Life Assistant

Enhancements

Chinese Lunar New Year

In February we celebrated Lunar New Year. Students participated in all kinds of activities. Due to Covid restrictions, the traditional Lion Dance was held outside (on the rooftop at 206 for the Maternelle students and at our Open Learning area on 21st for the students at 111). Students learned about Lunar New Year traditions and legends of the Chinese Zodiac. They also made Chinese lanterns and learned some Chinese calligraphy as well as paper cutting. Happy Year of the Ox!

Concours d'écriture

The École held its second annual Concours d'écriture | Writing Contest this year. This second edition of the contest was bilingual and open to all students in 1st through 8th Grade. And the theme was poetry! As with last year, the goal of the contest was to get students writing more and also to instill in them the joy of having their work read by others. Middle School teachers Melissa Millan and Franck Le Martelot coordinated this project, even setting up virtual workshops for all of the classes with two of the judges. Over 100 poems were submitted this year! The winners have not been decided at the time of publishing, but congratulations to all of the participants on their effort.

DELF

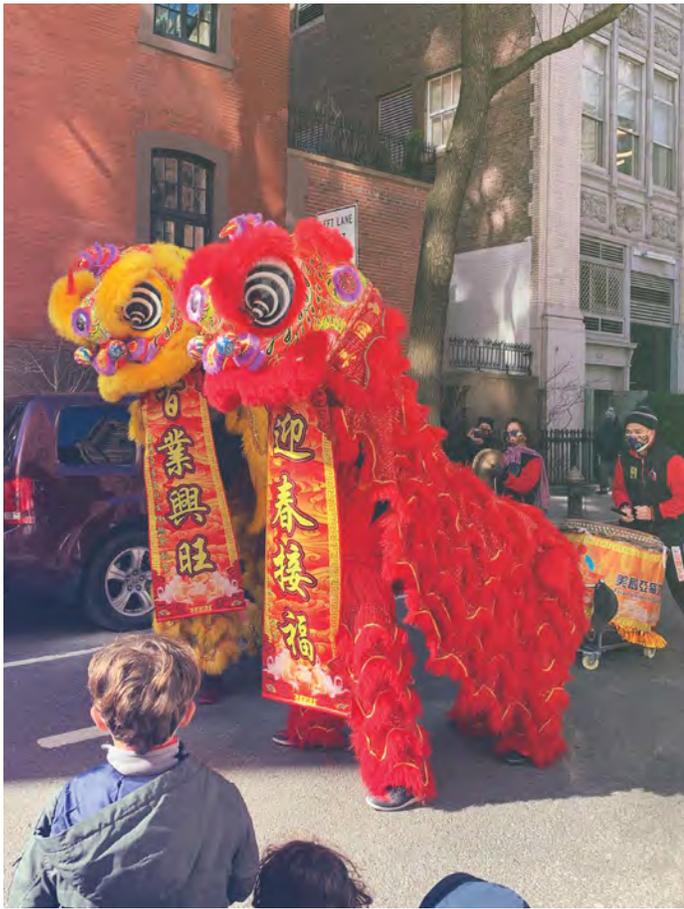
Seventeen students from 1st to 8th grade took the DELF this year, and they all succeeded! This 100% rate of success, along with high scores for many candidates, attests to the excellence of the teaching provided by The École at the Maternelle, Elementary and Middle School levels. Congratulations to all our students who brilliantly explore their skills in French!

The DELF (Diplôme d'études en langue française) is an official certification issued by The French Ministry of Education recognized in France and in 184 countries around the world. In 2018, The École obtained approval to be a DELF Prim and Junior Examination Centre, and this is the third year that we have offered the exam.

Science Fair

La Science Fair (ou Fête des Sciences) permet de promouvoir les sciences de la maternelle au collège. A partir d'un même thème, les élèves travaillent en groupe sur un projet commun. Une initiative pédagogique et ludique vivement encouragée et développée à The École !





Un peu d'air! The theme for the Science Fair this year was *AIR!* First, the students chose one word relating to air from a list of ten (*dis-moi dix mots*). They then applied the scientific method to describe a physical, chemical, biological, or technological phenomenon associated with their chosen word.

Printemps théâtral – Dis-moi dix mots !

This year, the Printemps théâtral was all about air! The theme was *Dis-moi dix mots qui ne manquent pas d'air !*, which in English literally means Tell me ten words that don't lack air! A more idiomatic translation would be: Tell me ten words that are a little cheeky!

The new edition invited everyone to be inspired by words that evoke air in all its forms. Everyone (students, families, staff, etc.) was invited to participate! Those who participated created a short (10-15 second) video about air, inspired by one of these 10 words:

- Aile (nom) : Wing (noun)
- Allure (nom) : Pace (noun)
- Buller (verbe) : Laze around/Form bubbles (verb)
- Chambre à air (nom) : Air chamber/Inner tube (noun)
- Décoller (verbe) : To take off (verb)
- Éolien (adj.) : Wind Power (adj.)
- Foehn (nom) : Foehn (noun)



- Fragrance (nom) : Fragrance (noun)
- Insuffler (verbe) : To breathe (verb)
- Vaporeux (adj.) : Vaporous (adj.)

Student Council

This year the Student Council was made up of class representatives from 2nd through 8th Grade. At the beginning of the school year, each class elected one representative and one alternate. (We had to cut down from the usual two reps and one alternate due to restrictions because of Covid.) At least twice a year, the Student Council



meets with the Head of School to express concerns, ask questions, and make suggestions. Hot topics this year included the lunch menu, longer recess periods and making the school more environmentally friendly.

World of Work

World of Work is our unique career-focused program in which we bring in working professionals to speak to our Middle Schoolers about their career, including how they got to where they are and what inspires them. Are we what we do? What values do we have to defend on a daily basis in carrying out our job? What impact does our professional work have on our identity and on that of others?

These are just a few of the questions that come up during the World of Work meetings. We have had some amazing guests this year, some of whom were parents of students at The École: from interpreters to journalists, from explorers to scientists and everything in between! Here's the full list of guests that we welcomed this year:

- Eric Benzekri, Screenwriter & Creator of the series « Baron Noir »
- Mona El-Nagaar, Middle East Correspondent for the New York Times
- Jérôme Premmereur, COVID 19 Vaccine Specialist & Vice-President Patient Safety Solutions and Adjudication at Labocorp
- Kate Higgins, The École parent, Interpreter at the United Nations Headquarters in New York

- Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi, Curator & African Art Specialist at MoMA
- Richard Garriott, The École parent, Video Game Developer, Entrepreneur & Explorer

We would like to thank them for sharing about their professions, their experiences and their professional challenges. Our students leave the meetings inspired and with a better understanding of the world of work in the US and throughout the world.

Counselor Chats

This year, our Counseling Department was happy to start a new, exclusive initiative for our parents called "Counselor Chats." The Counselor Chats were monthly Zoom presentations where our Counselors Jane Cowan and Stéphanie Antoine shared information about various topics that were of concern and interest to our parents. Topics covered included Stressing Over Screen Time, Alternatives to Punishment and Separation Anxiety.

The Counselor Chats took place over Zoom. Each Chat was presented primarily in English or French with translation provided as necessary. The sessions were organized in two parts: an informational session followed by an opportunity for parents to ask questions in French or in English.

The École Parents Association

The École would like to thank and recognize the tremendous work done by The École Parents Association (TEPA)!

Made up of parent volunteers, they worked together to create and implement ideas that would enhance the school year for our children and the school community overall.

This year, they have been able to:

- Provide Halloween and holiday arts/craft kits, books for children's holiday presents;
- Coordinate Lunar New Year performances for all students;
- Offer breakfast and gift cards for Teacher Appreciation Week;
- Run the school's first virtual silent auction to raise scholarship money;
- Organize the Inside Out Project to enhance the arts and celebrate the work and commitment to staying open during a global pandemic;
- Lend school equipment such as items for the rooftop of the Fifth Avenue Building, a 3D printer for the Maker Room at the Main Building, a small library for the EST and Counseling team, and additional books that increased diverse representation for the school Library.

They have also begun to improve communications between TEPA and parents, including a redesign of their website, the launch of the TEPA Instagram account and continuing communication on Facebook.

Thank you to all the members of The École Parents Association!

The Board: Priscille Voekler, Vickie Molenda, Celine Buchner and Laurence Roux

The Officers: Liz Lazarus (President), Tara Salliot (Treasurer), Vickie Molenda (VP for Maternelle), Isabelle Creach (VP for Elementary School), Jacqueline Rey (VP for Middle School), Celine Buchner (VP for Elementary and Middle), and Communications Team (Muriel Bauer, Lauren Duc and Virginie Lours)

And all of the class representatives who helped with communication and who volunteered when additional help was needed!



Tournés vers l'avenir

Quand le temps le permet je chausse une paire de baskets et m'en vais courir sur les bords de l'Hudson. Sur le chemin du retour, les jambes lourdes, je suis accueilli et revigoré par une immense fresque murale peinte sur la jetée. Des lettres rouges géantes s'étalent sur la façade d'un bâtiment et y dessinent cette phrase toute simple, visible depuis si loin : I WANT TO THANK YOU.

Lorsque j'ai fait mes valises et quitté Taïwan l'été dernier pour venir m'installer à New York et prendre la direction de The École, je ne me rendais pas entièrement compte de ce qui m'attendait. Dix mois plus tard et à l'heure du premier bilan, c'est à cette fresque que je pense puisqu'elle résume si bien ce que j'ai envie de vous dire et capture à merveille le sentiment de gratitude qui m'anime.

Je ne reviendrai pas sur l'année que nous avons passée - sinon pour dire qu'il fallait être bien optimiste pour y croire au mois de septembre dernier et que ce que nous avons accompli ensemble peut et doit être la source d'une grande fierté collective. Mais aujourd'hui j'ai envie au contraire de me tourner vers l'avenir.

Cet avenir c'est celui de nos élèves de 4èmes qui s'envolent vers d'autres horizons. Ils sont prêts, je le sais, pour relever de nouveaux défis forts de ce qu'ils ont acquis à The École. Cet avenir c'est aussi celui de nos élèves qui vont nous quitter, qu'ils partent en Angleterre, en Corée, en France ou un peu moins loin, ils emmènent avec eux un bout de notre école et nous penserons souvent à eux. Ces élèves qui s'en vont, comme leurs familles, savent, je l'espère, qu'ils peuvent revenir nous voir quand ils le veulent : ils sont chez eux à The École.

L'avenir immédiat c'est aussi la bonne nouvelle que nous avons reçue récemment : nos professeurs français pourront rentrer cet été. Nul besoin d'être un expert en pédagogie pour comprendre que les enfants bénéficieront d'avoir en face d'eux des professeurs bien reposés et qui auront eu le bonheur de retrouver leur famille et leurs amis après de longs mois sans pouvoir quitter le territoire.

L'avenir enfin c'est évidemment ce qui attend nos élèves l'an prochain, leurs nouveaux professeurs et leurs nouveaux camarades. Cette année étrange, que nous célébrons dans ce livre, nous aura obligés à réfléchir à nos pratiques. Et si nous avons tous envie de retrouver les dispositifs qui font de The École un endroit si particulier, nous avons aussi à cœur de ne pas simplement faire machine arrière. Nous irons donc de l'avant afin de proposer des nouveautés qui feront de The École une école encore plus en phase avec les besoins de la communauté.

C'est justement cette communauté que je veux remercier toute entière. Pour laquelle je dessinerais, si je le pouvais, d'immenses



lettres rouges sur les murs de l'école pour vous le crier haut et fort: I WANT TO THANK YOU.

À défaut, un grand merci à Philippe et Laurence de m'avoir offert cette opportunité et de m'avoir constamment accompagné. Un grand merci à l'ensemble des familles pour la qualité de nos échanges et vos nombreux soutiens. Un grand merci aux professeurs et à toute l'équipe pour leur talent, leur détermination et leur engagement permanent. Un grand merci aux élèves qui m'ont si vite adopté et dont la résilience que nous sommes supposés leur enseigner est en fait une belle leçon pour nous les grands. Enfin, merci à Andria, mon épouse, mon refuge, sans qui je n'aurais sans doute pas toujours eu la force nécessaire.

Je vous souhaite à toutes et tous un très bel été 2021. Je me réjouis déjà de vous retrouver à la rentrée.

Cordialement,

JEAN-YVES VESSEAU
Directeur

De Nouvelles Perspectives

Chères Familles,

Cette année aura été unique... unique bien entendu du fait de la pandémie mondiale que nous traversons, mais encore plus unique à nos yeux par la réponse incroyable que notre communauté a su y apporter.

Grâce à vos efforts collectifs et constants, grâce à la vigilance et la bienveillance de chacun d'entre nous, nous avons réussi à offrir à l'ensemble de nos élèves, de la petite section de Maternelle à la 4^{ème}, une école en présentiel, tous les jours, toute la journée, et ce, depuis le 1^{er} septembre 2020. Notre communauté a ainsi placé The École au premier rang des écoles de sa catégorie, dans la gestion collective remarquable d'une crise sanitaire et sociale, gardant l'enfant et sa famille au centre de toutes les décisions et actions mises en place.

Nous tenons à féliciter et remercier sincèrement tous les élèves pour leur résilience, toutes les familles pour leur coopération sans faille, tous les professeur.e.s et employé.e.s pour leur implication inconditionnelle. Nous en profitons aussi pour exprimer notre gratitude et reconnaître le travail minutieux du "Back Onsite Committee" qui a su définir et implémenter un plan robuste et global, et l'ajuster au fur et à mesure que la situation sanitaire évoluait.

Cette pandémie (nommons la pour une dernière fois, avec un peu de chance, la Covid) aura été pour nous le révélateur (s'il en fallait un) de la force de notre communauté, et la preuve qu'ensemble nous pouvons réussir énormément de choses pour le développement et le bien être de nos enfants : les fondations mêmes de notre école.

Cette année scolaire aura été aussi une première pour notre nouveau chef d'établissement ! Comme vous le savez, Jean-Yves Vesseau a pris la tête de The École à l'été 2020 : dès le processus d'embauche, nous lui avons accordé notre confiance absolue, et cela a prouvé être (sans surprise !) un choix plus que judicieux et largement mérité. Tout au long de cette année, au fil des semaines et des courriers hebdomadaires de Jean-Yves, nous avons été impressionnés par sa faculté à si rapidement intégrer notre communauté, comprendre nos forces, ce qui nous lie et nous rend unique, tout en identifiant les voies de progrès à explorer et à mettre en musique. Tel un chef d'orchestre, Jean-Yves a guidé et coordonné les équipes pendant une année scolaire où l'agilité était le maître mot.

Jean-Yves a même réussi, au milieu d'une année si complexe, à instaurer, de concert avec les professeur.e.s, de nouvelles pratiques pédagogiques visant à améliorer l'expérience d'apprentissage des élèves, au jour le jour : cette myriade de petits détails qui font toute la différence ! Parce que notre communauté est ouverte au changement et toujours prête à accueillir de nouvelles idées, au service



des élèves, cette année aura vu, entre autres, la mise en place d'une équipe si précieuse EST/Counseling renforcée, le développement de nombreuses nouvelles fonctionnalités dans Focus (notre portail en ligne pour les familles, les enseignant.e.s, et l'administration), l'autorisation du DOE et du DOH pour ouvrir notre première classe de toute petite section de maternelle en septembre... Alors que simplement gérer la crise qui s'est abattue sur nous et s'imprégner de la philosophie de l'école et découvrir notre communauté auraient pu suffire, dès janvier certains changements clés pour la rentrée de septembre 2021 étaient déjà en phase d'implémentation.

Et ce n'est qu'un début ! De nos réunions hebdomadaires et de nos discussions informelles, à bâton rompu, nous savons que de nouvelles perspectives sont à l'horizon pour The École ! Une pandémie plus tard, notre nouveau chef d'établissement et l'ensemble de notre communauté, plus forts que jamais, ensemble, nous allons construire le futur de The École, pour nos élèves, pour leur garantir un avenir brillant dans un environnement en mouvement perpétuel.

Que cet été vous apporte la joie de vous retrouver en famille et entre amis. Nous vous remercions chaleureusement pour votre confiance et votre soutien au quotidien. Nous vous donnons rendez-vous en septembre pour écrire une nouvelle page de cette belle histoire humaine, au service de ce que nous avons de plus précieux au monde : les enfants.

PHILIPPE & LAURENCE ROUX
Bienfaiteurs de The École

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