

**General information  
group 7  
school year 2025-2026**



**Personnel**

<b>group 7</b>		
Mon to Fri	Lisa Holthuijsen	lisa.holthuijsen@wijwijzer.nu

<b>organisation</b>		
Special needs co-ordinator Mon, Wed, Fri	Petra Voorderhaak	petra.voorderhaak@wijwijzer.nu
Teamleader Mon to Wed	Annick van der Voort	annick.vandervoort@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 7 children to come into the classroom on their own whenever possible.

**Physical Education P.E.**

We have P.E. lessons every Monday and Friday. Juf Natascha is the P.E. teacher. Please provide your children with sports clothes and training shoes for the lessons. Children with long hair will need hairbands to tie their hair up, it might be a good idea to put extra hairbands in your child's gym bag. Please can you sort this out with your child. It might also be a good idea to give your child some deodorant for after the lesson. Please make sure the deodorant is a roll on and not an aerosol. On Mondays we start the day with P.E. at 8:15am. The children can come to school in their P.E. kit and bring their other clothes with them for after the lesson.

**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.

### Birthdays

We celebrate your child's birthday in the classroom. Your child can give a treat to their classmates. Please make sure the treat is just a small one!

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 7.

### Language and spelling

We have been working with a new course for language and spelling, known as Staal 2, since last year.

#### Spelling

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.

#### Language

Staal works with rich and meaningful texts that suit the children's world of experience. The theme always starts with 'the grej' of Staal in which the children are introduced to the new theme. The new theme is discussed in detail in the accompanying magazine and workbook. The following areas are covered in a fixed order:

- Vocabulary
- Understanding the language
- Reading comprehension
- Speaking and listening

- Writing

The children work towards producing a final piece of work through a variety of texts and assignments.

#### 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.

#### Reading

Since last schoolyear we have been working with a new 'Blink Lezen' course. Why do we like reading? The answer is simple: because we want to know what happens next in the story. This inquisitiveness is the basis of 'Blink Lezen'. It is a complete reading method for groups 4 to 8. The course is a combination of technical and fluent reading, reading comprehension (and watching/listening), in-depth reading, free reading and reading aloud. 'Blink Lezen' increases the children's inquisitiveness and interest in reading with compelling stories. The various different assignments are never boring. Reading opens up the world to the children, a world full of exciting events, special experiences and surprising people. The children discover more about the world around them and themselves.

#### World orientation (working in themes and learning by discovery)

We use the 'Blink Wereld' coursebook for world orientation lessons. Blink is an integrated course which teaches geography, history, the natural world and technology.

There are also tests for this subject and we call these tests 'Test jezelf' (test yourself). The children can prepare for these tests using the 'leerwerk' (revision work) on Google Classroom. The test dates will be communicated via Parro.

#### TopoMaster

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We use the online programme 'TopoMaster' for topography (physical geography). 'TopoMaster' is an exciting online game where the children learn about physical geography. The app was developed by National Geographic Junior and contains beautiful images and fascinating information. Through topography the children learn special facts about animals, buildings and the landscape, which helps them to remember the toponyms (names of places) better. 'TopoMaster' consists of three parts: the Netherlands, Europe and the world, each part contains several levels. Last school year the children learned about the Netherlands. In group 7 the focus will be on Europe.

The children can prepare for these tests using the 'leerwerk' (revision work) on Google Classroom. The test dates will be communicated via Parro.

#### Engels

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. The children learn English through contemporary pop songs. Sometimes the lessons focus on the artist (for example the children need to describe Justin Bieber's clothes and style) and sometimes they focus on clips (e.g. put the pictures of the accidents from Noah Kahan's videoclip in the correct order) or they may even focus on song lyrics (using the Sheppard song *Coming home* to talk about the things you miss when you're away from home). The children learn English words and sentences during the lessons.

The skills (reading, listening, writing and speaking) are practised extensively during each lesson. Children who need more challenging English lessons can study on their own using the 'Blink Engels' Grammar app.

There are also English tests. The children can prepare for these tests using the 'leerwerk' (revision work) on Google Classroom. The test dates will be communicated via Parro.

#### Creative education lessons

We spend two hours per week on creative education lessons. During these lessons we focus on the creative development of the children in various different ways. Every week we give the children a lesson from the 'Laat Maar Zien' course. These lessons focus on visual and cultural education. Juf Anna will give music lessons in the class. We also pay attention to ICT skills and media literacy during these lessons.

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?		
<p>I am involved</p> <p>For example: I</p> <p>Show interest in school, I ask: what did you learn today?</p> <p>Talk about how things like Dutch, English and maths are going. Talk about their behaviour too</p> <p>Help my child to do the best they can at school</p> <p>Do educational things together</p> <p>Stand by the school rules</p> <p>Say something nice or kind about the teacher or to the teacher</p> <p>Think along the same lines as the school</p> <p>And....</p>	<p>I help my child</p> <p>For example by:</p> <p>Eating healthy food</p> <p>Going to bed at bedtime and sleeping well</p> <p>Getting enough exercise</p> <p>Coming to school on time</p> <p>Knowing what my child is doing and who they are with</p> <p>Making sure that my child doesn't spend too much time on their Ipad or mobile phone or watching television</p> <p>And....</p>	<p>I know what my child can and cannot do</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>Learning, behaviour and attitude to work at school</p> <p>What my child understands or doesn't understand. Things I can ask or tell my child and things I cannot</p> <p>What my child can achieve, not only this school year, but in the future and after primary school</p> <p>And....</p>

Marleen Buwalda & Maaïke 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)

### **Social and emotional development**

In group 7 we pay close attention to the children's social and emotional development. During group 7 the children learn strategies that can help them in difficult situations, such as staying positive and asking for help. They also learn to ask for feedback, how to respond appropriately and listen to others.

The children are increasingly aware of how to manage emotions and take responsibility for their own behaviour during tasks. They discover the potential consequences of impulsive behaviour and learn to develop and evaluate alternative solutions.

Alongside this, the children are increasingly expected to be more independent, learning to make their own choices and experience responsibility for their own work, behaviour and belongings.

We encourage them to empathise with others by recognising their classmates feelings and showing them respect whilst collaborating effectively. We also work on developing their grasp of cause and effect so that they learn to make conscious choices that contribute to a positive and safe group atmosphere.

### **Homework**

In group 7 the children have revision homework for Blink, Topomaster and English.

Your son/daughter will also have to do homework twice a week until the spring holiday. After the spring holiday this will increase to three times per week.

We expect the children to use a diary. This can be a paper diary or a digital diary, whichever your child prefers. Secondary schools also use paper and digital diaries so your child can decide which they prefer. The homework assignments can be found on the Google Classroom and Parro agendas.

### **Important dates and events in group 7**

Introductory meeting:	9 September 2025
Progress meetings:	18/24 Nov. 2025 & 16 April 2026
First round IEP-tests:	January/February 2026
Report 1 to be taken home:	20 February 2026
Second round IEP-tests:	May/June 2026
Preliminary secondary school level chat:	8 June 2026
Secondary school level chat:	10th & 15 June 2026
Report 2 to be taken home:	26 June 2026
Theory cycling proficiency test:	23 March 2026

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Practical cycling proficiency test date: To be confirmed (usually in June)

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.

Lisa Holthuijsen

*Our school guide is on the homepage of our website.*