

Thonon International School
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Thonon-les-Bains, 7th October 2019

Welcome, News and Practical Information

Dear Parents,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to Thonon International School (TIS) for the 2019-2020 school year.

Our school year began early with a Summer school at the end of August with 7 children participating, aged between 6 and 12. As with all our vacation courses, lessons were given in English by our dynamic mother-tongue English teacher Miss Griffin who delivered an exciting programme of academic language skills in the morning balanced with fun, hands-on activities in the afternoons. The children were delighted with the excursions that included a visit to the Eco-musée de la pêche near the port in Thonon-les-Bains and the nature reserve du Delta de la Dranse.

If you would like to know more about our vacation courses, please consult the relevant pages of our website: <https://www.ecoleintthonon.fr/en/summer-autumn-winter-courses/>

Our next Halloween-themed course will be running between 28th October and 1st November.

From the second week in September, TIS began its Wednesday programme. Just like the vacation courses, our Wednesday programme offers 100% instruction in English with a focus on academic activities in the classroom in the mornings and more arty-crafty and games activities in the afternoon.

If you would like to know more about our Wednesday programme, please refer to our website pages: <https://www.ecoleintthonon.fr/en/wednesday-programme/>

During the month of September, TIS has formalised a partnership with Flydanse, the dance school that is located adjacent to the school. We are very pleased with this agreement that allows our school access to the large halls next to our school for our activities, such as sport and gymnastics:

<http://flydancethonon.com>

At the beginning of October, our English teacher and school founder Mr. Steve Robbins and our French teacher and programme Coordinator Mrs. Karinne Seguin attended a first-aid course run by La Protection Civile in Annemasse. This informative and professional training allowed our teachers to keep up-to-date with the latest techniques and approaches to first-aid and to ensure the maximum care of your children. Both participants passed with flying colours and are delighted to add another diploma to their portfolios.

We will continue to keep you informed of school developments on a regular basis. Please consult our web pages, the new FAQs document, and soon to be launched our Facebook pages to keep in touch with everything we are doing at TIS.

Yours sincerely,

Steve Robbins
Founder of TIS

Practical Information

Holidays

Accompanying this letter, you will find the calendar for the 2019-2020 school year. Please take note of any school holidays and bank holidays when the school will be closed.

Weekly Timetable

The current school timetable is included with this letter. You will see which subjects are taught in English and in French and how this is arranged over the week. Mrs. Seguin has organised this timetable in order to respect the number of hours per subject required by the Education Nationale in France, our chosen programme.

Please take note in particular of the days when sports occur so that your children can come to school with appropriate clothing and footwear. For indoor gym, please note that this takes place on Thursdays.

Cantine

From the week of 7th October hot school dinners may be ordered. Please confirm your orders on the Monday for the *following* week (e.g. order on the Monday 7th October for the week of Monday 14th October). If your order is for the term, please let Mr. Robbins know in advance so that a standing order can be placed. Parents will be billed termly for school dinners.

The weekly menu will be placed outside the school on the notice board and can also be consulted on the website of the Cuisine Centrale:

<https://apeichablais.org/media/attachments/2019/08/29/menus-s37-s44-midisoir.pdf>

Early drop/ after school

At TIS, parents have the possibility of dropping their children from 07h45 in the morning and collecting their children at 17h10. These services are provided by the teachers who will supervise the children and continue to provide language input in their mother-tongues. Parents also have the option

of subscribing to an after-school club and may make suggestions about what kind of club they would like to have offered.

For more information about these services, please consult the following webpage:

<https://www.ecoleinthonon.fr/en/cantine-and-after-school/>

Alert Attentat-Intrusion and natural disasters

All schools in France are required by law to evaluate potential risks to the school and its children and staff and to carry out a Plan Particulier de Mise en Sureté (PPMS). This document is available in school for consultation by parents but serves as a working reference for staff on-site to know the procedures put in place for managing crises. Attached with this letter is an information sheet that describes what to do in the case of major accidents.

In addition, schools are required to plan for situations when there is an intrusion. This is part of the “Plan Vigipirate” put in place nationally in France. Parents need to consult the information on the notice boards at the school to keep abreast of the current levels of alert.

For more information about the “Plan Vigipirate”, please consult the following link:

<http://www.haute-savoie.gouv.fr/Politiques-publiques/Securite-et-protection-de-la-population/Securite-publique/Plan-Vigipirate-Menace-terroriste>