



Newsletter - July 2011 -

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From the Pedagogical Director

Some Summer Reading Suggestions from the Teachers

Summer has officially arrived. It's time to put away our pens, calculators and textbooks and take it easy for a while. Take advantage of your free time this summer by reading what you want to read for a change.

If you are traveling by rail or air, heading for the beach for a day of sun and sea, or simply relaxing in the breezy shade of your favorite tree, make sure you have a good book to keep you company.

If you are stuck for a good title, below are some suggestions by a few of our ASEICA teachers.

Have a happy, safe holiday and ... bonne lecture!

K. Jackson

From Mrs. Defrasne:

Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials* trilogy

Book 1 The Golden Compass (aka The Northern Lights)

Book 2 The Subtle Knife

Book 3 The Amber Spyglass

Inspired by Paradise Lost, Pullman combines theology and physics into a coming-of-age epic that is part love story, part classic battle between good and evil. Older readers will appreciate the dark themes and literary allusions (especially in the final book), while younger readers will enjoy it as a spooky fantasy tale of parallel universes.

From Mrs Ballantyne:

Any book that features a goose-plucking factory manager in Kishinev, Russia as the protagonist's father already catches. Itsik Malpesh, the manager's son, and his Yiddish translator, an Irish Catholic boy from Boston, meet in Baltimore over the translator's discovery of Itsik's poetry in New York City. Peter Manseau, author of this book, *Songs for the Butcher's Daughter*, intertwines Malpesh's and the translator's stories with great fun, zany laughs, and much historical interest in New York City's early 20th century Jewish immigrants. A page-turner. Manseau kept me laughing and learning to the end.

Hélène Berr's 1942 diary, *Hélène Berr Journal*, written before her arrest in 1944 in Paris by the Gestapo (and eventual death in Bergen-Belsen in 1945), writes about her daily life as a young Jewish girl in Paris, her courses at the Sorbonne, her friends, her first real love, and her life under the ever-harder anti-Jewish laws she and her family had to submit to. It was her niece, Mariette Job, daughter of Denise Job, Hélène's sister, who first brought Hélène's diary to the Shoah Foundation's attention in 2002. It has only recently been published, 2008, and will certainly bring a French connection to Anne Frank's diary and attempts to survive in Amsterdam during the same period of time. Beautiful and tragic.

Some Sing, Some Cry by African-American sisters Ntozake Shange and Ifa Bayeza, the epic story of their family's women, from enslavement to the twenty-first century (recommended by Mme. Masse), and Ivan Doig's *The Whistling Season*, set in Marias Coulee, Montana, a place and a state I am especially fond of, will find their way into my hands as I loll away my summer in my French hammock.

From Mr. Jackson

The Jungle by Upton Sinclair

Written in 1906, *The Jungle* explores the life of immigrants in early twentieth century Chicago.

Jurgus Rudkus takes his family from their bucolic village life in Lithuania to discover the American

Dream in the slaughterhouses of Chicago's South Side, center of the meatpacking industry at the time. The novel explores the dehumanizing poverty, horrific living conditions and sense of hopelessness experienced by many immigrants in America. The reader soon learns that it is the rampant corruption by those in power that leads to this misery, thereby turning the American Dream on its head. The graphic depictions of workers in the killing beds and on the boning lines, along with vivid descriptions of the filth of the slaughterhouses and meat processing centers is certain to get some readers to seriously consider a vegetarian lifestyle.

The Forgotten Soldier by Guy Sajer

At the age of sixteen, Guy Sajer was drafted into the German Army and sent to the Eastern Front for nearly three years to fight the Russians. For nearly 500 pages, Sajer provides us with a first-hand account of the terror and devastation of all-out modern warfare. In the bitter, biting, killing cold of the Russian winter, Sajer lives through the carnage of hand-to-hand combat, endless battles, mind-numbing artillery attacks and a harrowing retreat out of Russia and back to the West. After reading Sajer's account, you will never complain about your own situation ever again. An important book that you will never forget

Great American Short Stories

If you prefer more variety and less reading density, you might want to read a few short stories. The site below contains over 2,000 American short stories freely accessible online.

<http://www.americanliterature.com/ss/ssindx.html>

Board letter

It's nearly the end of the school year and everyone is winding down for the summer holidays - or are they?

Right now the whole ASEICA team is still busy with: exams; registrations; next year's organisation and projects; work related to conventions; AGM; graduation ceremony; ... With such critical activities going on there's a tension in the air that can be felt in all contacts and exchanges, but still we tackle the job with a huge amount of enthusiasm and energy despite the heavy load on everyone's plate.

Before we all disappear on holiday and forget the last few weeks, let me bring you up to date on the outcome of the AGM.

The AGM took place on June 6 and the results of the votes are as follows:

- President's Report Yes: 103 no: 22 abstention: 5
- Treasurer's Report Yes: 108 no: 20 abstention: 3
- Board team 2011-2012: Yes: 90 no: 30 abstention: 6

Out of a total ASEICA membership of almost 2437 people, I would like to thank those of you who took the time to vote and especially those who made the time in their busy schedules to come along and participate.

I have to add though that the Board is rather confused by the proportionately large numbers who voted against the Board Reports and team composition. Since we have no visibility of the reasons for voting against, there is nothing we can do to address the dissatisfaction. Perhaps, since some people feel strongly enough to cast their votes negatively, they could contact the Board and tell us why they are unhappy with us?

Several people at the AGM did raise concerns about the absence of one teacher in collège, and the lack of a replacement. Unfortunately, in this particular case the matter was not brought to ASEICA's attention early enough to be able to address the problem. We would urge all our members to bring such problems to our attention as soon as possible so that we can do something about them. The quality of our children's education is paramount and if we are aware of a teacher's absence then we will try to find a replacement as soon as possible.

On the positive side, at the AGM the Board presentation summarized the main topics we worked on this year, and reported on how our energies were focused as much on long term projects, like conventions with schools, renewing of 'agreements', contracts... as on the animation of the association through communication and events. And I'm happy to say that on these long-term projects we have made good progress this year.

One last item from the AGM before I close. The Board is made up of volunteers who give their time and energy freely in order that our children get an excellent international education. While the 30 people who voted against us may think otherwise, I believe that our Board has done an excellent job over the past year, and that the newly elected team will continue that good work. As Mary Lynn Riley, ex Aseica President said, this is not a popularity contest, but still we are only ordinary people who like to hope that our efforts are appreciated.

The presentations can be viewed on the web site, on the AGM page
<http://www.aseica.org/page1002/page1029/page1040.en.htm>

Here are the members of the new team - including some 'old' and 'new' names:

Anne Chalumeau

Coline Rivière

Jackie Partarrieu

Muriel Robinson

Rebecca David

Bernard Garnier

Henri Steyaert

Jean-marie Pichot

Yves Guglielmi

Cathy Ducker

Associates: Beth Golding, Camilla Dufour

As we do every year we will hold a volunteers' meeting in spring, open to all those wishing to work with the Board.

Many people do come forward and join committees, working on topics that will benefit your children. If you want to contribute, join us at board@aseica.org

This summer, on holiday or not, I hope that you can take some time to be with your family and enjoy yourselves. The Board and the whole ASEICA team wish you and your family a relaxing and enjoyable summer. Take care and we'll see you again in September.

Cathy Ducker, for the Board

News from Guidance

In mid July this year, universities in the UK will be told by the government just how much they are going to be able to charge for fees from students entering as of September 2012. It has been difficult to advise students without this vital information, and we do not yet know what grants or scholarships will be available to EU students, but by the time they actually make their applications, we hope to have all the details.

We have also noted that many of the top universities in the UK have raised their entry requirements, so students will need to look particularly carefully at the demands for popular courses such as Law, Management and History, where a *moyenne générale* at the bac of 15 or 16 could become the norm. We have just received good news, however, from the University of Kent, which was represented here at the British University Fair in April: they will be asking 0.5 less from OIB students than from those studying the straight French bac. Hurrah! Others that offer our students special consideration are King's College London and Bristol.

We are all awaiting the OIB results on 5 July to know exactly where students will be going next year. Please make sure that students have either collected or downloaded the 2 instruction sheets for what they need to do on Results Day. These documents are also available on Naviance, for which every student has been sent an access code via mailer@email.naviance.com. Naviance is also the site where students in *Première* can start consulting their Time Line for university entry, dates for SAT tests and other useful information: <http://connection.naviance.com/aseica>. If they have not got an access code, they should email troy@aseica.org and ask for one.

Please ask *Terminale* students to keep us updated with new email addresses and the universities they are actually attending, so that we can invite them in the first instance to the Alumni evening in January next year. In the meantime, we wish them all the very best as they go off to universities in the UK, Canada, America, Holland and China !

See you next year !

Lesley Scales

INTERNATIONAL DAY

International Day was a great day, with a very strong participation of students of all ages: lycée and collège students at MUN, primary works on display and as present as ever, dancers, ... ASPESIE awarded a 20 euros check to the following candidates for their participation in the photo contest: Theo BERGOUTS section espagnole, Aurore DACIER section espagnole, Giselle Bernard section anglaise.

We had the pleasure of welcoming Mrs Daeden, Academic Delegate of the DAREIC, representing the Recteur for International Day. Mrs Daeden took the time to visit all the stalls and activities. M. Brulant, CIV Proviseur, officially opened the day, alongside Mrs Banerjee and Mrs Picard from Niki de St Phalle Collège, Mr. Petit from Eganaude Collège, the Mairie representative Mrs Muriel Kiefel, as well as the international associations' Presidents. This day showed once again how lively and convivial life is in the international sections.

Accounts for International Day closed with the following results: a total of 4224 euros was collected, a valiant effort, progressing positively since 2010! Well done to all for this united effort! Funds were dispatched according to the votes taken by the Intersections committee: 2742 euros towards the Japanese Red Cross, including 100% of the funds collected by the Japanese stand and 1482 euros towards the MUN lycée trip.

The First Annual Poetry SLAM at the Lycée International de Valbonne

It is an “alive poets’ society” that features at the LIV! Future poets and writers Giovanni Marinelli, Carys Moller, Jeffery Durand, Guillaume Fontan and Benjamin Sinnah became winners in the First Annual Poetry SLAM at the International Lycée de Valbonne Tuesday, May 17. They competed against 45 other poets from the English Section 2nde classes, but it was they the judges, fellow students, chose in the finalist round. The poems were scored on a scale 1-10 based on the quality of the delivery and the content of the poem.

We are proud of our students and proud of the creativity they possess. Humorous poems and love poems found themselves pitted against some of the more classic themes: Coming of Age, Friendship, Travel, Tyranny and Oppression, Evil, and Nature. The variety made for an interesting afternoon and an interesting addition to La Semaine des Humanités, a week long series of workshops held at the lycée encouraging students in 2nde and 1ere to pursue the series L baccalaureate. The poetry competition produced some some fine poems and the poets proved themselves capable of thoughtful and original work. Trophy-size “Oscars” (for our “Hollywood” stars!) and a classy certificate were given to the winners, Giovanni, Carys, Jeffery, Guillaume and Benjamin. Your teachers and fellow students congratulate you!

Here’s some of the winning poems. Enjoy your read!
Mrs. Ballantyne

BURGALICIOUS BURGER

Thin slices of crispy bacon
Piled onto one another
You’ll be full when you’re done
With my burgalicious burger

Freshly cut salad
Would make a bunny go mad and
I don’t care, no sir,
Because it’s my burgalicious burger

There’s nothing quite like it
It ain’t abstract, nor is it concrete
Really just a product of my imagination
Enough of it to feed an entire nation
With love and joy for a whole week
And it’s only the start of a long streak

No more KFC
Because chicken is the enemy

Burgalicious Burger

by Guillaume Fontan

“Where I’m From”

Back where I’m from, the winter is a little different.
It begins as the maple turn red orange and yellow.
The world is then draped in a curtain of snow.
And as the cold whips in, the waves on the lake freeze.
It is winter in the windy city.
But I have moved on from there,
My concept of this season forever reversed.
The maple turns to olive.
The world stays green.
The waves continue to break.
And this is where I’m from.

by Giovanni Marinelli

“Make a Sentence”

Take a word and another
And maybe flip them over.
Could I dump one on the way?
Inspiration watch the bay.

Flow of ideas: boat, birds,
Sea, noise, waves, sand, sky, and needs.
Please smile, young or old reader,
I’ll use it in my blender.

Big orange smoothie of words!
Add in adjectives and verbs.
All my words in a fusion,
Finally the conclusion:

My sentence is bottomless.

by Carys Moller

St. Patrick's Day at Eganaude



KAMILA AZZOUZI 6ème

At Eganaude on March 17th we celebrated St. Patrick's Day with Irish songs, a quiz, the story of St. Patrick, not to mention traditional music, tin-whistle playing and Irish dancing! Several teachers and all the International Section 6èmes took part.
Mrs. O'Reilly



Dancing with Mrs. O'Reilly

An IRISH Treat

Thanks to Sara Jane Higgins and the entire Higgins clan, the 3eA group of Eganaude spent five glorious days in Dublin from May 31st through June 4th.



During that time, the weather smiled on us as we delighted in the history, countryside, and cultural fare of that charming city.

The students were fantastic, responsible and enthusiastic. Yet wait, there's more: to cap off the experience, we spent the last evening at the Higgins' home savoring Irish stew and traditional Irish dancing.

Truly, this trip was a crowning finish to the year. Thank you so much to the all of the Higgins, and special thanks to the supportive parents and students!

Vicki Kiechle



Stratford-upon-Avon trip - 1-5 June 2011



Thirty troisième students from Eganaude, Niki de St Phalle & the CIV spent the long Ascension weekend in and around Stratford-Upon-Avon accompanied by Mrs Bigourden, Mrs. Jeangeorges and Mrs. Jones. Rather than giving you a teacher's view of what was a very successful trip, here is what one of the students had to say:

"The trip to Stratford-Upon-Avon was a great experience. Every day was fun and we were very lucky to have sunny weather. I will describe a few parts of the whole trip.

Wednesday night, we arrived at the youth hostel, we were assigned our rooms and we got to know the students whom we were not acquainted with. At first, I was not pleased to be in a room with people I did not know, but soon enough, I realized it was not that bad at all.

During the whole stay, after our day activities, we were able to spend time in the youth hostel's garden, which was enjoyable, and before it was time to go to bed, we could go into other rooms in order to see our friends.

Thursday, we walked to Stratford-Upon-Avon. It was about a 45 minute walk and it was nice because it was warm out and we were able to talk to each other. We passed though a beautiful typically English village called Tiddington on the way. Once we arrived, we were introduced to Shakespeare and his work and we then visited his birthplace. For lunch we sat in a park, and after that pause, we divided into groups, which we chose ourselves, and we had the afternoon to wander in Stratford and discover its shops. Afterwards, we walked back to the youth hostel.

Continued

Friday, we visited Warwick Castle. It was great fun! We had the whole day to walk in the grounds and to see different events, which took place at specific times throughout the day. It was beautiful and great fun. There was a place where we could see different rooms of the castle and the various people in them preparing themselves for a battle. Also, there was jousting and a presentation of a few types of birds of prey. In addition, we could walk on the castle's walls and we could go onto a few battlements. Of course, there were many other activities but I cannot cite them all.

After that busy day, we went back to the youth hostel to prepare ourselves for the evening at the theatre where we were going to see a modern representation of the Merchant of Venice. I really appreciated the play and I enjoyed the modern day setting in Las Vegas.

Saturday, we visited Princethorpe, an English school and we spent the morning doing a quiz around the school. It was fun but it was sometimes hard to speak with the Princethorpe students. That afternoon, some students went with different families while we went to visit Coventry Cathedral and went shopping afterwards. The night, we did a 'pub quiz' about the whole stay and each student was awarded an individual prize.

The next day, we did our suitcases and went to airport. It was sad because we had to part but I was happy because I had had a fun trip. Judy Rivière 3^o5 CIV



Visiting Warwick Castle

Yearbooks are out !

ALL 1555 ASECIA students should now have all received their Yearbooks. I would like to thank this year's troisième Yearbook team of Paul Gordon, Max Hodgkinson, Laura Khong, Emily Meads, Charlotte Meraud, Timothy Richards and Joseph Whelan for their hard work throughout the year in helping me create the Yearbook. Congratulations also to Capucine Destaing for her winning cover design and good luck to Ms. Macleod who is taking on Yearbook 2012!

Karen Jones



WALKATHON REPORT

FOR THOSE THAT CAME ON 7TH MAY, THE DAY WAS A LOT OF FUN AND A GREAT SUCCESS.

IT WAS ALSO VERY EDUCATIONAL AS MANY STUDENTS COMPLETED THE CIRCUIT SHOWING HOW BLIND PEOPLE GET AROUND USING A WHITE STICK.

THE BBQ AND CAKE STAND WERE WELL APPRECIATED. THE BAND ENJOYED THEIR OUTING AND DONATED TO THE EVENT.

OVERALL WE HAD 78 WALKERS.

NUMBERS WERE DOWN THIS YEAR, THE CHANGE OF DATES, CLOSE TO THE EVENT AND OTHER FUND-RAISING EVENTS GOING ON DURING THE SAME MONTHS COULD HAVE BEEN FACTORS, YET IDEAS ARE ALREADY BEING PROCESSED TO HELP IN PROMOTING THIS EVENT IN THE FUTURE.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED TO MAKE THIS AN APPRECIATED MOMENT FOR A GOOD CAUSE !!!

Baker Books

Once again our book club was well supported in the three collèges with a total of 65 different families ordering books. Anthony Horowitz's Stormbreaker was the most popular buy with "A devil to ride" by Patricia Leitch also proving very popular. No doubt with the long summer vacation in sight, cookery books and Science Experiment books were ordered by several students.

As always the order enabled us to order free books and 30 new dictionaries and thesauruses will be available for classroom use come September.

Theatre

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO THEATRE TEACHERS (Mrs DeFrasne, Mrs Ramsey and Ms Syran) AND THE STUDENTS FOR THE SUCCESS OF THEIR WONDERFUL PRIMARY SHOWS THIS YEAR, FULL OF CREATIVITY AND COLOUR AND FUN CHARACTERS. FOUR BRILLIANT COLLEGE PLAYS WERE PERFORMED RECENTLY TOO. THE SCRIPTS AND ACTING WORK AND SETS WERE INNOVATIVE AND LED TO THE SHOWS BEING A REAL TRIUMPH. WELL DONE TO ALL THOSE GREAT COLLEGE ACTORS AND TO THEIR THEATRE TEACHERS, MR DUFFY, MRS RAMSEY AND MR WILLIAMS.

ASEICA IS FORTUNATE TO HAVE SUCH TALENTED THEATRE STUDENTS WHO HAVE A PASSION FOR PERFORMANCE WORK, FROM PRIMARY UP TO LYCÉE LEVEL.

LONG LIVE SCHOOL THEATRE!

Mrs. McGRAK





A really excellent "Twelfth Night" was performed by Mrs. Fox's Theatre Group just before the Spring Holidays. The performance was the result of Theatre Workshops attended every Tuesday from 4.30pm to 6pm by nine students including five 2nde 'enseignement d'exploration' students, two 3èmes and two 1ères. The costumes were kindly lent by the Opéra de Nice. Congratulations to these highly committed students from the different sections and to Mrs. Fox for such a polished and entertaining performance!

Karen Jones

PRIMARY THEATRE PICTURES:



**Sartoux CP:
The Counting
House**

**CE1 Pirates
Captain
Sailors**



CE1: HŞ Gazelles



CE2-Princess Bayardia and caste



ARABIAN NIGHTS



TALL TALES



HAUNTED HOUSE

News from Primary



CP/CE1 FROM TROIS COLLINES CHILDREN CELEBRATE THE ROYAL WEDDING.

As we come to the end of this academic year we say our 'good byes' to our CM2 children moving on to their new Collège. As usual, we are organising a collège visit for most of these children. The collèges involved in these visits are Eganuade, CNY and Niki de St Phalle.

We will be giving a pocket sized dictionary as a leaving 'cadeau' for the CM2 children. These will be presented during their CM2 leaving celebrations.

SARTOUX SCHOOL.

The Opening of the German section building

On the afternoon of the 6th June, the Anglophone section was invited to the inauguration of the German section's, newly, constructed building. This was an opportunity for us to join in with these celebrations and share aspects of our curriculum with the Mairie of Yalbonne, our French Education Inspectors, teachers and parents. Mrs B's CP/CE1 class sang a song called "One Day Over the Rainbow." Our children's project work and writing was displayed. Mr Syson prepared two lap top presentations for visitors to view, showing our children at work. Ms Roy worked on a display board which featured aspects of the Anglophone curriculum in Primary showed ASEICA's Anglophone educational progression to Lycée.



Presentation of our fabulous year book to a French Inspector of Education.

Baker Books

Thanks to your book orders the teachers are able to buy 249 euros worth of free books. Thank you for your support. Mr Syson will be taking over the book club next year and I know that he will be looking for parent helpers!

Thank you to Sophie Pearce and Christine Durand for their help.

TROIS COLLINES :

Mrs Roxou's class CM1/CM2 have been studying an IPC topic called Energy and as part of this project they had an opportunity to view and learn about Electric cars. Mrs Ritchie's charged up her electric car and drove it to school to show them.



International Day 9th APRIL 2011.

This year the children and their teachers set up four primary stands on the theme of Mother Earth: 'Swap a toy'; created by the Trois Collines pupils, 'Water' by Mr Syson's CE2 class, CM1 CM2 children from Sarroux conservation game and Ms Roy organised a plant a seed activity for all.

Art exhibition

This term's art lessons on the theme of Anglophone artists have produced some budding artists! They studied these artists: 'Aboriginal Art', the works of Andy Warhol and William Morris. Their wonderful work will be presented as an exhibition on Wednesday 22nd June.



Trade a Toy Stand.



Learning about Water .



CM2 PUPILS READY TO PLAY THEIR GAMES.

**The Poster competition was a great success on the theme:
Mother Earth/ Earth Mother**

The final winners were:

CP-CE1

ELLA DEFRASNE

NICOLAS GAY HUBAUX

SOFIA ZOLOTAREV

COLLETTE ZANDER

CE2 CM1 CM2

ELIZABETH HEADS

ALEXANDRE LARIVIERE

THOMAS BERKANE

PAULINE RIBAUT

Well done to all our children who participated.

English on Wednesday

As we come to the end of another year with the programme, we wish good luck to our pupils moving on the 6eme and look forward to seeing our CM1 pupils returning next year.

End of year Sports day and picnic

This year, to mark the end of the year, we will hold an Anglophone style sports day followed by a picnic.

Moving on . . .

As many of you know I am stepping down as SI Primary Coordinator. I have had many wonderful experiences in the Primary section which is today and I hope will always be a unique bilingual section.

I would like to thank you the parents, past and present for your support and contact during the last years. I would also like to thank the Primary teaching staff for their hard work and dedication to our programme. I will continue working with ASEICA in the Wednesday programme.

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Mr Syson. He has been teaching with us at Sartoux School and on the Wednesday programme for the past two years and worked with me in the International Section at St Martin six years ago. He and I have been working very closely on a hand-over period. I wish him luck.

Happy Holidays!

Sue Bateman and the Primary Teachers.



Dates to remember:

Remise du Bac Ceremony - 8 July 2011

Rentrée 2011 /12 – 1 September – class lists posted

5 & 6 September – pré-rentrée

7 September – beginning of classes

International Picnic - 2 October

Welcome Meeting for all New Collège students and families – early September (date to be confirmed)

‘Come and meet students and families, ask them all you want!’

Welcome Meeting for all New Lycée students and families – early September (date to be confirmed)