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NEWS

Parlangi©

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Parlangi & VDAB

Als Parlangi-mentor ondersteun je
VDAB-cursisten met hun Nederlands
...tijdens fijne video-gesprekken.



4-year cooperation between Parlangi and VDAB from September 2022!

After the summer holidays, we will be starting a four-year cooperation with VDAB. Every year, at least 100 VDAB foreign language students from all over Flanders will practice Dutch in video conversations with Parlangi mentors. The mentors receive a basic training in 'Communicating with non-Dutch speakers' beforehand. In the past few days, 23 new mentors followed this training. They rated the training with an average score of 88%. Would you like to help a non-native person practise Dutch for at least one hour a week? Register here: <https://pages.parlangi.net/VDAB-Mentor>

Parlangi and Swap-Swap



How can you motivate young people to learn a language they don't use very often? The new website www.swap-swap.be has the mission to make them enthusiastic about the other national language and does so by facilitating language exchanges between young people from French-speaking and Dutch-speaking families during the holidays.

Young people often lack the practice to be able to use a second or third language fluently, a practice for which there is often insufficient time in the lessons. Spending a few days with a peer who speaks the other language is the best way to quickly improve your language skills. Young people who have made friends during the exchange will remain motivated to improve in the other language afterwards.

Swap-Swap is developed with parents, teenagers and their teachers. This makes it an accessible and safe platform on which young people, together with their parents, can make contact with other Swaps. It works like this: children and parents create an account together. Then they look for a Swap that suits them. Through the website, they make contact, make a first appointment and if it clicks, they prepare the exchange together. The Swap-Swap website also contains a lot of useful tips for a successful exchange.

General Assembly



On Monday 30 May, we held the Annual General Meeting of the Parlangi cooperative. The Annual General Meeting is the perfect time to have your say in our socially responsible cooperative. It is a moment of cooperation, transparency on the figures and, of course, of voting. A special event this year was an Extraordinary General Meeting to amend our Articles of Association in line with the new Companies Act. Our cooperators voted overwhelmingly (and even unanimously) in favour of the following points:

- New Articles of Association
- Approval of the annual accounts
- Discharge of the directors for the past financial year
- Reinvestment of profits in the operation of Parlangi
- And last but not least: the appointment of two new board members: Claire Fobe and Marc Frederix

Welcome Claire and Marc. We are very happy and proud that you have joined the Parlangi team with your enthusiasm and know-how!

Projects:

Sint-Joost-ten-Node



In the meantime, several Parlangi projects are running all over Flanders and new ones are being started. In Sint-Joost-ten-Node, 174 conversations have taken place

in the past 5 months between non-Dutch-speaking inhabitants of Brussels (both children from the Sint-Joost-aan-Zee primary school and adults who register via BibJoske) and Flemish mentors. That is almost 3000 valuable Parlangi-babble-minutes!

Parlangi On Stage



In March and April we built a Parlangi bridge between a Flemish and a Walloon school in the pilot project 'Parlangi on Stage', a cooperation between Parlangi and Belgium on Stage and supported by the Language Union. 27 pupils from Campus Het Spoor in Mol and the same number from Lycée Martin V in Louvain-la-Neuve chatted with each other in French and Dutch. The goal? To make a video together in the other national language about their own region. Their work will be published on the website of our partner Belgium on Stage (<https://www.belgiumonstage.be/nl>)

What do the pupils think?

- " - C'est chouette de rencontrer des gens.*
 - Het moedigt ons aan om Nederlands te praten.*
 - Ça peut nous permettre de nous ouvrir aux autres.*
 - S'exercer dans une langue étrangère.*
 - Je leert sneller een andere taal.*
 - Dat je kan bellen binnen het platform, het is safe.*
 - Voor mensen die talen willen leren is dit handig.*
 - Het is een toffe manier om nieuwe talen te oefenen.*
 - Pouvoir voir les hobbies des autres pour se faire une idée de la personne."*
-

Bruges



Mentors from Bruges also help non-native speakers to learn Dutch. In the first three months of this project, there were 98 connections with an average chat time of more than 25 minutes. Waw! Almost 2500 Parlangi minutes between Bruges non-native speakers and Dutch-speaking mentors. We will expand this project further in the course of this year so that we can give even more people a fun and educational Parlangi time.

Parlangi and Vlaamse Overheid



In the meantime, we are certainly not sitting still at the technical level. With support from the Flemish Government (Department of Integration and Integration), we are building an Android and iOS app and a project dashboard. Soon, you will be able to use it on your smartphone and tablet, and local authorities and project organisers will be able to closely monitor the impact of their project. The app is in the final development phase and will soon be available in the Apple App Store and in Google Play! We will keep you informed about the exact launch date. The dashboard will be launched in the autumn of 2022. It already tickles! 😊

Parlangi on the spot: Citizen Corner



On Tuesday 10 May, we were in Schaarbeek where we participated in round-table discussions on integration through languages, staying active in society, participating and being happy. Themes that are close to our hearts.

Feel free to join us on our social medias!



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