

# The annual NGG Christmas letter 2023



*The Christmas tree is made by O.B.*

# Christmas Greeting



By principal Thomas Thrane

Another year is coming to an end, and true to tradition, we hereby send a Christmas greeting to all of you who are friends of NGG, both learners and parents, retired teachers, and collaborators.

It has been an eventful autumn at the school. We have started new traditions, exciting collaborations across grade levels and departments have unfolded, and we have introduced an exciting and groundbreaking educational programme, which is now flourishing and being further developed for the next school year.

## Tradition inspires

A new NGG tradition was inaugurated in October in the form of first aid for all the school's learners. It was the largest school project of its kind in Denmark, and we had a fantastic collaboration with the Danish Red Cross, who managed to teach the youngest to the oldest learners first aid in both Danish and English. Our personal goals came into play in this tradition, and our learners received great praise from the Red Cross for their commitment. The good news about the vital skills did not go unnoticed and both newspapers and TV shared our experiences to

inspire other children and young people to learn first aid.

Well-known traditions were also held in festive style this fall: International Day, the school's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday, Halloween and the Christmas bazaar brought together learners from all departments. We also celebrated five anniversaries among the teachers at the school, who together have taught at NGG for a collective 140 years! Once again, congratulations to Michelle, Benedikte, Jesper, Claus and Verena!

## A unified school

We are also constantly working on the development of our unified school by building bridges between older and younger learners as well as between the Danish and international departments.

This autumn we have seen wonderful examples of the value of collaboration between our older and younger learners. Year 9 works together with Years 2 and 3 which is a collaboration so successful that the idea is now spreading to more classes in Primary and Secondary. Likewise, Ællingerne collaborates with both kindergarten classes and 2nd grades and making new friends.

Learners from the Danish primary school have visited classes from Primary and learned about their IPC Unit Exit Points just as Danish and international learners gather in our fine school choir, which we are very proud of.

## New school building

The new school building is exciting news for all of us and with the approval of the Building Plan at the end of November we are finally good to go. We celebrate the groundbreaking in January and look forward to the planned move-in during the summer holidays of 2025. Cirkelhuset has been our home for almost 40 years and many memories have been created here, but we find the very special NGG spirit with each other and in the company of all learners, teachers, and parents and fortunately we move on together to fantastic surroundings where both spirit and traditions will remain. NGG is the school of the future because we do not stand still. We want to use our solid foundation as building blocks to be at the forefront and to develop. We thank you all for joining us on this journey.

## An innovative school with new school ideas

The autumn has certainly brought development here at NGG. Our first 5-year high school class started in August and has a waiting list. It has given us motivation for more. NGG is unique and it gives us unique opportunities in the development of the school of the future. As the only school in Denmark, our structure offers an outstanding diversity; Children, young people, adults – Danish and international. We can help shape a learners educational journey from the age of 3-20 with an international outlook that seems completely natural. We must embrace the future with the development of the school – not only the physical framework for teaching, but also the way we view learning.

## Focus on personal development: CHILD – ADOLESCENT – ADULT

Development was the focal point in the launch of our new 5-year high school programme: LifeScience back in August. The class is created in the 8. grade and ends with a high school diploma from NGG.

Today, children enter adolescence faster than when the structure of the Danish school was created 120 years ago, and access to knowledge has increased enormously with the digital development. With our educational structure at NGG, we can do something about this. We can create the framework for starting a unique youth education already from the 8th grade. We are now in full swing. In our 5-year high school programme: LifeScience, learners are linked based on their interest in science. Here they meet a strong collaboration between NGG Secondary school and highschool teachers, who shape the subjects in the direction of LifeScience and will create special teaching courses and projects over the next 5 years.

From next school year, we will again offer the Life-Science program, but also supplement with our new International 5-year high school program "Social Science", which will have an international approach to the areas of culture, economy and society. Enjoy our Christmas letter and a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!



# Explore everyday life at NGG and NIS

We would love to share all the wonderful experiences we have with our learners here at the school. We do this on our social media platforms Facebook, Instagram, Tik-Tok og Linked-in. You can follow both NGG grundskolen, North Zealand International School and NGG gymnasium on their profiles.

On the following pages we also give you a small clipping of the autumn's many experiences at the school, all of which were shared on our social media. So if you don't already follow us, we hope you can be inspired to do so.



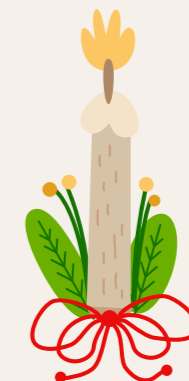
# Christmas Greetings

## FROM ÆLLINGEN AND EARLY YEARS

Our youngest learners in Early Years have had a "Once Upon a Time" course on storytelling, where students dived into 4 wonderful adventures and learned about the parts of the stories: characters, settings, and plot. In their current project: "Let's Have a Party", they explore the similarities and differences between different celebrations they each love.

In Ællingen it has also been an eventful autumn with lots of outdoor trips such as the big farm trip, pancake baking in the forest and trips with the 0th graders. We put a lot of effort into bridging the gap between the ducklings and the 0th graders. The youngest come to visit the 0th graders and participate in the teaching, thus getting to know both future peers and teachers.

The ællinger has also focused on Free of Bullying focus, first aid and the greatest experience of the Autumn: The Teddy Bear Hospital. Here the ællinger brought their "sick" teddy bears, which had to be both diagnosed and helped.



## DANISH AND INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

For the school's youngest learners in 0.grade, the start of school was an eventful experience, as they were both welcomed by NGG's oldest classes in high school in a flag parade as well as greeting and hugging our "Teddy bear friend", which is a part of our Free of Bullying program.

The big sports day unites all classes throughout NGG and luckily, we had nice weather this year. The atmosphere was high on various cricket, hockey, softball, volleyball and football teams and a new tradition was born among the oldest learners: T-shirts with sweet and personal messages.

Our international department has also competed in sports with other international schools in Denmark, whether it was football, mountain biking, volleyball or participation in Cross Country races.

A new sport also saw the light of day at NGG this autumn: SportsCollege Yoga with our colleague leva as coach. It helps to create the most optimal start to a school day with demands for concentration and learning, and leva is also happy with her newly started yoga class.

In November, classes from the Danish primary stopped by the canteen, where there was a nice set-up about the earth and natural disasters set up by the Primary classes. They work with teaching plans, which consist of several exciting courses that learners work creatively and interdisciplinary with. Each time these courses are completed, the classes hold an "Exit Point" - a final celebration and showcase of the learning that has taken place. We love when we can learn from each other across departments.

Across year groups, we form relationships and learn from each other. Whether it is the ællinger who visit the 0th grade and 2nd classes or our "Buddy classes" where Year 9 in the autumn visited Year 1-3 and both read, played, drew and talked. We think this teaches learners responsibility, empathy and care.



## HIGH SCHOOL

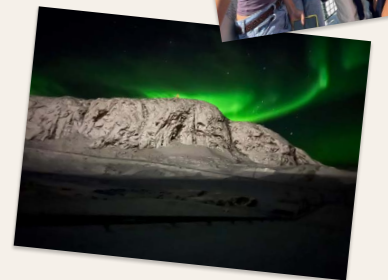
At NGG's gymnasium, we welcome the new learners who start every year. Tutor classes, intro tours, intro party and the learners trip to Fredtoften are part of the program, which the experienced high school learners help shape and make their mark. True to tradition, SportsCollege also held their Tri-day, which consisted of swimming, cycling, and running with friends cheering on the sidelines.

The first aid courses for the high school learners offered a full 4 hours of intensive care and then the oldest classes were also instructors for the 8-9th grades in a number of activity exercises, which included tasting field rations and refresher of first aid exercises in teams.

"It's every biologist's dream!" said biology teacher Marianne, when selected classes from the high school, grundskolen and NIS helped collect data on the bear animal for the researchers at the Natural History Museum of Denmark in connection with this year's Mass Experiment. The news received a lot of attention and at NGG P4 did live interviews with 3.g learners.

We love traveling in high school and this fall was no exception. Year 11 was in Budapest, the 2.g classes in Greenland, 10th grade in Berlin, SportsCollege Golf was in Costa Del Sol and after Christmas the ski trip awaits the 1.g's, SportsCollege ski trips and another active SportsCollege trip to Spain.

The Christmas month has offered the traditional trip to Tivoli, where learners of all year groups got to see the Crazy Christmas Caribaret, the social media advent calendar and a Christmas party just before we say Merry Christmas and thank you for this year.





# What is your favorite tradition at Christmas here at school?



Here at NGG, we love bringing students, teachers, and parents together through a lot of traditions during the school year. We asked a teacher, learner and a parent which Christmas tradition they love the most.



**Joakim Philipsen - Head of our international department and primary school**

I am still so new to the school that I have not experienced the Christmas traditions, but I have heard a lot about them, and I sense that both learners, teachers and parents have begun to prepare the many cozy Christmas traditions here at NGG. I'm looking forward to being a part of all of them.



**Johan Galsøe - high school**

My favorite Christmas tradition in high school is our annual Christmas party. Here we are together across all the classes; eat good food and enjoy Christmas games. It's just a cool way to say Merry Christmas.



**Amer Ramzan - Parent in our international department**

I like the various Christmas traditions at the school. But in particular, I like the tradition of the presents for the teachers. It is a tradition in the spirit of Christmas and shows appreciation for the teachers, which we may not express enough in the daily life. The teachers are probably some of the most important people in our children's lives.



## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. See you in 2024



**NGG**  
Nordsjællands  
Grundskole og  
Gymnasium



**NIS**  
North Zealand  
International School

