



Building Project

September 2016

Next Steps

Torstrasse wing roof extension

- Completion of new stairway: September 2016
- Wooden framework and roof construction preparations: September 2016

Main school building roof extension

- Completion of new stairway: October 2016
- Wooden framework and roof construction preparations: October 2016

Linienstr. wing roof preparation and extension

- Completing of new stairway: November 2016
- Wooden framework set-up and preparations: November-December 2016

Linienstr. Building foundation preparations

- Linienstrasse building foundation work to take place during Fall break

Dear BMS Families,

With this Building Project Newsletter, we would like to provide you with an update about the progress we have made over the past weeks as well as highlight the upcoming steps in our construction work.

The first major part of the project focusing on these four key areas is now finished, including:

- Constructing the initial set-up of our building site;
- Removing the old roof and the different layers of concrete in the roof;
- Building the anchors for the wooden roof construction; as well as
- preparing our school building for the new extension.

We are happy to report that we have successfully completed these tasks. Our “old” school building is prepared to be transformed now into something new. To be able to begin the second part of the building project, we had to set up a second crane on our yard. The second crane allows us to move material from Torstraße but also from Linienstraße onto our building site without moving over the yard. The crane is placed in our prepared building site behind the fence and as such, will not interrupt our current set-up or disturb our program further. With these steps our building site is now finalized and fixed for the next weeks.

As announced over the summer break, we have scheduled all the heavy construction work which had an impact on our building site in terms of noise, dust, and security aspects. We used the 6 weeks to break through the roof in the areas of our current stairways as these stairways will be extended over two new floors on top of the building. If you walk up onto the 4th floor, you can see the massive preparations which were completed over summer. The latter will allow us to open up the new floors later on without any interruption in our school operations. Of course the whole area is now



covered and protected and will not change anymore until we open up the new floors. Currently, the new stairway is being constructed which will be connected to the roof at a later date. If you have a look at the roof you can already see the walls and the shape of our new stairways.

In addition to the preparation of our roof, we used the time over the summer break to prepare our new building in Linienstraße. Before we received building permits and before we could begin the construction work, we had to measure the ground density. In order to stabilize the building foundation, we had to pump several tons of concrete using high-pressure machinery into the ground along the current walls in order to strengthen them. At the moment, we are preparing the ground for our new building, securing the area, and establishing the main framework for the new building. It will take until October to finish this part of our new Linienstraße building and to create all the necessary prerequisites to construct the new building. Until the end of September, all major tasks around the roof preparation should be finished – first the Torstraße wing, followed by the main building, and then the Linienstraße wing. In the last week of September/ the first week of October, the first elements of the wooden construction will be installed. During October, we will see how our school building grows as the wooden scaffold will provide us with an idea regarding the size and the shape of the new extension. It will take approximately two months to install this wooden scaffold, so we plan to have this finished by the end of December 2016.

Overall, we are very satisfied with the progress of our building project. We are still within our timeframe and in line with our organizational plan. We have been able to finish the larger construction disruptions in terms of noise and dust during summer to avoid any impacts on our school operations. The latter was a very important task to manage as we had to use this window of opportunity effectively in order to complete these major construction points in the summer. Luckily, the weather held out for us so that we could maintain our timeframe and are in line with the overall project plan.

In addition, we have used the summer break to analyze with our teams how we have managed our program and the day-to-day operations within the first month of construction in order to develop further ideas on how to bypass building project impacts in general and to redirect if necessary. Our leadership team works closely with their teams to guarantee the quality of our program consistently. We are also open to ideas parents suggested regarding how we can work with our current situation and to turn this into an opportunity for fun and learning. Most recently we have partnered with BMS parents to create a BMS Mural Project for the construction fences. Together with these artists and creative students from our school, we will begin a YardArt community project this Fall. Perhaps you have seen already the flyers to encourage our students to take part in this art workshop. We look forward to this collaboration and celebrating every opportunity we have to be creative with our space.

We want to thank those parents who actively supported us with their ideas and we want to extend our sincere thanks to all our families who support us with their positivity about this wonderful opportunity for our school. Please be reassured that we do our very best to meet the target timeline, to reduce the impacts on our daily operations, and most importantly, to ensure safety and security for all of our students and community members.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Silke Friedrich
Executive Director