

## Kicked out of the board....

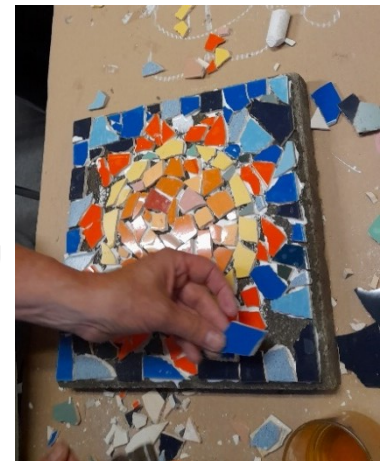
We closely follow the developments around primary school De Pionier and the former EMA site. The officials appointed by the municipality for this plan actively seek dialogue with all intended users, including Buurtvereniging De Horizon and Wijkcommissie Kerkakkers. Although the project has been running for a long time and the plans were well advanced, the city council has indicated that it wants to reconsider the possibilities for renovation (cost 8 million) and new construction (cost 9 million). Spending a million extra community money is not something you just do, but compared to 30 years of use and possibly lower operating costs if it can be achieved sustainably and energy-neutrally, it sheds a different light on the issue. In any case, we are pleased that various council groups contacted us directly and that the way to contact alderman Mieke Theus is open to us.

## Neighborhood Association De Dijkers

There are many nice streets in our beautiful neighborhood Kerkakkers! One of these states is the Dijkstraat (West). They have an active neighborhood association called the Dijkers. This has various activities such as a New Year's drink, Easter egg hunt, neighborhood BBQ, mosaicing of pavement tiles and with Sinterklaas the smallest residents get a visit from a pete. But there are also two WhatsApp groups that connect the residents, 1 for emergency and 1 for everything you want to share with the neighborhood. Since this year there has been a change in the board and they have gone through the doors with sunflower seeds as a proposal round. In recent years, the "old board" has been blasted and the new board continues this as a metaphor: a sunflower grows to the sun and ensures that we all continue to shine and color the street! So if you are in the area come and have a look at the colored pavement tiles or in a while how the sunflowers grow and shine in our street.

Groetjes, Neeltje Verhagen

NB:  
On October 11, Neeltje Verhagen from the Dijkstraat will give another workshop Mosaic on pavement tiles during the Door & Voor evening of the district committee.



Would you also like to tell us what people do in your street for beautiful things? Send a message to:

[secretariaat@wijkcommissiekerkackers.nl](mailto:secretariaat@wijkcommissiekerkackers.nl)



Voor de nederlandse versie van deze nieuwsbrief zie onze website: [www.wijkcommissiekerkackers.nl](http://www.wijkcommissiekerkackers.nl)

## Biodiversity in our neighbourhood

In December, a call was made to start a biodiversity working group in the Kerkakkers district. Madeleine Wolterink immediately became enthusiastic. When her children went to the Pioneer, she worked to realize the play / nature garden and nature education at this school. How nice it is now to look at the state of greenery, nature and biodiversity at district level. Working with neighbors to develop ideas to make the neighborhood greener and therefore more insect



and bird friendly.

The working group took shape, Ankie Slaats, Jan Gijbers and Venantia van den Ing joined. In the meantime, many ideas have been expressed and some have taken on a practicable form. The aim of the biodiversity working group is multiple; We want to stimulate cooperation within the neighborhood and together ensure that the population of insects (including bees and butterflies) grows through greening and that other animal species visit our neighborhood.

### What is biodiversity

Biodiversity is all life – animals, plants, humans, fungi and microorganisms – that has spread across the earth over billions of years and has evolved into the most wondrous forms and species. It provides balance in nature.

### Why is biodiversity important

Species are interdependent. Predators and prey, animals and the plant species they eat, fungi in the soil and tree roots. The more diverse an area, the more connection between organisms, the richer and more resistant it is to changes such as climate

change, diseases and pests. By protecting biodiversity, we protect ourselves.

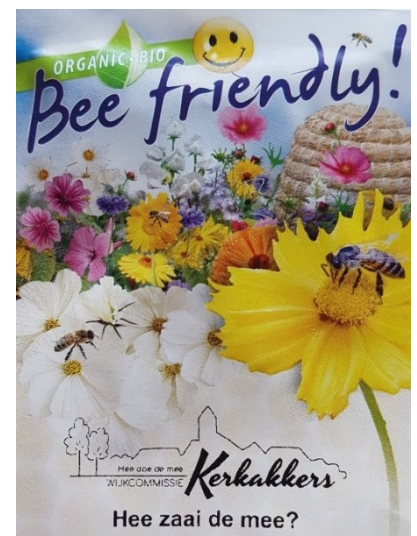
### Sowing, tiling, tree mirrors and flower bulbs

With this we start our actions for this year. In September we want to draw attention to the tree mirrors on municipal land. It is great if these can be planted during the neighbors' day. Do you want to adopt and green a tree mirror yourself? Report this to our working group. Together with the municipality, we are looking at the possibilities. More about this in a future newsletter. In the autumn we want to start a flower bulb campaign. If you have any ideas, would like to participate, please let us know. Do these projects appeal to you? Are you someone who wants to see the neighborhood greener? Do you like to roll up your sleeves or share your knowledge? You are welcome to join our biodiversity team. We can be reached by e-mail:

[biodiversiteitkerkackers@gmail.com](mailto:biodiversiteitkerkackers@gmail.com)

## Hee zaai de mee?

To introduce the Biodiversity working group in our district, this newsletter includes a bag of organic bee mixture seed. By spreading these seeds in your (front) garden or (balcony) pot, this will not only contribute to a wonderful place for insects, but will give the neighborhood a colorful look. During our exploration through the district, it was noticeable that there are still plenty of places to green. These seeds can be a start. Do you also sow seeds for a colorful neighborhood?



## Tile wipes in Valkenswaard

The Municipality of Valkenswaard participates in the national action "Tegelwippen".



Until 21 May, the municipality of Valkenswaard has a campaign to reduce "petrification" and promote greening. They themselves are looking at the possibilities on municipal land and in public space. But you too can participate: **Tile out and green in.** Why tile wiping? By removing pavement from your garden, the rainwater can better escape into the ground. This is good for the plants, the groundwater level and prevents overloading of the sewer. Are you also going to tile wipe? Please let us know:

[biodiversiteitkerkakers@gmail.com](mailto:biodiversiteitkerkakers@gmail.com)

Did you know that a petrified garden in summer is much hotter than a green garden? Trees and plants provide cooling. In addition, it is good for biodiversity. You will be amazed when you see which birds and insects suddenly visit your garden. Green is healthy. A green environment has a positive effect on people's well-being. It is striking that since Corona more people walk around the neighborhood every day. By seeing and smelling growth and flowering, such a detour gives even more experience. By working together with local residents to increase green areas in the area, social cooperation within the neighbourhood is strengthened. Together we ensure a green, biodiverse and climate-proof living environment. More info about the action see (in Dutch): [www.valkenswaardig.nl/tegeleruit](http://www.valkenswaardig.nl/tegeleruit)

## Residents learn to prune fruit trees,

thanks to Teun de Zeeuw. On Saturday 4 March, a dozen residents of the Kerkakkers district came to see how the fruit trees in the public orchard were pruned by our expert Teun de Zeeuw and with the help of Jan Gijsbers. Many questions were asked such as what is the best pruning time, what to do about louse in the fruit tree and grinding and keeping tools clean. Below is a small summary of what we have learned:



- Stone fruits such as the plum should be pruned after harvest;
- Apple/pear trees preferably in November but it is possible until February;
- You have to cut out waterlots;
- You can spray away louse with water. This is environmentally friendly;
- Cut away branches that grow inwards so that the tree inside remains open;
- Young branches can be bent downwards, secured and let them grow so that you can pick the fruit more easily.

After an hour all the trees were pruned and now we hope for a good harvest!



Madeleine Wolterink, Working Group on Biodiversity.

## Door & Voor Information evenings

Every second Wednesday evening of the month, a free lecture, excursion or workshop is organized



"Door en Voor" neighborhood residents, in community center

De Horizon, Amundsenstraat 5. Start is 8:00 pm. The entrance is free, the coffee and tea also.

## Agenda Door & Voor evenings

- **Wednesday 10 may 8:00 pm**

Thema: **Performance Instrumental Trio**

### Mousai



The name Mousai comes from ancient Greek and is a collective name for the 'arts of the muses' ('Fine Arts'), to which music certainly belongs. The repertoire consists of listening music in the slightly classical genre and more modern music specially composed for accordion and/or mandolin. In addition, they focus on folk music from various countries. The presentation is based on the country of origin of the musical piece or composer in question. They take people on a 'musical journey through many countries'. Explanations are also given on the pieces to be played.

- **Wednesday 14 june 7:30 pm**

Thema: **Excursion in the garden of Ad and Jose Baltussen at the Deelshurk 5a Valkenswaard.**

Together we will then go and see the garden of Ad and Jose Baltussen and that is worth it. Ad worked on the garden for years. The garden has oriental influences. You will find beautiful trees and water features. He only used recycled materials and that in a very creative way. His life's work can be seen and is unique. His wife Jose is an artist. You will find sculptures of her in the garden, many creative works of art and she has also started processing waste into art. Jose is also a participant of the Vaart foundation, well known to you from the studio route. You are welcome to come and have a look. The entrance and coffee/tea are free.

Wednesday evening **14 june 7:30 pm**, See you!!



## Agenda Walk-in house

**Walk-in house Kardinaal de Jongstraat 6.**

Have a nice chat while enjoying a free cup of coffee or tea. Are you coming as well?

- **Monday 1 May**
  - **Monday 15 May**
  - **Monday 5 June**
  - **Monday 19 June**
- from 10:00 til 11:30 am