

To the parents

Zurich, May 2019

June 14th 2019: Women's strike and day of action

Dear parents,

As you may have heard, on Friday, June 14th 2019, a nationwide women's strike and day of action will be taking place. This is an opportunity for all women, as well as men wanting to express their solidarity, to draw attention to the ongoing shortcomings in gender equality.

Traditionally female jobs are still generally less appreciated and lesser paid. Moreover women provide a bigger share in unpaid work whether in private households or in supporting and caring for family members. We in childcare are directly affected by this problem. As members of a typically female job we repeatedly have to wait for concessions and constantly have to fight against deterioration of working conditions.

You rightfully expect that your child is growing up in a safe environment and is getting lots of positive stimulation in the «HORT». This commitment requires a lot of professional understanding and pro-activity. Good working conditions are crucial to satisfy the high expectations in child care on a sustained basis.

Due to larger group sizes, we have less and less time to dedicate ourselves to the individual children and there often is a lack of space. The working hours of the employees are increasingly being reduced as well as distributed over several days, which can result in lower wages. Those of us who have children on our own have a hard time balancing work and family life as we risk losing valuable time with our family. Due to part-time employment many of us will have to settle for a low pension and even be afraid of old-age poverty.

For all these reasons on **June 14th 2019** we take our claims to the street and join the nationwide **women's strike. We the women of the «HORT» want to strike this day.**

In addition to our own special claims we show our solidarity with the broader demands of the women's strike. We cordially invite all of you to be part of the various actions of the women's strike and to support this day. The women's strike is, among others, supported by the VPOD (Union of the public sector employees). The collective of the women's strike in Zurich deals with the topics around the strike in Zurich. You can find more information here: www.frauenstreikzuerich.ch.

Therefore, we especially ask the fathers, grandfathers, godfathers and other male relatives and caregivers, to look after your child / children by yourself **on Friday, June 14th 2019 after 2pm**. If this is not possible for you, please use the enclosed form to register your child / children for the care provided by male professionals.

Sincerely,
Your team HORT