Dear students,

hopefully you enjoyed the semester break and the last weeks of late summer. The new semester just started and exciting events, workshops and offers are coming up! We selected some which you may be interested in.

We wish you success and energy for the following months and hope you enjoy reading our newsletter!

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**Topic overview**

1. A digital picture book service: Polylino
2. Kindergrundversicherung – a new child benefits system
3. Event recommendations
4. Workshops
5. New Podcast - Episode: Childcare

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**1. Polylino – a multilingual reading-app**

Your favourite picture books, available anywhere and anytime? The Polylino-app makes this possible.

You can choose from over 1000 books, 60 audio-languages and 20 written languages. Polylino is supposed to encourage a child’s reading skills as well as listening skills in different languages. The app’s offer includes picture books and children books for children up to primary school age. There are a range of different styles and genres and you can add books to your own library. Polylino offers a free trial for 14 days, after that the app costs 9,90€ per month. This is the provider’s website.

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**Playgroup**

Would you like to meet other students with children? Are you longing for a possibility to exchange with fellow parents? Have you been hoping to find a great group of friends for your child? Then you are more than welcome to become part of our playgroup!

We are going to meet each other every Friday between 10 and 12. Just message us if you would like to join!

familienbuero@uni-bonn.de
0228-737273
2. Kindergrundsicherung – a new child benefits system

The German government wants to protect children and teenagers in Germany better from poverty. In September 2023 the bill regarding the so called Kindergrundsicherung has been passed, it is supposed to come into force from January 2025. This means that state founded family benefits will be bundled and easier to apply for. But what will change exactly?

The current child benefit (Kindergeld) will be replaced by the so called Kindergarantiebetrag, a guaranteed monthly allowance for all children, but nothing will change regarding it’s amount. In addition, it will be possible to ask for the so called Kinderzusatzbetrag, an allowance which depends on the parent’s income as well as the child’s age.

A digital portal is supposed to make the applications for both allowances as easy as possible. They also don’t interfere with citizen’s benefit, housing benefit or BAföG. The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth offers further information which you can find here.

3. Event recommendations

1) On November 6, at 4 pm, the University organizes the online-event equality of chances and diversity in Erasmus+. Amongst others, the topic studying abroad with a child will be presented. You can find the Zoom link here.

2) The reading festival Käpt’n Book is taking place from October 22. to November 5. Authors from all over the world are visiting Bonn to offer workshops and public readings. There will be a closing party in “Deutsches Museum” on November 5. You can find an overview here.

4. Workshops

As always, the Central Study Advisory and Counseling Service offers multiple workshops. These may interest you:

24.11.: Intercultural Training: Diversity. Participants will discuss society structures in Germany. Theoretical basics will be part of the workshop as well as interactive tasks. You can find further information here.

01.12.: De-Stress your studies: An English Workshop which will practise mindfulness and, relieve stress and create sustainable studying techniques. This is the website’s link.
4. New Podcast-Episode: Childcare for Uni-employees – How does this work?

The excitement for the new semester rises, but then the shocking news: The most important meeting is scheduled for Tuesday evening exactly then, when kindergarten is closed.

Childcare may be an important topic for you too. If so, we would like to draw your attention to our newest podcast-episode, which you can access through here.

Important note: The podcast is in German.

This could be interesting you as well:

The AstA supports studying parents, who have to pay for childcare, with a benefit of 100€ per semester. You can find the application forms here.

Note: If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter, please send an email to familienbuero@uni-bonn.de.

All information without guarantee