## **Stressed teachers leave the classrooms**

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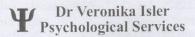
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# Stressed teachers leave the classrooms

Difficult pupils and parents, ever-increasing duties and ongoing reforms are pushing some Swiss teachers to burnout. Concerns have been raised in the profession about how many of them are leaving their jobs, creating a shortage. The situation is particularly alarming for new teachers: 20 to 50 per cent of them are quitting during their first few years.

In 2010 there were 3,400 vacancies in Swiss state schools, which were filled by foreign teachers or students. Teacher training colleges can't train enough teachers to fill this gap. A few Swiss cantons have been trying to counter the problem by proposing special shorter teacher training for people from other professions or for primary school teachers who want to teach in secondary schools.

from swissinfo

# Farmers cry over bumper onion crop

The number of onions grown in Switzerland this year is set to be 25 per cent above the threeyear average, but farmers are not celebrating. The Swiss vegetable growers' association said the 23,417 tonnes of onions – a result of optimal weather conditions in summer and autumn – were pushing the price down. The recommended price is now SFr0.45 per kilo compared with SFr0.75 last year – a figure which doesn't cover production costs, according to the association.

It also complained that exporting the excess onions wasn't possible, despite their low price, because markets in European Union countries were also saturated.

Switzerland could also expect celery, cabbage and carrot mountains. *from swissinfo*