

Next week will be our half term break and so the school will be closed. We will re-open on Monday 15th February. If you are travelling for the holiday we trust that you will have a safe journey.

We have had a celebratory day in school with everyone dressed in red for Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day and an extensive Cake sale taking place in the Infant department library. I would like to thank everybody who helped towards the Cake sale, both the suppliers of Cakes and the many parents who helped through the morning to sell them to all of the classes as they visited. **We raised over 300 €** towards the Bananule school for orphans in Kampala (see <http://banunuleschool.com/>) which is a great total.

If any family already knows for certain that they will be **leaving Brussels and BISB in the summer** then we would be pleased to be informed as soon as possible. This is because we have already received a record number of applications this month for places in September 2016 and so we wish to know how many places are likely to be available as soon as possible for other applications that we will receive over the next few months. Because of this surge in applications we find ourselves having to issue initial 10% invoices for all classes in the infant department over the next couple of weeks.

Year 6 will be undertaking what promises to be a very informative visit to the **National Bank of Belgium** on Tuesday 15th March.

Please note that if you are leaving at the end of the summer term the **deadline of 90 days for giving written notice of departure** falls on Friday 1st April. This is during the Easter holiday and is 90 days before Thursday 30th June, the last day of the summer term.

Please don't forget that every Friday morning there is a **parents' coffee morning** held in the Junior department library at 09.00 and this is a great social occasion. It also gives parents an opportunity to change their library book in the Parents and teachers section of the library.

BISB will once again be participating in 'Splash 2016' the Brussels Lions Club Swimarathon, on Sunday March 13th at Omnisport Neder-over-Heembeek Sports Centre, Rue du lombardsijdestraat, 120, 1120 - Neder-over-Heembeek. Please see

<http://lionsheraldic.net/splash/welcome-splash-0> for more details. If you want to take part (children and / or parents) then please send an email into the school office saying that you want to take part. BISB is having 3 swimming lanes this year which is more than we have ever had.

The **talk topic homeworks** for next week are as follows:-

- For Nursery Look out for interesting things on your holiday, and tell us all about them when you come back to nursery.
- For Reception What can we do to help protect the earth?
- For Year 1 What did you do in the half term holidays?
- For Year 2 Which animals' houses are the hardest to build?
- For Year 3 Compare the food we have today to the food during the war. What are the differences?
- For Year 4 What tradition do you like best about the Chinese New Year?
- For Year 5 What would it have been like eating in a trench? What would you have looked forward to eating of all the things the soldiers had?
- For Year 6 What do you look for on food packaging labels?

The **next meeting of the BISB Book Club** will be on Wednesday February 24th at 8pm when we shall be looking at Empress Dowager Cixi : The Concubine Who Launched Modern China by Jung Chang
Everyone is very welcome to attend even if you haven't read the book as you can come along to help suggest a book for the following meeting.

This week's star pupils of this week were:

- Reception Tanishka for her ever increasing phonetic knowledge
Eilidh for her excellent understanding of the rules for forming a sentence.
- Year 1 Wahed for good work in maths this week.
Mahee for super counting in 5s in maths.
- Year 2 Bhuvan for listening attentively and being reliable.
Dev for giving a good explanation of rounding, and for his independent writing
- Year 3 Year 3 For superb science projects
- Year 4 Aditya for excellent work in topic and being so engaged in the lesson.
- Year 5 Ishika for great mathematical reasoning and triumphing in her reading test
- Year 6 Alakananda for her Romeo and Juliet essay; this is an outstanding example of how to 'compare and contrast' different texts. Brilliant!

And finally this week's thought for the week is:-

"He who teaches children learns more than they do".

- German Proverb

Spring Term 2016

Tuesday 2nd February	Years 5 and 6 visit to the Food and War exhibition for a guided visit and cooking activity
Friday 5 th February	Years 3 and 4 visit to the Food and War exhibition for a guided visit and cooking activity
Tuesday 15th March	Year 6 visit to the National Bank of Belgium
Sunday 13 th March	Splash 2016 Charity Swim

Summer Term 2016

Sunday 24 th April - Friday 29th April	Year 4, 5 and 6 children Residential week at Rippledown House, UK
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BISB School Calendar – Academic Year 2015 / 2016

Autumn Term

Tuesday, September 1, 2015

Start of Autumn Term

Monday, October 26, 2015
- Friday, October 30, 2015

Half Term
Break

Friday, November 6, 2015

School Closed - Staff Training Day

Wednesday, November 11, 2015

School Closed - Public Holiday
Armistice Day

Friday, December 18, 2015 at 12.15

End of Autumn Term

Spring Term

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Start of Spring Term

Monday, February 8, 2016
- Friday, February 12, 2016

Half Term
Break

Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 15.30

End of Spring Term

Monday, April 11, 2016
Day

School Closed - Staff Training

Summer Term

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Start of Summer Term

Thursday, May 5, 2016
Friday, May 6 2016

Ascension Public Holiday
Half Term Holiday

Monday, May 16, 2016

Pentecost Holiday

Thursday June 30th 2016 at 15.30

End of Summer Term

Provisional start of Autumn Term - Thursday, September 1st, 2016