

We have had a short **start to the new academic year** this week and we would like to extend a very warm welcome to everybody, both new and returning families. We look forward to being able to do this in person tomorrow morning, when we look forward to seeing you for **the Welcome Coffee morning**. This will be in the Infant department from 10.00 to 12.00 and will give you a chance to meet staff and other parents in an informal setting. It is not intended to be an occasion to discuss the progress of individual children as there will be a particular evening set aside for this just after half term. Everyone, parents and children, is very welcome.

We have today sent out a paper slip **for new families** to complete with their phone numbers and also an emergency phone number if it is ever required. For all families we are asking you to complete or update, if there have been any changes, an electronic contact details form.

On Tuesday evening in the week after next (Tuesday 13th September at 19.00 in both buildings) there will be a **Curriculum briefing evening** for parents to find out about what their child will be learning during the year. This is for all children apart from the Nursery children. Please note that the briefing is not appropriate for children and therefore they should not be attending this evening. Parents should go to the department building where their child's class is located.

We are aware that **birthdays** are always very exciting days and that the children like to celebrate theirs with their friends. There is no obligation for parents to send treats to school for the class but if you wish to do so we would like you to be aware of the following guidelines and recommendations. As there are children in school with dietary restrictions or allergies we have to be very careful about any sharing of food. Therefore, if you wish to do so, we recommend that you send a packet of biscuits or small cup-cakes rather than a large cake to give out after we have sung Happy Birthday. If you wish to send a cake it should be a plain sponge cake as most children do not like rich cream or icing and therefore most of any large cake is wasted. Please do not send party bags for distribution containing lots of sweets and chocolate for the children as we do not like to encourage children to eat unhealthy food items. Similarly several parents do not wish their children to have them.

We would like to offer our **congratulations to Mrs Rutayisire** and her husband who will be expecting their second child later on this term. When Mrs Rutayisire starts her maternity leave then Mr Tranter will take over the teaching of the class with Mrs Hauwaerts supporting him as the class assistant. We would also like to offer our **congratulation to Mrs van Wasenhove** who will be expecting her first child in the Spring term.

If you wish to **contact a teacher directly** by e-mail then the addresses to use for this academic year are as follows:-

Mr Prescott	stephen.prescott@telenet.be
Mrs Davies	nurseryteacher@telenet.be
Miss Irakoze	receptionteacher@telenet.be
Mrs Rutayisire	year1teacher@telenet.be
Mrs Vetter	year2teacher@telenet.be
Mrs Still	year3teacher@telenet.be
Mr Stedman	year4teacher@telenet.be
Mrs Godwin	year5teacher@telenet.be
Mrs Tranter	year6teacher@telenet.be
Mrs Mayeur	musicteacher@telenet.be
Mrs Read	ealteacher@telenet.be
Mrs Scharf & Mrs Halvorsen	frenchteachers@telenet.be
Mrs Prescott	supportteacher@telenet.be

For obvious reasons we do not expect that teachers will be monitoring these e-mail accounts continuously so please be aware that there could easily be up to 2 working days before you receive a response. This extra communication facility is in addition to a weekly time slot in which an appointment can be made, which will be announced next week. We trust that both these communication channels will enable parents to support and enquire about their children's progress in an efficient and constructive manner.

The **weekly Coffee mornings** are now held every Friday at 09.00 in the Junior department library This will also give you a chance to change your library books from the large selection of books in English for parents and teachers.

The **School Photograph day** will be on Wednesday 12th October this year. Therefore we expect that all children will be able to attend school as normal on that day. There will be an opportunity afterwards to buy photographs taken then, including, individual, class and school photographs.

Please note that for both **practical and safety reasons** it is not possible to heat up individual food items at lunchtime. Children who want to have a warm lunch should bring their pre-heated food in a thermally insulated container that is specially available for this purpose.

Please let us know as soon as possible **if you think that you may be leaving in this autumn term** i.e. any time up till December 2016. The 90 day deadline for the end of this term for written notice of departure, after which deposits will not be refunded, will fall on Saturday 17th September.

For all those families **paying fees by Domiciliation** each month please note that the target date for the amounts to be taken from your account is always the 3rd of each month. For families making their first domiciliation payment there is always a slight delay as the bank process and enter the new information.

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

“The only nice thing about being imperfect is the joy it brings to others”.

- Doug Larson

Autumn Term 2016

Thursday, September 1 st 2016	Start of Autumn Term
Saturday 3 rd September 10.00 – 12.00	Welcome Coffee Morning
Tuesday 13 th September 19.00 In Infant & Junior departments	Curriculum Briefing

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

BISB School Calendar – Academic Year 2016 / 2017

Autumn Term

Thursday, September 1, 2016

Start of Autumn Term

Friday, October 28, 2016 School Closed - Staff Training Day

Monday, October 31, 2016 Half Term
- Friday, November 4, 2016 Break

Friday, November 11, 2016 School Closed - Public Holiday
Armistice Day

Friday, December 16, 2016 at 12.15 **End of Autumn Term**

Spring Term

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Start of Spring Term

Monday, February 27, 2017 Half Term
- Friday, March 3, 2017 Break

Friday, March 31, 2017 at 12.15 **End of Spring Term**

Tuesday, April 18, 2017 School Closed - Staff Training Day

Summer Term

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

Start of Summer Term

Monday, May 1, 2017 May Day Public Holiday

Thursday, May 25, 2017 Ascension Public Holiday
Friday, May 26 2017 Half Term Holiday

Monday, June 5, 2017 Pentecost Holiday

Friday June 30th 2017 at 12.15 **End of Summer Term**

Provisional start of Autumn Term - Monday, September 4th, 2017