

Next week will be Pumpkin week in school and we shall be celebrating all things pumpkin. We shall be having many curriculum items including pumpkins and it will be an exciting week for everybody. To start the week off everyone is invited to bring in a pumpkin to add to the display in each building. This does not need to be carved or painted. It can just be an unusual, or big, or small pumpkin. **At the end of the week on Thursday the children do not need to come into school wearing school uniform as they can come in fancy dress using Autumn colours.**

The reason that Thursday is the last school day of next week is that the **school will be closed for staff training on Friday** so children will not be attending school on that day.

You should by now have an appointment for **next week's parents evening meetings** which are taking place on Tuesday and Wednesday after school. This is an opportunity for you to discuss the progress of your child with their teacher. Logistical points associated with these days are that Tuesday's Seasonal Crafts club will not take place and that if your appointment is after 16.00 then your child can be placed in the garderie without charge for a maximum of 15 minutes. After this 15 minute period the normal charging rates shall apply. If you have 2 children then the first 30 minutes will be free.

This year as in previous years we would like to **support the Actie4kids program** in which people prepare a shoebox for children for Christmas. These shoeboxes go to underprivileged children in various parts of the world. **There is no obligation to take part** but it is a practical way that children can be involved in giving to those less fortunate than themselves. If you and your children would like to take part we have the leaflets in school, in both buildings. They have very clear instructions and suggestions about the type of things to be included in the boxes. This year the organisers have specially requested boxes for boys as they normally receive a lot more for girls. If you would like to take part please let us know and you can either call in to school to pick up a leaflet or we can put one into your child's folder. We would need the boxes in school ready for delivery during the week from 28th November to 2nd December.

Please note that the school must be informed beforehand (which can be by a simple phone call) **if you wish your child to be picked up from school by another family with a child at BISB.** We cannot simply hand over a child to someone who says that they are picking up your child without prior information. If you wish that your child is picked up by someone not known to the school then we must be informed in writing beforehand and the person picking up must have their Photo ID with them.

We would like to inform you at this time that we have **a confirmed case of head lice in the school**. We would suggest that you please make your own personal check of your child's hair and, if needed, please consult with your chemist/pharmacist (who can supply specially targeted shampoos and also the inexpensive fine tooth comb that can do wonders in preventing the spread of head lice and literally screens the hair). Washing with conditioner and combing regularly with the fine comb could be all that is required.

Earlier this week all the pupils from the Junior Department visited the European Space Expo and you can see what they did at <http://www.bisb.org/project/junior-department-trip-to-eu-brussels-space-expo/>

The **weekly Coffee mornings** are now held every Friday at 09.00 in the Junior department library (but today's was at one of the local cafés for variety). We do hope that you can come along in the future if you weren't able to come along today. This will also give you a chance to change your library books from the large selection of books in English for parents and teachers.

On Thursday next week (27th October) the fun will continue as **Year 4 will be paying a visit to Sortilege**, which is an adventure game location combining fun, resourcefulness and teamwork in Brussels' first Urban Forest. This will be part of their Wishful Thinking fairy-tales Topic. Catching a tram and then bus from school, the class will take part in an all day adventure experience in Neder-over-Heembeek. They look forward to meeting the Fairy, the Knight, the Ogre and the Witch in the mock castle in the woods. The Sortilege enterprise prides itself on being a zero-emission, CO2 friendly sustainable mission.

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

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| For Nursery | Have you ever tasted pumpkin pie? If yes, what did it taste like? If no, what do you think it would taste like? |
| For Reception | In what different ways can we use pumpkins?' |
| For Year 1 | What can you make using a pumpkin? |
| For Year 2 | Why do the leaves fall off the trees in autumn? |
| For Year 3 | What food do I enjoy eating, and why? |
| For Year 4 | How would Europe be different if Napoleon had won the Battle of Waterloo? |
| For Year 5 | Why do the people of Haiti currently need help? How could we help? |
| For Year 6 | Would you read another book by the author Tim Bowler? |

After the first meeting of the BISB book club this year, we have chosen to read **Labyrinth by Kate Mosse**. The meeting to talk about this book will be

on Wednesday 16th November at 20.00 in the Infant department. If you haven't already got your copy then you can still order via an on-line book supplier.

This week's star pupils of this week were:

- Reception Mokshith for following instructions for accurate colouring.
Abhinav for producing an excellent autumn tree for our display.
- Year 1 Aravind for super work in maths this week.
Shanvitha for great work in phonics with double letters at the end.
- Year 2 Ayush for settling down well and working hard this week.
Rohan for consistent good work particularly in Maths
- Year 3 Maanas for his never-ending enthusiasm in everything that he does and for his excellent work.
Tala for the huge effort put into her fantastic space rocket and for trying very hard with her reading.
- Year 4 Catriona for a great 'Constable' and for finding her dancing feet
Sandra for inspired mathematics on the iPad.
- Year 5 Min-Hyeok for making good progress at the Castle Club. He can use different tennis shots and always gives 100%!
- Year 6 Aditya for participating wholeheartedly in BISB life within such a short time. What a terrific start!

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

“In politics, absurdity is not a handicap”.

- Napoleon Bonaparte

Autumn Term 2016

Monday 17th October	Junior Department will be visiting the European Space Expo on	
Monday 24 th October	Start of Pumpkin week	
Tuesday 25 th October	Parents Evening	<i>Appointment times will be given before half term</i>
Wednesday 26th October.	Parents Evening	
Thursday 27 th October	Year 4 visit to Sortilege	
Friday, October 28, 2016	School Closed - Staff Training Day	
Monday, October 31, 2016 - Friday, November 4, 2016	Half Term Break	
Friday, November 11, 2016 Armistice Day	School Closed - Public Holiday	
Wednesday 16th November 20.00 Infant Dept	Book Club Meeting to discuss Labyrinth by Kate Mosse.	

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