

This has been an abnormal week but we trust that everything has returned to normal now.

On Tuesday the infant department was forced to be closed as our water supply was cut off for the day by the company carrying out the water and drainage work in Avenue Emile Max. Added to this, from Wednesday evening until Friday morning the school office email facility was cut off as there had been a **cyber-attack on the company that hosts our email server** in the UK. We think that everything is now operating normally but if you sent an email to us since Wednesday evening and you are still awaiting a reply then please send it again and we will do our best to respond as quickly as possible.

From now on all families with children in our Infant department must arrive promptly at school each morning as **from Monday, November 20th, families will not be admitted into school if they arrive late after the start of school.**

After 09.00 we will allow a ten minutes grace period so arriving at 09.10, entry will be permitted but at or after 09.11 it will not. Children will then only be allowed into school after 10.15 towards the start of break time. There will be no debate about the timing as it will be determined by the library clock which is exact, as it is a radio controlled clock, synchronised with the atomic clocks at Frankfurt. We suggest that all families aim to arrive at school for 08.30 rather than 09.00 anyway so that they do not have a problem with this new procedure.

If there are exceptional circumstances then parents can telephone ahead and explain what these might be. A missing tram or bus causing an arrival at 09.15 is not an exceptional circumstance as you should be aiming to arrive closer to 08.30.

Please note that this week of prior warning should have enabled all parents to make the necessary adjustment to their morning travel arrangements.

Our **Thanksgiving / Autumn Craft evening** will be taking place in our Infant department next Friday on Friday 24th November from 18.00 to 20.00. Even though this will be held in the Infant department this is a whole school social event and children and their families from both departments are very welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you then for a fun filled and creative evening where there will be pumpkin soup and bread, as well as samosas to warm you up.

There are a couple of school trips coming up in the second half of this term. Firstly on Tuesday 28th November our Year 4 class will be visiting the Gravensteen Castle in Gent (see <https://gravensteen.stad.gent/en> for more

information). To enable a smooth departure all Year 4 children need to be in school at 8:30 on that Tuesday. We would also like one parent - volunteer to accompany this trip to Gent. On Thursday 30th November our Year 1 and 2 children will be visiting Brussels Aquarium for the morning leaving school just after 09.00.

We hosted another very successful **Coffee morning** today for and these will continue each Friday at 09.00 in the Junior department library. We do hope that you can come along in the future as you weren't able to come along today. Normally this gives you a chance to change your library books from the large selection of books in English for parents and teachers.

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

- For Nursery Where do you buy your fruit and vegetables? Why do you buy them there?
- For Reception Would you rather live in a city, a village or in the countryside?
- For Year 1 What do pets need? How can we look after them?
- For Year 2 What is your favourite book and what do you especially like about it?
- For Year 3 Which 3D shapes can I identify in everyday objects around me?
- For Year 4 Why was last Saturday a public holiday?
- For Year 5 / 6 Would you like to be Alex Rider?

For all those families **paying fees by Domiciliation each month** please note that the target date for the amounts to be taken automatically 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 processes and enters the new information.

Parents may wish to be aware that **children under 12 attending school in Brussels are entitled to travel for free on the Brussels public transport system**. However to do this they must have their own MOBIB card which costs 5 € and then load it with a free subscription J (abonnement J). They then use it every time they enter a bus, tram or metro. More information can be obtained from BISB or www.stib.brussels .

This week's star pupils of this week were:

- Reception Aarush for accurate one to one counting.
Anirudh for his growing confidence around the classroom.
- Year 1 Vihan for beautiful work with mixing colours.
Yashika for good work with the / th / sound in phonics.
- Year 2 Shanvitha for going beyond what was expected in her literacy this week.
Aadharrshini for finishing her work well in record time this week.
- Year 3 Rohan for his detailed observation of his ammonite, and for the huge effort he made to produce such a careful watercolour painting.
Srija for her excellent research skills and her infectious enthusiasm for Viking history.
- Year 4 Chetan for fine fraction work and his jolly attitude to school.
- Year 5 / 6 Ayush for calculating, so accurately, the dimensions of our sheet for tie-dying.
Sandra for her excellent scientific explanation of our egg experiment.

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

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

- Martin Luther King Jr.

Autumn Term 2017

Friday 27 th October	Junior department Night time Forest walk
Tuesday 14 th November	Year 5 / 6 trip to Antwerp Diamond Centre
Monday 20 th November	Junior department French Assembly
Friday 24 th November 18.00 to 20.00	Thanksgiving / Autumn Craft evening Infant Department
Tuesday 28 th November	Year 4 visit to Gravensteen Fortress, Gent
Thursday 30 th of November 9.10 until about 13.00.	Year 1 and 2 visit to the Brussels Aquarium
Friday 1 st December	Junior department trip to Planetarium
Monday 11 th December 17.00	Junior department show De Lijsterbees theatre
Thursday 14 th December 11.30	Nursery Show Infant Department
Friday 15 th December 15.25 Infants 15.30 Juniors	End of Autumn Term

- Spring Term 2018

Monday 8 th January	Start of Spring Term
Monday 29 th January	Reception / Year 1 / Year 2 show

BISB School Calendar – Academic Year 2017 / 2018

Autumn Term

Monday, September 4, 2017

Start of Autumn Term

Monday, October 30, 2017
- Friday, November 3, 2017

Half Term
Break

Friday, December 15, 2017 at 15.30

End of Autumn Term

Spring Term

Monday, January 8, 2018

Start of Spring Term

Monday, February 12, 2018
- Friday, February 16, 2018

Half Term
Break

Friday, March 23, 2018 at 15.30

End of Spring Term

Monday, April 9, 2018

School Closed - Staff Training Day

Summer Term

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Start of Summer Term

Monday, April 30, 2018
Tuesday, May 1, 2018

Holiday
May Day Public Holiday

Thursday, May 10, 2018
Friday, May 11 2018

Ascension Public Holiday
Half Term Holiday

Monday, May 21, 2018

Pentecost Holiday

Friday June 29th 2018 at 12.15

End of Summer Term

Provisional start of Autumn Term - Monday, September 3rd, 2018