

We have had many children in the infant department off sick this week and this is when flu is close to epidemic levels throughout Belgium. It is therefore very important that **children who have been ill are kept at home until they are fully recovered**. We must do everything that we can to minimise the spread of this flu outbreak. Symptoms include a fever above 39°C, coughing and aches. While the virus typically lasts less than a week among normally healthy people, it can be particularly dangerous for more vulnerable groups including children, the elderly and anyone with a weak immune system.

On Monday January 29th at 17.00, exactly one week after the success of Jack and the Beanstalk from the Junior department children, the **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 show** will be taking place. This will be at the same theatre i.e. at the Lijsterbes Community Theatre. This is in Lijsterbessenbomenlaan and you can see the exact location at <https://goo.gl/maps/2rLtX4hErMK2> . The nearest STIB connection is the 42 bus from Roodebeek metro. The children are being taken to the theatre at 13.00 and picked up by parents from the theatre after the show at around 18.00. We look forward to seeing you there.

Today is the **Republic Day of India** and we would like to add the school's congratulations to any parents who are celebrating the day.

Our School Council have invited a **representative from Urban Ecology** (see <https://urban-ecology.be/> for more information) to visit the Junior department on Monday 29th January. He will be coming to outline what we can contribute as a school to preserving and enhancing our immediate surroundings. This visit will include looking at trees both in and near the school so will include the children leaving the building and walking in the avenues close to the school.

We will have 16 candidates taking their **LAMDA drama exams on Monday 5th February**. They are entered in grades from entry level to Grade 3 and the number of candidates is the best ever.

Even though today sees the end of our **Health & Hygiene Week** we would still strongly recommend that families continue with healthier habits that they have started this week. As well as healthier eating all children should be going to bed early enough to **get plenty of sleep**. Current recommendations for the amount of sleep that children need are worth repeating

Age	Recommended sleep	Example
4 years	11 hours 30 minutes	19.30 – 07.00
5 years	11 hours	20.00 – 07.00
6 years	10 hours 45 minutes	20.15 – 07.00
7 years	10 hours 30 minutes	20.30 – 07.00

8 years	10 hours 15 minutes	20.45 – 07.00
9 years	10 hours	21.00 – 07.00
10 years	9 hours 45 minutes	21.15 – 07.00
11 years	9 hours 30 minutes	21.30 – 07.00

Please do let us know as soon as possible **if you think that you may be leaving BISB** by the end of the Spring term i.e. any time up till March 2018.

As usual we are experiencing a **significant demand for places for our Nursery for September 2018**. So much so that at this stage (assuming that all of our pre-Nursery children continue into next year's Nursery) we only have 4 places left for morning sessions in September. This means that if you are thinking of a Nursery place for a younger brother or sister at any time up to June 2019 then you should contact the school office as soon as possible. This also affects families who are enquiring about pre-Nursery places now. **If you are not lucky enough to obtain a Pre-Nursery place for this school year** then please let us know if you are happy to defer your application to become an application for a Nursery place for September 2018.

We are now also starting to receive other requests for school places in September 2018 so we would be pleased to know as soon as possible **if families think that they may be leaving BISB at the end of the school year** in June 2018.

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

- For Nursery Why do we need to get washed every day?
- For Reception What is the job of the farmer on the farm?
- For Year 1 Describe the house or apartment you live in.
- For Year 2 Can you think of ways in which we could use QR codes around our school and home?
- For Year 3 What can I do to make sure I am fit and healthy?
- For Year 4 Which is better: performing or watching a performance? Can you think of 5 reasons?
- For Year 5 / 6 Which part of the play 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' did you enjoy the most?

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. Please also note that 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 Priyanshi for her lovely painted snowdrops.
Niteesh for his super work with the tricky word 'the'.
- Year 1 Lucas for being so helpful and organised during our rehearsals for the Winter show.
Mohith for settling in well into BISB and joining in with class activities.
- Year 2 Mahum for her determination and enthusiasm during French lessons.
Jacob for fantastic participation during Music this week
- Year 3 Lavanya and Kashvi for their amazing achievement in learning all the songs for the winter play in just one week. Well done to you both!
- Year 4 Zuzanna for a terrific LAMDA recital in front of the whole Junior department
- Year 5 / 6 Catriona for her excellent word-work, dictation, spelling and comprehension homework - her work reflects true dedication to her studies.
Aadit for working so hard since his arrival at BISB - what a promising start!

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

'I love acting. It is so much more real than life'.

- Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)

Spring Term 2018

Monday 22 nd January	Start of Health & Hygiene Week
Thursday 25 th January	Year 5 / 6 visit to theatre to see Brussels Shakespeare Society presentation of Midsummer Night's Dream
Friday 26 th January	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children will have our first Mystery Adventure Assembly
Monday 29 th January at 17.00	Reception / Year 1 / Year 2 show Lijsterbes Community Theatre.
Monday 5 th February.	BISB candidates taking their LAMDA drama exams.
Tuesday 6 th February	Year 3 trip to Moulin d'Alimentation d'Evere
Wednesday 7 th February	Year 4/5/6 trip to Moulin d'Alimentation d'Evere
Monday, 12 th February - Friday, 16 th February	Half Term Break

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