

Newsletter – 02 February 2018

On Monday it was the turn of our **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children** to shine on the Lijsterbes stage. They performed brilliantly and everyone enjoyed their fantastic performances. Many thanks and congratulations to everybody involved in producing the very entertaining show for the parents.

The number of children away from school because of illness increased further this this week and the flu also took its toll on the staff. With a very large number of staff away, we were, at one point, closer than we have ever been to being forced to close the school, but we managed to get through the week successfully. The flu outbreak is now officially at epidemic level throughout Belgium and so it is even more 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. Children coming into school showing any symptoms will not be admitted or if they do slip through undetected they will be sent home immediately.

The number of children arriving at school after 09.00 is still significantly high and we are also receiving explanations for this such as “a bus did not arrive as scheduled and so there was a gap”. **We are now monitoring the real time position of buses via the STIB website each morning** to see if this is the case but all parents should aim to be at school before 08.45 anyway so that they have already made provision for a missing bus, whether real or imaginary.

Next week the children from the **Junior department are visiting the Moulin d’Alimentation d’Evere** with the Year 3 children going on Tuesday 6th February and the Year 4/5/6 children on Wednesday 7th February. They will visit an exhibition about potatoes and then participate in a cookery workshop. The entire visit will be conducted in French, so that the children can practise their language skills. This is an extremely popular event in the school calendar.

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

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.

We now anticipate that we will be full in all classes in the infant department in September 2018 but it is impossible to say when that moment will occur for each class. **The best advice that we can give to all prospective parents is that they should submit an application form as early as possible** to make

sure that a place is available. This is because we place children's names on the class list or waiting list only when we receive an application form and the date that we receive that application form decides the order of priority.

We would also 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 Does ice melt faster in the fridge or on the radiator?
For Reception What is the job of the farmer on the farm?
For Year 1 How will people celebrate the upcoming Chinese New Year?
What are your favourite celebrations?
For Year 2 If you could live in a hot or cold climate, which would you choose and why?
For Year 3 If I were an explorer, what would I take with me on my journey?
For Year 4 Was the Big Celebrity Balloon debate a fair outcome? Why/why not?
For Year 5 / 6 Are you fulfilling your true potential?

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. This month, however, as the 3rd is on Saturday domiciliation payments will be made on the next working day which is Monday 5th February.

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 Camilla for her super doubling ladybird
Stavros for his excellent writing and segmenting of long words.
Year 1 Yashika for very good work in phonics.
Pranav for great work making his house collage.
Year 2 Arnav for listening and following instructions well.
Freya for super comprehension work in literacy.
Year 3 Shinnosuke for the huge effort made in his homework and his excellent map reading comprehension.
Srija for her enthusiasm in class and for trying hard at everything.

Year 4 Sai Shreyas for a super Science and celebrity effort.
Chetan for maths and guided reading grit.

Year 5 / 6 Eashan for his outstanding weekly comprehension homework answers - I am delighted that he put so much effort into this task.
Shubham for sharing his brilliant Rubik cube skills with other students and participating wholeheartedly in life in Year 5

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

“He that plants trees loves others beside himself.”

- Dr. Thomas Fuller

Spring Term 2018

Monday 5th February.

BISB candidates taking their
LAMDA drama exams.

Tuesday 6th February

Year 3 trip to Moulin d'Alimentation d'Evere

Wednesday 7th February

Year 4/5/6 trip to Moulin d'Alimentation
d'Evere

Monday, 12th February

- Friday, 16th 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