

The **talk topics** for next week are as follows:-

- For Nursery What signs of Spring can you see as you walk around your neighbourhood?
- For Reception If you were in a jungle, what kind of animals do you think you could see? What would you do in the jungle?
- For Year 1 Do you prefer new toys or our home-made ones? Why?
- For Year 2 How, and why, do you think buildings will change in the future?"
- For Year 3 What do plants need to grow well?
- For Year 4 What was the best, funniest and scariest thing that you did on the forest trip?
- For Year 5 What is Freedom? Discuss this with your parents.
- For Year 6 How do you think the plot in Auslander will develop?

For all new families arriving in Brussels you 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.

Last week we confirmed that, as the school is now fuller than it has ever been, it seems like a good time to make the big personal step of **standing aside from being the Headteacher of BISB** and taking a different role to support the work of the school next year.

The new Headteacher of BISB will be Mrs Jane Still who has taught in both the Junior and Infant departments over the last few years and is also currently our Literacy Co-ordinator. She will be taking up her new post ready for the start of the next school year in September 2019

Please take note that the **BISB Calendar for the 2019 / 20 academic year** is attached to the end of this weekly newsletter and so it will be available each week for the next 15 months.

Even though the pavement in front of our Infant department has been completed there is still **parking and traffic disruption in Avenue Emile Max**, at the moment and this will continue for a while as the whole work is estimated to last until Friday 10th May.

Once again, **BISB will be participating in the Brussels Lions Club Swimarathon, ‘Splash 2019’** and this will be on Sunday 31st March.

<http://lionsheraldic.net/splash/pool-occupancy-2019>. Children from both departments of BISB are very welcome to participate and we should point out that **parents are welcome to take part too**. Don't forget that even if your child is not a strong swimmer they can take part using the school's flotation jackets.

This annual event is a swimming relay in aid of charities in Belgium and this year, the monies raised will go to a refuge for young and handicapped people who are experiencing temporary family difficulties; also to buy new Tobii technology - a communication system with ocular control that enables disabled children interact with computers using their eyes; and this will help registered disabled athletes at the t'Vojse athletics club for a Special Olympics.

Should you or your child wish to take part, (and there is still chance to do so) they will be asked to collect sponsors to raise money for these charities. One year, one family raised €160 but all the amounts, however large or small, are very welcome.

In the pool, we will have 3 BISB teams. Each team member will have to swim one length (25m) before handing over to their waiting teammate who will complete the next lap. People can sponsor the whole team for how many laps they can do in 55 minutes. Information was presented to our Year 1 and Year 2 children this week and there are 8 places available (4 for Year 1 and 4 for Year 2 children), so if you would like your child to take part (and raise money for charity), please request the required sponsorship form.

Years 4, 5 & 6 will be going on **their residential trip this year** but staying in Belgium as they are going to Botassart, in the Ardennes. This will be from Tuesday, 23rd April – Friday, 26th April 2019. Please note that the 23rd is the day we return to school after the end of Spring term holiday, and so we shall be departing from the Junior Department building at 0930 on the first day of the Summer term. Our provisional time for returning back to Brussels on Friday is 1600. Nearer the time, you will receive an information pack (similar to previous years); this information will also be available on Edmodo. Please see <http://www.saint-servais-botassart.be/> for more information.

At the same time **our Year 2 children** will spend the week in the Junior department which will therefore have Year 2 and Year 3 working within it.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you think that you may be leaving BISB at any time before June 2019. Please note that the **90 day deadline for the end of next term** for written notice of departure, after which deposits will not be refunded, will be on Saturday 30th March, 2019 i.e. 90 days before the end of the school year Friday June 28th.

As there is a very significant demand for school places at BISB throughout the year we ask for notice of withdrawal so that we are informed when the school place is going to be available and can be offered to other families joining BISB.

Therefore **in any notice of withdrawal we look forward to receiving a confirmation of when your child's last day in school will be so that the place can be given to another family immediately after that date.**

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 thus the next deduction will be on Wednesday 3rd April. Also please note that we send the domiciliation information to the bank a few days before the 3rd so any request made 24 – 48 hours before the scheduled date to pause a payment is usually too late for us to act upon.

This week's star pupils of this week were:

- Reception Preetishaa for doing a great job with writing this week and for always trying her best to follow instructions!
Vaibhav for being really good at remembering his numbers and for always playing nicely with his friends!
- Year 1 Hargun for a super acrostic poem about Spring.
Atharva for good work all week in Maths on addition and subtraction.
- Year 2 Aahid for trying very hard with his spellings and for being extremely brave.
Rhithul for his inspiring story ideas and for working enthusiastically in music.
- Year 3 Ishan for great artwork and writing on his favourite animal.
Anwitha for good ideas on the topic of clauses and phrases in our grammar lesson.
- Year 4 Anjali for being 'Queen of the Jungle'.
Srija for being a fantastic Batman in the play.
- Year 5 Tala for great effort in Maths and for producing a superb, imaginative story.
- Year 6 Shubham for outstanding effort in writing his War Diary – you should feel proud of this work, Shubham!

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

"He who knows others is wise; he who knows himself is enlightened.

Lao-tzu, (604 BC - 531 BC)

Spring Term 2019

Weds March 20 th	Year 4 trip to the forest for 'I'm a 9 year old get me out of here'
Friday March 29 th	Junior department visit to Osseghem Park for Easter Orienteering
Friday March 29 th	Reception class visit to La Ferme Maximillian City Farm
Monday April 1 st	Year 4 visit to the Montagne Magique
Thursday 4 th April at 15.30 (15.25 for Infant dept)	End of Spring Term

BISB School Calendar – Academic Year 2018 / 2019

Autumn Term

Monday, September 3, 2018

Start of Autumn Term

Friday, October 26, 2018 School Closed – Parents’ Appointments Day

Monday, October 29, 2018
- Friday, November 2, 2018

Half Term
Break

Friday, December 21, 2018 at 12.15

End of Autumn Term

Spring Term

Monday, January 7, 2019

Start of Spring Term

Friday, March 1, 2019

School Closed – Staff Training Day

Monday, March 4, 2019
- Friday, March 8, 2019

Half Term
Break

Thursday, April 4, 2019

End of Spring Term

Friday, April 5, 2019

School Closed – Parents’ Appointments Day

Summer Term

Tuesday, April 23, 2019

Start of Summer Term

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

May Day Public Holiday

Thursday, May 30, 2019
Friday, May 31 2019

Ascension Public Holiday
Half Term Holiday

Monday, June 10, 2019

Pentecost Holiday

Friday June 28th 2019 at 12.15

End of Summer Term

Provisional start of Autumn Term - Monday, September 2nd, 2019

BISB School Calendar – Academic Year 2019 / 2020

Autumn Term

Monday, September 2, 2019

Start of Autumn Term

Wednesday, September 11 Curriculum Briefing Evening

Friday, October 25, 2019 School Closed – Parents’ Appointments Day

Monday, October 28, 2019 Half Term
- Friday, November 1, 2019 Break

Monday, November 11, 2019 Armistice Day Holiday

Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 12.20 **End of Autumn Term**

Spring Term

Monday, January 6, 2020

Start of Spring Term

Friday, Feb 21?, 2020 *School Closed – Staff Training Day*

Monday, February 24, 2020 Half Term
- Friday, February 28, 2020 Break

Thursday, April 2, 2020

End of Spring Term

Friday, April 3, 2020 School Closed – Parents’ Appointments Day

Summer Term

Monday, April 20, 2020

Start of Summer Term

Friday, May 1, 2020 May Day Public Holiday

Thursday, May 21, 2020 Ascension Public Holiday
Friday, May 22, 2020 Half Term Holiday

Monday, June 1, 2020 Pentecost Holiday

Wednesday July 1 2020 at 12.20 **End of Summer Term**

Provisional start of Autumn Term - Tuesday, September 1st, 2020