

Newsletter 13th September 2019



Dear Everyone,

This has been a busy week and we have all enjoyed watching the children settling happily into their new routines and starting to make new friends. That exciting buzz of energy generated as the learning starts in earnest is steadily beginning to fill the buildings, and it is a real pleasure to see animated faces and to listen to chattering voices - decibel levels may occasionally be sky-high, but there is no doubting the enthusiasm!

Thank you for the excellent turn out for the Curriculum briefing evenings. We hope you found them useful and that you have a clear idea of how your child will be working this year. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you would like clarification on any points. Each teacher has a specific parent slot during the week and will be pleased to meet with you.



We were delighted to see so many of you at the Welcome Coffee Morning last Saturday. What a good job the sun decided to shine – it would have been a wet gathering inside! I hope that you all met new people and made new contacts; social support makes all the difference to settling in to new surroundings and to feeling 'at home', both for children and for parents.



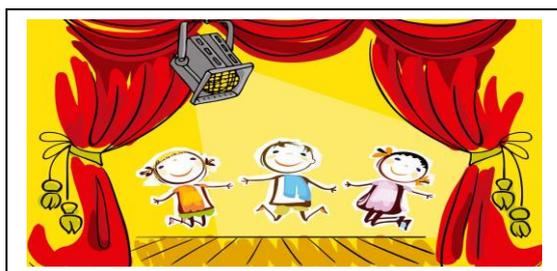
The important calendar dates for this academic year can be found on the website, however, here are the main holiday dates for this Autumn Term:

Friday 25 October : Parents' Appointments Day. School is closed to pupils. An appointment schedule will be sent out in a few weeks' time.

Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November: Half Term holiday

Monday 11 November: Armistice Day holiday

Wednesday 18 December: End of Autumn Term. Please note that school finishes at **12.20**



Announcing the BISB Christmas Shows 2019

Years 1 & 2: 17h: Thursday 5 December at De Kam Theatre in Wezembeek

Junior Department: 17h: Wednesday 11 December at De Listerbes Theatre in Kraainem

Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception): 11.30: Thursday 12 December in the Infant Department.



Points to remember this week



We will be hosting the first of our **Friday Coffee Mornings for Parents** next week, on Friday 20 September. These coffee mornings will be held every FORTNIGHT in the Junior Department library, and you are all most welcome to drop in any time between **9h and 10h**. This is a chance to meet new people and to chat to friends, new and old, to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee in peace and to borrow library books from the large selection of books in English for parents and teachers. I look forward to seeing you there.



Swimming lessons start for **Year 2** next Thursday, 19 September. A letter has been sent home with full details. Children in the first swimming group will need a towel and a swimming costume in a separate waterproof bag. (A small backpack is ideal).



Tennis lessons at the Castle Club in Wezembeek start for **Year 5** next Thursday, 19 September. Children should wear their PE kit and must have trainers, not shoes.



Clubs: Confirmation of your child's participation in club activities has been sent out to today. The clubs are held in either the Infant or Junior Department and end at **16.30**. Please pick your child up from the relevant building. Children who then go to garderie will be taken from the Junior Department to the Infant building.



Permission forms: Thank you to everyone who has sent their signed forms back promptly. If you have not yet completed the Contact details form, could you please do so as soon as possible? Thank you.



If your child is ill or is going to arrive late or be picked up early, please make sure that you inform the school office so that a message can be passed to the class teacher.

It is also **essential** that the school office has been informed if your child is to be picked up by another person.



Swimming Years 4 & 6 on Wednesdays: Please make sure that children do not wear any jewellery. We cannot be responsible for any items lost in the swimming pool.

News of the week



The Junior Department will once again be visiting the EU 'Science is Wonderful Exhibition' on Thursday 26 September. The topics for this year's event are: fighting cancer, slowing down global warming, preventing hunger and drought and facilitating human life in space. Through hands-on experiments, live demonstrations, face-to-face chats with researchers, Science is Wonderful shows how science impacts on our daily lives. It is perfect for children curious about science, and supports our science curriculum.

You have received detailed information of the trip, however, please remember that the return is planned for **approximately 16.20**. Parents with siblings in the Infant Department may leave their children in garderie (at no cost) and collect them once the Junior Department children have arrived back at school. Minibus children will be transported home, arriving later than usual.

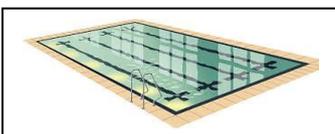


Green fingers!!!!



On the first day of term, each class received a special wooden cube in which they had to plant some seeds. The race is on to see which class can successfully look after their seedlings and grow a plant, or plants, that can be transplanted out into the gardens at the end of the year.

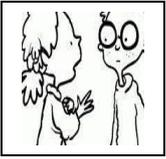
Congratulations to the green fingers in Year 5 – their nasturtiums have already started to grow! Watch this space for news of the banana plant and the cocoa beans 😊😊 (which might well be more of a challenge!)



Swimming at the Nato pool

Well done to Years 4 & 6 for inaugurating our exciting new swimming adventure at the Nato pool in Evere. After a successful trial run by Year 6 last week, Years 4 & 6, chaperoned by Mr Tranter, Mr Stedman and Mrs Tranter, all set off on a brisk walk to catch the bus to this brand new, state-of-the-art pool. With three entire lanes to themselves, they worked, swam and played hard and thoroughly enjoyed themselves, before realizing that unless they all get dressed efficiently afterwards, it's not easy to catch the return bus home.... I think some people might be practising before next week!





Here are the talk topics for next week: -

Nursery: *'What is your favourite nursery rhyme or poem? Teach mummy and daddy the words and sing it together.'*

Reception: *'Do you live in a house or in an apartment? What's your favourite room in it and why?'*

Year 1: *'If you could travel to the bottom of the ocean, what do you think you would see?'*

Year 2: *'What kinds of animals might you see this weekend? How would you fit them into a food chain?'*

Year 3: *'Would you have liked to be alive during the time of the Vikings? Why? Why not?'*

Year 4: *'What's the most amazing building you've ever seen? What made it so great?'*

Year 5: *'Did your parents wear school uniform? If so, what did it look like?'*

Year 6: *'Wearing uniform limits self-expression – discuss'*

Well done to everyone for a week of hard work, and a particular well done to the following



Stars of the Week



Reception:

Iliana: for coming up with new and different words beginning with the sound 's'.

Saanchi: for working really nicely in creating her caterpillar colour patterns.

Year 1:

Magizhvini for great work in Maths this week.

Reyansh for good work in our topic and a super explanation of the water cycle.

Year 2:

Vibha for working very hard on her concentration skills and for her brilliant artwork.

Pragnan for hard work and good improvement in maths.

Year 3:

Nevan for his fabulous enthusiasm about everything Viking related.

Diya for good work in maths with addition and place value.

Year 4:

Aarohi for her super 'adapt and overcome', 'can do' enthusiasm.
Architect Thomas for his startling iPad design.

Year 5:

Lavanya for excellent effort and hard work.

Year 6:

Aashvi for being so kind and considerate to others and making such a positive start in class. I am delighted that you have joined Year 6.

And to end the week – do remember to join us at our Parent Coffee Morning next Friday in the Junior Library from 9h to 10h, there will be tea, coffee, good books, good company and plenty to chat about!

Enjoy your weekend...

