

Newsletter 10th January 2020



Dear Everyone,

Welcome back to a new term and a new year, full of challenges, adventures and new experiences for us all!

It was lovely to see the children back in school on Monday and the week, as usual, has flown past in a whirl of activity, with each class settling back into work and into the school routine. There is nothing quite like the excitement of starting a new term as the children begin fresh topics and set off on voyages of discovery that will inspire them all in different ways.



We are very pleased to welcome new families to BISB and wish you all well as you settle into life in Belgium. We hope you will be very happy here and that you begin to feel at home in the school community.



The first **Friday Coffee morning** of the new year will be held on **10th January**. Come along and catch up on the holiday news over a cup of tea or coffee. Don't forget you can borrow English books from the large selection in the library. Everyone welcome – particularly new parents! 9h in the Junior department. The coffee mornings are held every two weeks.

The **Spring Term after-school clubs** begin next week and continue for ten weeks. Children should be picked up at **16.30** from the building in which the club takes place, this particularly applies to Year 2 children who are attending the Sports club on Wednesday afternoons. They should be collected from the **Junior department**.

The response to this term's activities has been excellent and most of the clubs are now full. However, there are still a few places left: **1 in Yoga, 4 in Art, 2 in Needlecraft, 6 in Sport (years 2 – 6), and 6 in Indoor fun & games**.



The new **Yoga classes** for years 3 – 6 are on Monday afternoons, and are led by an experienced yoga teacher.

'Tanya's love for Yoga started during her childhood as she saw her father getting energy and joy by practicing yoga. She did her TTC (100 hrs) from Patanjali Yogpeeth and pursued an Acupressure course from the Jay Bhagwan Institute of Naturopathy, India. She is also a certified Yoga Instructor from the Quality Council of India, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India and believes it to be God's gift that she has been imparting the benefits of this heavenly knowledge called Yoga and Acupressure. As a member of the Art of Living organization, for Tanya, good health is not a mere absence of physical and mental diseases, rather it is an expression of happiness, love and enthusiasm'.



Art club is on Tuesday afternoons for Years 1 & 2. **With paint, glue, pastels, collage materials – there will be everything you can imagine, all ready for you to create your own masterpieces! Come and use your imagination and explore lots of exciting art activities 😊**



Wednesday afternoon is **Needlecraft club** for years 3 – 6.

Come and join us, you will learn how to do cross stitching and some basic embroidery xxxxxxxxxx 😊

Sports Club for years **2 – 6** is on Wednesday afternoons in the Junior Department. Please note that Year 2s will be taken to the Junior building and should be collected from there at the end of the club.



Open to Y2s and up, girls and boys alike, Sports Club aims to introduce children to football, handball, hockey and basketball and some indoor sports should the weather get too harsh. The group will look to improve individual close ball skills, movement and positioning without over-emphasis on competitiveness.

Indoor fun

Come along on a Thursday afternoon to our **& Games** club and try out some old and new games.



Spend an hour learning new table games and playing your old favourites. You can even borrow one game a week to play at home with your family.

Board games and other table games are an important way to develop logic; strategic thinking; problem solving; confidence; co-operation; language skills; visual, spatial, auditory and tactile awareness. Explaining the game rules at home, and playing them with the family, will be great fun, and another confidence boost.



The children look very smart in their clean uniforms at the start of the term. However, there are a few children who are wearing non-uniform jumpers and coloured tights or leggings. These should be black or grey. Please make sure that the green jogging bottoms and round neck t-shirts are only worn on the days on which there are PE, swimming or tennis.

Uniform items are always available in the mornings and at the end of the day in the Infant building.



Please remember that children must be at school by **8.55** in time for lessons to start. It is very disruptive for everyone if children arrive late.

If you know that you will be late due to visits to the commune, doctor or dentist, please inform the school office and we will make sure that class teachers are informed.

Thank you for your understanding.



Year 5 will start their swimming sessions next Wednesday at the NATO pool. The children need a swimming costume (speedo trunks for boys, not shorts), a hat and a towel in a small bag. Please make sure that children do not wear any jewellery as we cannot be responsible for any items lost in the swimming pool.



It is the turn of the Year 6s to play Tennis this term on Thursday mornings at the Castle Club in Wezembeek.



Years 1 & 2 are going to the world-renowned Musical Instrument Museum for a guided visit and workshop activities on Thursday, 16th January. They will be discovering the four families of instruments and will have the opportunity to try playing some of them during the workshop.



Years 3 & 5 will be going to the Beaux-Arts Museum on Tuesday 21st January for a guided tour and workshop on the American artist Keith Haring. Haring was dedicated to the creation of a truly public art that would reach the widest possible audience and give everyone the chance to enjoy art.



Years 1 & 2 will be going to the Théâtre de la Montagne Magique on the afternoon of Tuesday 21st January to see a production of 10:10 a fun-filled play based around the idea of playground games. The play will be performed in French, but features music and dancing and spectacular visual effects that hold the children's attention, even if they do not necessarily follow all of the spoken word. The theatre is small and welcoming and, as its name suggests, is a magical place.



Congratulations to the following Junior department children; **Maanas, Marina, Thomas, Aahil, Marco, Rohan, Srija, Akshat, Anjali, Freja, Parvesh, Tanvi, Aadriyan, Arjun (yr6), Aashivi, Anoushka, Hithaishi, Aditya, Trishan, Dhanishka, Mokshitha, Lavanya and Swarnima**, who have all been chosen to represent BISB in the Belgian Federation of Maths Puzzle and Logic Problems

Competition. This event pitches children against themselves and other children across the Belgian Francophone schools in the area, and later, if successful, in the whole of Belgium. We wish them the very best of luck in the quarter finals this month.



Those children who participated in the autumn **LAMDA** club are busy preparing for their exams at the beginning of February. This involves learning poems and prose extracts and being able to perform and discuss them in depth with an external examiner. They were doing a practice performance during assembly today and, despite the trepidation of having to stand up in front of the whole department (which has to be worse than one examiner!), it will be a great way to feel the adrenalin and the nerves, and to realise that they **can** do it, and do it well! Well done to them all for their hard work over the holidays and special thanks to Mrs Tranter for her expertise, and for finding so many extra moments during the week to coach them!



Points to remember



Please remember to inform us immediately if you know you will be leaving the school. The 90-day deadlines for written notice of departure are as follows:

Leaving after April 20 – up to and including January 21 (Tuesday) (calculate 90 days)

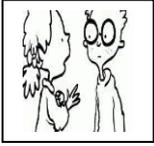
Leaving on April 30 – January 31 (Friday)

Leaving on May 20 – February 20 (Thursday)

Leaving on May 29 – February 29 (Saturday)

Leaving on July 1 – up to and including April 2 (Thursday)

The dates given are the last days of each term before the start of a holiday.



Here are the talk topics:

Nursery: *'What is your favourite ingredient on a pizza and why?'*

Reception: *'If trees could talk, what would they say to each other? What would you ask them?'*

Year 1: *'What sort of transport did your parents or grandparents use?'*

Year 2: *'Which was your favourite of the gods that we learned about this week?'*

Year 3: *'Look at the rocks you see around you. Are they natural or man-made?'*

Year 4: *'In the Ancient Olympic Games, which event would you be best at and why?'*

Year 5: *'Explain the four types of forces to your parents.'*

Year 6: *'What does 'Prisoners of Geography' mean?'*



**Stars of the
Week**



Reception: Sashvath for having made a good effort to improve his cutting out skills.

Yakshith for his good concentration and work on number ordering from 1-20.

Year 1: Jagrav, for a great first week of term and finishing all his work on time.

Akira, for super work in Maths this week.

Year 2: Inaaya for brilliant work in maths this week.

Ayra for her beautiful artwork this week.

Year 3: Prajwal for starting this term with great behaviour and a very positive attitude.

Navnoor for working hard to complete her work on place value in maths.

Year 4: Priyal for a great week full of Super Points.

Thomas for a super attitude to the new term, especially in Science and Topic.

Year 5: Rishi for a concerted effort to improve his handwriting. Well done, Rishi..

Year 6: Suhas for his outstanding work in geometry and geography – terrific enthusiasm – brilliant!

And a thought to end the week, and to start the new year and a new decade...

"I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before..."



Neil Gaiman