

## Newsletter 24th January 2020



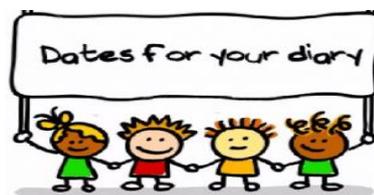
Dear Everyone,

The cold, foggy morning on Monday was a bit of a shock for everyone, but exciting for those children who've never seen fog before! Thank you for sending the children wrapped up warmly, please remember, however, to label your child's clothing clearly (and to rewrite the name if it has washed off in the washing machine at the weekend). We are accumulating steadily increasing piles of gloves, scarves and hats – which strangely enough don't seem to belong to anyone!

We have had some exciting trips out this week, with the years 3 & 5 enjoying a guided visit of the Keith Haring exhibition at the Musee des Beaux-Arts. Some of the children followed the visit in French, others in English, but both groups had a great time and came back full of enthusiasm and ideas to share about the experience. I'm sure that the year 3 children will now cast an even more expert eye at the art work on their Metro Art-Trail next week.



The year 1 & 2 children went to the theatre to see their first play in French and certainly had lots to talk about when they came back. Unfortunately, in their excitement, they also managed to chatter rather a lot during the performance, so this gave us the ideal opportunity to discuss with them the behaviour expected of an audience, and of how to behave during a visit to a public space. We will be concentrating on moving around school quietly over the next few weeks, on listening to, and following instructions and requests and on talking very quietly when walking around. Important life lessons that need reinforcing once in a while! I have to say that the building has been much quieter since Wednesday 😊.

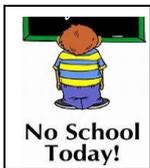


The next coffee morning will be on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February**.

9h in the Junior department library for a chance to borrow books and to catch up with the latest news over tea and coffee. We look forward to seeing you there!



The Year 6 children will be attending another thought-provoking workshop at the House of European History on **Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> February**. This trip includes an exhibition and a workshop, and the children will be looking at the idea of youth protest over the past 70 years. This links to the work they are doing in the classroom this term around geopolitics.



Please note that School will be **closed on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> February**, as this is a staff training day. There are no lessons for children and no garderie.

School finishes for the **half term holiday** at 15.30 on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> February and starts again on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March.



**Brussels Lions Club Swimathon, 'Splash 2020', on Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> March.**

<http://lionsheraldic.net/splash/pool-occupancy-2020>

BISB participates every year in this swimming relay event in aid of charities in Belgium. This year, the money will go to charitable organisations fighting against cancer and we are hoping for a bigger turnout than ever. So, put the date in your diary and watch this space!

Marina in year 6 is already hard at work organizing our teams and there will be more information in the newsletter next week.

**Don't forget.....**



Year 3 are out on their Metro-Art trail on the morning of **Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> January**, discovering the amazing range of art that can be seen in the metro stations throughout Brussels. Please remember this is a small back-pack day for water bottle and snack. Children should be dressed in smart uniforms.



For those children going swimming during this cold weather, please could you make sure that they come in sports kit with their green jogging bottoms and not leggings or tights, as these are far more difficult to take off and, more importantly, put back on - particularly for Year 1 and 2 children.



Thank you to all the Junior department parents who have informed us of changes to drop-off and pick-up arrangements using the new WhatsApp number – it is very helpful and makes communication much clearer.

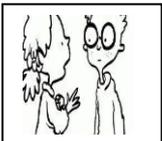
**Any other messages** can be sent as an email to the School Office as normal. Thank you!



**Years 3 & 5** had a particularly inspiring visit to the Keith Haring exhibition at the Bozar this week and came back full of ideas and enthusiasm. The guides were excellent and made the visit even more interesting with their extra activities and clear, informative presentations. Years 4 & 6 will be visiting the exhibition on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February and we're hoping there will be more exhibitions that we can visit later in the year. Don't forget to take a look at the artwork in the Junior department when you come to the Parent-Teacher meetings in February. Many thanks to Mme Scharf and Mme Halvorsen for organising the trip.



The Spring clubs are up and running with unprecedented numbers this term – it is great to see some new activities and we hope the children really enjoy them. Suggestions for different clubs are always welcome, so do let us know if you have a good idea. Here are some photos taken during Art club this week:



Here are the talk topics:

**Nursery:** *'If we can clearly see someone needs help, should we offer or do we just say no, like the animals in the little red hen story?'*

**Reception:** *'Can you think of a name for your dragon?'*

**Year 1:** *'Long before cars, trains and planes existed, people travelled by ship. Why did they go on such long, dangerous journeys?'*

**Year 2:** *'What is the difference between a public space and a private space? And why is it different to be quiet in a public space?'*

**Year 3:** 'If you were designing your own piece of artwork for a Brussels metro station, what would you call it and what would it look like?'

**Year 4:** 'Which is better: competing in or watching a sports event? Give 5 reasons to your answer.'

**Year 5:** 'Explain the concept of gravity, mass and weight to your parents.'

**Year 6:** 'Would you like to dissect a real eye?'



## Stars of the Week



**Reception:** Saanchi, for her good use of her fine motor skills when making the paper chain dragon.

Twishay, for his enthusiastic approach to our theme of the week: dragons.

**Year 1:** Kanav, for good work in Literacy, especially on his story map.

Jinisha, for a great job with our triple blends in Phase 4 Phonics.

**Year 2:** Geoshan for writing a brilliant story about Arthur's adventure.

Anwitha for good progress with her reading.

**Year 3:** Rhithul for very good work with reading comprehension.

Diya for doing an excellent job representing year 3 on the school council.

**Year 4:** Thomas for great art, inspired Topic and shooting a football through a tyre.

Aadriyan for his excellent presentation on Benjamin Franklin and the extra reading he did at home.

**Year 5:** Tanvi for always trying her best and producing neat work.

**Year 6:** Ronit for his beautifully illustrated and detailed map of India – it really is beautiful!

**And a fitting thought to end the week...**

"Speak softly, but  
carry a big can of  
paint."



**Banksy 2005, Wall and Piece**