



The British International
School of Brussels

Newletter for the week of September 11th 2020

Dear All,

Today is a very important day for BISB as we celebrate our 20th Birthday!

The current social restrictions unfortunately mean that we can't celebrate together as a school community, but this special anniversary will feature on the BISB calendar at some point in the Summer Term – ideas welcome!

Let's hope that the next 20 years will be as happy, successful and inspirational as the first 20. The little acorns that first entered the Acorn Building in September 2000 are now definitely Oaks, spread out in all walks of life across the world, but they will have taken our values with them and hopefully still have very special memories of their time here.



As you can see from the action-packed Home School newsletter, the children have continued to settle back easily into the school routine and the buildings are springing back to life with the buzz of constructive chatter in classrooms and vibrant displays of work going up on the walls. We have all been particularly impressed and delighted to see the genuine friendship and teamwork between the children as they rediscover life as a collective. There are spontaneous acts of kindness and consideration every day, from the very smallest to the oldest children and a real feeling of community and shared pleasure at being back together again.



We were all very pleased to meet you (virtually) during the video parent meetings this week. Thank you for taking the time to attend these important meetings – it clearly isn't the same as direct contact in the classroom, but we will continue to do our best to respond quickly to any questions you have by email, and video conference if necessary. We will be sending out the Curriculum Overview booklets for each class at the beginning of next week – these will give you the underlying reference framework for the curriculum in each class.



Teamwork in Year 2 as they work out
how to build dens in the playground

Information for the week



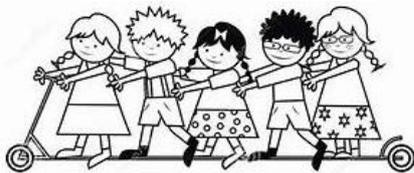
- Please let us know as soon as possible if you think that you may be leaving in this autumn term. The 90-day deadline for the end of this term (Thursday 16th December) for written notice of departure falls on **Thursday 17th September**. If we are notified after this date, the deposit is **not** refundable.



- Please could you return **all** of the **permission forms** sent out this week - to Mrs. Tolentino in the Oak Building or to School Office in the Acorn Building. It is particularly important that we have the **Contact Form**, as this has all of your up-to-date information in the case that we need to contact you urgently.



Apologies for the mistake in the general permission form, which states that it covers the year 2019-2020. Rather than sending out the form again, we will change the date on forms that are returned to cover the Academic Year 2020-2021, so **by returning the form you are giving your permission for 2020-21**. Thank you to those people who noticed it!



- If you come to school on a bike or a scooter, please make sure that you **do not** tie your bike up to, or through, another bike and block it from moving. We have had to get the bolt cutters out again this week!! Bike keys should be left in the **bike key box** on the shelves behind the doors or kept **SAFELY** somewhere in your school bag. If it is a padlock you should know the number. We have asked the commune to add another bike rack outside the Oak Building, but this may take a while, so, in the meantime, please respect our neighbours, who need to get to work on time!

We have, unfortunately, had one case of a bike being stolen from outside the Oak Building, despite it having been locked. We have informed the police and contacted our Insurance company, but we are not able to take out a school insurance to cover bikes on the pavement, this can only be done under your private, individual insurance cover. The police suggest that you take a clear photo of your bike and notify them immediately if you need a statement for insurance purposes.



- Please make sure you have used the Edmodo code to log on to your individual classes. This will allow you access to information on class news and lessons. Don't forget to also log on to the **BISB Internet Café** using the following code: **i67e62**. This is the school-wide information page and will keep you up-to-date with the latest information on school events and news.



- **GSM number for the Oak Building** (Years 3, 4, 5 &6) : **0468 45 87 76**

Please use this number if you need to contact the Oak department if your child is going to be late due to a medical appointment, or if you need to let us know about a change to pick-up arrangements.

Please note that we will **not** allow a child to leave with someone other than their own parent (or childminder for whom we already have the details), without having received a message on the WhatsApp number.

- **Illness:**



Please check your child's general health every day and **do not** send them to school if their temperature exceeds 37.5 degrees Celsius or if they have been ill during the night and seem unwell.

We monitor the children throughout the day. A child who seems unwell will be isolated and parents contacted immediately. He or she must be picked up as quickly as possible and taken to a doctor.

Please **do not** send your child to school if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Diarrhoea or vomiting
- Persistent cough, shortness of breath, sneezing or wheezing
- Excessive fatigue or muscle pain
- Cold symptoms – sneezing, sore throat, coughing
- Lack of energy or a loss of the sense of taste or smell

Please contact your general practitioner for medical advice if your child seems unwell. Children who have been absent may not return to school for 48 hours (**2 full days**) if they have had fever, vomiting or diarrhoea. Please contact the school office immediately if you have been in contact with any confirmed cases of Covid-19, or if you or a family member are unwell. Medical information will be kept strictly confidential.

Thank you for letting us know if your child is absent and also for being extra vigilant if they seem to be unwell.

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



**Stars of the
Week**



Reception:

Nathan, for being very brave, making friends easily and settling in fast.

Srilyka, for being very positive and always being ready to help

Year 1:

Rishmitha for settling into life at BISB so quickly, playing with others on the playground and trying hard in lessons.

Sashvath for a lovely 'Visitor's guide to planet Earth'. Well done for coming up with your own ideas and having a go at writing.

Year 2:

Kabir Sai very diligently completed all the personal Mathematics challenges set for him each morning and finished all of our daily 'Number Wall' activities.

Mishka produced a lovely 'What a Wonderful World' song, incorporating adjectives and rhyming words into her sentences.

Year 3:

Shashwat, for his excellent, focused approach to all his school work.

Kyle, for his super, detailed description of the functions of parts of a plant.

Year 4:

Sujathaa for her hard work in all subjects - especially maths.

Vihan for his amazing vocabulary in English and excellent behaviour.

Year 5:

Aasritha for reflecting on text and justifying her views so well in her team.

Year 6:

Hithaishi, who radiates kindness in everything that she does; she is an example to us all.

French: The Acorn children were fantastic, with Year 2 being particularly impressive, and the children in the Oak Department were brilliant, extremely motivated and upbeat. Mme. Haolvorsen says they all deserve gold stars and to be **Stars of the week!**



The **BISB Orienteering Championships** started on Friday with the Oak Department setting off at a cracking pace on the **Roodebeek Round**.

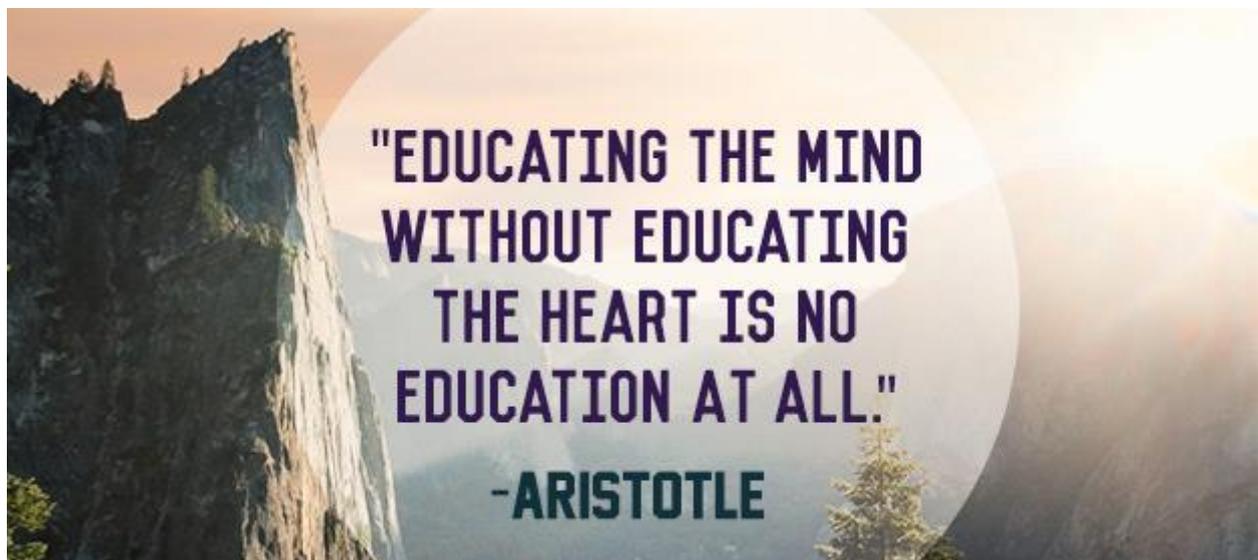
Congratulations to **Pranaya** for leading her team of **Shashwat** and **Kyle** to victory. They were closely followed by **Suhaavi** and **Camilla**, and in third place **Ravi**, **Dhriti** and **Vihaan** were in hot pursuit. Well done to everyone for a great effort and real team spirit, and thanks to Mr. Stedman for all the hard work that goes into organizing it all.





It wasn't all hard work and racing around, the Year 4s made the most of some peaceful time in the shade to organize their own class meditation session.....

And a fitting thought to celebrate 20 years of BISB



Jane Still Headteacher

