



The British International School of Brussels

Newsletter for the week of September 24th, 2021

Looking at cheek cells in Year 6 Science



Dear All,

With each week that passes, we see the children increasingly settling into the rhythms of the school day and of the work in and out of the classrooms. There is a marked difference this year in the energy amongst the children as they also begin to rediscover the delights of social interaction across the age ranges. Last year, firmly gathered together in tight bubbles, there was an overwhelming feeling of class unity, with strong bonds being formed within each unit. We now see the children learning, or re-learning in the case of the older children, the important life skills of collaboration, cooperation and communication as they once again begin to experience life on a bigger scale, surrounded by children of all ages, many of whom they don't yet know.



It is a joy to see everyone playing together again and definite work in progress as we all begin to rebuild the dynamics of a whole school feel, where children feel a collective responsibility that extends beyond the classroom door. The School Council system, with its three Houses and class representatives, plays a big part in helping each child to be more aware of the part they can play in a wider society. Well done to the Year 6s, who are taking their leading roles very seriously, and also to children across the years who are beginning to find their public voices as they stand for election in their classes – a brave feat!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the zoom session this week with Mmes. Scharf and Halvorsen, Mme. Mayeur and Miss DiFine to hear all about our French and Music programmes. We hope that you found the presentations informative and useful, the curriculum brochures will also be sent out to everyone this week. Don't forget that you can always speak to the teachers if you have specific questions, just send an email to School Office and we will arrange a meeting.

The Autumn term clubs start this week. Thank you to everyone who returned their forms promptly, thus guaranteeing a place in the chosen clubs. There are still places available for each activity, so please send an email to School Office by Monday, if your child would like to participate.

Running	Yr 3 – 6	Tuesday	Oak
LAMDA	Yrs 3 -4	Tuesday	Oak
Football skills	Yrs 1 -2	Tuesday	Acorn
Crochet	Yrs 3 – 6	Wednesday	Oak
Art	Yrs 3 – 6	Thursday	Oak
Chess	Year 2 – 4	Thursday	Acorn



Please remember that **Friday, 1st October** is a staff training day, and that there is therefore **no** school for the children. We look forward to seeing them back well-rested on Monday, 4th October!



The 'Our Family' wall in Reception with beautiful drawings and photos of each child's family

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



Stars of the Week



Nursery:

Aadvika, for her cheerful smile and super help during tidy up time, well done!

Janakiram, for settling into Nursery beautifully this week, well done!

Reception:

Sai Ananya, for her smart work on patterns.

Vasu, for getting into character in our role play area and cooking a delicious meal for everybody.

Year 1:

Harshit, for using one of the 'wow' words from our book last week in his news on Monday. It was a great example of how to use the word 'complaining'!

Jenil, for his super speech to his classmates about why he should be a school councillor. We very much enjoyed listening to your ideas Jenil!

Year 2:

Rajakumaran, for really thinking about how to use a wide vocabulary and new language techniques to make your sentences pop in your story this week.

Tanay, for always showing kindness and empathy towards your classmates and always being polite to teachers.

Year 3:

Aryansh, for a great effort in his sentence-writing about the Incredible Book-Eating Boy.

Magizhvini, for always listening, and for quick, accurate Maths all week.

Year 4:

Pranavi, for her amazingly creative Chocolate factory tour invitation.

Akshathsai, for having lots of good ideas in our Mrs C sentence stacking lessons this week.

Year 5:

Ovee for working quietly, diligently and effectively.

Year 6:

Aaditya - thank you for taking pride in all aspects of your studies and your roles as House Captain and Quiz Master. An impressive start to Year 6.

Information for the week



- We are still missing many of the **permission and contact forms**. Please return these to the school office so that we are able to contact you if we need to speak to you urgently.
- **Year 2 trip to Beersel Castle: Tuesday 28th September**



To support and enrich their current class Topic on Castles, Year Two will be heading to Beersel Castle on Tuesday, 28th September to visit the beautiful medieval monument.

The coach will leave school at 11.00am and arrive back in good time for the usual collection at 3.25pm. The children will need their regular snack and packed lunch as well as a water bottle. Please send children to school in their school sports uniform and appropriately dressed for the weather – in a warm, waterproof coat and sensible shoes. As only the open, outdoor parts of the castle are accessible due to the castle's strict adherence to the Covid safety measures, we are confident in following the safety regulations. We look forward to this exciting and educational visit.



- Please note that **Friday, 1st October** is a staff training day and that there is therefore **no** school for children on that day. They will finish the week on Thursday, 30th September. We have two Staff training days in the year, during which the whole staff follow a training programme in one particular area, allowing us to keep up to date with the latest research and work on the ongoing improvements to the curriculum across the school.
- The date for our **Welcome Walk-in-the-Woods**, scheduled for Sunday, 26th September has been changed to **Sunday, 3rd October from 14h – 16h**, due to the major bike races being held in Tervuren during the weekend of September 25/26th.



This is a family walk for parents, staff and children, and meanders gently through the woods and around the lakes in Tervuren, with everyone welcome to come and catch up with old friends and to meet new faces. The autumn colours should already be spectacular and, even if it rains, the trees provide plenty of cover.

The park is easily accessible by tram and perfectly safe for children to run and play. If the weather has been wet it can be **very difficult** to push a buggy (although we have been known to carry them across the muddy patches!) If you have very little ones it may be easier to use a baby sling.

We will meet on the steps of the Colonial Palace at the top of the Avenue de Tervuren at **14h** and set off for a walk around the lake and into the forest.

The nearest tram stop is **Tervuren Station, the last stop on the 44 tram route from Montgomery**, which is directly opposite the gates to the park. The Colonial Palace is the large building in front of you as you go through the gates. We aim to be back at the Palace by **16h**. There is also a large, exciting children's playground on the edge of Tervuren, which many families take advantage of before heading back to Brussels.

The exact location can be seen via <https://www.google.be/maps/@50.8283143,4.5147046,19.79z?hl=en> Do come along and join us, it's a good way to meet new people and a fun way to spend an afternoon outside!

- **Year 6 trip to the Atomium : Tuesday, 12th October.**

The **Year 6** children once again have the amazing



privilege of spending a whole night, not at the museum, but at the Brussels Atomium. The children will set off after school on Tuesday, spend a wonderful evening admiring the spectacular view from the Children's Sphere, hopefully sleep well all night in the eight mini spheres known as raindrops (designed by a Spanish artist especially for the project), and then come back to school after breakfast and a guided tour of the building. A picnic lunch will be waiting for them on their return.

We are extremely lucky to have this opportunity as the sphere is reserved exclusively for children between 6 – 12 years (plus teachers 😊) and is booked several years in advance. This year is extra special as it will be the very last chance to experience the excitement, as the sphere will be used for other functions from the end of this year.

- **Garderie:** Please inform the office at the **beginning** of the week if you would like your child to attend garderie.



- Please note that the deadline for written notice of departure for the end of the Autumn term (Wednesday, 22nd December) fell on **Thursday 23rd September**. If we have not already received written notice of a child's last day at school at the end of the Autumn term, the deposit will not be refunded.



- **Late pick-ups:** We do understand that this may be unavoidable due to traffic or unexpected events, but please note that any children remaining in school after the pick-up time will be in garderie in the Acorn building and should be collected from there. A garderie fee will be charged. Please inform School office or the Oak GSM number if you are going to be late.



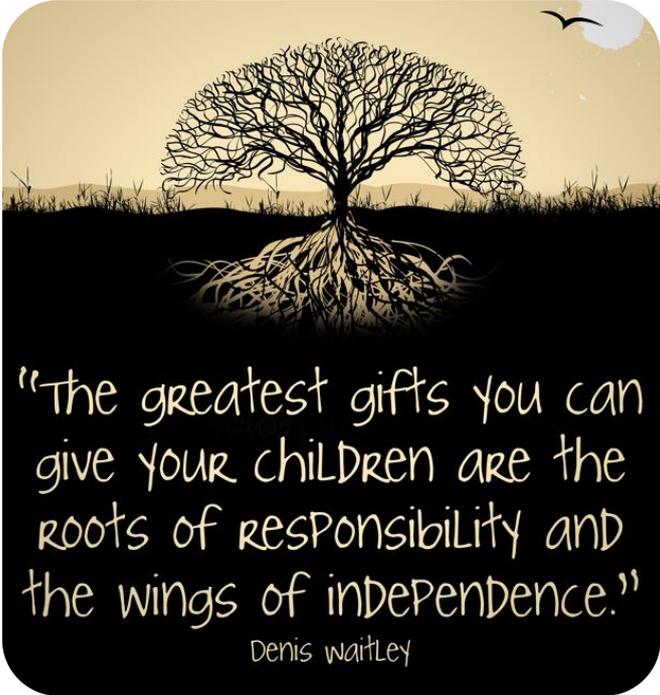
Where's Victor?



Footballs,
tennis balls,
basketballs
and bouncy
balls ...
everyone is
practicing!



And a fitting thought to end an action-packed week of sharing and working together...



"The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence."

Denis Waitley

THE MINDS OF INDEPENDENCE,
ROOTS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND

