



The British International
School of Brussels

Newsletter for the week of December 10th, 2021

*Pancake making in
Year 4*



*Hunting for clues in the
indoor orienteering
challenge*

Dear All,

I think this week will have to go down as one of the most unpredictable and unexpected for a very long time! However, it has also shown just how adaptable, flexible and creative we can all be when faced with circumstances beyond our control, from the very youngest children right through to teachers and parents.

First and foremost, and despite initial concern – all of the children managed superbly with their masks, without making any fuss or even finding it particularly difficult. Once they are in the classroom and well-occupied, they just get on with life and enjoy the moment. Equally, the children in Years 2 and 6 adapted easily to life online again and had a good week enjoying different challenges. The Year 6s made the most of having the time to explore some Latin and the Periodic Table, whilst benefitting from useful revision time of work already covered, and much else besides. The Year 2s particularly enjoyed concentrating on poetry and we're looking forward to sharing their creations back in the classroom next week. Thanks also go to Mme. Halvorsen, Mme. Scharf and Miss Di Fine, for their imaginative French and Music lessons, which complement the class work and ensure that learning continues in a different format.

The new Covid protocols unfortunately mean that Years 3 & 4 will be finishing the term online, but Mr. Tranter and Mrs. Rutayisire will be doing their very best to make sure that it is a good week, despite not being able to share the festive atmosphere and activities all together in the classroom. I'm sure that everyone will draw on their good old BISB resilience and love of life and continue to make the most of different opportunities.

Thank you to all for your patience and understanding over this week, and for making difficult decisions as to whether or not to send your children to school. We were delighted to see the numbers increasing as the week progressed and the children in school definitely enjoyed a lovely week, both working hard and benefitting from time and space to create Christmas wonderlands in each classroom. The Oak department

indoor orienteering challenge was also a great success on Friday, and certainly couldn't have been done with full classes in the building!



Huge thanks go too to all of the teachers, who successfully managed our own dwindling numbers, adapting every day and 'keeping calm and carrying on,' as Mrs. Tranter would say, particularly when switching almost instantly to online lessons where necessary. Let's hope that the last week of term is a little more peaceful, and that we can all enjoy the magic of a Christmas week, both in and out of school.

*Construction fun in
Reception!*

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



Stars of the Week



Nursery:

Nihar for remembering the name of the Xylophone and helping Mrs Davies play it! Good job Nihar!
Parinika for her excellent skills at finding the numbers on the digital advent calendar, well done Parinika!

Reception:

Nithara, for her good effort and perseverance in reading cvc words, well done!
Tia Moushnee, for the dedication she puts into all her creative work, you've made beautiful crafts!

Year 1:

Nathan, for reading the story 'Oi! Get off our Train!' to the whole class. We loved it.
Shivang, for thinking about reusing and recycling and reminding us to do it too.

Year 2:

All of year 2, for their cheerfulness and enthusiasm in our zoom lessons and the home assignments this week. They really were all stars.

Year 3:

Aryansh, for showing great improvement in reading – well done!

Year 4:

Vihaan, for showing great creativity with our Christmas art projects this week.
Niteesh, for doing so well with mastering the chunking method of division.

Year 5:

Hasini, for relentless and impressive maths, composition and needlework.
Arka, for his enthusiasm and application.

Year 6:

Joey Carp, for sleeping through Latin, showing some interest in Science and listening attentively during story time!

Congratulations and special Stars of the Week go to Team BISB (Angry Birds Squadron) **Thomas and Aditya** in Year 6, who, under the expert guidance of Mr. Stedman and with the support of BISB mascot golden labrador Joey, competed in the 5th race of the **Brussels Orienteering Challenge** last weekend. A great example of teamwork and determination. Well done boys!





Information for the week

- Please remember that term finishes for the Christmas break at the usual time on **Friday, 17th December** and that we return to school on **Monday, 10th January 2022** for the Spring term.

PLEASE!!
NOTE

- Please note that the 90-day deadline for written notice of departure for the end of the Spring term (Friday, 1st April) falls on **Saturday, 1st January**. Please notify us before this date if your child will be leaving BISB; this will ensure that your deposit can be refunded.



- After-school clubs for this term have now finished. New information for next year's activities will be sent out shortly. We will also fit in the additional sessions for Art, Chess and Running clubs in the New Year, given the new Covid ruling this week.



- There **will** be swimming next week for both the Oak department and Year 2. Please don't forget your swimming kit on Wednesday for Years 5 & 6, and Thursday for Year 2, Group 1. Last chance this term!



- If you need a receipt for reimbursements or have questions about financial matters, please email Mr. Prescott at bisbbursar@telenet.be



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



- Hopefully, Years 1 & 2 will have the chance to perform their fantastic winter show at some point during next week. It will be filmed and posted, so fingers crossed that all goes well and that the show goes on! Eddie and the Penguins are really excited about setting off on their world tour to save the planet.



- Nursery and Reception will be performing their shows this week, unfortunately without an audience of parents, but the videos will be posted for you to enjoy. Watch for news on Edmodo 🎄 ✨

And a fitting thought to end a very productive (if unusual!) week...

Creativity is contagious, pass it on!

Albert Einstein



Practising tactics in the
Oak playground!



Blowing away the
cobwebs in Reception –
nothing like a sack race!

Playing games
during playtime in
the Oak playground



Kyra the lumberjack in
the KS1 special
performance for the
Reception class

