



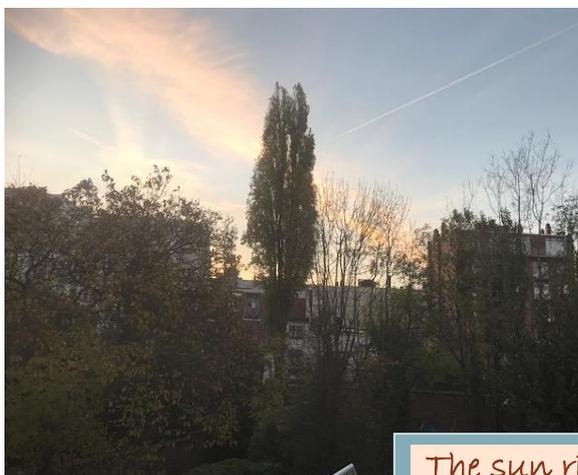
The British International
School of Brussels

Dear All,

It was lovely to see everyone back at school this week after the holiday and to see the children talking excitedly to each other about the things they had done over the week. We are pleased to see that the classes are full and that everyone seems to be generally well and full of energy. Thank you for taking extra care and keeping children at home if they seem to have a particularly persistent cough or runny nose – it makes a big difference to the others in the class, and helps us to keep everyone healthy. One of the government requirements for

schools is that windows and doors must be kept open during the day so that the buildings are well ventilated. The heating is obviously kept on and the children don't really seem to feel the cold, but please could you make sure that they now wear their jumpers and have a coat for the outside playtimes (and that all of their uniform has a name in it!) as we make sure that they spend as many of the playtimes outside as possible.

The excitement of the Christmas term can already be felt around the school as preparations begin for the end-of-term musical productions. The Oak department is setting off on a very large flying carpet and discovering the magical world of Aladdin, much to everyone's delight! Years 1 & 2 are heading out on a round the world tour with Eddie the penguin to find out all about the dangers facing our planet and discovering what we can do to protect it, and Nursery and Reception are having great fun at the moment learning the traditional Christmas songs – the bells are definitely jingling enthusiastically! These productions are a very special, important part of school life and give every child the chance to enjoy the challenges and delights of learning songs and dances, finding different ways of expressing themselves, working together and performing in front of an audience, and participating in the creation of a show in which they have painted the scenery and props, designed parts of the costumes, made the programmes and discovered abilities and a confidence that they may never have expected. The learning experience is rich and varied and creates a unique opportunity for children to work together across the classes, surpassing themselves as they all rise to the different challenges at each age and in each different production.



*The sun rising over the playground
on another lovely day*

Newsletter for the week of November 12th, 2021

*The magic of
autumn on a crisp,
sunny day*



As you can read in the Home School letter, new topics have also started in many classes and the term promises to be full of lots of new learning. The Year 3s are the first class to visit the theatre next week to see a play in French, the Year 2s have their first swimming lessons, the Years 5 & 6 continue with their lessons at the Nato pool and there are new challenges ahead during the Fun Friday SKILLS days. Lamda rehearsals have started during the after-school clubs for both years 3 & 4 and 5 & 6 and the School Council is busy organising the library, Eco-duties and events across the school. Life is busy and rewarding!

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



Stars of the Week



Nursery:

Atyudarini, for her wonderful description of how she used her binoculars to watch the birds with!
Victor, for his rendition of the spider song, which he sang confidently in circle time!

Reception:

Alankrita, for using fantastic words when describing the activities she did during her holidays.
Ishitha, for taking her time when working on tracing letters and doing it nicely and neatly.

Year 1:

Prisha, for marvellous Maths work: good recall of number bonds and a great start on subtraction.
Anujan, for working hard in our phonics lessons, especially when using the sounds he knows when writing sentences.

Year 2:

Rushikesh, for his hard work and progress in reading.
Vihaan, for the passion and depth that he brings to his writing.

Year 3:

Juan, for great use of the imperative form in our first 'Magic Paintbrush writing session.
Nishaank, for very fast and accurate work on fractions.

Year 4:

Dhriti, for good work with multiplying and dividing decimals by 10.
Vihaan, for his interest and engagement on the topic of plastic pollution.

Year 5:

Arka for a cracking start to the term, particularly in word work

Year 6:

Crishelle for her swimming success - fantastic achievement! Well done, Crishelle.



Natural mandalas created during Fun Friday at Parke Josaphat

Information for the week



- Please make sure you have returned the **permission and contact forms to the school office** so that we are able to contact you if we need to speak to you urgently.



- The Year 3 children will be visiting the Montagne Magique theatre in the heart of Brussels to watch a performance of 'Le grand voyage de Georges Poisson' next **Wednesday, 17th November**. The play is in French and forms an important part of the French curriculum. Mme. Scharf will be working on the themes presented in the play during the class lessons, to ensure that the children have a good idea of the basic vocabulary and ideas before they see the performance.

This is the incredible story of a tiny shellfish, who finds himself attached to a bottle in the sea. He sets off on a world tour and finds himself, after a climb of 304 steps, at the top of a lighthouse belonging to Georges Poisson. It is a tale of friendship, perilous adventures and endless journeys, and is told by two actors using miniature model objects. A magical treat in store!

The trip is in school time, with the children travelling to and from the theatre by private coach, leaving at 9.30 and returning in time for lunch at school. Please ensure that your child is in clean, smart uniform (not PE uniform), and that they have a coat.

<https://lamontagnemagique.be/le-grand-voyage-de-georges-poisson/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AGd5rKZLEQw> Take a look at a clip from the play and discover the magic of the tiny models.



- Swimming lessons start for the **first group** of the Year 2 class on **Thursday, 18th November**. Details have been sent electronically and on paper for the children concerned. | Please remember that children need a swimming hat and that boys must have a Speedo-style costume and not shorts – and that ALL clothes should be labelled with your child's name, otherwise you may well find that your child comes home in someone else's socks 😞 (at the very least!).



- Thank you for the excellent time keeping last week. It made a real difference in the classroom to have children ready for lessons to start promptly **at 9h**. Please continue to make an effort as the doors will be closed at 9h each morning in both buildings.

- **Garderie:** Please inform the office at the **beginning** of the week if you would like your child to attend garderie. Please note that garderie cover is **not** available next week as several teachers are away in Cornimont with the years 5 and 6.



- Please note that the 90-day deadline for written notice of departure for the end of the February half-term (Thursday, 24th February) falls on **Friday, 26th November**. Please notify us before this date if your child will be leaving BISB; this will ensure that your deposit can be refunded.



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

Please remember that the Oak Department continue to have their regular weekly trips to one of the local woods or parks for the Fun Friday S.K.I.L.L.S mornings. Friday afternoons are now given over to rehearsals for Aladdin, and to the production of scenery, props and costumes.

It is therefore *particularly important* that you inform class teachers and School Office if your child is going to be late, or has to be picked up due to a medical appointment. We can then ensure that they remain at school.

And a fitting thought to start a new term across the school ...



Watercolour painting
whilst listening to
Vivaldi's 'Autumn'
violin concerto in
Reception

Jane Still Headteacher



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