



The British International
School of Brussels

Newsletter for the week of October 1st, 2021

Sharing in the playground



Dear All,

Thank you all for your understanding over the unexpected, extra-short week this week and the consequent decision to teach online on Monday, 4th October. Fortunately, all staff members have tested negative and are able to return to teaching as normal on Tuesday morning, once the quarantine measures have been respected. We are looking forward to being back in the classroom!

It is a great relief that life in general seems to be back to a relative normal everywhere, but it is clear that circumstances change very quickly once there is a positive case of the virus, and that we need to be able to adapt immediately and be flexible in order to prevent further spread. Please could I emphasize the need to be vigilant if your child is unwell? It is very important that they stay at home until their symptoms are clear. If a child does come to school and appears to have more than the usual runny nose, we will contact you so that they can be collected and taken home. Within school we are continuing to take all possible preventive measures to ensure that everyone remains well, whilst also trying to achieve a balance in which children can enjoy the essential childhood experiences of playing and working together in a safe environment.

As we were not at school on Thursday, the children unfortunately missed their last music lessons with Mme. Mayeur, who is leaving us for an exciting new job working as an advisor within the Belgian education system. Mme. Mayeur has worked enthusiastically across the school for several years, sharing her passion for music with the children and ensuring that they come up to her exacting standards in lessons and on the stages of various theatres during the Christmas and Summer productions. She has also been responsible for the very valuable links with Belgian orchestras and musicians that have enabled BISB to participate in concerts and inspiring workshops with professional musicians. Our very best wishes and thanks go to her in her new career – but she will be back to see the children and I'm sure she will be in the audience for our future shows! We would therefore like to welcome Miss di Fine to her new role as our Music teacher. She will be teaching music to each of the classes and then putting down her baton on several afternoons to continue in her role as Nursery assistant. We are very much looking forward to seeing her all around the school – hopefully with her violin in hand too 🎸 🎵!



Year 2 knights
defending the
castle at Beersel...
or are they on a
tea break?!

As you can see in the Home School letter, the week was nonetheless very busy, and we made the most of the days we had in school. The Year 2s enjoyed a fantastic trip to Beersel castle – and now have a real understanding of everything that they have been learning in class. There's nothing quite like pretending to be medieval soldiers on the battlements!

...and they
all need time
off to play on
the swings!



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



Stars of the Week



Nursery:

Gurbani, for her great play-doh creations and her descriptions of them!

Ridaan, for trying hard to put his outdoor shoes on and fastening them!

Reception:

Alankrita, for her good reflection on emotions, how we express and manage them.

Nithara, for her kindness, good sharing and taking turns during playtime and group work.

Year 1:

Pranav is so good at listening and thinking. He is also extremely kind to his friends.

Rehat was so enthusiastic after football club with Mrs. Read because she scored LOTS of goals. Excellent skills Rehat!

Year 2:

Jahnvi, for independently using adjectives and ambitious word in her writing.

Ibaad, for using Diamond and Ruby powers to solve problems using words and kindness.

Year 3:

Mishka, for her excellent rainforest poster.

Havish, for his exciting reading style and creative sentence writing.

Year 4:

Camilla, for super reading with great expression and tone.

Shaurya, for good work in maths with calculating time intervals.

Year 5:

Diya for brilliant author evaluation and lovely sketching.

Year 6:

Archana for contributing enthusiastically to class discussions in such a mature way.

And a short thought to end a week of unexpected events...

"A few simple tips for life: feet on the ground, head to the skies, heart open...quiet mind."

Rasheed Ogunlaru

Information for the week



- 4 ½ weeks into the school year and 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.



- The school photographer will be taking individual, class, sibling and whole school photos of the children on **Tuesday, 5th October**. Please make sure that your child is smartly dressed in clean, smart school uniform (or PE uniform if it is their PE day). Thank you.

- **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.

Please remember that children should bring their swimming kit in on Tuesday, the night of the Atomium, for NATO on Wednesday! 🏊, and please also note that children may **not** wear jewellery!



- Please note that there is no school for children on **Friday, 29th October**, as Parent-Teacher meetings will be held throughout the week and all day on the Friday. You will be receiving a paper copy of the booking form on Tuesday, 5th October. Please complete and return to your class teacher as soon as possible, so that the appointment schedule can be drawn up. You will then be notified of your specific appointment time by your class teacher.

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



- 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 is 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. Children from the Oak building will be taken to Acorn by a member of staff.