



The British International
School of Brussels

Newsletter for the week of January 14th, 2022

Heading off to save the world,
Eddie and the Penguins from
Years 1 & 2 take the first steps on
their journey on the real stage!

<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjzyvkn>



Dear All,

Happy New Year to you all and a very warm welcome to all those families who have joined us this term. We hope that your children have had a wonderful first week and that you soon start to feel part of the BISB community and our warm, friendly environment, despite still not being able to enjoy the family events, coffee mornings and meeting times within the school that add to our special feel. One day we will have the chance to do so again!

As well as new families, we are very pleased to welcome Mrs. Vetter back to school. The older children were certainly excited to see her familiar face and the younger children are enjoying having time with another teacher for in-depth language and reading support and extension in the Acorn building. She will be working in the Oak building, also on focused support both in and out of the classrooms. We were similarly delighted to see Miss. Bird back for a few weeks before her maternity leave starts, she had a lovely welcome in Reception with Mrs Julaton this week – although the tiny chairs were not the most comfortable! Next week sees the arrival of Mrs. Ilhan, our new French teacher, who will be teaching French to Reception and Years 1, 2 and 3. She is very much looking forward to joining us and you will have the opportunity to meet her during the online Parent-Teacher meetings in February.

It was lovely to see the children all returning this week after the disruption of the weeks before Christmas. The classrooms are full, the corridors are ringing with (loud!) happy voices and the enthusiastic chatter brings everything back to life again, especially as new work starts and excitement grows with the new learning opportunities. It was a busy and varied week in the classrooms – from serious contemplation during the zoom Holocaust workshop in Year 6, to real porridge making (and tasting!) with Goldilocks in Year 1, and new topics being introduced in each class. In addition, we took advantage of the change in regulations to finally take the KS1 children to the theatre for an afternoon of rehearsals and performance of their Winter play 'Eddie and the Penguins'. They were transfixed by the lights and sounds of a real theatre and rose to the occasion yet again to put on a great performance of the play, complete with props, scenery and costumes. It was a real shame that families couldn't be there to share the magic, but we took lots of photos (see the link above) and the video will be edited very soon. Many thanks, as ever, go to the staff, Mrs. Read, Mrs. Tolentino, Miss. Corrigan and Mrs. Bandaru, who worked very hard to produce the play and bring it all together after so many interruptions, and special congratulations and thanks to Miss Di Fine, for her first production and doing such a great job on the music – we **all** know the songs off by heart and it was wonderful to see every child singing their heart out!

It has been challenging to produce a play under the current restrictions, but once again the children were real stars and thoroughly enjoyed their time in the spotlights – I'm sure they will remember the experience for a long time to come.

The Oak Building Fun Friday Skills days got off to a fantastic, if chilly, start yesterday under a clear blue sky and winter sunshine, with some great new activities in the Parc Cinquantaire. Definitely the perfect way to blow all the germs away, and an energetic start to the year for everyone. Enjoy taking a look at the photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/157096587@N03/albums/72177720295964725>

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



Stars of the Week



Nursery:

Anush, for jumping right into Nursery life with enthusiasm! Well done, Anush!

Tharunya, for helping other children find their mittens! Good job!



Reception:

Sai Krishna, for an interesting discussion about his solar-powered spaceship that he made with Lego blocks.

Yug, for being helpful in tidying all the toys and encouraging his friends.

Year 1:

Harshit, for excellent work with money, especially equivalent values.

Shivang, for being extra enthusiastic during Maths lessons this week.

Year 2:

Our stars of the week this week are all of the Year 2 children, for their wonderful performances in the show.

Year 3:

Havish, for a great result in his Maths assessment – well done!

Vedant, for answering so many questions in our Literacy sessions – fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and grammar!

Year 4:

Inaaya, for super work in her end of autumn term maths assessment.

Geoshan, for great use of colour in his oil pastel drawing based on Edvard Munch's 'The Scream.'

Year 5:

Abhih, for top Science knowledge and always setting an excellent example.

Chetan, for very quick thinking and sharpness in maths.

Year 6:

Crishelle, for her knowledge about and enthusiasm for Trigonometry – very impressive Crishelle!

Special stars of the week:

Sudeeksha and Rushmitha in the Year 2 swimming group, for their determination and courage in making exceptional progress in their swimming sessions.

Information for the week



- It is very important that we have **up-to-date** details on your **Contact Form** in case we need to contact you urgently. Please remember to let School Office know if any of your details have changed – particularly gsm numbers for both parents.



- Please remember that lessons in each building start **promptly at 9h every morning**. Children being at school on time and in the classroom ready to start the day makes a big difference to the learning process. Thank you for respecting the time!
- Please note also that the doors in both buildings open at 8.30. If, in **exceptional** circumstances, you need to drop your child off before 8.30, please inform the School Office – staff are in their classrooms preparing the day and your child would therefore need to be taken to the Acorn building if it is necessary for them to be at school before 8.30.



- The second group will start their swimming sessions next Thursday at the Castle Club in Wezembeek. Please make sure that **all** of their clothes are clearly labelled and that they have a swimming costume, (Speedo-style trunks for boys and not shorts), a swimming hat, goggles if they prefer, a big towel and spare underwear in a small backpack.



- Please note that there is **no** school for children on **Friday, 25th February** as the Parent-Teacher meetings are scheduled throughout the week and during the whole of Friday. Children therefore finish school on Thursday, 24th February for the Spring half-term break. The new term starts on Monday, 7th March.



- Please remember to let us know if you think that you may be leaving at the end of the first half of the Summer term (Wednesday, 25th May 2022). The **90-day notification deadline** for written notice of departure is **Thursday, 24th February 2022**. Please notify us before this date if your child will be leaving BISB; this will ensure that your deposit can be refunded.



- **Late pick-ups:** We do understand that this may be unavoidable due to traffic or unexpected events. Please inform the School Office or contact the Oak GSM number if you are delayed and then collect your child from the Acorn building. We are unable to provide a normal garderie service at the moment due to the need to avoid mixing class bubbles, but your child will be supervised in the Acorn building until they are collected. A garderie fee may be charged.

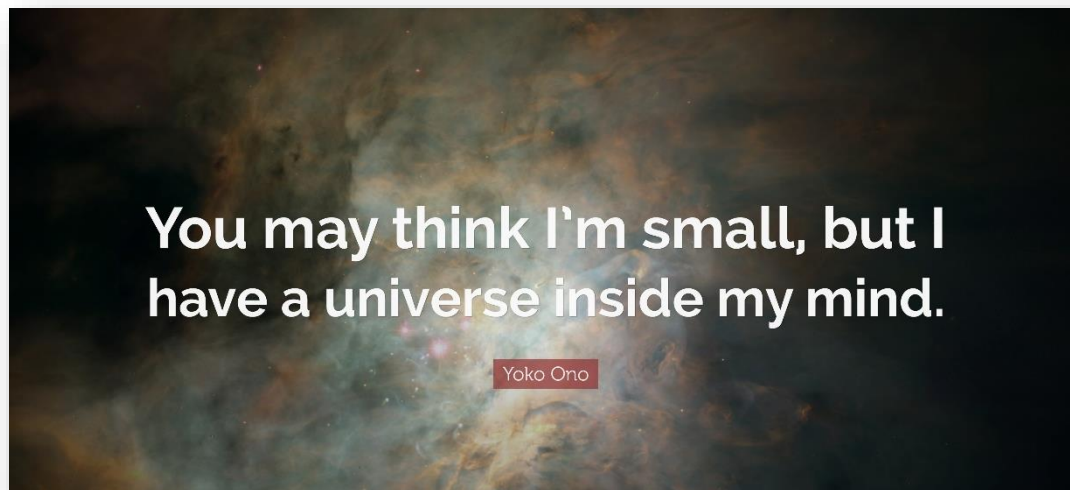


- **GSM number for the Oak Building** (Years 3, 4, 5 &6) : **0468 45 87 76**

Please note that this is the number to use if you need to contact school for drop off and pick up arrangements and your child is in years **3, 4, 5 or 6**.

If your child is in **Nursery, Reception, or Years 1 or 2**, you should ring the School Office.

And a fitting thought as we look forward to the wealth of possibilities of a new term and a new year ...



The Year 6s join a workshop with an international school in Alicante.

A quiet moment to share a story in Year 2



Year 1s rapping away during their play rehearsal at the theatre

Jane Still Headteacher