



# BJAB Newsletter

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

Following last Sunday's announcement, I would like to thank those who have expressed concern and sent good wishes to Mrs Mace and her family. You will be pleased to know that they are recovering well and have experienced relatively mild symptoms. I hope my swift but thorough action has reassured you of our protocols and commitment to keeping everyone safe. Since March, it has been my intention to communicate regularly, in a calm and proportionate way, with everyone's best interests at heart. As you begin to think about planning the half-term and Christmas holidays, please do allow for the possibility of quarantine on your return.

As you will read, the school has had a busy week with the children settling into routines and, despite the dreary weather, I have observed nothing but smiles.

### Lower School Announcement

In light of parent feedback, we have decided that pupils may arrive to school and remain in PE clothes for the entirety of the day following the schedule below. They will continue to change at school on any second PE day.

- Monday – Years 1 and 2
- Tuesday – Years 3 and 4

### Dates for your diary

Virtual Coffee Mornings  
*(please note the time change)*

**5<sup>th</sup> October, 10.30** – Y1

**6<sup>th</sup> October, 10.30** – Y2

**8<sup>th</sup> October, 10.30** – EYFS

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October**

Interim Reports to parents

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Friday  
6<sup>th</sup> November**

Autumn Half Term break

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Tuesday  
10<sup>th</sup> November**

Virtual Parent-Teacher Meetings



# PreKindergarten & Kindergarten

This week in Kindergarten we have been thinking about sharing. We looked at different scenarios of children wanting to play with the same toy and talked about how they could share the toy and play together. We then listened to a story called 'Mine' the story of a little girl who did not like to share her toys when her friend came on a play date.

The colour of the week was blue. We had so much fun on blue day, playing with blue sparkly water and making beautiful bluebirds to hang from a mobile.

We have also been exploring our senses through our creative activity with foam painting. We mixed shaving foam and paint together which felt lovely in our hands. We made swirly patterns in the mixture and then took a print of the pattern by putting a piece of paper on the top.

We have also been learning all about shapes, in particular circles. We looked for circles in the classroom. We noticed that circles are everywhere and come in all different sizes. We then used a variety of bottle tops to print with, we thought they looked like bubbles popping across the page.



## Reception

This week we read our first traditional tale 'The Three Little Pigs'. We joined in when reading aloud and wrote secret messages from the pigs. We also made masks of the characters and designed our own houses. Next week we move onto the next traditional tale which is 'The Gingerbread Man'.

This week marked the beginning of phonics, we learned some of our first sounds and began to write them using the cursive style. We learned the sounds m, a, s, d and t. In mathematics we have continued to count objects but now can use the words 'fewer' and 'more' when comparing amounts of objects. We also learned 'one more' and 'one less' than a number. We are getting really good with our numbers!

In physical education, we practised ball skills. We threw and caught the ball, bounced the ball, rolled the ball to a partner and kicked it too. We learned to control the ball with more accuracy.

### *Early Years Reminders*

- In Kindergarten, the colour for Wednesday is yellow.
- Children in Early Years will be learning about the The Moon Festival or Mid-Autumn Moon Festival next week. If you have any story books, decorations or pictures that could accompany this theme, we would really appreciate you bringing them in.

## Lower School

As well as writing numbers in numerals, Year 1 children have been learning to write numbers as words in mathematics this week.

Having been inspired by Castles, our Year 2 History topic, the children have started mixing paints to create exciting backgrounds.

Celtic settlements inspired Year 3 topic work this week where we found out all about the types of houses the Celts lived in as well as the fashion during this time! We learnt that the Celts didn't go to the supermarket for their food but grew crops on the land they owned.

Year 4 has been exploring electricity, learning about how it is generated and setting up their own electrical circuits.



## Prep School

This week our Year 7 pupils have been busy writing, editing and producing their first assembly on Zero Waste. This assembly took place this Friday morning and was a great success!

Year 6 has been building electrical circuits in science whilst furthering their knowledge of the life of Queen Victoria.

Attendance of our enrichment activities continues to flourish. With over half the Prep school attending the activities, pupils are enjoying the opportunity to play and learn together outside the school day.

Our Netball team, spearheaded by Mrs Johnson, is looking healthy and ready to compete against other schools in the near future.

## French Spotlight



Cette semaine les élèves de Year 1 ont appris à compter en français. Nous avons joué à des jeux et les enfants m'ont impressionné par leur gentillesse et leur patience. Certains élèves ont reçu un certificat pour leur excellent travail en français. Ces certificats seront remis lors des assemblées.

### Meet the Teacher Our Senior Leadership Team



Mr Mitchell joined BJAB in 2018 following a decade of teaching in central London and is now serving as our Deputy Headteacher. Originally from Surrey, he moved to Belgium with his Flemish wife and has since spent

the two years perfecting his Dutch.

*"From the moment I arrived at BJAB I was taken back by the community and family ethos. That every pupil knows every other pupil, regardless of age, is a wonderful and special thing."*



In addition to being a Year 3 class teacher, Miss Cowx is also our Head of Pastoral Care, Designated Safeguarding Lead and SENDCo. Before joining BJAB 5 years ago, she previously taught in the UK and the Middle East.

She is originally from North Wales and enjoys exploring the great outdoors.

*"The moment 'it' clicks and the child's facial expression changes is the reason I love teaching."*



Mrs Johnson is our newly-appointed Head of Teaching and Learning and has worked at BJAB for 4 years. Originally from a small village in Lancashire, she lived and worked in schools in Germany and Cyprus

before settling in Belgium 10 years ago. She has a passion for sports including skiing and running.

*"What I love most about BJAB is that everyone – colleagues, parents, and children – supports each other."*