



BJAB Newsletter

Headteacher's Message

As the slightly extended half term holiday is now here, my first thoughts are of gratitude to all families and members of staff who have worked so hard to maintain the hygiene and distancing regimes which have enabled the school to operate. With the exception of a short closure in EYFS, school has continued with its customary joy and enthusiasm. We speak regularly to the children about resilience and determination when facing a challenge. As this is Report time, perhaps a grade of “consistently above expectations” should be awarded to the whole BJAB community? The target for the next half term is, of course, “to maintain consistent effort” and I thank everyone for their commitment to this.

This week we are saying farewell and bon voyage to Miss Bailey in Year 1, who is heading to the USA with her fiancé. We will miss her lovely smiles around the school and thank her for her excellent teaching. I am pleased to announce that Miss Laura Whittaker will join as a Year 1 class teacher. Miss Whittaker is an experienced teacher from the UK and will start as soon as she has completed the mandatory quarantine period. A virtual introductory meeting for parents will be arranged in the meantime.

Happy Toussaint!

Dates for your diary

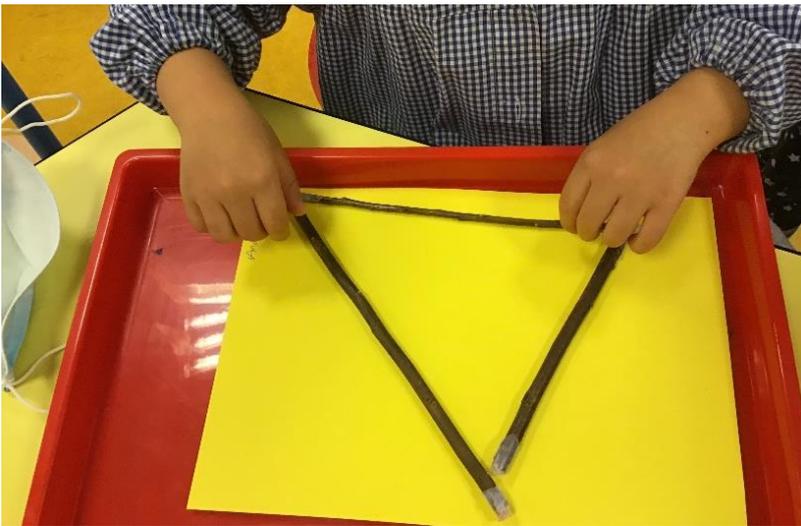
**Monday 2nd November –
Friday 6th November**
Autumn Half Term break

**Monday 9th November –
Tuesday 10th November**
[Virtual Parent-Teacher Meetings](#)
Distance Learning

Wednesday 11th November –
Armistice Day (*no lessons*)

Thursday 26th November
Pizza & Pyjamas Party





PreKindergarten & Kindergarten



It was Halloween in Kindergarten this week. Our classroom was decorated with spiders' webs, ghosts, pumpkins, and witches. We heard the story of 'Meg and Mog', and thought it was funny that her spell went wrong at the end. We then made magic wands and thought of magic words to write on the back of them just like Meg. We all helped to make a Jack O Lantern from a big pumpkin by drawing the face and then scraping out the seeds from inside.

In Mathematical Development the children made shapes from natural objects like sticks, conkers and leaves, they look very nice hanging in our classroom. We made funny green monsters and tissue paper ghosts and learnt some Halloween songs.

The highlight of the week was our Halloween party, we came together with the Reception class to celebrate. We made potions, played games and did some Halloween crafts and dances, and of course we all dressed up.

Reception

This week has been Halloween themed. We have learned about different traditions and the ways that some countries celebrate this event. Our role-play area was converted into a 'Potion Palace' where we made exciting potions. We noted down ingredients, using pictures and our knowledge of phonics when writing. We have been reading numbers this week in mathematics and have continued to work with adding two groups of objects. We even had a go at writing number sentences, using the correct mathematical symbols! This week we looked at different vegetables, including a pumpkin, using magnifying glasses. We investigated the features that we found interesting, described what we saw and even spoke about the weight of the vegetables.

To finish off the week we came dressed up for our 'Halloween Day' where we worked alongside the children in Kindergarten. It was so much fun to come to school and see each other's costumes. We took part in a range of activities from playing games to making crafts. All these activities helped to develop our learning even further! We have had a fabulous first half term in Reception and look forward to a small break before we start our next exciting term together.

Early Years Reminders

- The 9th and 10th November we will be Distance Learning. We have sent home a mini resource pack for some of the activities that you will receive on the 9th November. Our new topic is Diwali which we will continue Thursday and Friday in school. The children can come to school dressed in colourful clothes on Friday.



Lower School

Year 1 completed their topic on 'Toys' this week with a class 'Toy Museum.' They organised toys into five categories and labelled and explained the characteristics of each one.

Year 2 children have been brushing up their ball skills mainly throwing and catching accurately. They have enjoyed playing the popular games, Piggy-in-the-middle and Dodge ball.

Adding and subtracting, 'big numbers', has been the focus in Mathematics for Year 3. They have been learning new vocabulary linked to subtraction and solving word problems.

Year 4 has been studying the palette and form of painted scenes on ancient Greek pottery and have designed their own plate.



Prep School

This week, House Sports events have been taking place throughout PE lessons. Years 5 and 6 competed fiercely for the victory in their netball tournament. With Mrs Johnson as the official referee, pupils demonstrated great camaraderie and support of one another throughout.

Year 6 has been focusing on implementing challenging vocabulary into their creative writing. Words, such as, elucidate, mellifluous and pedantic are three examples which have made their way into their writing this week.

Every Wednesday, Years 7 and 8 are taught Classical Civilisation by Dr Halliwell. This week, pupils have been learning about the ancient city of Pompeii. Using historical evidence and their knowledge of Latin, pupils have been creating a tourist's guide to Pompeii to describe its cultural importance up until the moment of its unfortunate end.

French Spotlight



Ce fut un plaisir de revoir les enfants de maternelle cette semaine. Nous avons écouté une chanson d'Halloween et appris de nouveaux mots comme sorcière, citrouille et fantôme. Les élèves ont mémorisé le vocabulaire très rapidement, bravo à eux !

Halloween



We have ended this half term with our Halloween dress up day. It is wonderful to see so many imaginative costumes from both children and staff.

School Houses

This week, children in Years 1 – 8 have been competing in House Sports week. You can see a table of the house points below and messages from our house captains.

Well done, we have conquered the first place position, I am so very proud of you all. Now that we are here, let's defend our reign!

I'm very happy with our performance this week. Well played to all of you. Keep going, we will get back to the top position!

We have greatly improved this week. I believe we can win but we need to work hard. Encourage the children in Montgomery and give them hope. You're all amazing.

Don't worry about us being in last place, we are only a little bit behind. If everyone keeps trying their best and we put all of our effort in, I am sure we can climb up the leader board. We still have a whole year to show BJAB what Boudouin is made of!

House	Points
Schuman	2492
Herge	2355
Montgomery	1959
Baudouin	1846