



BJAB Newsletter

Headteacher's Message

I am happy to report that the recent Hallowe'en, Divali and inter-house events have been celebrated with BJAB's usual colourful mixture of fun and happiness. It is comforting to know that we can maintain these levels of enthusiasm, even in the current circumstances. Thank you to everyone who took part and helped. Next week's Pizza and Pyjama Party looks as though it will be well-attended and I am told that some teachers are promising to bring their favourite teddy or dress in a onesie!

If you have children in Years 1 to 8, please do look at the Nature challenge on Seesaw. This might provide an additional focus for your family walk during this beautiful season of "mists and mellow fruitfulness." Do share your experiences with us.

I am sure many of you are missing the opportunity to visit school and see the work that goes on in the classroom. I have therefore arranged for the teachers and children to choose a few pieces of work, of which they are proud, to share with you. The older pupils will email their pieces while the younger children will bring photocopies. The children, as ever, are working hard so please take a little time to talk and praise their efforts.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 26th November, 17.00-19.00

Pizza & Pyjamas Party

[Last day to register online here!](#)

[All practical details available here.](#)

Thursday 17th December

End of Term Reports

Christmas Jumper Day



PreKindergarten & Kindergarten



This week in Kindergarten we started a new topic, 'Castles'. We looked at pictures of castles and noticed various things about them. We then used different techniques to make our own castles from making castles with building blocks, 2D shapes, printing with bricks onto castle shaped card to using big boxes to construct and build. We discovered that it is quite tricky to make the castle strong enough to stand up. The children have been very inventive with their ideas.

We had a lot of fun celebrating Diwali on Wednesday. We all dressed in bright colours, we danced to the Diwali songs and made some colourful crafts. It has been such an exciting week.

Reception

This week started with a strange occurrence in Reception class, there was a green egg left over the weekend in a nest. We used this as a perfect opportunity to discuss what animals could hatch from it and we learned a little bit more about animals which do and do not hatch from eggs. By Tuesday the egg had hatched and we had a new classmate... a baby T-Rex! We wrote sentences explaining how to look after him. We used our increasing knowledge of phonics to sound out words. Mrs. White came and saw our work and was very impressed. We have been taking great care of him, showing him the different learning activities set out each day and we have even been singing songs to help him sleep.

Using iPads and books, we have learned names and facts about dinosaurs and we have learned the difference between fiction and non-fiction.

In mathematical development we have been learning number pairs to 10 and have been practicing number formation. In our P.E. lesson we balanced a beanbag on different parts of our body and practiced throwing it to a partner and into a hoop.

On Wednesday we came to school in bright clothes to celebrate Diwali, we discussed what we knew about it and compared it to other festivals we know. We also spoke about our favourite Diwali activities from last week's distance learning.



Lower School

Year 1 has been re-telling the story of the Gruffalo to understand the emotions of characters in English.

This week, Year 2 pupils created their own family tree. The children learnt the structure of a family tree and applied their understanding of their immediate family to label and identify members in their family tree.

With the help of Taff, from Gooseberry planet, the children in Year 3 have been learning the importance of using passwords to keep their data safe online.

Year 4 pupils have been practising football skills in PE this week, including ball control and passing.



Prep School

Year 5 has been conducting experiments to find the best thermal insulator for Mrs Johnson's coffee cup. They have tested a range of different materials including plastic, glass and ceramic.

Years 7 and 8 have been extending their German by analysing a brief clip from the film *Der Vorname*. They have used their knowledge of greeting to understand the nuances of German humour.

During this week's Music Enrichment with Mr Wilkinson, pupils practised the ukulele. Embracing the start of the holiday season, they were given chords to 'Jingle Bells'. By the end of the session, many pupils could strum and sing along to the song.

French Spotlight



Cette semaine les élèves de maternelle et de Year 1 ont parlé de Saint Nicolas. Nous lui avons envoyé des lettres et des dessins. Nous espérons qu'il appréciera nos petites attentions et l'attendons avec impatience!

Meet the Teacher



Originally from Australia, Ms Rogers moved to Brussels in 2006 before returning to Australia to complete her teacher training and teach in Darwin. Ms Rogers is now in her fifth year teaching at BJAB. She is also responsible for our school library and encourages children to foster a love of reading through our annual BJAB Reading Challenge.

"I really enjoy sharing my love of books and reading with pupils. We really do have a school full of bookworms!"

Scholastic Book Club

The Scholastic Book Club is now up and running! [Click here](#) to place your orders on the scholastic website. Each €1 spent in this month's book club will earn BJAB €0.20 in scholastic rewards for our library.

School Houses

Well done to Schuman house who are leading in house points this week.

House	Points
Schuman	2943
Herge	2565
Montgomery	2395
Baudouin	2190