



# BJAB Newsletter

## Headteacher's Message

This week I received a touching letter (in an envelope with a stamp!) from a family who returned to their home country last summer. They wanted to say how much the children had benefitted from the BJAB 'magic ingredients' of confidence, social skills and politeness. Children prefer, even crave, stability (which is why moving schools is often quite a traumatic experience) and they learn faster and more effectively when they feel safe. This is why from time to time I gently remind everyone about our school rules and everyday norms. It has a noticeable effect on the quality of learning. Educating the whole person for the challenges of life in the 21st century begins with family and the extended family that is BJAB.

Next week the children will be exploring self-expression in a whole school initiative called "Express Yourself." Ms Cowx's lovely class (3C) assembly this week introduced some of the ideas we will be looking at and, together with the graffiti-inspired art day we are holding on Tuesday, I am looking forward to an energetic and fun-filled week.

## Announcements

The BJAB reading challenge has begun. Pupils in years 3 – 8 will decide how many books and book reviews they are aiming to read and write during the challenge. House points will be on offer for every book and book review completed before the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and bonus house points to those who complete their challenge!

## Dates for your diary

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**

Art Day

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 9:30**

**(virtual)**

Parent Partnership: Relationships and Sex Education in the Prep School

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February**

Express Yourself Day

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 9:30**

**(virtual)**

Parent Partnership: Relationships and Sex Education in Year 2

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February**

Inset Day

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February**

Half Term





## PreKindergarten & Kindergarten



We have had another busy week in school. In mathematical development we have been using positional language to describe the position of the 'astronauts' hidden around the classroom. We used words like on top, next to, under, over and behind when we found one. We had a lot of fun playing this hide and seek game.

In French the children were painting pictures with a space theme. The children chose what they would like to paint: la terre-the earth, la fusée-the rocket, la lune-the moon, un astronaut-an astronaut.

In PSED we were learning about how exercise and sport is good for us with the theme 'Fit is Fun'. We talked about our favourite sports. We then all took part in a fitness circuit, we did star jumps, pushups, giant strides and ran on the spot for 1 minute. We noticed the effect that exercise had on our bodies for example, our hearts beating faster and our breathing becoming heavier. We finished up the morning with a 'Wake up, Shake up' dance.



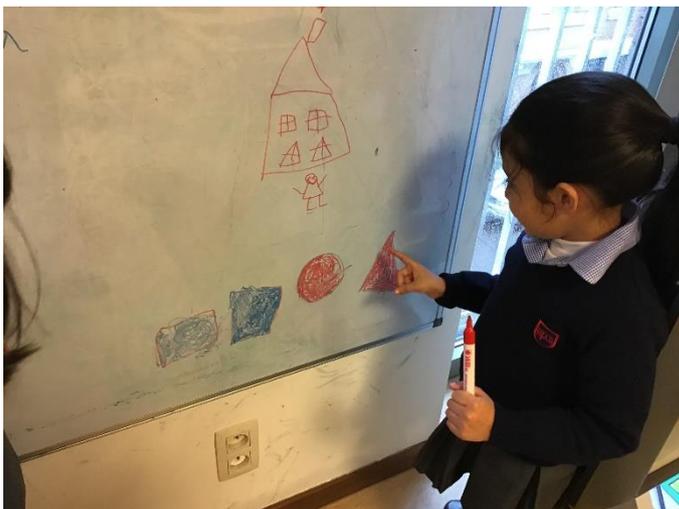
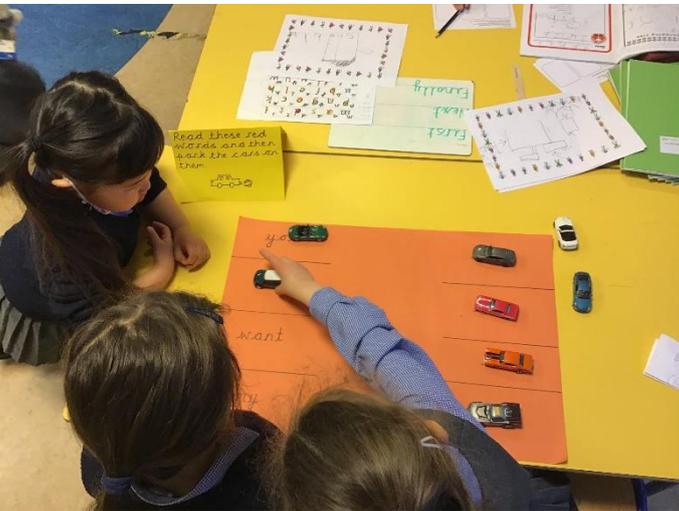
## Reception

This week in Reception, we decided that the Evil Pea needed to be captured. We designed traps and talked about how they would work. We then used this to create simple written instructions.

In mathematical development we have been learning about sharing, understanding the importance of sharing equally between different groups. We have played games in the classroom to reinforce this and played games on the tablets.

This week, we completed our Set 2 sounds in phonics and will use the remainder of the term to consolidate our learning of these. We are continuing to develop our fine motor skills in a variety of ways, such as, playing with playdough, using tweezers to pick up objects and having fun cutting activities.

This week, our Superhero Power in class has been friendship, something we have all been very good at showing in and out of the classroom.



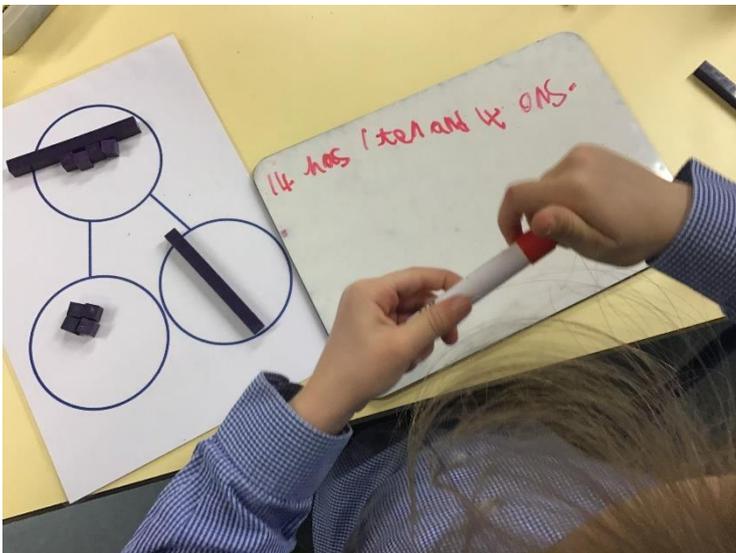
## Lower School

Year 1 has been talking about loneliness in PSHEE this week. With help from the colour monster, we talked about feelings and emotions and how to overcome them.

Do you know how plants are adapted to their habitats? Year 2 children can give you some interesting facts about plants and their habitats around the world.

Gymnastics has been the focus of Year 3's P.E. lessons this week. Working with Mr Mitchell and Mrs Sutton, the children have been practising balancing and rolling skills. Some children even managed to master a cartwheel!

Year 4 has been drawing inspiration from published poets and using a variety of poetic devices to write about a memorable event.



## Prep School

This week, Year 5 has been looking at decimals in more detail. They have been rounding and ordering decimals up to four decimal places. Some of the challenges have been particularly hard.

In art, Year 6 pupils are looking at movement and how to express it using line and colour.

Year 7 has been busy developing data handling skills in computing. Using the Excel and Number applications, pupils have been using formulas to sort, calculate and graph information charts.

## French Spotlight



Les élèves de Year 4 étudient le thème de la ville en français. Cette semaine ils ont comparé le mode de vie rural et le mode de vie urbain. Pour ce faire, les élèves ont parlé des différents styles de vie et ont appris à exprimer les avantages et les inconvénients de ceux-ci.

## School Council

This week, the School Council has confirmed the charities which will benefit from our fund-raising after half-term.

Year 4 will be making origami animals, the kindergarten classes will be doing The Great Toddle and year 8 will be walking the height of Everest on the BJAB Prep building stairs! All proceeds will go to the charities democratically elected by the School Council reps, having asked all the children in their class first.

Proceeds will be split between Greenten and Make a Wish foundation.

## Media Enrichment

Media enrichment creates a weekly news broadcast shown in class every Friday. This week, the "crew" worked on 4 news stories including the haircut crisis, the poetry competition, an interview with one of the house captains and an interview with Mr Seal about reading in the Prep school. The broadcast also features a news anchor and a weekend weather forecast. The off-camera crew are involved with the camera work, editing and writing of the script for each news piece. This week they successfully created an 8-minute news programme.

## School Houses

House	Points
Schuman	5212
Herge	4937
Montgomery	4182
Baudouin	3883