



BJAB Newsletter

Headteacher's Message

Snow always adds a magical air to school life and this week began with the excitement of building snow sculptures and avoiding the slippery ice on the playground.

Adding to this feel-good factor, we were expertly entertained by years 4 and 5 about the traditions of Carnival through music, dance and prose. I hope you will be able to enjoy some of the brightness of the Carnival season next week despite the restrictions. Likewise, I wish our Chinese families a Happy New Year and send my best wishes for your year ahead.

Friday's training day for teachers and administration staff began joyfully with a celebration of Miss Caroline's special birthday.



In addition to planning and preparing for the weeks ahead, we have spent some time caring for our minds through some constructive meditation led by Dr Halliwell. I followed that session with a heartfelt message to all staff who have continued to deliver a fantastic education this half term. I am privileged to lead such a dedicated team of professionals and I know from the many comments I receive, this sentiment is shared by parents.

I send everyone my best wishes for a safe and restorative half-term break.

Dates for your diary

Monday 15th – Thursday 18th February
Lower School club sign up

Monday 15th – Friday 19th February
Half Term

Thursday 4th March
World Book Day – Dress up as your favourite literary character.





PreKindergarten & Kindergarten



This week in Kindergarten we were very excited to see the snow. We played in the courtyard filling buckets, making coloured snow cones and even making snow angels before going back inside to warm up and get changed.

The children have been practising writing their initial letter sound or name with their finger in shaving foam on top of aluminium foil, they enjoyed the foamy texture on their hands.

We have also been finding out about Carnival both in Belgium and around the world. We were very happy to see some pictures and videos of Matilda and her family celebrating Karnival in Cologne last year, it looked like a lot of fun. The children made brightly decorated masks just like the ones we saw in the photos and they finished the week by dressing up in their favourite costumes.



Reception

This week has been about Carnival and snow! We have had fun playing in the snow at breaktimes, exploring it in different ways. We have made ice cupcakes and even tried to make a snowman. We have looked at information and videos from Carnivals all over the world and have made links between them, stating similarities and differences. We have spoken about Carnivals we have been to and discussed what we think is best about them. With Mrs. Wells we created bright, colourful masks using the different resources. We loved being creative and getting the glue out. We have created posters for Carnival using different art techniques.

In mathematical development we have been revising subtraction. We have practised counting backwards and have solved subtraction problems using a number line and apparatus. The highlight of our Carnival week was Thursday when we came into school in our costumes. It was fun to celebrate all that we have learned in this way. We have had a joyful half term and we are looking forward to a short rest before coming back to learn all about our next topic, space!



Lower School

Year 1 has been subtracting within 20 in mathematics. They have used 10 frames to represent subtraction and a number line to count back.

In Geography, Year 2 children have been learning about the Orkney Islands. They have been fascinated by some interesting facts about the life on the islands when exploring natural features and jobs.

The Year 3 children created a hierarchy of need model after lively discussion. One child said, "I like new toys but I'd rather have somewhere warm to play with my old ones."

In Science this week, Year 4 has been looking at the ways in which human activity impacts the habitats of living things, the conflicting interests of different groups, and how we can minimise damage to the environment.



Prep School

This week, Year 5 created layered art using torn paper pieces to create a river and mountainous scene for our topic.

This week, year 6 has been perfecting their witch voices as our module on Shakespeare's *Macbeth* comes to a close. They have created visually attractive pamphlets to encourage people to visit the globe theatre in the 17th century.

The year 7s have been looking at the harrowing stories of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in humanities. This week, the focus has been on the abolition movement and the important work of people such as Harriet Tubman and Equiano Olaudah

The year 8s round off their work on agricultural and industrial revolutions in humanities this week. They have gone from the Neolithic Revolution all the way to The Victorians. They are all excited about trying out their agriculture techniques come springtime.

French Spotlight



Cette semaine, en l'honneur de la journée de l'art, les enfants ont travaillé ensemble à la création de graffitis. Chaque élève a décoré une lettre afin de contribuer à la formation de phrases en français sur le thème de l'art et de l'école.

Art Day



On Monday, the prep school spent the day creating artwork. Inspired by graffiti on the streets of Brussels and famous artist Banksy, Year 5 created artworks with silhouetting figures against a geometric back drop.

Lower School Clubs

Kindergarten & Reception

Gymbaroo Tuesdays 3:30 – 4:30pm

Years 1 & 2

Scottish Dancing Wednesdays 2:20 – 3:20pm

Fun with Words Wednesday 2:20 – 3:20pm

Drama Thursdays 3:30 – 4:30pm

Years 3 & 4

Craft Club Wednesday 2:30 – 3:30pm

French Club Wednesday 2:30 – 3:30pm

Registration for clubs is on a first come first served basis. If your first choice is full, you will be allocated your second choice should there be space.

School Houses

House	Points
Schuman	5634
Herge	5521
Montgomery	4796
Baudouin	4542