



# BJAB Newsletter

## Headteacher's Message

This week, I announced plans for our first Year 8 Graduation. Some of our pupils leaving Year 8 have been at BJAB since Kindergarten and so this is a special moment for them, their parents and the staff. I have therefore introduced a formal Graduation process, which will culminate in a Presentation and Graduation Ceremony in June. My vision of a successful graduate from BJAB is a young person who has achieved academic success, is committed to the universal values which are the ethos of our community, is resilient, resourceful and self-aware. The journey to this outcome begins the moment a pupil joins BJAB, as the lovely assemblies this week from Year 2 and Year 5 demonstrated. BJAB is outstanding at nurturing each individual to grow into a well-rounded, inquisitive, happy and confident lifelong learner. Next week's activities will be available on Seesaw and Early Essence and I look forward to seeing examples of the BJAB spirit.

### Dates for your diary

#### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April

School Reports  
INSET Day

#### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

INSET Day

#### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April

Easter Holidays

[Register for our stages here](#)

#### Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April

School Photographer Visit



## PreKindergarten & Kindergarten



This week in Kindergarten we have been talking about the first days of Spring and Spring festivals such as Easter. We have noticed that the trees are beginning to bud and that some of us have flowers growing in our gardens. Some of our Easter activities this week have included- decorating small trees with colourful eggs and Easter decorations, creating Easter cards and making hatching chicks from paper and paint. We were fascinated to watch a time lapse video of a chick hatching from an egg. We have made Easter bonnets from a variety of resources such as: flowers, feathers, fluffy chicks and eggs. We were all very imaginative in our designs and are looking forward to our Easter Bonnet parade.

## Reception



This week, in Reception there has been lots of learning. In Mathematical Development, we have begun learning about time. We learned the difference between morning, afternoon and evening and discussed key times of the day, learning about o'clock and how it is represented on an analogue clock. We learned about minutes and used the stopwatches to find out the number of different actions we could perform in it, such as the number of times we could put on and pull off a pair of socks and the number of star jumps we could do.



In English, we read the children's book 'How to catch a star' by Oliver Jeffers. We discussed our favourite part of the book and how we would catch a star. We thought of excellent ideas such as using a monster truck, jumping really high and even climbing to the top of a tall building! We wrote instructions on our own method, remembering capital letters, full stops and finger spaces.

We are continuing to develop fine motor skills in class in many ways, such as creating with playdough and stacking dominoes. We have created exciting art projects with Mrs. Wells such as jet packs and name rockets. We have made observations with the seeds that were planted last week, drawing what we saw. Unfortunately, the seeds haven't grown yet but we are excitedly waiting for something to happen.

## Lower School

In mathematics this week, Year 1 has had an exciting week learning about weight and mass. The children have used balance scales to compare the weight of a variety of fruit.

Easter is round the corner and the Year 2 children are in full preparation for this special time of the year. Their handmade Easter cards are a perfect example of creativity and neat cutting skills.

Anthony Browne's '*Voices in the Park*' has been the focus for Year 3 reading and writing this week. The children have been using skills, such as inference and empathy, to understand the characters' feelings, thoughts and behaviours and have produced impressive pieces of independent writing.

This week in PHSEE, Year 4 has made cards to tell the special people they miss how much they love them.



## Prep School

Year 5 has been testing materials and experimenting with shell and frame structures to see which is the best for building a house. The children tested each structure against the elements to see how sturdy they were.

To prepare them for creating their own modern day retelling of Romeo and Juliet, our Year 8 pupils have started writing scenes and lines from the perspective of the characters.

Years 7 and 8 had a webinar this afternoon hosted by Amanda Newell from The Fry Group. They had a Q&A session about finance, banking and money related queries. What to do with their money, save or spend.

## French Spotlight



Cette semaine les francophones de Year 5 ont commencé à écrire un conte. Après une étude approfondie du passé composé et de l'imparfait ce trimestre, les élèves sont prêts à mettre en pratique leurs nouvelles connaissances en rédigeant un texte de façon indépendante.

## Charity Challenges

This week, the Year 6 children have completed a 10km parkour challenge. They are raising money for the school charities Green Ten and Make a Wish Foundation.

Congratulations to all pupils who have completed their challenges this term and good luck to the children yet to complete them. Donations can be made [online here](#) or at the school office.

## Music Spotlight

Years 5 and 6 have been improving their skills of music reading and playing together with an arrangement for percussion and speakers of the rhyme Solomon Grundy. Year 7 has explored the art of fugue and the work of JS Bach. "What's the point of opera?" is the question for Year 8. So far we have explored the meaning behind La Traviata, Dido and Aeneas and Peter Grimes.

## Sports Enrichment

Tennis is the latest addition to the Prep PE curriculum and has been inspiring pupils to attend our Friday sport enrichment. Every Friday this term has seen over 30 pupils attended to hone their forehands and backhands ready for the summer season to begin.

## School Houses

| House      | Points |
|------------|--------|
| Schuman    | 7494   |
| Herge      | 7198   |
| Montgomery | 6802   |
| Baudouin   | 6472   |