



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Newsletter February 2017

No better way to start our international journey this academic year (2016-2017) than by celebrating the European Day of Languages.

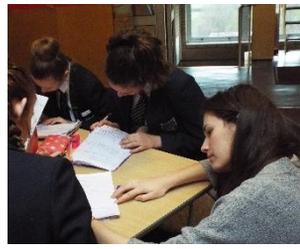
On this 15th anniversary of European Day of Languages, it felt even more important that all our pupils were engaged in activities relating to the value of learning languages, discussing tips on how to better learn a new language, and having a go at learning new ones!

Many of our pupils and staff supported our whole school assembly, sharing their languages and celebrating the diversity of the languages spoken in our community. Following a pupil and staff survey, we have worked out that our school community has connections with over **25 different nationalities!**

For more details on the selection of activities that took place on that day, have a look at the European Day of Languages' report on our school website.



Bienvenue Maud!



We are very privileged this year to have Maud Corbet supporting the French department. Maud is French from Caen and is working as a volunteer French Assistant. Maud works with pupils in all year groups supporting learning with smaller groups or leading parts of lessons. Maud is providing our pupils with a valuable cultural opportunity to get to know somebody from a different country and to practise their language skills.

"I am very grateful for this experience: the pupils at BHA are a pleasure to work with and the support of the staff is fantastic. I am looking forward to pursue a career in teaching and hope for a school as nice as BHA."
Maud

Penpals' letters.

Pupils in Year 8 are involved in penpal letters exchange with pupils in France, Germany and Austria. Year 8 pupils have received letters from their French penpals and have already sent one about their town and their favourite shops. They have now created posters about places in the UK and are about to start letters about their future projects. Year 7 have also sent their first letters and are awaiting impatiently for their replies!



Italian Club:

"We are very excited to have the opportunity to go skiing in Italy at the end of February. We have enjoyed learning Italian key phrases and vocabulary and are looking forward to using these new skills in Italy. Thank you to Mrs Foley for taking the time to help us at lunch time."

Olivia Taylor-Rodrigues and Roan Murphy 8 Avon.

Girls in Education



"To raise awareness of Michelle Obama's charity 'Let Girls Learn', myself and a group of girls decided to create a big display for the school. We wanted to show our school that girls deserve a good education - the same way as boys- yet millions are still underprivileged. So we gave every pupil a task to write why they value their education, and chose the best to put on display. Then we found some information about Michelle Obama's effort, and started creating our display. In the end, it was eye-catching, informative and has definitely raised awareness of girls being deprived of education in parts of the world."

Olivia Griffiths, 8B.

The girls involved in the project started their awareness campaign in a whole school assembly by singing the 'Let Girls Learn' anthem. Their performance was acapella, and involved harmonies, solos and clapping hands. They are now hoping to record their song and to send it to Michelle Obama!

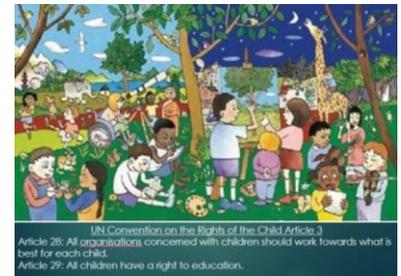
"It is wonderful to see children showing empathy for less privileged children. The girls impressed us with their thoughtfulness and hard work in passing on their knowledge and message to all pupils in school."
Mrs Foley.



World Teachers' Day 7 Castle Assembly.

"On Tuesday 11th October, 7 Castle did an assembly to all year 7 pupils on World Teacher Day. It consisted of a play about a woman called Habiba Khilwat in Afghanistan. Habiba Khilwat was a teacher who believed that everybody should have an education so she invited the old student girls of hers to come to her house every day so they could get the education they deserved. Habiba and all the children knew this was illegal so they came to her house in twos or threes prepared for anything."

Scarlet Godwin. 7C



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Article 3
Article 28: All organisations concerned with children should work towards what is best for each child.
Article 29: All children have a right to education.

German Assembly: Saint Nicholas and German Market

"On Friday 2nd December, 15 Year 8 pupils did an assembly on Christmas in Germany. The assembly had a news report on St Nicolas and how he is involved in the German Christmas celebrations. During the weeks approaching this assembly, we spent form times rehearsing. We rehearsed two songs in German, the musical accompaniment and our role play. Nicole and Finn were two reporters interviewing St Nicolas while the children were preparing for the special night of the 6th December. Krampus also made an appearance and kidnapped one of the naughty children! As a reward for our excellent performance, Frau Dorrell took us to the German Christmas market in Birmingham." Hamish Sanger-Davies 8B



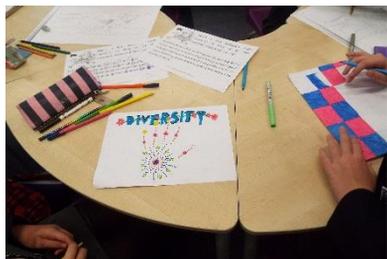
"Before Christmas, I went to the German Christmas market in Birmingham with the pupils who took part in the German Assembly. It was amazing! They have traditional Christmas gingerbread that said " Ich liebe dich". I learnt a lot of new German words too: Käse is cheese and Berliner is doughnut. It was highly decorated and there were huge statues of Santa doing headstands on the top of some buildings! Tabitha got some pretzels; they looked delicious! We all enjoyed flavoured almonds: I had Nutella and Isaac had Oreo flavoured ones. The atmosphere at the market was so festive, I could even smell festive scents. We were all very sad to leave at the end and we all had a great time!" Jess Smith 8H

International Day, December 2016

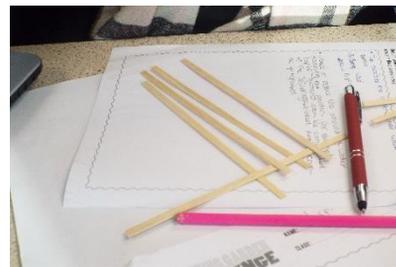


For the first time this year, we decided to have an International cross-curricular day for all our pupils, celebrating our International Values in school. Our aim is to get our pupils to think more internationally. The main area covered on the day were PSHE/ RE/ Geography and SMSC.

Pupils were involved in a wide range of activities inspired by the 5 Global themes for international learning: **Identity and belonging, Sustainable living, Conflict and peace, Fairness and equality, Rights and responsibilities.**



Understanding others and celebrating diversity.



Building floating gardens for Bangladesh.

British Council and  : [a range of new opportunities.](#)

eTwinning is the digital community for schools involving teachers across Europe, funded by the European Commission as part of the Erasmus+ programme and managed in the UK by the British Council.

eTwinning aims to develop the knowledge and understanding of different European cultures and languages and help young people gain skills for their future lives and careers.

"I have been extremely privileged to have taken part in two seminars organised by eTwinning this academic year and to be one of five UK teachers selected to participate. Following these contact seminars, that took place in Iceland and in Cardiff with other teachers from European countries, I have been able to set up collaborative projects for our pupils in school using the eTwinning platform. We now have new links with teachers in **Belgium, Holland, Austria** and from **La Réunion**.

We are also in the process of applying for **Erasmus+** funding for our project based on the school garden with our partner school from Austria. Look out for the launch of our eTwinning projects on BHA Twitter."



We have also run internal staff training on the benefits of the use of eTwinning and I am now pleased to say that 11 members of our staff have signed in this platform and 3 are actively engaged in different projects approved by the British Council.

Anne Amzallag, International Coordinator.

Upcoming events:

- Modern UN Enrichment
- Skiing trip in Italy (February)
- World Book Day (2nd March)
- We will be hosting a German teacher from Hamburg (March)
 - eTwinning STEM day (March)
 - French trip (March)
- The Primary Language Festival at PHHS. (April)
- French partner school visit to BHA (June)



If you are interested by our International work and would like to help in any way please contact Anne Amzallag, International Coordinator.

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