



Bilingual
Education
Exchange

BEE News

Issue 3

November 2009

**Bilingual Education
Exchange**
www.bilingual.fr

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Dates for your diary:

- * **6th November**, Guy Fawkes Night in Roumagne, 7pm
- * **11th November**, No BEE class today due to bank holiday
- * **13th November**, AGM 7pm
- * **18th November**, Back to school after half term
- * **25th November**, Christmas Fair with Virgin Vie, Usborne Books. 11:45 demonstration of musical instruments available for individual or small group lessons
- * **26th November**, deadline to sign up for Secret Santa
- * **16th December**, last BEE of term; 11:45 Christmas Assembly and visit from Father Christmas
- * **18th December**, Roumagne and Puysserampion Christmas Market

New term, new teachers

We are very pleased to welcome new teacher Stella Stilton who will be joining Sue Steele and assistant Ann Hodge in Class 2. Some of your children will have already met Stella who has been learning the ropes at BEE during the last few weeks before the holidays.

Rather than splitting the class – which would not have fairly represented the abilities of the children – Sue and Stella will work together as a team in the classroom to offer targeted support in small and larger groups as well as enabling more individual attention.

Stella writes,

“I moved to a small village near Issigeac three years ago where my husband and I have been renovating an old barn. I love gardening, cooking and riding my bicycle around the glorious country lanes, but

am also delighted to have the opportunity to teach again. I have taught across the primary age range; firstly in Solihull then for the last twenty two years in Fowey, Cornwall.



Stella Stilton and Moira Stephen are joining BEE this year.

Here in France I have just started some volunteer teaching of English to adults in Bergerac, making use of my T.E.F.L. (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) qualification.

I look forward to working with children again in a French environment.”

We are also very pleased with the progress of our iGCSE English course taught by Moira Stephen, which began this September. Moira has taught students from reception to age 18 during her teaching career, her most recent post being as secondary Head of English. She has taught English and EFL in both the private and the maintained sector. As well as having tutored for the 11+ and examined for the Common Entrance, Moira is currently an examiner for Edexcel at GCSE and GCE English including International GCSE. Moira also set up the iGCSE programme in a UK secondary school. The iGCSE students at BEE have made a great start, and among many other things have recently been working on writing and editing their own newspaper!

BEE Primary Choir

Vicky O'Neill, BEE's partner for our musical offerings (see p. 2) is a professional musician and experienced music teacher in UK schools for both instrumental and group music activities. Vicky has also run Kindermusik classes in the UK as well as choirs and recorder/

handbell groups.

Vicky is offering to run a bilingual choir on a Wednesday lunchtime from 12 noon until 12:45pm. The choir would be open to all children attending primary school and there would be a very small charge in the region of 2,50€.

Please visit

www.bilingual.fr to express your interest on the form provided.

Please reply asap!



BEE Primary Choir!

Secret Santa gift exchange — sign up by 26th November

This Christmas, BEE will be running a 'Secret Santa' gift exchange with the help of the website 'Elfster'.

Simply sign up each of your children who wants to participate (even siblings) before the 26th November. You will then be randomly drawn one child to buy a gift for, for each child you have registered.

You can ask anonymous questions to the person you have drawn to find out their age, and likes and dislikes.

Buy your present - we suggest that you spend between 5 and 8 euros. When you have wrapped and anonymously labelled your present, drop it off at BEE before or on the 16th December and Father Christmas will come and distribute the presents at the end of the last BEE session, Wednesday 16th December.

Use the link on the BEE website (www.bilingual.fr) to sign up. Remember to sign up in the child's name, not your own!

If you have more than one child, you must log off and register again in the next child's name (the same email address can be used).

If you have two children, you will then be drawn two children to buy gifts for, etc.

If you prefer, give us your child's name(s) and we will sign you up.

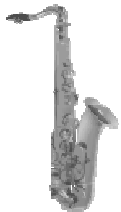


Sign up before the 26th November via the link on the BEE website, www.bilingual.fr, or contact

Learn to play a musical instrument at BEE

As BEE is an association which aims to offer familiar elements of a British education which are less easily available in France, BEE is starting up a new partnership in order to be able to offer music classes and instrument tuition.

On Wednesday, 25th November at 11:45 BEE children and their parents are invited to a demonstration of musical instruments by Vicky and Jay O'Neill, BEE's partners for our musical offerings.



Clarinet, singing, flute, violin, saxophone, viola, keyboard available

Vicky, who already teaches a music session for French children at BEE and who runs BEE Buzz music for children under 6 (see page 3), teaches any level of clarinet and singing, also flute, violin, saxophone

and keyboard from beginner level to Grade 5. She specialises in the younger age group from 3-12, but teaches any age for clarinet and singing. Jay teaches violin, viola, clarinet and saxophone to all ages. He was involved in running school bands and orchestras as well as assisting Heads of Music with various other tasks and leading groups on foreign tours. Jay has also run his own String Group professionally.

Instrument lessons will be available for individuals or small groups on a Wednesday afternoon in Roumagne or at other times. Please come along on the 25th to learn more.



Instrument demonstration on Wednesday 25th November, 11:45-12

BEE Buzz for 2-6 year olds restarts 18th November

Vicky O'Neill is a professional musician and experienced music teacher in UK schools for both instrumental and group music activities. Vicky has also run Kindermusik classes in the UK.

BEE is thrilled to be working with Vicky to offer an opportunity to discover music at an early age - something UK schoolchildren are familiar with.

More than just a singalong, at BEE Buzz music classes the children work on reproducing tunes, understanding rhythms, and developing early musical concepts via simple songs and pieces, and collaborative group work on

different instruments. As children get older Vicky will assess the children's abilities and will offer, through BEE, trials of musical instruments, as is normal practice in many UK schools.

We are now offering two age groups and time slots:

11.15-11.45 – 2-3 year olds - with parent/guardian
14.00-14.45 – 4-6 year olds - without parent (although we will need one 'crowd control helper' per week!)

2,50€-3€ per class for BEE members. For more info and a registration pack visit www.bilingual.fr.

BEE Christmas Fair, Wednesday 25th November 2009

During the BEE morning session on Wednesday, 25th November, we will be holding a Christmas Fair in the Salle des Fêtes in Roumagne. Everybody is welcome to come along at any time during the morning from 9:30 until noon.

Tracy and Miranda from Virgin Vie will be here with their stall selling make up, cosmetics, skincare and beauty products as well as home furnishings, aromatherapy and jewellery. There'll be plenty of op-



**Come along to our Christmas Fair —
your purchases help support BEE**

portunities to try the products and browse the catalogue as well as Christmas special offers.

There will also be a stall from trusted UK children's publishers Usborne, where you can browse and order from a range of over 1500 books for children of all ages from babies to teenagers, fiction and non-fiction. You can consult the full online catalogue beforehand at www.usbornebooksathome.co.uk and prepare your order. Catalogues are also available at BEE on top of the library bookshelf. All profits including seller commission and up to 20% in free books are to be donated to BEE.

We will also have a stall of homemade greetings cards, beautifully crafted by one of our own BEE parents, available in packs, individual cards, or you can order personalised cards on the day.

There will be mince pies, crackers, and refreshments available to consume or take home.

The Christmas Fair will be followed at 11:45am by a demonstration of musical instruments by Vicky and Jay O'Neill (see p.2).

AGM 13th November

As notified by email, the Annual General Meeting will take place on Friday, 13th November at 7pm in the Salle des Associations in Roumagne. Wine and cheese will be served.

The agenda for this meeting is as follows:

- 1) 'Rapport moral' - a summary of the year's activities and plans for the year to come;
- 2) 'Rapport financier' - a summary of the financial situation for last year and the projected budget for this year;
- 3) Submission of the accounts for the approval of the members
- 4) Submission of the budget for the approval of the members
- 5) Submission of the revised statutes and Règlement Intérieur for the approval of the members
- 6) Election of the committee for the year 2009-10

Details of the committee as given in the email are available on request.

In order to validate the AGM and to ensure that votes are valid, we need a large majority of members to be present.

Please can you let us know if you are planning to come - this will help us plan our wine and cheese!

Roumagne School Christmas Fair, Friday 18th December

The Marché de Noël of the Roumagne and Puysserampion RPI will be held in Puysserampion (five minutes from Roumagne) on the evening of Friday, 18th December from 5:30pm (tbc) - the last day of term.

BEE children, both English and French, are invited to participate in singing some Christmas songs with the children from the school. We will be preparing these songs at BEE shortly and we'd like to invite as many of you as possible to attend. Even children who cannot attend will participate in the preparation during BEE classes; however we very much hope that you will support us and the school which so kindly houses us on a Wednesday, by bringing your children to this event which is also a lovely way to mark the end of term.

The schoolchildren of Roumagne and Puysserampion make small gifts to sell, and food and drink is provided which parents buy to raise money for the school. We will send along more details shortly.



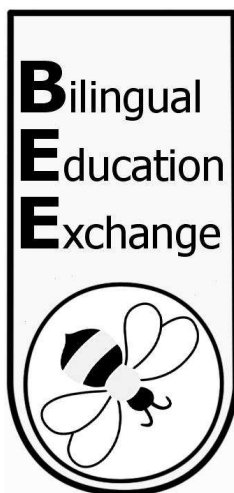
**Please do come
along and support
both BEE and the
school by your
presence**

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English literacy for children of all ages in
Lot-et-Garonne



BEE was founded in the Spring of 2008 and now, in our second year of existence, we are going from strength to strength, with over 50 children attending on a regular basis and 11 members of staff both paid and voluntary.

We hope for great things for BEE for the coming years and would like to thank all our parents, staff and particularly the children for helping to make BEE such a continued success.

We wish you an excellent continued Autumn term and look forward to seeing you at one of our events.

Watch this space for an announcement about our 2009 Christmas Dinner.

BEE Wednesday Timetable - Roumagne

	Large class-room	Maternelle classroom	Salle des Assos	Garderie
9:30	Class 2	Little Bees / Class 1	Class F1	Class F2
10:15			Class F2	Class F1
10:30	MORNING BREAK			
10:45	Class 2	Little Bees / Class 1	Class F2	Class F1
11:15				BEE Buzz 2-3
11:45				
12 noon			Choir—12:45	
14:00				BEE Buzz 4-6
14:15	iGCSE		Class 3	
14:45				
16:30				Instrumental & group tuition