



Newsletter

june 2026

Dear friends and supporters of Help Brandwonden Kids (HBK),

The first half of the year has been more eventful than ever. Both the activities organized in support of HBK and those organized by our own team have increased in number. Fortunately, we can always count on the dedication of our many volunteers.

We would therefore like to give you an overview of our main activities and achievements during the first six months of the year, as well as a look ahead at our plans and operations for the second half of the year.

1. Providing essential financial support to young burn patients and their families.



As always, we provided financial support to a number of severely affected families. In 2026, we have already made 11 payments for these social support cases.

Looking ahead, we see that many more social cases are still awaiting assistance.

We have also distributed 82 pieces of UV-protective clothing, which will certainly prove useful during this period of warm weather.

2. Promoting the reintegration of the young patients into society.



For the second year in a row, we visited 't Struisvogelnest in Lier with a small group of young burn patients and their families. This time, a total of 18 families joined us.

During the guided tour of the farm, the children had the opportunity to pet and feed the animals. Rabbits, ponies, donkeys, goats, sheep, chickens, alpacas, and many others received plenty of attention and brought smiles and wonder to the children's faces. The most impressive part of the visit was undoubtedly the ostrich barn. The long-necked birds looked at us with just as much curiosity as we looked at them, especially when we stood on an ostrich egg!

At lunchtime, everyone enjoyed fries with curry sausage and pancakes made with ostrich eggs. In the afternoon, the children eagerly stirred ingredients in mixing bowls and transformed the ostrich-egg batter into delicious cookies. With their freshly baked treats in hand, both children and parents headed home happy and satisfied after a truly successful day.

Discover the highlights of this day : [Kop-op-dag 't Struisvogelnest](#)

3. Burn-injury prevention in schools.



Our prevention project in primary schools is going from strength to strength. During the second and third terms, we delivered 90 prevention lessons in 12 schools, reaching 1.903 primary school pupils and 155 kindergarten children. These are life lessons that leave a lasting impression.

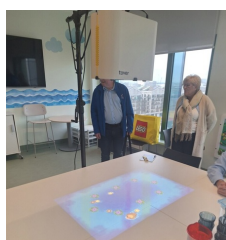
Our prevention day at Zonnebos, a school for special primary education in 's-Gravenwezel, proved to be a particularly enriching experience for the children, teachers, and our volunteers alike.



In addition, we distributed 23 Activity Boxes for third and fourth grade classes and 27 Kindergarten Boxes. These contain educational and practical materials that allow teachers to conduct prevention activities independently.

Through the schools we visited and via other channels, we also distributed 3.305 prevention brochures aimed at families with young children. Available in six different languages, these brochures use clear visual messages to encourage parents to handle heat and fire safely and responsibly. Prevention is better than cure.

4. Providing support to burn centres and rehabilitation centres.



As part of our commitment to equipping every burn centre in Belgium with a Tovertafel (Magic Table)—an interactive play system that offers burn patients entertainment, distraction, and rehabilitation opportunities—we donated one to the Burn Centre of ZAS Cadix in Antwerp.

We also held consultations with the Burn Centre of Ghent University Hospital (UZ Gent) regarding the furnishing of their new visitors' area. We will keep you informed about the progress of this project.

In addition, we supported the "Billie the Turtle" project at the Burn Centre of UZ Leuven. The theme, "Slow but Steady," helps children understand that their recovery process will be gradual and may take a long time. It also teaches them that healing requires perseverance and determination. We provide each young patient with a durable Billie cuddly toy, which they can take home to comfort and support them throughout their ongoing rehabilitation.

Thanks to HBK, the same burn centre will also be able to provide every young patient with a large tube of sun protection cream to take home, giving them an important first layer of protection for their healing skin.

But we are also looking ahead.



Our agenda for the second half of the year is already packed, and there is certainly no shortage of plans we hope to bring to life.

- Our primary mission remains providing financial support to burn-injured children and their families.
- On 5 July, we will organize a sporting event for burn patients aged 6 to 18 at Flanders Adventure on the Lissenvijver in Geel. With good weather, it promises to be a real challenge for the participants, their brothers and sisters, and their parents cheering them on from the sidelines.
- On 30 August, we will hold our annual family day for burn patients and their families at Bobbejaanland. Many are already looking forward to it.
- A number of schools have already booked our fire and burn prevention day for the next school year.
- We will continue to offer educational prevention packages and prevention brochures to primary schools.
- We will do our utmost to respond to requests from burn centres and Het Zeepreventorium wherever possible.

To finance all these activities, we can once again count on the support of our many friends, schools, service clubs, companies, sponsors, and other supporters. Thanks to the commitment and generosity of so many people and organizations, HBK can continue to achieve its objectives and carry out its mission on behalf of burn-injured children and their families.



- We organized a highly successful takeaway breakfast/brunch in April, attracting 554 participants. Thank you all for your support.
- One of our major sponsors organized the successful Mollenrit for the 26th time. During this week-long event, gifts were delivered by motorcycle to the nursing staff of the burn centres at UZ Gent, UZ Leuven, and ZAS Cadix, as well as to the rehabilitation centre Het Zeepreventorium.
- We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our other supporters, schools, associations, companies, service clubs, and many others for their generous donations and indispensable support.

That is why we would like to highlight the following upcoming initiatives:

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| • 5 July : | Flanders Adventure Day at the Lissenvijver in Geel |
| • 28–30 August : | Bunge Live!, a music and experiential festival in Zoutleeuw |
| • 30 August : | Family Day for Young Burn Patients at Bobbejaanland |
| • 12–13 September : | 10th Frans Vangenechten Memorial - Kidsday |
| • 27 September : | Open Day of the Kasterlee Fire Brigade |
| • 16, 17, 18, 24 and 25 October : | Takeaway Restaurant |
| • 21 November : | 11th Steps On Fire event. |

Anyone wishing to support us can make a **tax-deductible donation** to account number **BE25 7785 9883 2282**, stating “**DONATION**”, together with your **first name, surname, and national registration number**. Companies should include their **VAT number or company registration number**. You will receive your tax certificate at the beginning of 2027.

We would also like to make a warm appeal to associations, private individuals, service clubs, schools, and other organizations to set up an activity in support of vzw Help Brandwonden Kids (HBK). Naturally, you can count on our assistance and support in organizing such an initiative.

There are also various ways to support us through our website: [HBK – Support us](#).

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

