

# NEWSLETTER

Summer Term 2019

Monthly Edition



**BRITISH  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL**

Newsletter May

## Headlines



BRITISH BOARDING SCHOOLS  
EXHIBITION DINNER



UK PARTNERS VISIT CAMPUS



BIS GOES TO THE POLLS



AU DAY CELEBRATION



## CREATIVE LEARNING APPROACHES (CLA)



MR FRANKLIN ADJETEY, PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Guardians, may I humbly introduce to you the **Creative Learning Approaches (CLA)** curriculum being piloted in Year 6.

This month has been indeed a very busy one: enriching and redesigning curriculum, planning for graduation, AU Day Celebration, IGCSE, teacher leadership training, student leadership training and many more. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Teachers, Teaching Assistants and the rest of the staff for their amazing work this month, not forgetting our Parents and Guardians. God bless!

**Creative Learning Approaches** is a curriculum designed for children to enjoy learning through activities that promote creativity, innovativeness, critical thinking and collaboration, to be able to face the challenges of the 21st century. It is a designed curriculum as it

involves personalised planning, first hand experiences, and external teachers, children and parents. The whole curriculum will be project based as well as inquiry based teaching and learning. Some theories that support this curriculum are the International Primary Curriculum, the Cambridge Curriculum for Global Perspectives and Project Based Teaching by Suzie Boss with John Larmer.

### Develop Tomorrow's Global Citizens Today

We strive to help students to become well-rounded global citizens, prepared for the changing world in which we live. Our goal is to develop students' personal and social skills.

Lessons are designed to fit with the social and cultural nuances that schools contend with every day. The world is changing constantly, and we want to help our students keep pace as they grow from being part of a classroom community to becoming global citizens.

Through **Creative Learning Approaches**, students connect with high-quality content, including leveled news stories and features, primary sources for research, and interactive maps, videos, and diagrams. This data-driven program supports differentiation and provides valuable whole-and-small-group instruction so children can achieve their goal: becoming critical thinkers.





# ELECTED PREFECTS



PRIMARY DEPARTMENT (PREFECTS ELECT)



SECONDARY DEPARTMENT (PREFECTS ELECT)



PRIMARY DEPARTMENT (NEWLY INDUCTED  
PREFECTS)



SECONDARY DEPARTMENT (NEWLY INDUCTED  
PREFECTS WITH OUTGONE PREFECTS)



PRIMARY DEPARTMENT (HEAD PREFECTS)



SECONDARY DEPARTMENT-A SECTION OF PREFECTS



# BIS GOES TO THE POLLS



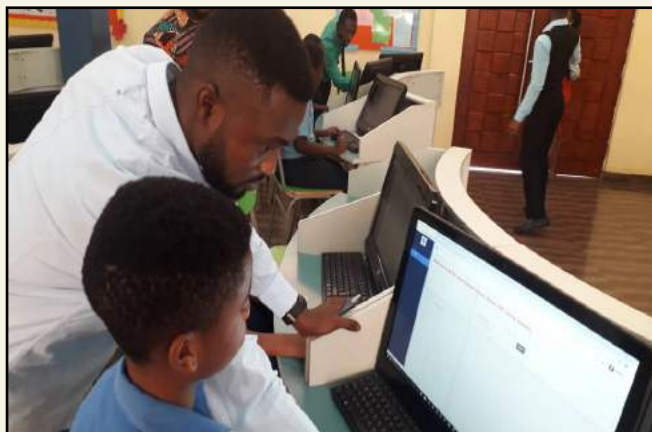
MR EBENEZER GANAH ON THE LEFT, NEXT TO HIM IS MR ESSEL DADZIE

## LANDMARK E-VOTING SYSTEM

For the first time in the history of BIS, an e-voting system was used for this year's elections. According to some of the students who spoke to the Newsletter team, the system made the voting and counting of ballots less cumbersome and trustworthy. Speaking exclusively to the Newsletter team, **Mr. Eddie Essel-Dadzie** and **Mr. Ebenezer Ganah**, both IT instructors of our school, who spent weeks to build the system, expressed their satisfaction with the outcome of the system and said that "it is a success." This was in spite of the challenges they faced at the initial stage—the sleepless nights and the problem of "network sharing."

Speaking on the possibility of accusations on rigging, Mr. Essel had this to say, "To derail that thought and perception, we had to call all of the candidates. We took them through the system especially on the fact that we used a token which could not be used more than once. Immediately the voter uses the token, it is taken

out of the database. After that, we cleaned the system for them to see and they were satisfied."



MR ESSEL TAKING A CANDIDATE THROUGH THE E-VOTING SYSTEM



A YEAR 5 STUDENT USING THE E-VOTING SYSTEM





# LESSON OBSERVATIONS

Some BIS teachers of both the Primary and Secondary Departments have recorded remarkable progress in pedagogy during this term's Lesson Observations. Lesson Observations are an important aspect of every term's activities. It is one of the key ways by which the school's management appraise teachers as teachers are observed in real classroom situations. What is critically observed is how teachers are able to employ innovation,



**MISS KATE HANSEN (PRIMARY DEPARTMENT)**

creativity and leadership to make their lessons interesting and insightful while striving to attain global standards.

According to our Principal, Mr. Franklin Adjete, who observed many of the lessons, aided by his Vice Principals, there has been enormous progress made by teachers generally. However, the school's management has recognized the efforts of a few teachers who have either progressed remarkably



**MISS VICTORIA BUDU (SECONDARY DEPARTMENT)**

or have made consistent progress in their pedagogy. These teachers are Miss Victoria Budu, Mr Umar Ibrahim, Mr Ronald Okine, Miss Yvonne Quartey-Papafio, Mr William Darko, Mr Charles Laryea and Miss Kate Hansen.

Some of the teachers who spoke with the Newsletter team, expressed excitement about the feat. They were also grateful to the Principal for constantly motivating them and giving the resources needed to improve the craft.



**MR CHARLES LARYEA (PRIMARY DEPARTMENT)**



# LESSON OBSERVATIONS



MR WILLIAM DARKO ( PRIMARY DEPARTMENT)

“I really want to thank the Principal for what he has done in my life,” Mr. William observed. Miss Kate, for her part, indicated that she took inspiration from her pupils, the team work that they shared as teachers, and her love for research. Mr Umar admitted, “I have the content like my principal always says, but I needed to modify how I go about my teaching...so I had to take into consideration some of the advises the Principal gave me during the inspection of my



MISS YVONNE PAPAIO—EARLY YEARS  
(KIDDIE COLLEGE)

lessons.”

From the Newsletter team, congratulations to all teachers for their progress

*“It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.”*

*- Albert Einstein*

## IGCSE MUSIC TAKES EXAMINATION CANDIDATES TO THE STUDIO

The 2018/ 2019 Cambridge IGCSE has begun in earnest and the Music candidates are at their creative best. The Music syllabus asserts that studying and practicing of music encourages aesthetic and emotional development, self-discipline and, importantly, creativity. To draw out these phenomenal characteristics from students, BIS offers Music at the IGCSE level and students who offer the course get the opportunity to write a Listening exam, compose music, and perform standard pieces.



MR UMAR IBRAHIM (SECONDARY DEPARTMENT)



# IGCSE / CHECK POINT

Our two 2019 IGCSE Music students had to record their performances and compositions, as an examination requirement, at a Music recording studio. On 16 April, 2019 Gloria Quartey-Papafio and Jesse Quartey-Papafio, with the assistance of the some staff of the school, had their Music examination recordings at 'Musical Lunatics Recording Studio' at Madina. Both students demonstrated their talents on their respective instruments, and finally had an ensemble (or band) performance with the staff that accompanied them, which is also a requirement for the examination.

In summary, it was an opportunity for our



GLORIA Q. PAPAPIO ON MIC AT THE RECORDING STUDIO

students to express their creativity and communicate their ideas through pleasant sounds.

## YEAR 6 CHECKPOINT



Cambridge Primary Checkpoint is designed to

help students learn by providing comprehensive feedback on their strengths and weaknesses in the key curriculum areas – English, Mathematics and Science.

The number of registered candidates that sat for the April 2019 CIE Primary Checkpoint Examinations were 15- 10 males and 5 females pupils as candidates for the upcoming Cambridge Primary. The examinations began on Tuesday 23rd and ended on Friday 26th of April 2019.

The hope and belief in the school's motto: 'ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE' necessitated the decision of School Management to introduce a two-week PRE-CPC vacation classes this intervention contributes to the success of our candidates.

Candidates had a two-week PRE-CPC vacation classes which was organised by the school where teachers committed to helping the candidates in all areas where they had difficulties. This intervention was geared towards getting each candidate to do away with all forms of distractions associated with their lives away from school and to focus solely on academic work.

The incidence- free examinations ended successfully with 100% turn up by candidates who expressed satisfaction with their work and optimism of success.

We wish to thank our dear parents for their continual support us in any way possible .

At the end of the day, 'he most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents'.- **Jane D. Hull**





# AU DAY CELEBRATION

## YEARS 7 AND 10 WIN AU DAY DEBATE CONTEST

Ahead of the 2019 African Union (AU) Day Celebration, BIS has observed the AU Day with a debate contest on 24th May, 2019. The program was attended by staff, management, students, and some parents.

Years 7 and 8 respectively argued for and against on the topic, "Returnees are a positive impact on a country's economy." On the other hand, Years 9 and 10 respectively argued for and against the topic, "Ghana should accommodate refugees from other African countries." At the end of the keenly contested debate, especially the last few minutes to the end of the second debate between Years 9 and 10 which witnessed the exchange of some refreshing rebuttals, Years 7 and 10



DEBATERS IN A POSE AFTER THE CONTEST.

emerged winners of their respective sessions; they hold the bragging rights until the next debate contest is held. Congratulations to the winners, and better luck to Years 8 and 9! We also express appreciation to the parents who came to support with their presence, especially Mrs Charlotte Asamoah-Boateng who was the chairperson for the day.

The Kiddie& Primary Department also marked the day.



A SECTION OF PRIMARY STUDENTS WAVING THEIR MINIATURE AFRICAN FLAGS TO SHOW SOLIDARITY.

The objective of the celebration was to primarily showcase children's understanding Of A.U.by presenting what they have learnt in the classroom during Humanities Lessons. The theme of this year's celebration was: 'Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement in Africa.' The celebration commenced with a flag- procession of children around the forecourt and the holding of hands whilst they sang the patriotic song, 'ARISE GHANA YOUTH' Next a joint- programme involving all children from years 1-6 gathering was held that involved choreography, poetry recitals, short drama and short speech which lasted for about two hours. From there, parents that attended were escorted to the respective classes of their wards, where they witnessed the displays mounted by learners and interacted with them about what African country they had researched on.

Notable amongst the displays were the traditional foods of selected African countries by students in Year 6- Chad, Cote d'Ivoire and Botswana, as well as some traditional wear. A parent had this to say at the end of the program, 'I am very pleased to witness the program; it was indeed wonderful. Well done- we hope to see more of this next year!'





## BRITISH BOARDING SCHOOLS EXHIBITION DINNER



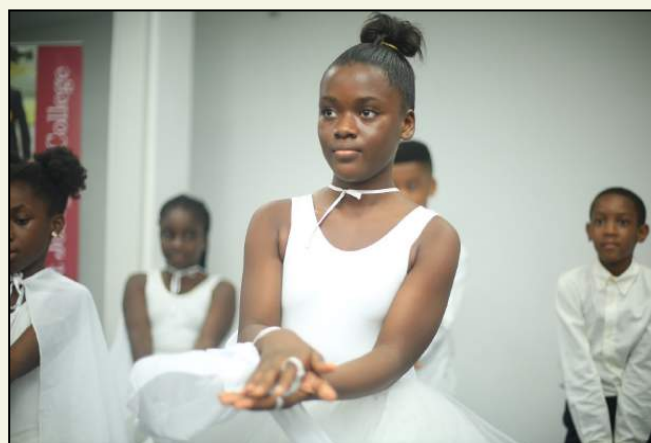
Exchanging ideas to promote astute practice at the school was the aim of the Principal Mr Franklin Adjete

British International School performing at the dinner for the British Boarding Schools Exhibition Dinner hosted by the British High Commissioner at the British Council. The children got the audience very excited with their lovely voices singing the UK and Ghanaian

Anthem, beautiful Praise Dances and intelligent poetry recital. from the UK and many Principals from top international schools. In attendance was 15 British boarding schools reps from the UK and many Principals from top international schools in Ghana. It was a night of dignity, poise and display of the impact of British Education on Ghanaian children in Ghana and the UK.



## BRITISH BOARDING SCHOOLS EXHIBITION DINNER



Children from the Primary Department produced a wonderful showpiece of performing art at the delegates conference- to the delight of all gathered. Poetry recitals, ballet dance, choral song performances to mention but a few climaxed the evening occasion. The stage art

was to outline the importance of extra-curricular activities as necessary for their physical and social well-being: "A healthy mind

**"STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS, AND TO COLLABORATE AND CREATE WITH THEM ON A GLOBAL SCALE. IT'S NOT 'DO YOUR OWN WORK,' SO MUCH AS 'DO WORK WITH OTHERS, AND MAKE IT WORK THAT MATTERS'."**

**— WILL RICHARDSON, WHY SCHOOL?**





## UK PARTNERS VISIT CAMPUS

On Friday the 17th of May 2019, there was an official visit by Management and selected staff of schools in the UK: **PRESTON** and **ASHFORD**. The purpose of the visit was to familiarize with the school as well as deepen social ties with B.I.S.

After meeting with the Principal, they toured the classrooms and were impressed with the dedication and hard work by both staff and students evidenced in daily entries, classroom displays, etc.



A SECTION OF BIS STAFF POSING FOR THE CAMERA DURING THE VISIT



UK GUEST IN A HEARTY HANDSHAKE WITH A STAFF MEMBER



A SECTION OF BIS MANAGEMENT RECEIVING BOOK DONATION FROM ASHFORD SCHOOL (UK)



MR. FRANKLIN WARMLY WELCOMING THE GUESTS TO BIS



GROUP PHOTOGRAPH WITH OUR UK PARTNER SCHOOLS





## UK PARTNERS VISIT CAMPUS



A TOUR OF EARLY YEARS DEPARTMENT WITH THE GUESTS. THEY WERE IMPRESSED WITH WHAT THEY SAW.





# STUDENT INSERT

## THINKING SKILLS

Thinking skills are the mental activities you use to process information, make connections, make decisions, and create new ideas. You use your thinking skills when you try to make sense of experiences, solve problems, make decisions, ask questions, make plans, or organize information.



### *The Skills We Need for Critical Thinking.*

The skills that we need in order to be able to think critically are varied and include observation, analysis, interpretation, reflection, evaluation, inference, explanation, problem solving, and decision making. The simplest way one could think is to, express all your thoughts then group them in different categories and, the answer to a specific type of question is in one of the groups!

- by **Brian Osikani Asiedu**

## IMPORTANCE OF BRITISH EDUCATION

I'm always in school getting the best education, lucky me!

With British education, a brighter future is the only thing I see

I get set in the path for the great things that I aspire to be

I'm getting the best education that cannot be compared to any other

There is no simile

I'm being taught to identify similarities rather than our differences in culture

Taught to think creatively and critically,

I am the future

We are slowly built up and carved into the most precious sculptures

I'm not only taught books but I'm taught about life and the right way of living

I'm taught to learn by questioning, problem-solving and creative thinking

Taught to find a way out when the boat is sinking

Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin, Stephen Hawking, we are in line with the best

We are taught to bring positivity and throw away the rest

Learning and achieving excellence is our main quest

Out of this education system comes the best creations

Students start from a strong and firm foundation

This is the best education

*Poem by Morevictory Chagomoka*

## SPECIAL APPRECIATION



A big thank you to Dr Bannerman, the Dentist who gave free oral hygiene lessons to all primary children.



# GOLDEN LETTERS AWARDS



***Clement Dellings—Year 10***

Clement Dellings a Year 10 student who was awarded the most improved in his class attributed his success to hard work and extra dedication to complete tasks and assignments given him. He added that, by virtue of his determination he has seen an improvement in subjects such as Chemistry and Physics. Clement intends to climb the ladder by being awarded best in academics next term. He is rest assured he will succeed if he studies harder and requests assistance from his teachers whenever the need arises.



***Efe Quansah - Year 7***

As the best student in academics for Year 7, Efe Quansah admitted chalking this success did not

come easy. During her interview, she admitted that she required extra help to understand in-class discussions. This was because she was new to the school and the curriculum. Despite these challenges, she was never afraid to ask for help and she dedicated herself to research about topics being discussed in class. Efe intends to improve her performance by working harder and she is certain other students can also improve by emulating her example.



***Brian Asiedu– Year 6***

Brian Asiedu, a Year 6 student and the outgoing Head Boy (Primary Department) was awarded the Best in Academics in his class. He attributed his success to hard work and inherent determination to succeed in all subjects. He admitted that, he had to compete with equally intelligent and determined peers yet he decided to soar rather than sink deep in fear and doubt- a decision he believes has contributed greatly in subjects such as English and Maths. Brian intends to maintain his lead in academics next term. He is confident he will succeed if he studies harder and admonishes others to, "perspire till they achieve their deepest desire".





# ABOUT US

## *SCHOOL PLEDGE*

On my honour  
I promise to abide by the rules and regulations of the  
British International School. I pledge  
to take active part in all school's activities  
To maintain and improve upon its  
morals, professional and academic  
standards, in fulfillment of the school's  
motto; Achieving Excellence.  
So help me God.

## *SCHOOL ANTHEM*

Together we navigate the lonely course  
of achieving excellence.  
Our attitude more than our aptitude will  
we drive  
And cultivating mind, body and spirit  
will our ultimate goal be.  
Finding faith we face our fears and with  
smiles we'll fly o'er all hurdles  
O hail the name of BIS  
Never giving up on our dreams  
O hail the name of BIS  
Our call shall be achieving excellence

### **EDITORIAL BOARD**

Mr Ishmael Annang  
Miss Monica Glavee  
Mr Henry Solomon  
Mr Frederick Essel Dadzie  
Mr Franklin Adjetey

**BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, GHANA**  
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