



BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL | NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 2022

Principal's Message

With great pleasure, I welcome you all to enjoy a plethora of exciting news items of activities that occurred in the school during this autumn term. In this newsletter, our industrious editorial team will serve you an aromatic menu of incredible in and out of class experiences. You will be treated to an album of memorable pictures that will put smiles on your face - million-dollar moments we shall all cherish for days to come.

The colourful pages are as educational as entertaining. Parents will be proud of their wards; learners will be inspired and challenged to advance the course of achieving excellence through consistent study.

May we find delight in the reflections herein contained in this newsletter. I would like to especially acknowledge the tireless effort of Ms. Bina and her editorial team for the remarkable work done on this publication.

Mr. Michael Mensah
Principal



New School Year

7th September marked the beginning of the 2022/2023 Academic Year for learners, teachers and management of BIS. At the maiden assembly, the school welcomed a new Principal. Mr. Michael Mensah, a firm believer in the BIS philosophy of ***Achieving Excellence***, expressed his profound excitement and utmost gratitude for joining the BIS family.

In his first address to the school, Mr. Mensah urged both students and teachers to be consistent in contributing their quota to the ecosystem in order to increase their “chances of success.” This is in line with the theme for the Academic Year: ***Study Consistently to Achieve Excellence for Recognition and Success***. The school also welcomed the news of the outstanding performances of our IGCSE candidates in their May/June examination.

Ayekoo and an excellent 2022/2023 Academic Year!



Staff Training

At BIS, we believe in consistently instilling the spirit of Achieving Excellence in our hardworking staff. This is done through training and mentorship programs organised by the school or British Council to enhance their teaching and professional skills.

One of such trainings to prepare our staff for the 2022/2023 Academic Year was held from 25th to 26th August, 2022. During these training modules, our staff were armed with employing the relevant teaching and professional tools to fully satisfy all the ability needs of our learners.

It was also a time to orient our new staff to understand the culture and philosophy of the school.



Time Conference

At BIS, our instructors are exposed to contemporary skills to meet the challenges of the ever-changing classroom. Instructors from our school attended the 6th Time Educators' Conference organised by Ghana International School (GIS) to equip them with modern classroom skills. The theme of the conference was "Social Media -Impact and Implications for Teaching and learning."



Special Welcome Ceremony for Our Fresh A-Level Students

It was once said that “giving encouragement to others is a welcome gift, for the results of it are lifted spirits, increased self-worth, and a hopeful future.” 12th September 2022, was a special welcoming day for our Year 12 learners who made us proud in the just-ended May/June IGCSE and are starting their A-Level.

The day began with a special welcome and recognition during assembly. As part of the welcome ceremony, learners shared their expectations for A-Level as they begin another academic journey to Achieving Excellence. According to Abenaa Gyabaah, she expects her A-Level to help her build relevant skills in her selected subject choices while affirming her abilities. Richard Owusu also expects to widen his knowledge while improving his social skills.

Both teachers and management, acting as witnesses, appended their signatures on the class aspiration banner as a pledge to support our learners to *Achieve Excellence* in their academic pursuit.

To our Year 12 learners, your limit is beyond the sky!



Time with Ms. Budu

At BIS, we nurture a sound mind, body, and spirit. Ms. Victoria Budu, our English Instructor for Secondary and the Year 13 Class Teacher, has been one of our most resilient, passionate and outspoken personalities as far as student attitude is concerned. Her passion to see students excel academically and ethically brought about the introduction of an early Friday morning pep talk with learners in the Secondary Department, christened, **Time with Ms. Budu**.



Donations

At BIS, we admire and encourage any altruistic gestures towards the school. We believe that “no act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” On Friday 9th September 2022, Lena Baffoe made a donation to the Primary Sports Department. The items she donated included footballs, basketballs and tennis balls.

We also received a refrigerator from Stephanie Anderson, the Primary Health Prefect, on 4th November 2022 to support healthcare delivery in the infirmary. These donations were in fulfillment of her manifesto promise made during the Summer Term’s elections. Additionally, the Taylor family donated bikes and a trampoline to the early years and primary department while Cyril Bannerman – primary head boy, donated some curtains for the primary auditorium.

Our sincere thanks go out to all our donors.



Saying Farewell to the Queen of England (Queen Elizabeth II)

“The pain passes, but the beauty remains.” On Thursday 8th September 2022, learners and staff of BIS got home to the sad news of the passing of the longest-reigning British monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, who was 96.

On Monday, 19th September 2022, management, teachers, and learners of BIS joined the United Kingdom and people all over the world to bid HRM Elizabeth II a hearty farewell. Management and Staff showed up in school on the said date, dressed up in attires representing the colors of the British Flag.

During assembly, some students shared poems that they had written about the Queen with the rest of the school. Staff and students also had the opportunity to sign in the Book of Condolence which was taken to the British High Commission thereafter.



Meet & Greet the Principal

At BIS, there is room for all stakeholders to coexist. On Friday, 23rd September, one of our foremost stakeholders, parents, had the opportunity to meet and greet Mr. Michael Mensah, our new Principal.

The encounter provided an opportunity for both parties to share ideas on how to strengthen the ecosystem to ***Achieve Excellence***. Apart from getting familiar with parents, Mr. Mensah used the opportunity to appreciate them for being a part of the success story of the school over the years.

Thank you, parents!



Year 8 English Project

Jacques- Yves Cousteau, a French naval officer, oceanographer, filmmaker, and author once said, “for most of history, man has had to fight nature to survive; in this century he is beginning to realise that, in order to survive, he must protect it.”

It was this spirit of saving and protecting nature, while improving their communication skills, that led our Year 8 learners to produce beautiful displays to project the reciprocal relationship between nature and humans in their English class on Friday, 23rd September 2022. Working in groups, learners made presentations on the inextricable relationship between nature and man as represented in books, poems, pictures, TV shows, and films with the creation of colourful wall displays.

Congratulations to our Year 8 learners. Mother Nature is proud of you!



Mathematics Week (26th – 30th September)

“Without mathematics, there’s nothing you can do. Everything around you is mathematics. Everything around you is numbers,” according to Shakuntala Devi, an Indian writer, and mental calculator.

The 2022/2023 Mathematics Week began in earnest on 26th September 2022. This year’s theme was ***Practicing Mathematics Consistently to Achieve Excellence for Recognition and Success***. At the Secondary Department, learners participated in the week-long celebration by solving challenging mathematics questions and learner-led discussions on overcoming their fear of mathematics. The Mathematics Week was climaxed with a closely contested quiz competition on Friday with the Blue House giving the rest of the Houses a run for their money. Master Jason Mensah (Year 9) was adjudged the **FACE OF MATHEMATICS**.

At the Primary Department, the fun was even better with the Principal posing mathematics challenges to learners. Some parents used the opportunity to share their experiences on the applicability of mathematics. This included Ghana’s youngest female pilot, Ms. Audrey Swatson, who spoke about the relevance of mathematics in aviation.

Thank you to Mrs. Alissar Madisa (parent) for inviting the youngest pilot Audrey Swatson.

Mathematics is life!



More pictures from the Mathematics Week

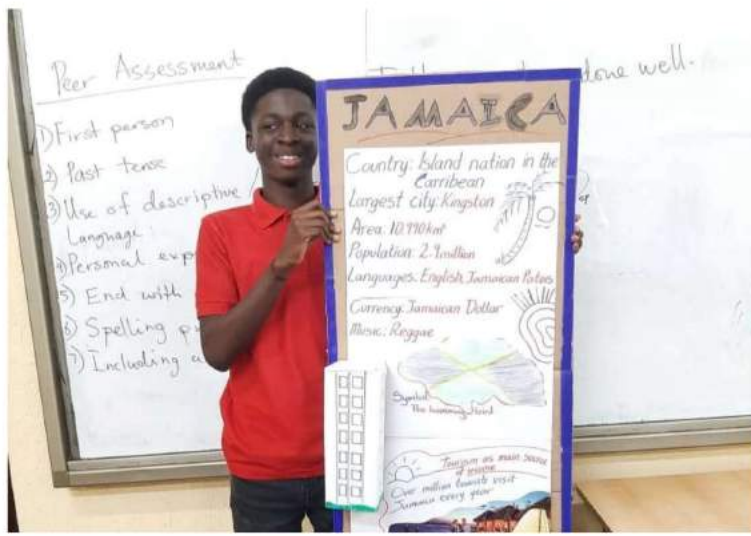




Year 9 English Project on Travel Writing

Alfred Mercier, a novelist and playwright, once said, "What we learn with pleasure we never forget." On Thursday, 29th September 2022, our Year 9 learners created amazing fact files on destinations they would like to visit anywhere in the world.

The project was aimed at enhancing their skills in travel writing. Kwadwo Acheampong, for instance, is fascinated by Jamaica, especially Patois, and the tropical weather. Martina Kendela Abrokwa would love to visit Seychelles for its beautiful beaches and mouthwatering cuisines like bat curry.



World Teachers' Day

T. E. A. C. H. E. R: 'T for Terrific, E for Excellent and Essential, A for Awesome, C is Caring and Compassionate, H for Helpful, E is Educate and Efficient and R is Role Model,' were the words of our learners as they joined the rest of the world to mark this year's World Teachers' Day on Wednesday, 5th October, under the theme "The Transformation of Education Begins with Teachers."

This year's World Teachers' Day was celebrated with our learners dressed as their favourite teachers, and our teachers dressed as learners. Ms. Delphina Lomotey won the hearts of both teachers and learners as the most dressed teacher in learner uniform as she mimicked the behavior of learners in school. The day was fun-packed with various performances from our learners to celebrate and appreciate our hardworking teachers. Teachers received congratulatory messages from both management and parents.

Kudos to our indefatigable teachers!





Golden Letter Awards

At BIS, we consistently encourage our learners to **achieve excellence**. At both the Primary and Secondary Departments, we recognised some learners with Golden Letters for making huge strides in the Summer Term Examinations.

The two categories of learners recognised were the Most Improved and the Best Students in each class. The Golden Letter Award runs every term to recognize deserving students for the previous term and to challenge all students to strive for excellence.



Early Years Arts and Creativity Day

According to Maryann Kohl, an educator, 'art is a place for children to learn to trust their ideas, themselves and to explore what is possible.' This is in line with BIS' mandate of instilling art and creativity in our learners from their formative ages.

On Friday, 14th October, our Early Years Department celebrated its Art and Creativity Day with learners dressed in colourful clothes and patterned socks. The day also saw our learners put their creativity to bear as they painted various colourful and beautiful objects.



SRC Week (10-10-2022 to 14-10-22)

At BIS, the SRC Week Celebration is a weeklong program organized to enhance camaraderie between learners, management, and staff. The fun began on Monday 10th October with learners dressed in black, white, and blue clothing while engaging in water balloon fights and sack races. By Wednesday, after the movies on Tuesday, the entire school got blown away by the crazy outfits of our learners who could barely be noticed with their near-masked faces or painted faces.

The fun was better when learners' had to scavenge for cash envelopes. The craziest dressed learners were rewarded. On Thursday, learners and teachers were engrossed in discussions in order to shape the life and morals of our learners. The icing on the cake was a fierce football competition between our learners, teachers, and supporting staff.



More Pictures from the SRC Week



77th UN DAY

'Peace begins with helping a brother.
Peace begins with stopping a fight.
Peace begins with being polite.
Peace begins with saying 'I am sorry.'
Peace begins with making a friend.
World peace begins with us.'

Titled, ***Peace***, the poem above was written and delivered by Callista Asmah (Year 3) to celebrate the UN. Tackling multitudes of global issues like climate and water crisis, decolonisation, disarmament, ending poverty, to name a few, the UN has played a key role in 'safeguarding peace, protecting human rights, and establishing the framework for international justice.' On 24th October 2022, both learners and teachers of BIS joined the rest of the world to commemorate the 77th Day of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter.

At the Primary Department, both learners and teachers prayed for the UN to continue upholding peace and gave presentations on pertinent facts about the noble organization. Let us continue to uphold the peace because '...peace begins with us.'



Early Years Book Character Day

Who is your favourite book character? How about being dressed like the elegantly attired sixteenth-century monarch, Queen Elizabeth I, or your favourite fictional character, Spiderman? Or, how about feeding a huge hungry paper caterpillar with a nice leaf, as told in Eric Carle's book, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Our Early Years did these things and more as they marked their Book Character Day on 4th November 2022.

The fun-packed day for our young learners was commemorated in grand style as they were dressed as various book characters. The Book Character Day at the Early Years Department is used to helping learners appreciate reading. Apart from partaking in various activities including acting as the main character in a favourite book, both learners and teachers showcased their outfits in a costume parade.



More Pictures from the Early Years Book Character Day



STUDY TECHNIQUES - FEEDBACK FROM LEARNERS

After a couple of strategic meetings with candidates who are to write Cambridge Checkpoint, IGCSE and 'A' level Exams in 2023, the management of BIS came out with a plan to assist students to overcome most of the learning challenges. As part of the recommendations, Mr. Boateng was tasked to guide learners to plan effectively towards their studies as well as engage them in efficient and strategic study techniques.

The aftermath of the Learning skills and study techniques has been very encouraging and worth mentioning.

The following are the testimonies on the benefits students have derived from the sessions:



I would like to state that after the session with Mr. Boateng on the Study techniques and Learning skills, the one that worked perfectly for me is the **20% read and 80% recite method**.

After using this method for about 2 weeks, I have realized that my recollecting skills and my grades have improved. I have also developed keen interest in my studies in recent times.

- **ARABELLA BEDIAKO**



In fact, this is something I would recommend every student does. It allows you to keep track of all the assignments, homework and notes for easy identification and revision.

I was also enthused by the recommendation of having a study plan and following assiduously to get better results. I must confess that since we started the exams, I have never felt the same as before. Finally, I would like to state unequivocally that the SQ3R (**Survey** and skim through the notes, **question** yourself on what is learnt, **Read** your notes, **Recite** what you have learnt) strategy has been the most useful of the learning strategies. This makes for a very different learning experience and I am pretty confident that I would obtain very excellent results at the end of this autumn term exams.

- **EDWARD FAYAH**



It was really inspiring and encouraging to hear some of the best practices used by students for their studies during the study technique session organized by management.

Additionally, I must confess that the presentation by Mr. Boateng on the Learning skills and study techniques for 21st Century Learners has really enlightened me.

One of the techniques which has truly been beneficial to me is the use of flashcards and I feel that would help me to improve upon my grades. I decided to try making flashcards after every lesson to retain the information I learnt and it worked perfectly. Now I don't feel overloaded with a lot of notes and I'm now able to study efficiently with so much joy without stress.

- **RACHAEL ARYEE**

BIC West Africa – Art Competition

On 14th September 2022, two BIS students, Bree Oyetunde and Nana Aseda Bassaw represented the school in an Art Competition organised by BIC West Africa at the National Theatre, Accra.

The competition was organised for schools from all over Ghana and it was a great delight to see two of our students selected for this competition as a result of Art works they had produced earlier in June. They placed 4th and were given certificates and other prizes such as school bags and stationary.

Kudos to these two artists for spreading the name of BIS abroad.
Ayekoo!



Remembrance Day

Over the weeks, you may have seen poppies on peoples' clothes, in shops, on learners' uniforms, or a BIS staff or learner may have asked you to purchase a poppy with proceeds to be donated to our gallant ex-soldiers. Why? After the First World War, the farms, fields, and land in France and Belgium were left devastated. Within these remnants of gloom, red poppies began to reappear on the abandoned battlefields. Since then, the poppy became a symbol of suffering and sacrifice made by brave soldiers.

The morning of Friday 11th November (marking the end of the War in 1918) 2022 was a solemn moment for our learners when they observed a minute silence in honour of the soldiers. Our Year 6 learners gave passionate presentations and speeches on the destructions of the Great War and the significance of poppies as a symbol of hope as told in the poem, *In Flanders Field*, by the Canadian physician - Colonel John McCrae. The poem was in remembrance of those who had died in the First World War.



Parent Teacher Association (PTA) General Meeting

At BIS, we create a platform for stakeholders to discuss issues that will benefit our learners and the school. Every PTA General Meeting presents an opportunity for teachers to present a SWOT analysis of learners to our cherished parents, while sharing ideas on how best to serve their wards.

During the Autumn Term's PTA, topics ranging from academics to learners' emotional and mental health were discussed. In the Chairman's closing remarks, Mr. Opoku-Mensah was excited about the success of the discussions and challenged parents to be punctual at PTSC (Parent Teacher Student Conference) because it boosts family involvement for the progress of learners in achieving excellence. At PTSC, parents get to interact with teachers to get first-hand information on their wards. The Autumn Term's PTSC is on Friday **16th December 2022**.



Health Screening

At BIS, we believe that 'healthy kids learn better.' On the 16th and 17th of November, BIS was privileged to host Dr. Bannerman, a parent and a dentist. He screened our learners for tooth-related ailments. Apart from screening, Dr. Bannerman advised them on how to care for their teeth. He then presented learners with free toothpaste and brushes.

Thank you, Dr. Bannerman!



IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2022/2023	
TERM 2 - TUESDAY, 10TH JANUARY, 2023 – FRIDAY, 29TH MARCH 2023	
Tuesday, 10 th January, 2023	School Re-opens
Friday, 20 th January 2023	Registration of Students for Checkpoint, IGCSE and A levels Exams Ends
Cambridge Exams begins in April but actual dates will be communicated	CIPP External Examinations (YR6 / YR9) IGCSE, "AS" & "A" Level
Friday, 3 rd February 2023	Early Years Sports Day / KS1 Sports Day
Friday, 10 th February 2023	KS2 Primary & Secondary Sports Day
Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th February 2023	HALF TERM
Wednesday, 15 th February 2023	School Resumes After Half Term
Monday, 6 th March 2023	Public Holiday (Independence Day)
Wednesday, 29 th March 2023	School Vacates/Class Parties
Tuesday, 4 th April 2023	Parent Teacher Student Conference (PTSC)
Total number of School days is 55	
TERM 3 - WEDNESDAY, 12TH APRIL 2023 – FRIDAY, 30TH JUNE 2023	
Wednesday, 12 th April 2023	School Re-opens
Monday, 24 th April 2023	Public Holiday (Eid-ul-Fitr)
Monday, 1 st May 2023	Public Holiday (Labour Day)
Monday, 22nd and Tuesday, 23rd May 2023	HALF TERM
Wednesday, 24 th May 2023	School Resumes After Half Term
Wednesday, 31 st May 2023	PTA Meeting
Friday, 30 th June 2023	School Vacates/Class Parties
Saturday, 1 st July 2023	Graduation and Awards Day
Friday, 7 th July 2023	Parent Teacher Student Conference (PTSC)
The total number of school days is 56	
Islamic holiday will be communicated subject to sighting of Moon	

EDITORIAL TEAM MESSAGE

It is our singular honour to contribute towards the creation of this term's newsletter. The consistent creative efforts of our teachers and management members have led to innovative events and awesome displays of excellence by students.

To this end we say Ayekoo!

We hope and trust that you enjoy this newsletter with loving hearts.



www.bisghana.com.gh



+233289554448
+233289554447



info@bisghana.com.gh



British International School Ghana



@BIS.Ghana



@BISGhana