

7th March 2018

“Whatever you give a woman, she will
make greater.”

William Golding

UPCOMING EVENTS...

MARCH

- 8th & 9th - School Closed
- 13th - Primary Inter-House Swimming Gala
9.00-12.00 (Year 1-4)
 - Mindfulness Presentation for parents of
Early Years & Primary students 14.00-15.20
- 14th - Primary Inter-House Swimming Gala
9.00-10.30 (Year 5-6)
 - U11s and U13s Football v St. George's
BGS @BGS - 15.00-17.00
- 16th - Lion Cubs Parent-toddler group starts
@BIST 9.00-10.25 (every Friday)
- 17th - Chess Match v St. George's BGS @BIST
10.00-12.00pm
- 20th - Mindfulness Presentation for parents of
Secondary school students 14.00-15.20
- 26th - BIST Book Week starts
- 30th - End of Term 2 & start of Spring Break

Dear Parents and Friends

Tomorrow we have our half-term break that coincides nicely with International Women's Day. This day promotes equality for women around the world. I think it is a great opportunity for students and their parents to discuss, in an age-appropriate way, equality, women's right and the struggle for this. As we all know there is still a long way to go even in countries that see themselves as having equality for different groups. The senior students arranged today a mock demonstration and speeches about equality during lunchtime.

Last week and again today, we had large numbers of parents attending parent workshops and presentations. Mr. Alex's Phonics workshop broke all records for attendance. We will of course continue such workshops and presentations for parents. A Mathematics workshop for Primary parents is being planned and on the 13th and 20th March we have Mindfulness sessions for parents with our Mindfulness Coach, Ms. Lena. Sometimes parents are unable to come to such events because of other commitments and sometimes parents are too shy to ask questions at the events. Please note that individual appointments can be made with school leadership and staff at relatively short notice.

CALENDAR LINK: Parents please bookmark this [link](#) to the school calendar on our website!

WHAT IS HAPPENING TODAY AT BIST?

Follow us for daily updates...



@BISTbilisi



BISTBILISI



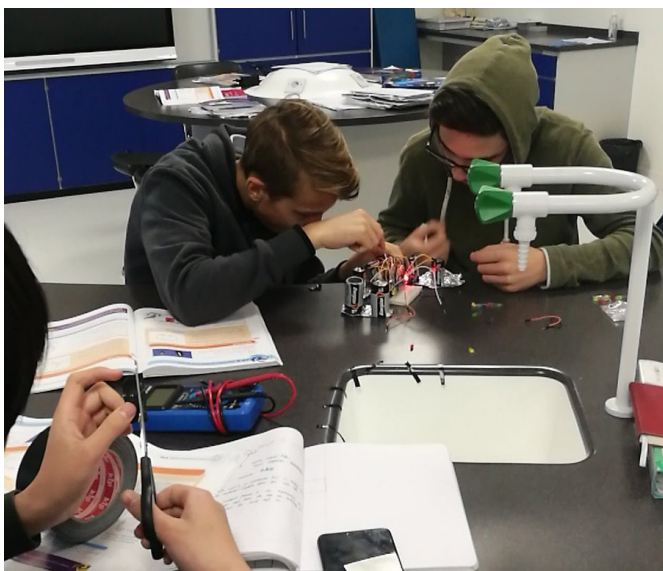
www.bist.ge



Two weeks ago I sent out the biographies of our newly recruited teachers. This week I am sharing you the deployment of teachers for next academic year. Parents of Key Stage 1 and 2 students are warned not to get too excited - the year group deployment of teachers within the key stages will not be decided until nearer the end of the year as we may have to change current plans because of increases in student numbers in certain year groups. The subject and mentor group deployment of secondary staff is however available.

We must at this time say a big thank you for their contributions and best wishes for the future to our departing staff, Ms. Natia Altunashvili, Mr. Ryan Enright, Ms. Valerie O'Meara & Mr. Ethan Pearsons.

ELECTRICITY & CURRENTS



Science classes have been busy preparing their Science Fair project proposals with many students having begun their experimentation. Extra care is being given to the independent and dependent variables to ensure we are following the Scientific Method. In addition to Science Fair preparation, there has been a lot of investigations involving electrical circuits and currents, as well as collecting data and making calculations on velocity and acceleration.

MINDFULNESS

This term has marked the start of our mindfulness programme at BIST. Students in Foundation, Year 1, 2, 5, 6 and 10 will soon reach the end of their first mindfulness course. They have worked very hard, learning and practising this new skill. They have explored ways of listening, walking, sitting, and eating mindfully. They have tried various mindfulness techniques, learning to focus their attention on sounds, sensations in their own bodies and their breathing. Some classes also had an opportunity to be mindful of their thoughts and emotions and reflected on helpful ways of relating to their experience. In addition, the students have learnt about sending kind thoughts to themselves and others and practising gratitude. The teachers in these classes will continue to be supported in implementing mindfulness strategies with their students. To help parents learn more about mindfulness, we look forward to welcoming everyone interested on 13th March (Primary) and 20th March (Secondary) at the parents information sessions led by Lena Sakure, the school's mindfulness coach. After the spring break, other year groups will start their mindfulness experience with sessions running twice weekly.

Mr. Stephen Priest

Principal

Mr. Daniel Comar

Key stage 4 Coordinator

Ms. Tumika Sthapit

Head of Administration

Ms. Erin McRaith

Head of Primary

Mr. Alex Timmis

Director of Studies

Ms. Tatiana Trofimchuk

Admissions Officer

SWIMMING GALA

On Tuesday and Wednesday morning next week we have our inter-house swimming gala in Primary. This is a chance for students to enter into some friendly competition in the pool. The event is divided into 3 sections with Years 1&2 and 3&4 diving in on Tuesday morning, followed by Years 5&6 on Wednesday morning. Students are reminded of the need to bring their swim kit on Tuesday or Wednesday. Unfortunately we do not have room for parents to safely view and support our swimming gala, but highlights will appear here in the newsletter.

LION CUBS PLAYGROUP

BIST is introducing Lion Cubs Playgroup (LCP) for toddlers under 3 years of age. It is particularly constructive for those children who are ready for a more formal setting than playing at someone's house, but are not yet attending nursery full-time. The LCP will be held each week, the parents can take it in turns to organise group activities. This group will be using school facilities at BIST every Friday from 9.00am to 10.30am and school will provide a healthy snack to share and eat together. All members of the community are very welcome starting 16th March 2018.

Parents can come with their pre-school age children and play games, sing songs and have fun. There is obviously limited space available in the room, so could parents please email Miss Eko if they are going to attend. We do also have limited resources that are designed for toddlers, so if parents could bring some along or donate to the group that would be appreciated.



BIST hosted local youth from the neighbouring charitable organisation, SOS children's village, for fun after school activities - a group Zumba and a friendly football match with our students.

Mr. James Miller

Key Stage 3 Coordinator

Staff Recruitment

Recruitment

Ms. Eko Amkoladze

PA to the Principal

