

28th August 2019

"You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."
A.A. Milne

UPCOMING EVENTS...

AUGUST

- 29th - Year 5 Lisi Lake visit

SEPTEMBER

- 2nd-6th - CAT4 benchmark assessments for years 4, 7, 10 and 12
- 4th - Parent Class Reps meeting - 8.30am
- 6th - Family Assembly (Parents Welcome!)
1.50pm
- 11th - Parents' Coffee Morning in school cafeteria - 8.30am-9.30am
- 16th-20th - Positivity Week
- 16th - Parent-mentor meetings
Years 7, 10 and 12 or any student new to BIST 3.30pm-5.00pm
- 16th - Parent-class teacher meetings for Primary for any student new to BIST 2.30pm-5.00pm
- 18th-20th - International Award Silver Practice Expedition
- 20th - Family Assembly (Parents Welcome!)
1.50pm
- 25th - Parent Class Reps meeting at 8.30am

OCTOBER

- 3rd-4th - International Award Bronze Practice Expedition
- 4th - Family Assembly (Parents Welcome!)
1.50pm
- 7th-11th - International Week
- 10th - International Evening 4.30pm-8.00pm
- 11th - BIST Tbilisoba Day
- 12th-20th - School closed for October Half Term Holiday



@BISTbilisi

Don't forget to follow @BISTbilisi on Twitter where you can see the highlights of the school week, special events and catch Music Monday's pick of the week!

Dear Parents

Welcome to the first newsletter of the 2019-20 school year. The BIST staff would like to heartily welcome all the new faces in our community and welcome back everyone who was with us prior to this summer. I hope everyone has had a pleasant and restful summer holiday...and if that involved moving to Georgia that you had a smooth transition. Please remember that we are here to support your child in all their academic and developmental needs - if you have any concerns, worries or questions, please contact us.

We have had a number of structural and construction projects start over the summer holidays and these are at different stages of completion. The new roof for our football stadium is finished and offers shade to spectators. Our new Physics and general science laboratory on the second floor is also completed. The Sixth Form Centre classrooms are finished and already in use, but we are still awaiting some of the fixtures and fittings for the Sixth Form students' Common Room. This is a multi-purpose study-social space and the third floor. The pipework is now in for our new air conditioning system and the units will be installed shortly. Our largest construction project was one that would be impossible to complete in the summer holiday, however. Progress, though, is being made on our new hall. This will be a multi-purpose space which can double as a theatre and sports hall. We hope to have this space completed by Christmas.

The opening of our new Sixth Form represents a new chapter in the history of BIST. For the first time we have students studying on the 2-year Cambridge A Level programme. In two years' time we hope that our first cohort of Sixth Formers will be heading off to some fantastic universities around the world. If you want to know more about A Levels and our university guidance programme, please contact Mr. Pemberton, our Head of Sixth Form. If you want to know about the etymology of the somewhat archaic term, Sixth Form, please follow this [link](#). In May last year BIST facilitated the link between the Georgian NCEQE and Cambridge in their work to give Cambridge qualifications, as followed at BIST, equivalency in here in Georgia.

In May and June of 2019, our senior students sat for their Cambridge IGCSE examinations. The results

were published in mid August. We must congratulate our students on their efforts, on the high number of A and A* grades and on the progress that all students made.

Also published in mid August was our COBIS Patron's Accreditation [summary report](#). An explanatory statement can be found [here](#). We are very proud to be one of only 17 Council of British International Schools globally to have received the Patron's Accreditation.

FOOTBALL ACADEMY!

BIST is pleased to announce the start of the British Lions Football Academy on the 17th of September, running Tuesdays (7-9 year old participants) and Thursdays (10-12 year olds) every week on the big AstroTurf pitch at BIST. This will be focused on skill development, understanding and knowledge of football tactics and improving teamwork and communication skills. The cost is 50 GEL per month and each group will get 1 hour per week plus one Saturday morning per month for 1.5 hour. More information coming soon.

UCMAS MATHEMATICS CLUB

BIST is proud to announce an exciting collaboration with UCMAS over an additional Mathematics club-time opportunity for children. Please see the UCMAS information attached to today's newsletter. UCMAS will also present at the next coffee morning - 11th September.

GLOBAL ROU



WORLD SCHOLARS CUP

Congratulations to Yoon, Lucas and Nicole on their success this summer, placing as 1st overall team in Central Asia at the World Scholars Cup Global Round in the Hague, Netherlands. We wish them success at Yale University at the upcoming Championship Round in October!

ECO COMMITTEE AT BIST

BIST has joined the Eco-Schools global programme. The aim of the programme is to let young people experience a sense of achievement at being able to have a say in the environmental management policies of their schools and be awarded a Green Flag. If any parents have any expertise in this area and would be willing to join a school Eco committee, please email Ms. Rachel.

PERIPATETIC MUSIC LESSONS

BIST is excited to offer Peripatetic Music lessons with qualified teachers this year in guitar, piano and recorder. Teachers offer lessons at a variety of levels (from beginner to proficient) and in different musical styles. These are one-on-one music lessons, available on a rotating timetable during the school day, ensuring learners do not miss the same lesson week on week. If there is sufficient interest (approximately 40 candidates), BIST will be able to offer graded music examinations from the London College of Music. These are available at all levels and in the following instruments: piano, keyboard, guitar, ukulele, percussion, strings, woodwind and brass. Peripatetic music lessons start next week. Each lesson is priced at 35 GEL. Please email Ms. Tamara for details and to book your place for lessons this Term!

HOUSE SPORTS KIT



PURCHASE YOURS TODAY!

Mr. Stephen Priest
Principal

Ms. Sophie Kasrashuli
PE to the Principal

Ms. Tumika Sthapit
Head of Administration

Ms. Alexandra Backhouse
Head of Primary

Mr. Alex Timmis
Director of Studies

Mr. James Miller
Key Stage 3 Coordinator

Mr. Les Pemberton
Head of Sixth Form

Ms. Andrew Graham
Key Stage 4 Coordinator

Joanne Gow
Key stage 2 Coordinator

