



*A prerequisite to empathy is simply paying attention to the person in pain.*

DANIEL GOLEMAN

## UPCOMING EVENTS

BIST CALENDAR

### ◆ December

- 11th - PCA Committee Meeting
- 11th - EY/KS1 Christmas Show (1pm)
- 12th - BIST and New Music School Performance (6pm)
- 13th - Community Christmas Concert (2pm - 3:30pm)
- 13th - LAST DAY OF 1st TERM

### ● January

- 8th - FIRST DAY OF 2nd TERM
- 8th - PCA Committee Meeting
- 9th - Year 3 Trip to The Experimentorium
- 8th - 15th January: A Level Mock Examination Period
- 15th Parents Coffee Morning
- 15th - 23rd January: IGCSE (Year 11) Mock Examination Period
- 22nd - Class Rep Meeting
- 22nd - Black Sea Schools Year 6 Online Maths Competition
- 24th January: Mock Exam Grade Sheet published to parents
- 29th - Lunar New Year Celebrations
- 31st January: Mock Exam Grade Sheet published to parents
- 27th - 31st January: DEIJ Week in Secondary

### ★ February

- 1st - Lions Basketball Invitational Tournament Day 1
- 2nd - Lions Basketball Invitational Tournament Day 2
- 3rd - 4th February: KS5 and Year 11 Post-Mocks Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 3rd - 6P Transition Day in Secondary
- 4th - 6K Transition Day in Secondary
- 5th - PCA Committee Meeting
- 5th - Valentine's Day Party (Secondary)
- 21st - F1 - Year 10 Mid-Year Progress Reports Published to Parents
- 24th - F1 - Year 10 Parent Teacher Conferences (Online)
- 25th - F1 - Year 10 Parent Teacher Conferences (In School)
- 27th - Last Day of Term 2.1
- 28th - School Closed for National Holiday

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

I know this newsletter is being sent in challenging times for our community. As ever my priority is always the safety, wellbeing and education of our pupils but of course being compassionate and supportive of our staff and wider community. I hope everyone understands the decision to cancel the Christmas Market as well as delaying certain trips scheduled to take place this week and next. As you can see from the newsletter, we are continuing to ensure our students have an enjoyable end to the term in school.

I have enjoyed meeting lots of parents over the past two weeks as we continue to develop the culture of inviting feedback from all our community and working together to keep improving our fantastic school. I am looking forward to seeing many of you next week at the different shows and events.

## WELCOME TO THE WORLD



We are delighted to let you know that two of our teachers, Ellie Dawson and Amila Jayasooria have had a baby boy.

## CLASS REPS AND PCA COMMITTEE



We have had lots of good meetings with parents through the 'Breakfast with the Principal' that we did as different key stage meetings. This allowed the discussions and issues to be targeted at the appropriate age of your children. We will be running more of these sessions in March and again in June. Please also find here [the minutes from the Class Rep meeting](#) from the previous week with the actions being taken following the meeting.

# PRIMARY SWIMMING GALA

Our primary children have all been competing in the Swimming Gala this Thursday and Friday. There has been lots of competitive fun and well done to our champions and all those who did their best taking part!



# STAFF UPDATE



Our previous Head of Security, Otar Piduri, has moved with his family to America. We are pleased to announce the promotion of Mirian Melikidze as the new Head of Security. We also have welcomed this week Mrs Caroline Von Bemberg who is covering secondary German classes while Mrs Dawson is on maternity leave.

# CLUBS

The opportunity to sign up for new clubs for the second term will be at the start of next week. Following feedback about September, all Lions clubs will be announced at the same time and in a format that allows you to more easily see what clubs are available each day. You will also be receiving the list of clubs available in the Primary 2:30-3:30 clubs rota and the secondary 3:30-4:30 club time as part of the free offering.

# NIKOLAUSTAG



Nikolaustag is a cherished tradition in Germany, where children leave their shoes out overnight to find them filled with sweets by Sankt Nikolaus. Our primary pupils had the chance to experience this festive custom here at school and were delighted to discover a sweet surprise waiting for them this morning!



# YEAR 4 IPC

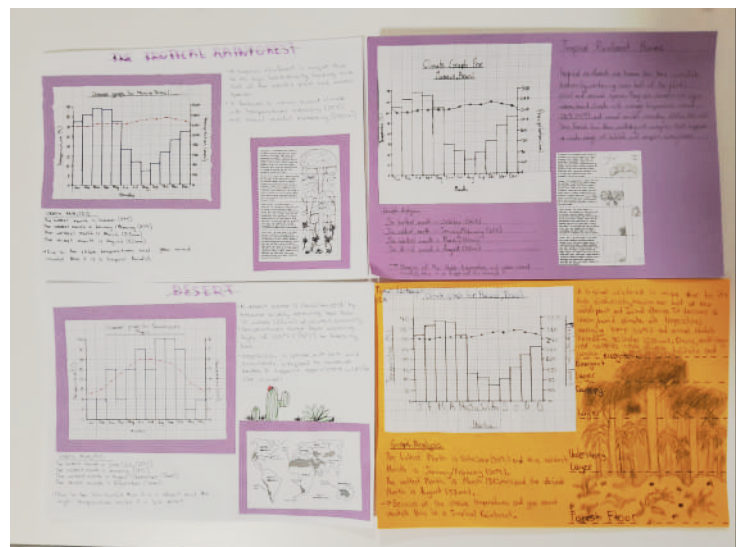
Year 4 were bakers this week as part of their IPC topic, 'Temples, Tombs and Treasure'. The Pharaoh had requested the children to create a new, flavoursome bread for him... and they obliged!



# Y11 GEOGRAPHY



Year 11 Geography students have been studying the climates of the hot desert and tropical rainforest combining key geographical skills and knowledge in producing in-depth posters. They created their own climate graphs based on case studies, analysed it, and showed the key features of these biomes. Great work Year 11!





# ORIENTEERING AROUND LISI LAKE

Key stage 3 have completed their problem solving unit in PE with an orienteering challenge around Lisi. The pupils developed some essential skills and also had a great time doing it!



# SCHOOL MENU

Please find the menu for next week below:

[Foundation](#)

[Y1-Y13](#)

# PRIMARY AWARDS

## Pupil Progress Certificates

<b>Foundation 1</b>	Andrea, David	<b>Year 3W</b>	Laura T, Christopher
<b>Foundation 2G</b>	Lucas K, Shiqi	<b>Year 4B</b>	Timur, Sesili
<b>Foundation 2N</b>	Intars, Philippos	<b>Year 4D</b>	Valeria, Sesilia
<b>Year 1S</b>	Honzik, Patryk	<b>Year 5A</b>	Emil, Robert
<b>Year 1T</b>	Lucy, Emilia	<b>Year 5H</b>	Erdem, Jiarui
<b>Year 2H</b>	Beyza, Mark	<b>Year 6K</b>	Olga, Anastasija
<b>Year 2P</b>	Liliana, Moyi	<b>Year 6P</b>	Jakob, Lizi
<b>Year 3M</b>	Gosha, Ana	<b>Congratulations to all our winners!</b>	

# REMINDER ABOUT SEASONAL EVENTS



This coming week we have a variety of events to celebrate the festive season where we invite parents and families to join us. We look forwards to seeing you at:

<b>Wednesday</b>	13:00	EYFS & Key Stage 1 Show
<b>Thursday</b>	17:00	BIST and New Music School Music Performance
<b>Friday</b>	14:00	Community Concert



# HOUSE HIGHLIGHTS

Congratulations to Year 7A for reaching 250 House Points this week – Great teamwork, everyone! Also, a big well done to all the students who took part in our Penalty Shoot-Out Challenge against the teacher goalkeepers. You showed excellent sportsmanship and made it a fantastic event.

  
**PUMAS**  
2799 POINTS

  
**PANTHERS**  
2730 POINTS

  
**TIGERS**  
2223 POINTS

  
**LEOPARDS**  
2216 POINTS

Mr. Robert Snowden  
Principal

Mr. Adam Whybro  
Head of Secondary School

Ms. Katie Karmazyn  
KS2 Coordinator

Ms. Zoe Abbott  
KS4 Coordinator

Sophie Kasrashvili  
Head of Administration  
& PA to Principal

6<sup>th</sup> December, 2024

Mr. Simon Rooney  
Head of Primary School

Mr. Alex Timmis  
EYKS1 Coordinator

Ms. Christelle Van Heerden  
KS3 Coordinator

Mr. James Parker  
Head of Sixth Form

Ms. Ana Jirkvelishvili  
Attendance Officer

NEWSLETTER BY:  
 British International  
School of Tbilisi