



"There is but one solution to the intricate riddle of life; to improve ourselves and contribute to the happiness of others."

MARY SHELLEY

UPCOMING EVENTS

◆ January

BIST CALENDAR

- 22nd – Class Rep Meeting
- 22nd – Black Sea Schools Year 6 Online Maths Competition
- 24th – A Level Mock Exam Grade Sheet published to parents
- 24th – Lunar New Year Celebrations
- 31st – IGCSE Mock Exam Grade Sheet published to parents
- 27th - 31st – DEIJ Week in Secondary

★ February

- 1st – Lions Basketball Invitational Tournament Day 1
- 2nd – Lions Basketball Invitational Tournament Day 2
- 3rd - 4th – 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)
- 28th February - 3rd March – School Closed for Mini Break

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

At the end of a full week back after the winter break, it always amazes me how quickly and busy our school weeks become. As you can see in this week's edition, we have already had trips, events and visits that help inspire and develop our community of learners. We welcomed Mrs Charmian Leaver, Deputy Head of Mission at the British Embassy on Monday who was very impressed with the school. Our students in Year 12 and 13 have also not just been sitting their mock examinations, but also some have received results from their official exams they sat in October and November with some very notable improvements in their grades.

We have also been looking ahead and you will have received yesterday information that confirms the calendar for 2025-26 and the fee payment schedule for re-enrolling. You will notice the addition of a full week break in February. We still have the same number of school days as this year but listening to feedback from parents and staff, as well as my own experience, this very long term we are now entering will result in increased absence from both students and staff as we move into March and April not having had time to recuperate. A school calendar can never please everyone, each with a specific situation, but this has been designed to maximise attendance, maximise the impact of learning and support everyone's well-being.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2025-26

The official 2025-2026 academic school year calendar is now available. Click [here](#) to view important dates and events.

HEALTHY SNACKS

We would like to remind all parents that it is the school policy that snacks brought in for the morning break should be healthy. This might include such items as fruit, yoghurt, carrot sticks, granola bars, pretzels, juice, etc. **It does not include chocolate, crisps, sweets, flavoured drinks, etc.**

TRIP TO THE EXPERIMENTORIUM

Last Thursday, Year 3 explored amazing science and technology based exhibits in The Experimentorium. Children participated in hands-on activities that touched on a variety of scientific phenomena such as Newton's laws, bridge building, tricks of light, pulley systems, decibel measuring and more. Later, a presenter showed the children the oddity of liquid nitrogen - deflating and inflating balloons, freezing flowers and how it affects fire.



BULLYING AWARENESS COFFEE MORNING

Thank you to all parents who were able to attend our Anti Bullying coffee morning on Wednesday. Thank you for our discussion about this important topic and your support in addressing this with our students. If you were unable to attend, please find the slides from this session [here](#).

TRIP TO TSODORETI PARK

As part of our community outreach program, Year 3 and 4 visited Tsodoret park in order to clean up our local community. Even on a very windy day, we managed to still fill up rubbish bags with all the litter we collected and made sure that we left the park a much cleaner and better place to visit.



NEW TERM, NEW ADVENTURES

Starting a new unit on Explorers and Adventurers, our Year 4 pupils used a compass and a map to explore the playground to find various items that the early explorers would have brought back with them. A classroom was turned into an Arctic Research Centre where the children built a shelter in strong wind; played with snow and picked at items trapped in ice!



LUNAR NEW YEAR

On Friday, 24th January, BIST will celebrate Lunar New Year and welcome the Year of the Snake with a range of exciting activities for students in Years 1-6. Throughout the afternoon, students will immerse themselves in culture by creating book-marks, trying on traditional Chinese costumes, practicing calligraphy, making masks, and much more!

A special thank you to the Confucius Institute for their support. We look forward to a day of fun and learning!

SCHOOL MENU

Please find the menu for next week below:

Foundation

Y1-Y13

YEAR 5 OLYMPICS





Year 5 wrapped up their IPC unit on 'Ancient Greece' with a thrilling event – the Year 5 Olympics! Students embraced the spirit of the ancient games by taking part in a range of exciting activities, including hobby horsing, tug o' war, javelin throwing, and broom golf. The day was filled with energy, teamwork, and plenty of fun, offering a memorable way for the students to showcase what they've learned while enjoying some friendly competition.



HOUSE HIGHLIGHTS

Congratulations to Year 10Z for reaching the 250 House Point milestone last week, and to Frantiska Tlusta in 8A for being the first student to reach 100 points - a fantastic achievement that reflects her consistent effort this year.

This week's House events included a tug-of-war tournament for Years 5-6 and a hide-and-seek challenge for Years 7-8. We're excited about the many other upcoming events this year, offering plenty of opportunities for students to showcase their talents and qualities.

 PUMAS 3233 POINTS	 PANTHERS 3195 POINTS
 LEOPARDS 2565 POINTS	 TIGERS 2523 POINTS

PRIMARY AWARDS

Pupil Progress Certificates

Foundation 1	Andrew, Lea	Year 3W	Laura, Maja
Foundation 2G	Nil, Isak	Year 4B	Amirkhan, Mizuki
Foundation 2N	Ellen, Philippos	Year 4D	Misha, Tia
Year 1S	Erhan, Lea	Year 5A	Emma, Emil
Year 1T	Olivia, Adam	Year 5H	Maohan, Hyunmin
Year 2H	Aneta, Demir	Year 6K	Samuel, Anna G
Year 2P	Liliana, Eden	Year 6P	Elisa, Devansh
Year 3M	Cloe, Elian	<i>Congratulations to all our winners!</i>	



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

17th January, 2025

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