

It is impossible to get to know people deeply and not come to like them."

LORI GOTTLIEB

UPCOMING EVENTS

BIST CALENDAR

◆ January

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

5th – PCA Committee Meeting

5th - iGCSE Information Evening (18:00 -19:30)

14th – Valentine’s Day Party (Secondary)

19th - Parents Coffee Morning

21st – F1 - Year 10 Mid-Year Progress Reports Published to Parents

24th – F1 - Year 10 Parent Teacher Conferences (Online)

◆ March

3rd - School Closed for Mini Break

4th - 7th - Book Week

5th - Class Rep Meeting

7th - International Women’s Day Event

12th - PCA Committee Meeting

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

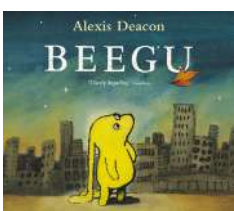
This week has been another exciting one at BIST with competitions, sports fixtures, events and of course lots of learning and development. I enjoyed meeting the Class Representatives on Wednesday where I always welcome lots of feedback from across the school. If you are not part of the Class List groups please contact office@bist.ge and we can make sure you are added. I am aware of Whatsapp groups that many parents are in and of course it is your choice to be part of these if you wish. I will however please ask that any discussions in those groups should not be about any specific issues with children. We want to support all children through effective and open communication between the school and parents, so if you have a concern, please contact the teacher, or the Head of Key Stage. All contacts are given at the bottom of this newsletter, including the Heads of Section.

CLASS REPS MEETING

On Wednesday we had our first Class reps meeting of 2025. A range of topics were discussed including transport, school meals, uniform resale and the new school calendar. We were also joined by Ms Eliza Lambert representing the Secondary Student Council and we looked at developing an event showcasing our students and local artist talents. Please see the actions agreed from the meeting and minutes [here](#).

ALIEN DISCOVERY

Year 2 started the week being investigators at a strange crash site! Pupils used clues to make predictions about what had happened. This hook got pupils excited about our new story, Beegu. What do you think happened?



CHARITY BOOK SALE

On Monday, our Primary Student Council ran their first charity book sale, raising a huge 1295 GEL for our BIST charity projects. It was wonderful to see everyone's enthusiasm for reading and the sheer range of books on offer. A huge thank you to all families who donated books.



YEAR 9 HISTORY

On Thursday, Year 9 did some concept modelling in History as a part of their study of the origins of the First World War. Students were given the concept of militarism, imperialism or nationalism and using the pre-1914 historical context demonstrated their understanding of this concept in a Play-Doh model.



UCMAS INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Congratulations to our pupils who recently took part in the UCMAS International Competition and World Cup in New Delhi, India. Our BIST superstars competed alongside over 6,000 contestants from 80 countries. We are thrilled to announce that they achieved remarkable milestones, including winning the Bronze World Cup. UCMAS Georgia has also been awarded the honour of hosting next year's International competition here in Georgia! You can stay updated on UCMAS by following them on [Facebook](#).

Please join us in congratulating:

2nd Runner-Up: Charbel MN (Category D), Lekso L (Category B), and Robert (Category B)

3rd Runner-Up: Mark C (Category B)



SCHOOL MENU

Please find the menu for next week below:

[Foundation](#)

[Y1-Y13](#)

LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS



BIST primary students enthusiastically took part in Lunar New Year celebrations. They learned about the traditions and customs of the holiday and enjoyed performances by both BIST students and members of the Confucius Institute.

Students from Foundation to Year 6 engaged in various activities to deepen their understanding of the culture and traditions surrounding the celebration.

A big congratulations to the students who performed, and a huge thank you to the Confucius Institute for their continued support.



AI TASTE OF OXBRIDGE

Daria in Year 12 has been selected as the BIST nominee for the prestigious FRI Research Advocacy Programme Award - Artificial Intelligence track. This is a 10 week online course run by Cambridge University professors. She has been selected due to her academic excellence, leadership potential and contribution to the school community.



BLACK SEA MATHS COMPETITION


Our 7th Annual Black Sea Maths Competition saw fierce competition across many schools in the region. Children had to solve very challenging Maths problems, many of which require taking multiple steps, using logic and problem solving skills. The children in Year 5 and 6 did incredibly well and BIST managed to come 3rd place which is a fantastic achievement, especially considering the small pool of children we have compared to some larger participating schools. Well done to everyone who participated.



HOUSE HIGHLIGHTS

It has been a busy week for House Point milestones! Congratulations to Liliana C in 7A and Victoria M in 8A for both reaching 50 HP. Year 7Z became the first Tutor group to hit 500 HP, while Secondary Pumas have now earned 1000 HP as a team and Primary Panthers are over 2500 HP. Congratulations to all the students for their hard work!

HOUSE POINTS


PANTHERS
3671 POINTS


PUMAS
3501 POINTS


TIGERS
2838 POINTS


LEOPARDS
2824 POINTS

SECONDARY STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATES

The student council has accomplished a lot so far in the academic year, one initiative was the successful introduction of indoor breaks for KS4 and 5 students.

The wellbeing subcommittee within the council has gained information on ways to improve student wellbeing via a student survey.

The activities sub-committee has hosted fundraising sales including a Christmas candy cane sale and a popular bake sale.

The learning subcommittee organised an information evening to inform students on the IGCSE and A-level qualifications.

We are enthusiastic to continue to share updates as we continue to work hard under the guidance of our hardworking Chairperson, Daria M (12Z), and the professional supervision of our coordinator Ms. Lambert.

Written by Nivedita T (11M)



PRIMARY AWARDS

Adaptability Certificates 24.01.25			
Foundation 1	David, Alexandre	Year 3W	Rusudan, Yazan
Foundation 2	Solomon, Phillipos	Year 4B	Michael, Mila
Year 1S	Liman, Vytis	Year 4D	Leu, Bar
Year 1T	Amy, Jules Eren	Year 5A	Malwina, Lucja
Year 2H	George, Davyd	Year 5H	Maroska, Misha
Year 2P	Liya, Andrei S	Year 6K	Janna, Andrew
Year 3M	Adam, Karen	Year 6P	Anna M, Karina
Congratulations to all our winners!			

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

25th 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

NEWSLETTER BY:
 **British International School of Tbilisi**