

*"We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope."*

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

BIST CALENDAR

### ● February

- 12th - A Level Information Event
- 19th - Parents Coffee Morning 8:30 - Online Safety
- 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 - School Closed for Mini Break

### ◆ 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

## IGCSE INFORMATION EVENING

On Wednesday 5th February, the school welcomed parents of Year 9 students to speak about Cambridge IGCSEs. Parents had the opportunity to learn about and ask questions relating to the IGCSE subjects that are available at BIST, how their child will choose their subjects and different pathways of study that are available in Science and Mathematics. If you missed the evening and/or want to see more about each subject offered in Year 10 and 11, the **presentation** is available for you.

## SCHOOL MENU

Please find the menu for next week below:

[Foundation](#)

[Y1-Y13](#)

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This week we are delighted to welcome back Giorgi Kursikidze. He will be rejoining the PE department as well as working with our pupils requiring additional support. It has felt like a week of looking forward with information about next year's iGCSE and A levels, interviewing potential new staff members and finalising the residential trip arrangements. As you are aware we have also published the fees for the next academic year and if anyone would like to discuss any aspects about re-enrollment please do contact me or our admissions team at [admissions@bist.ge](mailto:admissions@bist.ge).

I read a study that was published this week looking at the connection between mobile phone policies in school and academic outcomes. Although the study did not find a link between the school policy, it did find, like much research before, the very clear impact of excess screen time. It showed that students who spent more time on phones and social media out of school (in some cases up to 5 hours a day) had worse mental wellbeing and mental health, less physical activity, poorer sleep, lower grades and more disruptive classroom behaviour. I invite you to join our coffee morning on February 19th where we will be discussing this and other aspects of the safe use of technology. This will explain what we do in school and how you can help your child manage the use of technology.

## HOUSE POINTS



PANTHERS  
4333 POINTS



PUMAS  
4100 POINTS



TIGERS  
3437 POINTS

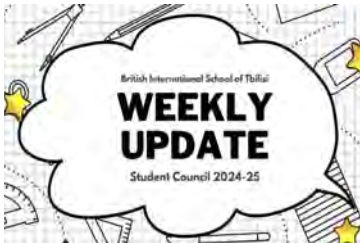


LEOPARDS  
3309 POINTS

## PRIMARY COUNCIL UPDATE

Our Primary Student Council have had a productive term so far with the charity book sale already behind us. Last week, they discussed student feedback on our lunch and snack offerings, which has since been relayed to our cafeteria team.

Next week, they will be planning and marketing our upcoming Hot Chocolate Sale, the proceeds of which will go to charity.



Our student councillors have also demonstrated great courage in recording our weekly updates for classes to watch. Almost all of them have already contributed to a video like this one!

## SPORTS RESULTS

On January 30th, our LIONS U18 girls' basketball team won a thrilling game against QSI with a score of 26-14.

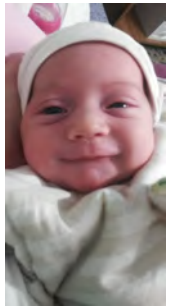
Last weekend, we hosted the LIONS Basketball Tournament 2025, featuring six participating teams: LIONS, New School, IB Mthiebi, GZAAT, Oakleaf, Georgian-American School. The tournament was filled with exciting games, including overtime battles. In the semifinals, New School defeated IB Mthiebi 89-76, while the LIONS secured a 51-35 victory against GZAAT.

The final was an intense showdown between the LIONS and New School, with both teams delivering outstanding performances. In the end, our team finished in second place after a hard-fought 70-78 loss.

Looking ahead, on February 7th, we have a friendly basketball game against QSI. Additionally, on February 10th, our U18 football team will face BGA in a valuable preparation match before the Mini Football League kicks off on February 13th.

## EXCITING NEWS FROM MR. MURRAY!

We're delighted to announce the arrival of a new member of our BIST family! Mr. Samuel Murray and his family welcomed baby Ophelia on January 20th. Congratulations to the Murrays on this wonderful occasion! With Mr. Murray's permission, we'd love to celebrate this moment in our weekly newsletter, possibly with a picture to share. Thank you, Mr. Murray, for letting us be part of this joyful milestone!



## PRIMARY AWARDS

### Adaptability Certificates 24.01.25

<b>Foundation 1</b>	David, Alexandre	<b>Year 3W</b>	Rusudan, Yazan
<b>Foundation 2</b>	Solomon, Phillipos	<b>Year 4B</b>	Michael, Mila
<b>Year 1S</b>	Liman, Vytis	<b>Year 4D</b>	Leu, Bar
<b>Year 1T</b>	Amy, Jules Eren	<b>Year 5A</b>	Malwina, Lucja
<b>Year 2H</b>	George, Davyd	<b>Year 5H</b>	Maroska, Misha
<b>Year 2P</b>	Liya, Andrei S	<b>Year 6K</b>	Janna, Andrew
<b>Year 3M</b>	Adam, Karen	<b>Year 6P</b>	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

7th February, 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