

*"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."*

Benjamin Franklin

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As you can see from this term's penultimate newsletter, it has been such a busy week! I have had the privilege of seeing so many wonderful achievements this week. Starting with UCMAS on Sunday, congratulations to all our fantastic mathematicians that shone on a global stage.



This really highlights the impact of our collaborations through co-curricular activities. I was also amazed by some phenomenal performances at our music extravaganza, as well as seeing our secondary students demonstrating their research and public speaking skills in their TED talks throughout the week. This showcases our commitment to holistic education and our values of celebrating individual and collective achievement as a community.

Of course, the week is not over yet with our BIST Christmas market tomorrow, which promises to be a wonderful community event. Thank you to our PCA and additional parent volunteers who have been collaborating with Ia, our communications and events manager, to turn this into a reality. The learning is not stopping as we move through the last week of term. Every day and every lesson makes a difference! I look forward to seeing lots of parents tomorrow and at other events throughout next week.

## BIST SHINES AT THE UCMAS 2025 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

This year, Georgia had the honor of hosting more than 1,500 students from over 80 countries at Georgian National University SEU - a truly historic moment for our country and for UCMAS globally.

BIST was proudly represented by 18 students, competing across levels from Category Z to Category D. All students participated in the Visual Competition, with some also taking part in the Flash Category.

We are thrilled to share that BIST students achieved remarkable results:

1st Runner-Up: Charbel Maroun N.

2nd Runner-Up: Lekso L., Youhanna Maroun N., Robert L.,

3rd Runner-Up: Alejandra P., Aoi K., Ariana G., Boris Radoslavov D., Constance Annabelle B., Elle G., Jiarui Ch., Jingxuan Zh., Karen H., Mariam U., Mark Ch., Moyi Ch., Nana Chloe K.

### Event Highlights

The competition was held across multiple sessions:

2 Visual Competition sessions

1 Flash Card session

1 World Cup session

We are incredibly proud of our students for representing BIST with excellence on an international stage!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### December

### BIST CALENDAR

|           |   |              |                |
|-----------|---|--------------|----------------|
| 13th Sat  | BIST Christmas Market                   | Sport's Hall | 11:00am-3:00pm |
| 17th Wed. | KS1 and Foundation Stage Christmas Show | Sport's Hall | 1:30-2:30 pm   |
| 19th Fri. | Christmas Community Sing Along          | Sports Hall  |                |
| 19th Fri. | Last Day of Term 1                      |              |                |

### January

|           |                             |                 |               |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 12th Mon. | First Day of the Term 2     | Whole School    | 8:30 am       |
| 20th Tue. | Year 3 Experimentorium Trip | Experimentorium | 9:00am-1:00pm |
| 21st Wed. | Parent Coffee Morning       | Primary Canteen | 8:30-10:00am  |

## SCHOOL MENU

Please find the menu for next week below:

**Foundation / Y1-13**





## The BIST Christmas Market is Here!

Get ready for a festive celebration full of joy, delicious treats, and amazing surprises! Our open Christmas Market is the perfect occasion to bring along family and friends and soak up the holiday spirit.

Explore beautiful handmade products, enjoy tasty food and drinks, and discover plenty of exciting prizes waiting for you!

**Time: 11:00 – 15:00**

**Location: Sports Hall**

Don't miss out on this magical festive experience - wonderful gifts, incredible atmosphere, and festive fun await!



We are thrilled to share that our Christmas Market is supported by some truly generous sponsors!

## SWISSOTEL AND MERCURE TBILISI OLD TOWN

MERCURE  
HOTEL  
TBILISI OLD TOWN

swissôtel TBILISI



## AKHALTSIKHE INN BAKURIANI INN

AKHALTSIKHE  
INN



TBILISI HILLS  
IIII



## WATER "MTIS"



## "CRYPTAL"



## "Zenith Fitness & Wellness Boutique"



## "Blue Fox"



## "CameraGarage"



## Ancient Greece - IPC in Y5

5P celebrated the end of our IPC unit, The Brave and the Bold - Ancient Greeks, by stepping back in time. Pupils completed some fun activities as part of their Exit Point, and enjoyed dressing up as an Ancient Greek!

5P had the opportunity to showcase their learning in their class assembly on Thursday. All classes in KS2 have the opportunity to perform on stage to their parents. Well done, 5P!





## Foundation Stage - Christmas Fun at Cake Art

Our Foundation stage children had a wonderful festive outing to Cake Art to celebrate Christmas. They got creative designing their own Christmas cookies and building gingerbread-man houses. The experience was full of joy, laughter, and holiday cheer, bringing big smiles to all our little bakers!



## Our New Child Car Seats in Use!

We're delighted to share that our new child car seats have already been tried and enjoyed by our youngest learners! These specially designed, comfortable seats make every journey safe, cozy, and enjoyable for our little travellers.

We would like to kindly remind parents that children aged 3-4 can now use our school bus service.

If you would like to register your child for the bus, please contact us at [office@bist.ge](mailto:office@bist.ge). We're excited to welcome even more little smiles on board!



## Primary Rewards



### Generosity of Spirit

### Certificate Winners 12.12.25

|                     |                 |                |                  |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| <b>Foundation 1</b> | Mark, Amaliia   | <b>Year 3W</b> | Marta, Renee     |
| <b>Foundation 2</b> | Sesili, Emily   | <b>Year 4B</b> | Aron, Liza       |
| <b>Year 1S</b>      | Shiqi, Emily    | <b>Year 4S</b> | Boris, Mark C    |
| <b>Year 1T</b>      | Shiyu, Mia      | <b>Year 5P</b> | Shujin, Dobrynia |
| <b>Year 2L</b>      | Amara, Nurbol   | <b>Year 5C</b> | Valeria, Lidia   |
| <b>Year 2C</b>      | Wynona, Erhan   | <b>Year 6K</b> | Emma, Francois   |
| <b>Year 3M</b>      | Mark, Gabriella | <b>Year 6P</b> | Lidar, Misha     |

*Congratulations to all our winners!*

## Year 9 Combustion Experiments

This week, Year 9 A and Z carried out an exciting experiment investigating combustion reactions. They calculated the molar masses of Ethanol, Butanol, and Propanol, and used the mass loss of fuel burners along with temperature changes to explore the relative energy densities of the three fuels.

Mr Graham was very pleased with the students' careful approach and their attention to health and safety. He hopes that next time, all backpacks will be safely stored so they won't pose a trip hazard during experiments!



## HOUSE POINTS



**PANTHERS**

**224 Points**



**PUMAS**

**261 Points**



**LEOPARDS**

**261 Points**



**TIGERS**

**205 Points**



## Voice in Action: TED Talk Competition

This term, students across the school participated in a TED Talk competition as part of the Voice in Action initiative. During Tutor Time and PSHE lessons, they explored what makes an effective talk before selecting their own topics to research and present-either individually, in pairs, or in groups.

After sharing their talks in class, the most engaging presenters were selected for this week's assembly finals, where the standard of presentations was truly impressive. Topics ranged from cryptocurrency to consciousness, highlighting the students' wide-ranging interests and curiosity.

The Voice in Action program aims to develop students' oracy, confidence, and research skills while encouraging curiosity about the wider world. Next term, the initiative will continue with an exciting debate section and a media project, giving students even more opportunities to showcase their skills.



## Weekly Sports Highlights

### Friendly Match – U13 Boys

Our U13 Boys team delivered an impressive performance in their friendly fixture, securing a **3–1** victory over the French School. The boys showed excellent teamwork and determination throughout the match. Congratulations to the team and coaches on a well-earned win!

### Tbilisi Independent School Sports League – U18 Boys (Semi-Final)

In a tense and hard-fought semi-final, our U18 Boys drew 1–1 with BGA in regular time. The match progressed to penalties, where the team narrowly missed out, falling 3–4 in the shoot-out. Despite the result, the team demonstrated resilience, strong defensive organization, and real competitive spirit. We are proud of their effort and sportsmanship throughout the league.



# British International School of Tbilisi

## Music Extravaganza

On Wednesday, 10th December, we held our annual Christmas Music Extravaganza at BIST, where students showcased their talents on piano, drums, guitar, ukulele, and in the Secondary Music Band. The concert featured performers from Year 2 up to Year 11, with most students prepared and guided by our dedicated private music teachers at school. It was truly wonderful to witness their growth, confidence, and developing musicality, which continue to flourish each year.



## Student Digital Literacy session

Our Sixth Form students have been working exceptionally hard to prepare engaging and informative sessions for our younger learners, helping them navigate the ever-changing landscape of the digital world. The workshops have been incredibly useful, offering practical guidance, meaningful discussions, and real examples that resonated with our students.

We are truly proud of our Sixth Form leaders, who demonstrated outstanding initiative, confidence, and teamwork throughout the process. Their commitment to supporting our school community and sharing their knowledge and advice made this project both impactful and inspiring.



**Robert Snowden**  
Principal

**Thomas Browning Stamp**  
Assistant Principal (Co-curricular)

**Thomas Thuston**  
Vice Principal Secondary (Pastoral)

**James Parker**  
Assistant Principal

**Ia Sisauri**  
Communications and Events Manager

12th December, 2025

**Simon Rooney**  
Head of Primary

**Katie Karmazyn**  
Assistant Head of Primary

**Sophie Kasrashvili**  
Head of Administration

**Nina Rusishvili**  
Attendance and Data Manager

**Mariam Kartvelishvili**  
Admissions Officer

Newsletter by:

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School of Tbilisi