

THE ROAR

“The school must be a genuine form of active community life, instead of a place set apart in which to learn lessons”

John Dewey

UPCOMING EVENTS

● November

		<u>BIST CALENDAR</u>	
● November			
5th Wed.	Parent Coffee Morning - Topic “Online Safety”	Primary Canteen	8:30-10:00am
6th Thu.	4B Class Assembly 4B Parents Invited to attend	Theatre	9:30-10:00am
10th Mon.	UK London PA Trip Departs (Y7-13)	TBS International Airport	
10th Mon.	Whole School Odd Socks Day		
11th Tue.	Remembrance Day		
11th Tue.	Year 6 Visit to Museum of Illusions	Museum of Illusions, Tbilisi	8:30 - 12:30am
12th Wed.	PCA Meeting Christmas Planning	Secondary Building Room 203/1	8:30am
10th Mon. -14th Fri.	Anti-Bullying Week This years theme 'Power for Good'		
14th Fri.	UK London PA Trip Returns (Y7-13)	TBS International Airport	
19th Wed.	Parent Rep Meeting	Primary Canteen	8:30-10:00am
26th Wed.	PCA Meeting	Secondary Building Room 203/1	8:30am
27th Thu.	6P Class Assembly 6P Parents Invited to attend	Theatre	9:30-10:00am
27th Thu.	Sixth Form A Level Presentation		

EDURIO WHOLE SCHOOL SURVEY

WE VALUE YOUR VOICE



We are pleased to launch our Whole School Survey through Edurio. Your feedback helps us understand what is working well and where we can improve.

The survey takes just 5-15 minutes to complete and is open for a limited time. We encourage all families to take part so every voice is heard.

All responses are anonymous and confidential.

Results will be compared with other schools to guide our development.

Thank you for helping us make BIST the very best it can be.

Here is the [link](#).

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It has been a Halloween inspired day, and it has been a lot of fun to see our community come together with our Sixth Form organising a Halloween party for our students throughout the school. I also enjoyed celebrating with our Sixth Form some incredible achievements in Mathematics.



Academic opportunities like this are vital to allow our students to excel and stand out in a competitive world. I have also been involved this week to ensure we bring back the Scholar's World Cup this year to BIST. We will confirm a date but we are planning that for March 2026. Christmas Market organisation continued this week and thank you to our parents that are volunteering to be involved to ensure this will be a great event. Thank you as well for over 100 parents that have given feedback through our new feedback platform (Edurio) about transportation and food. We will be giving feedback about those results next week and seeing what actions we can take. We will be launching our annual survey with Edurio. This is an important mechanism to allow every parent the opportunity to let us know your thoughts and feelings about the school - what we do well and cherish, as well as how we can keep improving. Thank you all in advance for taking the time and consideration to make this a core part of our home-school relationship.

HOUSE POINTS!

 PANTHERS 176 Points	 PUMAS 258 Points	 LEOPARDS 215 Points	 TIGERS 257 Points
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SCHOOL MENU

Please find the menu for next week below:
[Foundation / Y1-Y13](#)



Year 3 Bring Stories to Life with Sock Puppets!

This term, Year 3 have stepped into the exciting world of drama - and they are loving every moment of it! To explore character and storytelling, students designed and created their very own sock puppets, complete with colourful personalities and imaginative voices. It has been amazing to watch their ideas come alive through creativity, teamwork, and performance.

The energy in the drama room has been fantastic, with students confidently using expression, movement, and dialogue through their puppets. And this is just the beginning - their next adventure will take them to the stage, where they will perform using handmade puppets in short dramatic scenes.



The Safeguarding Column: Anti-Bullying Awareness

As Anti-Bullying Week approaches, it's a great time to talk with your child about kindness and respect.

Encourage them to speak up if they witness bullying and reassure them that school is a safe space. Open conversations at home can empower children to be upstanders, not bystanders. We encourage children to speak up and be kind.



Together, we can help promote kindness, respect, and courage in their everyday actions.

Find more information [here](#).



PRIMARY AWARDS

Spooky Superstars - Best Halloween Costumes 31.10.25

Foundation 1	Niv, Atlas	Year 3W	Liya, Maxime
Foundation 2	Akaliza, David	Year 4B	Liza, Gabi
Year 1S	Aleksandre, Semen	Year 4S	Leyi, Boris
Year 1T	Rina, Ellen	Year 5P	Ada, Robert
Year 2L	Mehmet, Asya	Year 5C	Sesilia, Tia
Year 2C	Patryk, Lea	Year 6K	Kiasha, Lucja
Year 3M	Coco, Elle	Year 6P	Maohan, Polina & Valeria (Joint Costume)

Congratulations to all our winners!

Year 5 Step Back in Time to Ancient Greece



Year 5 began their new IPC unit; The Brave and the Bold (The Ancient Greeks) with a fun Entry Point.

Pupils were architects and builders, taking inspiration from ancient buildings to create temples, theatres and public buildings. They worked collaboratively and raced against the clock to create their buildings. Pupils have begun to learn about features of these ancient buildings, e.g, columns, arches and steps. We are excited about finding out about the past and how our lives have been influenced by the Ancient Greeks.



Key Stage 3 and 4 Autumn Awards Assemblies

This week, our Key Stage 3 and 4 Autumn Awards Assemblies were a joyful celebration of student excellence. We proudly recognised those who demonstrated Amazing Attendance, Excellent Achievement, and an Outstanding Attitude to Learning Across the Curriculum. These awards highlight the vital role that consistent attendance and a positive approach to learning play in students' progress and attainment. Congratulations to all our award winners - you continue to set a brilliant example!



PSHE Update: Relationships Education This Term

This term in PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education), students in Key Stage 3 and 4 will be exploring age-appropriate topics under the theme of Relationships. These lessons are designed to support students' personal development, emotional well-being, and social awareness, in line with UK PSHE guidance and with full consideration of Georgian laws and cultural values.

Here's a brief overview of what each year group will be covering:

Y7 - Building and maintaining healthy Friendships

Y8 -Understanding Diversity & Inclusion in our communities

Y9 - Learning about Consent & Boundaries in everyday interactions

Y10 - Exploring what makes Healthy Relationships across different contexts

Y11 - Focusing on Safety, including online and offline environments

All content will be delivered sensitively and appropriately, with opportunities for discussion and reflection. We aim to create a safe and respectful learning environment where students can ask appropriate questions and develop their understanding of these important topics.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the curriculum, please feel free to contact me via email at t.thurston@bist.ge



School Uniform Update

We are pleased to inform you that our latest Trutex delivery has arrived, and most school uniform items are now back in stock.

Please note that long-sleeved polo shirts are the only item still pending delivery.

You can now:

- Collect any pre-ordered uniforms.
- Purchase uniform items on-site if an order has not yet been placed

We are also delighted to share that our navy zip-up hoodies have been fully restocked in all sizes and will be available for purchase from next week.

To make the process of purchasing school uniforms as smooth and convenient as possible, we encourage you to use the [Google Form](#) for placing orders.

However, please note that orders can still be made in person at the school if you prefer.

Important:

- If you have already placed your uniform order, there is no need to fill out the form again.
- If you wish to purchase a Sports Hoodie or Sports Trousers, these items must be pre-ordered through the Google Form or directly in the school shop, as they are only available by advance request.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our students maintain the BIST uniform standards.

Outstanding Success in the UK Senior Mathematics Challenge!

We are thrilled to announce that our Sixth Form students have achieved record-breaking results in this year's prestigious UK Mathematical Trust Senior Mathematics Competition!

Our students have earned an incredible 6 Gold, 8 Silver, and 5 Bronze certificates — the highest number of awards ever achieved by BIST in this competition. Their success is a reflection of their dedication, talent, and passion for mathematics.

Special congratulations go to Nikoloz I. and Luyao G., who achieved the Best in Year scores of 77 and 91 respectively. We are extremely proud of all our participants for their hard work and enthusiasm. Their achievement is a testament to the strength of our Mathematics Department and the commitment of our students to academic excellence.

Partnering for Success: Our New Student Intervention Initiative

Following the recent publication of our latest student reports, our dedicated teaching staff have been carefully analysing the data to ensure every student is on a clear path to achieving their full potential. As part of our commitment to Scholarship and Tenacity, we are delighted to launch our new Student Intervention Initiative.



This is a proactive, targeted programme designed to provide enhanced support, build on strengths, and address learning gaps. Over the coming weeks, our teachers will be implementing a range of strategies to improve student outcomes.

These strategies are tailored to the needs of individual students and will include:

- **Targeted Support Sessions:** We will be running extra support classes. Some of these will be invitation, open to any student who wishes to consolidate their understanding of a topic. Others will be compulsory for students who, according to our data, will benefit most from this focused, small-group support.
- **In-Lesson Support:** Teachers will refine their targeted support during lessons, using new data to inform how they help each student.
- **Optimised Learning Environments:** We will also be reviewing classroom seating plans to ensure every student is in the optimal position to learn, focus, and collaborate effectively.

This is an exciting time for our secondary school. It represents a fantastic opportunity to put our school values into action, and we look forward to seeing the fruits of this focused labour from both our staff and students. We thank you for your continued partnership in supporting your child's success.

Interview with Ketevan Gvaramia (Head of Fundraising, Community Connections)

What inspired you to take on the role of Head of Fundraising for Community Connections?

I was inspired by the opportunity to contribute to fundraising for charities and make a positive impact on the community.



What kind of fundraising events are you most excited to plan this year?

I'm especially excited about our current bake sales for the local dog shelter. I love animals, so this project means a lot to me. I'm also really looking forward to the Martkopi Centre Shoebox Appeal, where each mentor group fills a shoebox with small gifts for a child. It's such a personal way to show care and bring happiness to children who may not otherwise receive presents.

How do you think fundraising helps bring the BIST community together?

Fundraising brings our community together by giving everyone the chance to participate - whether through donating, baking, or helping to organise events.

What's one fundraising idea you think could really make a difference this year?

I believe the Martkopi Centre Shoebox Appeal could make a real difference. The donations go directly to children who need them most, bringing them joy and comfort. It's a simple yet powerful way for our school to connect with others and make a genuine impact.

Community Connections Update

Just before half term, Community Connections held another successful bake sale, raising 458 GEL in aid of Dog Organisation Georgia - our highest amount yet! Combined with previous bake sales, we have now raised a total of 1,189 GEL for this important cause.

A big thank-you goes to Nina (9A), Mr Voschenko (9A Mentor), Ioanna (9Z), Nadia (9Z), and Vera (9Z) for their wonderful efforts and creativity.

Each of these talented bakers will receive a house point for their contribution. Congratulations to Nadia, whose All-American Chocolate Chip Cookies impressed the judges and won Best Bake.

Next week, it will be Years 10 and 11 competing for the title of Best Bake and a place in the Great BIST Bake Off! Students can sign up through their mentor class or by scanning the QR code in the newsletter.



We are also continuing our Book Drive for Makvaneti Public School, whose library currently has very few books. We are collecting books of any level or language in good condition until 7 November. Donations can be placed in the clearly marked box in the secondary reception. To make this more personal, we invite students to write a short message on the inside cover explaining what they enjoyed about the book - a wonderful way to share the joy of reading.

BIST Footballers Impress in League and Friendly Matches

It's been an exciting week for our BIST football teams as they continued competing in the Tbilisi Independent School Sports League and friendly fixtures across different age groups. Our players showed outstanding teamwork, energy, and determination on the pitch.

October 28 – U13 Boys League Matches (vs. BGA & Newton)

Our U13 boys demonstrated great spirit in two competitive games. In their first match against BGA, the team fought hard and created several strong chances, finishing with a 1-3 result.



In their second fixture versus Newton, the boys continued to show determination and teamwork, though Newton secured a 2-0 win.

October 29 – U14 Boys Friendly (vs. QSI)

The U14 boys played a lively friendly against QSI, showcasing skill and sportsmanship throughout the match. Despite a 4-2 scoreline in QSI's favour, it was an excellent performance filled with enthusiasm and learning moments.

October 30 – U18 Boys League Match (vs. Newton)

Our U18 boys played an exciting, closely contested game against Newton, ending 3-4. The match featured several great goals, including standout play from Demetre E (Year 11M). Although narrowly defeated, the team's progress and fighting spirit were clear to see.

We're proud of all our players for their dedication and teamwork. More matches are coming up next month as part of the Tbilisi Independent School Sports League - you can see the schedule [here](#). Good luck to all of our teams!



Halloween celebration at the BIST!

Our students joyfully celebrated Halloween with laughter, creativity, and plenty of spooky fun! Both Primary and Secondary pupils joined in a range of exciting activities from costume parades and themed games to dancing and arts. For our Primary students, it was their very first Halloween celebration at BIST, and they made it truly special with their enthusiasm and imagination.

A huge thank you to our Sixth Form Community for their effort and creativity in organising the events. You made the day unforgettable for everyone!



-Why didn't the skeleton go to the party?

-Because he had No Body to go with!

Robert Snowden

Thomas Browning Stamp

Joe Daly Vice Principal Secondary (Academic)

Thomas Thuston

James Parker
Head of Sixth Form

October 31st, 2025

Simon Rooney

Katie Karmazyn

Sophie Kasrashvili Head of Administration

Nina Rusishvili

La Sisauri

Newsletter by:

