

"The quality of a leader is reflected in the standards they set for themselves."

Ray Kroc

UPCOMING EVENTS

[BIST CALENDAR](#)

February

9 th - 13 th Week	Children's Mental Health Week	Whole School	
9 th Mon.	Primary Parent Meetings	Online (Link to be shared soon)	3:40-5:20pm
10 th Tue.	Primary Parent Meetings	In-Person (Sign-up sheet to be shared soon)	3:40-5:20pm
11 th Wed.	Virtual Open Day	Whole School	1:00-3:00 pm
11 th Wed.	PCA Meeting	Principal's Office	8:30-10:00am
11 th Wed.	Lunar New Year	Whole School	
12 th Thu.	BIST's LISI Lake Charity Run	Lisi Lake	3:30-4:30pm
12 th Thu.	4S Class Assembly	Theatre	9:30-10:00am
13 th Fri.	Valentines Events in School	Whole School	
13 th Fri.	Primary and Secondary Non-Uniform Day	Whole School	
13 th Fri.	Last Day of Half Term		
16 th - 20 th Week	Half Term Break	Whole School	
23 rd Mon.	Afternoon Tea with the Principal (KS4&5 Y10-13)	Space Cafe	2:15-3:30pm
25 th Wed.	Afternoon Tea with the Principal (KS3 Y7-9)	Space Cafe	2:15-3:30pm
26 th Thu.	Afternoon Tea with the Principal (KS2 Y3-6)	Space Cafe	2:15-3:30pm
27 th Fri.	Afternoon Tea with the Principal (EYFS & KS1)	Space Cafe	2:15-3:30pm

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Although we have a short 5 weeks before the half term, we certainly have a lot happening in a short time! We had a very successful open day on Wednesday and many families joined us next week online to find out about why BIST is a great option for a child of any age.



If you have managed to make it into school this week for any of the events, I thank you. In this digital age, there is something still warming about face to face communication. There are various presentations in this letter if you have not been able to attend.

I was very proud to see both our staff and students leading various events across the school. Student leadership is a priority at BIST to ensure our students develop the confidence, composure and skills required in effective leadership. The success of Thursday's STEM fair, an initiative developed by our Y13 student Daria, students supporting their peers in the options process, peer mentoring or Year 6 transition are all essential opportunities for growth and holistic development that is central to our mission at BIST.

PARENT COFFEE MORNING

On Wednesday morning, we held a coffee morning to explain how reading is taught across the primary school. We discussed our phonics programme and the importance of reading in supporting students' overall development and confidence. Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend. For those who were unable to join us, here is the [link](#) to the slides from the presentation

SCHOOL MENU

Please find the menu for next week below:

[Foundation](#) / [Y1-13](#)



PRIMARY AWARDS

Outstanding Outdoor Learning

06.02.26

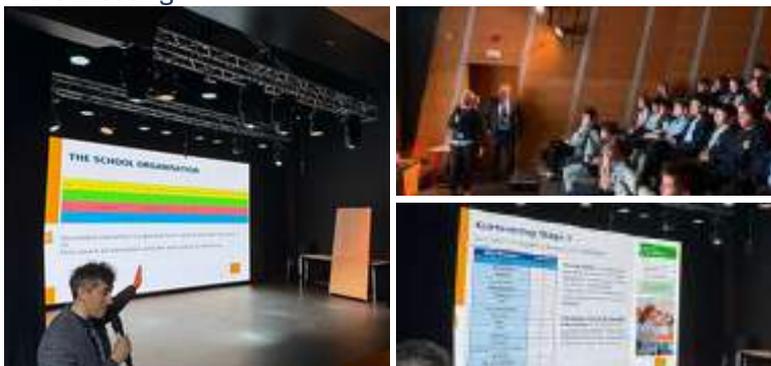
Foundation 1	Theo, Ella	Year 3W	Yuan, Moyi
Foundation 2	Gawargios, Shabdan	Year 4B	Nika, Dorothy
Year 1S	Semen, Aleksandre	Year 4S	Laura, Jan
Year 1T	Luca, Lucas	Year 5P	Savva, Misha (Mikhailo)
Year 2L	Aiden, Gosia	Year 5C	Ivan, Kian
Year 2C	Vova, Patryk	Year 6K	Lucja, Emil
Year 3M	Lloyd, Davyd	Year 6P	Constantin, Maroska

Congratulations to all our winners!

Y6 Transition Meeting

We recently hosted our Year 6 Transition Information Morning, where we were delighted to welcome students and parents into our Secondary school community. The morning was filled with excitement as students learned about life in Year 7 - from the range of subjects they will study and the length of lessons, to what equipment they'll need and what a typical school day looks like. It was a positive and engaging event, designed to help students feel confident, prepared, and excited for the next stage of their school journey.

Please find the attached [presentation](#) in case you've missed the meeting.



House Points - Primary

Year 3 & 4 Kick-Ups Challenge:

Congratulations to the Pumas for taking the lead with an impressive 92 kick-ups! Well done also to our Panthers (91), Leopards (78) and Tigers (44) for their fantastic efforts.

Year 5 & 6 Maths Challenge:

A big congratulations to the Panthers who earned 49 points for their house! Well done also to the Leopards and Tigers (45 points each) and the Pumas (38 points) for their hard work and great participation.

Keep up the fantastic effort, everyone!

PUMAS 288 Points	PANTHERS 265 Points	LEOPARDS 307 Points	TIGERS 252 Points
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Year 1 Welcomes Book Illustrator Ms Rebeca Pintos

On Tuesday morning, both Year 1 classes were delighted to welcome book illustrator Ms Rebeca Pintos as part of their English and IPC learning. Ms Pintos shared her book *Little Bee* with the children, helping them explore the important role bees play in our world.

After the reading, the children enjoyed creating their own bee-themed artwork, using paint and a variety of mixed media. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to combine creativity with learning about nature.

Here are some lovely photos capturing the morning's activities.



Celebrating Children's Mental Health Week in Primary

Next week, Primary will be celebrating Children's Mental Health Week. Throughout the week, students will explore this year's theme, "This Is My Place," which focuses on the idea of belonging. They will take part in a variety of activities designed to help them reflect on who they are and where they feel they belong.

On Friday 13th, students are invited to come to school as themselves, wearing clothes that represent their individuality. This could include national dress, favourite colours, or anything that celebrates who they are, while remaining school-appropriate.

It promises to be a fun and meaningful week of reflection, creativity, and self-expression!

3W Brings Outdoor Learning Indoors

Due to the stormy weather, 3W had to move their outdoor learning activities inside. The children worked together to build storm-proof shelters using wooden sticks, paper, hot glue, PVA glue, and tape.

Once the shelters were ready, they were taken into the courtyard to see if they could withstand the gale-force winds. It was a fantastic hands-on learning experience, and the children had lots of fun putting their creativity and problem-solving skills to the test!



Community Connections Bake Sale

A huge thank you to Jakob and Iren for their fantastic baking, and to Nita for generously donating cookies sold on the day.

Every bake was delicious, making it a very close decision, but Jakob narrowly took the win thanks to the excellent uniformity of his bakes. He will now go on to compete in the Key Stage 3 Bake Off final at the end of term. Good luck, Jakob!

The bake sale raised an impressive 316 GEL for Dog Organisation Georgia, and we would like to thank everyone who supported the event. Year 8 will be taking over baking duties next, with their bake sale taking place on 25 February. Pictured is the Bake Sale on Wednesday and also Karim, our Term 1 overall Bake Off winner, proudly holding his well-earned cookbook prize.



International STEM Fair

We are excited to share that our first student-led STEM Fair took place on 5 February! The event was a wonderful opportunity for our students to showcase their creativity, innovation, and teamwork in STEM projects.

We are proud to announce the winners of the fair:

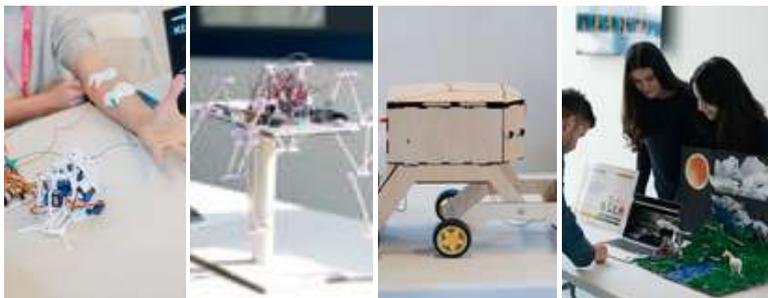
🏆 **Mariam G. (11A)**

🏆 **Mariam P. (11Z)**

Congratulations to both for their excellent projects and hard work!

Thank you to our teachers, mentors, and jury members for their guidance and support in making this event a success.

We hope to make the STEM Fair an annual tradition and look forward to seeing even more inspiring projects next year!



Y9 & Y11 Options Fair

On Wednesday 4 February, parents and students in Years 9 and 11 attended the IGCSE and A Level Options Fair to explore opportunities for their next steps at BIST. Students were given an insight into the Cambridge courses by teachers representing each of the academic departments, alongside student ambassadors already on their IGCSE and A Level courses. Families also had the chance to gain an oversight into the process of choosing and studying the IGCSE and A Level **via a presentation** and Q&A sessions with the Head of Sixth Form and Head of Key Stage Four. We hope the students now feel fully prepared to make their choices and are excited to make the next step in their BIST journeys.



Cooking Club: Mastering the Art of the French Omelette

Last week in the Cooking Club, students perfected the techniques for making a perfect poached egg. Building on this culinary journey, this week they were captivated by the magic of three simple ingredients – fresh eggs, a generous knob of butter, and a pinch of salt – that come together to create an exquisite French omelette.

With skillful hands, the students mastered this classic technique, and their enthusiasm has been ignited for further adventures in the culinary arts. It was wonderful to see their confidence and creativity flourish in the kitchen!



House Updates - Secondary

Meet Our House Captains!



Panthers – Veronika

"I'm Veronika, Year 12 and your Social Leads Community representative. I'm honoured to lead the Panthers this year! My goal is to strengthen house spirit, build unity, and make sure every student feels proud to be part of our house. Let's make this year full of energy, fun, and memorable moments!"



Tigers – Hae Jun

"Hello, I'm Hae Jun, Tigers' House Captain. I aim to be a steady and reliable leader, supporting everyone and helping events run smoothly. I want to encourage all students to participate, do their best, and enjoy being part of the Tigers!"

Leopards – Alexandra

"I'm Alexandra, proud to be Leopards' House Captain. I value teamwork, commitment, and house spirit. My goal is to unite the Leopards into a strong, supportive team where everyone feels included, confident, and excited to take part in every event!"



Pumas – Janis

"I'm Janis, Pumas' House Captain. I'm motivated, responsible, and passionate about teamwork. I hope to encourage everyone to participate, work together, and create a positive and energetic environment for all Pumas members!"

A Word from the Head of Houses - Daria Gryshchenko

Hello, school community! I'm Daria Gryshchenko, the new Head of Houses in Secondary, and I'm excited to work with our amazing House Captains to make every event and competition fun and exciting. Get ready as we bring back the spirit of unity and healthy competition. Don't miss our updates, upcoming events, and your chance to earn some house points!



Please find attached the upcoming competitions for the House Points: **Dragon Competition**, **Lunar New Year**

Clubs never stop at the BIST!

Despite the harsh weather, our extra-curricular activities never stop!

One of our most active groups is Volleyball – our students never give up, and even after a long school day, they happily play in the snow. Their dedication and energy are truly inspiring.

Our students are deeply engaged in various clubs and activities, fostering teamwork, creativity, and a healthy, active lifestyle.



OPEN DAY at the BIST

This Wednesday, 4th February, our school successfully hosted an OPEN DAY, giving families interested in our school the opportunity to learn more about the key strengths, values, and educational vision that make our school unique. The event was very successful and engaging. We had a dedicated children's area where our young guests could enjoy games and activities, while parents had the chance to explore the school and learn more about our learning environment.

A reminder that our Virtual OPEN DAY is scheduled for 11th February, at 13:00-15:00. You can register [via this link](#). If you know any friends or acquaintances who may be interested in attending, please be sure to let them know about this opportunity.



Year 13: Final Steps for University Applications

We would like to inform parents that the upcoming Year 13 university counselling sessions are being organised by Mr Caradoc Peters, our University Counsellor. These sessions are designed to ensure that students are provided with the best possible support and guidance as they refine and finalise their university applications.

Class 13Z – Monday, 9 February, Room 302

Class 13A – Tuesday, 10 February, Room 303

Robert Snowden
Principal

Thomas Browning Stamp
Assistant Principal (Co-curricular)

James Parker
Head Of Secondary

Alex Pope
Head Of Sixth Form

Ia Sisauri
Communications and Events Manager

6th February, 2026

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:

British International
School of Tbilisi