



BERLIN BRANDENBURG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

THE KALEIDOSCOPE

No 22 _ 7 March 2014

CALENDAR DATES

Fri, 7 & Sat, 8 March	ESC HS Basketball Tournament in the Sports Hall
Saturday, 8 March	BBIS PTA Party "Swing into Spring" from 7– 11pm at Grand Slam Restaurant (Rot Weiss Tennis Club) in Grunewald
Mon, 10 – Fri, 14 March	ES Book Week
Tuesday, 11 March	Director's Platform Parent Event at 7pm in the MPR
Friday, 14 March	School Counsellors' Coffee Morning at 8.15am in Room 3116 (Tina Limbird's Office)
Saturday, 15 March	BIMP Rehearsals at BBIS from 10am – 4pm (for all schools participating)
Sunday, 16 March	BIMP Concert at 5pm in the Sports Hall
Monday, 17 March	MS/HS Parent-Teacher Conferences from 10am – 6pm in the Sports Hall
Wednesday, 19 March	MYP Grade 10 Personal Project Exhibition
Sunday, 23 March	Opening of IB Art Exhibition
Thursday, 27 March	ES Parent Education Event on Algorithms
Friday, 28 March	"Eighties Mania" at 6pm in the Heizhaus

OPENING HOURS – SPORTS SHOP

Thursday, 13 March	1.30 – 3.30pm
Thursday, 20 March	11am – 1pm
Thursday, 27 March	1.30 – 3.30pm

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Peter Kotrc, Director

Dear Parents,

The distribution of the green “family” ID cards and lanyards, as announced in January, will start next week in Elementary school and continue during parent consultations on 17th March for Middle school and High school. After this date, you can pick up your cards (two per family, more upon request) from the Blue box.

On the social side, the main event this weekend is the PTA organized party for parents and staff at the Rot-Weiß Tennis Club. An evening promising a lot of fun!

For those you would like to discuss what “success” means for our children and for children in schools worldwide, the coming Platform evening on Tuesday 11th March, 19.00 (in the MPR) provides this opportunity. Based on OECD research and on Amy (“Tigermom”) Chua’s latest book (The Triple Package) we can compare ideas, expectations and research – and see how BBIS fits.

A number of you have shown interest in the SAT for college entry in the US – interesting new development can be found under <http://edition.cnn.com/2014/03/05/living/sat-test-changes-schools/> .

Best wishes,

Peter Kotrc
peter.kotrc@bbis.de

NEWS FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL

Richard Bartlett, High School Principal

MYP Personal Project Exhibition

One of the most challenging but rewarding parts of the MYP course is the Personal project that all students must undertake. It gives them an opportunity, over an extended period of time, to actively engage with an issue or interest. The Personal Project Exhibition of this year’s grade 10 class is imminent. It is sure to be an exciting and enjoyable event, as the students have been working hard on projects they are truly passionate about. Please come and see the exhibition on Wednesday, March 19th. The students will present their projects to parents and other interested members of the community from 19:00-20:30 in the BBIS sports hall.

HS and MS Parent Consultation Days

The next HS/MS Parent Consultation Days, which you will be aware of from the calendar, will take place on Monday 17th March from 10.00 to 18.00. This is an important opportunity for you to discuss your child’s progress with each of his/her teachers, to ask any questions, and learn more about the courses your child is studying. We very much hope that each of our students will have at least one parent who is able to attend this important occasion. The Parent Consultation Day will be located in the sports hall. We ask parents to bring their sons or daughters with them as we think that students are best supported when parents, teacher and students are all equally engaged in the process. You will also have received a separate letter with this information, also including a list of all High School and Middle School teachers with their school email addresses. Your child was given an

individual timetable on which he/she can make appointments (of 10 minutes duration) for you with the teachers you need to speak to.

SAT PREPARATION COURSE

BBIS will be hosting an SAT preparation course in May 2014, in preparation for the June 7 SAT exam. The course will be run by Higher Ground Learning (HGL), and will take place over a two-week period in May, each day after school and on Saturdays. The course schedule is attached to the Kaleidoscope email.

A couple of cool facets of the course:

- For students that attend 100% of the classes, HGL guarantees a 150-point increase.
- For first-time test takers, HGL uses their initial diagnostic test as a baseline score. Students who are not first-time takers will use their best score from a previous test as their baseline.
- HGL offers unlimited one-on-one tutoring time for students outside of class
- The fees for the course are:
 - 599 EUR for a minimum of 8 students
 - 499 EUR for 12+ students

Fees are due at the time of registration.

To register, students can visit www.hgl.co/register.html. Use the password [hgl2014](#) to access the course registration. If 12 or more students sign up, €100 is refundable. [The registration deadline for the course is Friday, April 18.](#)

If you have comments, questions or suggestions concerning the High School please contact me on 033203 80 360, email richard.bartlett@bbis.de, or just drop in.

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Michaela Jung, Middle School Principal

Visit to Berlin's Konzerthaus



This week, our grade 6 students had the unique chance to visit one of Berlin's prettiest buildings, the Konzerthaus, which is based at the historic Gendarmenmarkt, right in the heart of Berlin. Designed by Karl Friedrich Schinkel in 1818 in the style of classicism, today's Konzerthaus hosts many concerts and events within its four main halls. Our tour started at the Beethoven room with its exhibition and was followed by a visit to the beautiful concert hall. The large organ with its 74 registers and 5811 pipes was spectacular. For many students it was the first time they had ever been inside the impressive Konzerthaus. At the end of the visit, our students were able to sit in a rehearsal of a cello concerto by Alberto Ginastera, which was part of the South-American repertoire of the house. As it turned out, our students were able to ask the main cello player and the orchestra manager a few questions, which added further to this wonderful learning opportunity.



The questions our students asked were all well thought through and reflected how much they all enjoyed the day. Back at school, Panni Kovacs, who organized the trip, asked the students to draw pictures inspired by the music they had listened to during the rehearsal. A big thank you to all the teachers who made this great field trip possible.

If you have any comments or questions concerning the Middle School, please contact me on 033203 8036-768, email michaela.jung@bbis.de, or come and see me at school.

NEWS FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Camille DuAime, Elementary School Principal

Book Week 2014

Our traditionally busy and exciting Book Week is next week, March 10-14. Below is a schedule of events and some handy hints of what you can do to help your child be ready to participate fully.

All Week Events

The following events are taking place every day during Book Week and you should encourage your child to participate on one of the days.

Reader's Corner - The atrium of Haus 3 will be the venue for volunteers to read aloud to an audience. Choose a favourite picture book or an extract from a novel and homeroom teachers will help your child sign up for a time to read.

Bookmark Making - Use your craft skills to create your own bookmark in the cafeteria during recess. All materials provided.

Used Book Donations - We need your used books for our annual used book sale. Please donate gently used children's books (in any language) that we can sell. All proceeds will go to Room to Read to support literacy in developing countries. Books can be brought to Ms. Victor's classroom (1109) as soon as you can. Each book will be sold for 1 Euro.

Read to Feed - A sponsored reading programme that all children are asked to participate in. Full details can be found in the sponsorship/information booklet that the children will have brought home. Please ask them for it!

Chalkabration - Sidewalk chalk will be available for students, teachers and parents to be authors on the playground.

DAILY EVENTS

Tuesday

* Nick Toczec, a visiting poet is coming in to work with the children. His books will be on sale in the Heizhaus and he is willing to sign them then, but they will also be available all week. The cost is 9€ should you wish your child to buy one.

Wednesday

* Costume Parade/Assembly. The children are invited to dress up as a character from a book. They should be able to tell us who the character is and the genre of book the character is from.

* New Book Sale. We have a book supplier setting up in Haus 2 with plenty of books for sale. The books range from 4€ to 9€ for paperbacks, and up to 25€ for expensive hard covers. If you are on campus, they accept credit and debit (EC) cards as well. A percentage of book sales is donated to the library and will help build our mother tongue collection!

Thursday

* Sarah McMenemy, a book illustrator/author is coming in to work with the children. Her books are available through Amazon and she's happy to sign them for kids. There's one about Berlin which costs under 7€. If you order this weekend, you'll have it before her visit! Follow this link to order it:

http://www.amazon.de/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_1/279-9661579-2807064?_mk_de_DE=%C3%85M%C3%85%C5%BD%C3%95%C3%91&url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Sarah+McMenemy

* Used Book Sale - The book donations brought in by our families will be on sale for 1€ each in the atrium of Haus 1.

* New Book Sale. We have a book supplier setting up in Haus 2 with plenty of books for sale.

Friday

* Used Book Sale - The book donations brought in by our families will be on sale for 1€ each in the atrium of Haus 1.

* New Book Sale. We have a book supplier setting up in Haus 2 with plenty of books for sale. The books range from 4€ to 9€ for paperbacks, and up to 25€ for expensive hard covers.

"Heelies", shoes with wheels installed in the heel are quite popular right now. However, they are also potentially dangerous. The school rule is that heelies can be used on the playground, but not in the buildings. Students must retract or remove wheels except outside during recess. This has been explained and students who do not cooperate will be told they cannot wear their heelies to school. Thanks for helping your child understand the reason for this.

Next week your children will bring home two green lanyards and ID cards that says "family". All adults who come on campus will be asked to wear their ID cards. If you require more than two

because your child is picked up by someone other than their parents, you can sign for an extra one at the blue box. Please return the slip that comes with the lanyard to the homeroom teacher so that we know you have received them. This new procedure will help ensure the safety of all children.

I was away quite a bit in the weeks before the holiday as I was interviewing for a new position. I'm happy to announce that I've accepted the position of Head of Primary at the Atlanta International School in Georgia, USA. It's an excellent IB World school which runs a language acquisition program in German, French, Spanish and English. Please be assured that I will continue to give my all to BBIS until the end of the school year!

I hope to see many of you at my coffee morning on Monday. Enjoy the sunny weekend...

Upcoming Events in ES

March 10-14	Book Week: see list of events above
Monday, March 10	Principal's Coffee Morning, 8:00 in Camille's Office
Sunday, March 16	BIMP concert in the sportshall at 17:00
Thursday, March 27	Parent Education Opportunity: Math Algorithms (in David Hunt's room)
Friday, March 28	80's Mania in Heizhaus at 18:30
Tuesday, April 1	Student-Led Conferences (NO REGULAR SCHOOL)
Wednesday, April 2	MYP parent info session for Gr. 5 parents 19:00 in MPR
Monday April 7	ES Matinee in MPR, 15:15 (performance opportunity budding musicians)
Tuesday April 8	Gr. 5 PYP exhibition in Heizhaus

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me on 033203 8036-125, email camille.duaine@bbis.de, or simply drop by my office for a visit. Parents are always welcome!

SCHOOL WIDE NEWS

LINK TO THE PTA NEWSLETTER

<http://www.bbis.de/community/parent-teacher-association/pta-newsletter/>

Host Families Needed- one weekend only!

BBIS is thrilled to be hosting the [ECIS Maths Quest](#) the first weekend of April. This is a huge undertaking and we need your help. We still need host families for nearly 50 students (grade 5 and 6) coming from all over the world. Our hope is that the last homes are found this week so that we can start the matching process. You do not need to have students of the same age, just an international mindset. If you would like to host students, please fill in the form on the following page.

Thanks,
Erika Victor
Erika.victor@bbis.de



BBIS COMMUNITY HOSTING FORM

17th ECIS INTERNATIONAL MATHS QUEST
Berlin Brandenburg International School, April 3-6, 2014



Please complete this form by 30 January 2014 and e-mail it to erika.victor@bbis.de

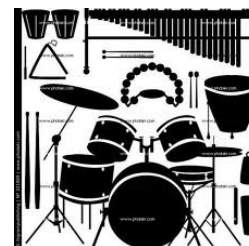
Requirements for hosting parents:

- Thursday, April 3rd, 2014: Pick up students at BBIS Sports Hall at 4:00 P.M.
Offer dinner and a place to sleep
- Friday, April 4th, 2014: Provide breakfast
Drop off students at BBIS Sports Hall by 8:00 A.M.
Pick up students at BBIS Sports Hall at 5:00 P.M.
Offer dinner and a place to sleep
- Saturday, April 5th, 2014 Provide breakfast
Drop off students at BBIS Sports Hall by 8:00 A.M.
Pick up students at BBIS Sports Hall at 20:00 P.M.
Offer a place to sleep
- Sunday, April 6th, 2014 Provide breakfast
Drop off students with their luggage at BBIS by 8:00 A.M.

Name of host family (Please write in capital letters):	
Mobile number:	
Home phone number :	
E-mail address:	
Grade of your child:	
Pets at home:	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Spoken Language(s) at home:	
Nutrition at home:	<input type="radio"/> Vegetarian <input type="radio"/> Vegan <input type="radio"/> Kosher <input type="radio"/> Pork free
Gender of students you would like to host:	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female <input type="radio"/> I am flexible.
Minimum number of students to host is 2.	Maximum number of students you would like to host:

NEWS FROM THE CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

We are pleased to announce that we are now able to offer additional drum lessons with a new drum teacher, Chris Lane, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and/or Fridays after school. Chris will be teaching not only drum set but also all percussion instruments, including tuned percussion (xylophone etc).



If you have any enquiries, please feel free to contact Val Groeling or if you wish to sign up for lessons starting in March, please fill out the lesson registration form attached to the Kaleidoscope email and return it to: val.groeling@bbis.de

Val Groeling

BBIS HOODY SWEATSHIRTS

The students/staff/BBIS community have the opportunity to order BBIS hoody sweatshirts. The BBIS panther logo will be centred on the front. Names will be printed on the back, space permitting.



The hoodies are navy blue with white print and cost 40€.

Please turn in your order form and money (exact change) in an envelope to Mrs. Perry in the PE heizhaus office.

The deadline for the Hoody Orders is Friday, 14 March.

BBIS PANTHER HOODY

Name/Homeroom: _____

Name on back? YES or NO If yes: _____

Email: _____

Size: _____

Total in €: _____

Sizes: 128, 140, 152, 164, x-small, small, medium, large, x-large, xx-large

Turn in to Ms. Perry. Exact change only, thanks!

Order deadline: **FRIDAY, 14 MARCH**

RESERVE YOUR SEATS FOR THE BIMP CONCERT

For the fifth time over 200 students from seven schools from Berlin and the Brandenburg area are meeting on Sunday, March 16th, at 5pm to perform in a Gala Concert. We are happy that students from **our school** are also participating in the different music groups of choirs and orchestras of BIMP, the Berlin International Music Project.



Our young musicians would be very pleased, if as many people as possible from our school could support them by attending the concert. Parents, godparents, grandparents, siblings, friends or neighbours – all are welcome to the music festival, to support and applaud the young musicians.

The entrance is free of charge as it was in the previous years. But for the first time this year it will be possible to **pre-reserve seats**. Each BIMP family has the possibility to book **two free seats**. **Extra-seats** can be booked by everyone for a small donation of your own choice and by using the Reservations Homepage <http://bimp-online.org/reservation>. Closing date to reserve seats is 9th of March, 2014.

Alternatively, you can come spontaneously, without a seat reservation and take one of the unreserved seats.

We hope you will enjoy again a great afternoon with quality music with your children and students at the 5th BIMP Gala Concert, Sunday, 16th March 2014, 5pm, BBIS Sports Hall.

Panni Kovacs
BIMP Coordinator

„SAMMELDRACHE“

The school needs your old/empty printer cartridges. We need as many as we can get because each container of cartridges gives us points, and when we have enough points we trade these in for electronic equipment. All types of cartridges are welcome.



Please send your empty printer cartridges to the IT Department.

Harry Klooster
Head of IT Department

KEY ABBREVIATIONS

BIMP	Berlin International Music Project
CIS	Council of International Schools
ECIS	European Council of International Schools
ES	Elementary School
ESC	European Sports Conference
GISST	German International Schools Sports Tournament
HS	High School

IB	International Baccalaureate
IB CC	IB Career-related Certificate
IB DP	IB Diploma Programme
IB MYP	IB Middle Years Programme
IB PYP	IB Primary Years Programme
MPR	Multi-purpose Room (House 3, Level 1, Room 3102)
MS	Middle School
MSA	Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
PSAT	Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test
PTA	Parent Teacher Association