



BERLIN BRANDENBURG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

THE KALEIDOSCOPE

No 21 _ 21 February 2014

CALENDAR DATES

Mon, 24 – Fri, 28 February	February Winter Break
Tuesday, 4 March	PTA Bake Sale
Friday, 7 March	International Colleges visiting BBIS at 11am
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, 6 March	11am – 1pm
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,

We proudly announce the opening of the BBIS Coffee Lounge in the recently renovated entrance area of our Boarding House. There is a coffee machine, occasionally snacks will be made available and generally it is intended to be a social area for parents (waiting for their children or just chatting over a coffee after drop-off in the morning), and for G12 and Boarding students plus for students waiting for their parents after 3pm. Please be aware that this is not a supervised area. I am happy that the PTA will support the running of the place logistically.

Now, as this venue came into existence, I must ask you to move your morning coffee rounds out of the Blue Box – there are too many confidential phone calls coming in to make this a sustainable situation, mixing private and school business. We all need to thank, however, Yvonne Buchholz for her ongoing hospitality so far!

Technology is rapidly taking over many aspects of our life, including school. Computers are wonderful tools, and note taking seems one good use for them – but there is a caveat. See this interesting piece of research from “Psychology Today”: <http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/head-the-class/201402/nota-bene-how-we-take-notes-matters>

Best wishes for a relaxing holiday,

Peter Kotrc
peter.kotrc@bbis.de

NEWS FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL

Richard Bartlett, High School Principal

High School Trends

It is interesting to observe the trends in attendance at BBIS High School and to see the importance of these for decision making: not only for the school, but for individual families. Of the total of 286 students there are currently 30% German students in the HS. Of these a small majority are girls. However, the dominance of boys in the international category mean that overall there are 20 more boys in total. We also have over 50 nationalities represented.

What is also seen as being likely as we review our statistics and records, and look to the future, is that there will be some full classes at BBIS next year, particularly in grade 11 where I anticipate waiting lists in some areas. (This current school year, for example, the IBCC was oversubscribed and closed to new applications.) This should not affect current or currently contracted students who respond to our requests for confirmation of return to BBIS/course and subject choices at the appropriate time. However, if you have colleagues or friends who are considering BBIS, please advise them to approach us as soon as possible!

Grade 10 Important Information

All grade 10 students, and their parents, should have received information about course and subject choice for grade 11 next year. It is most important that we receive replies in order to meet the

requests of the students. If you have not received this information, please contact the HS office as soon as possible.

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 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.](#)

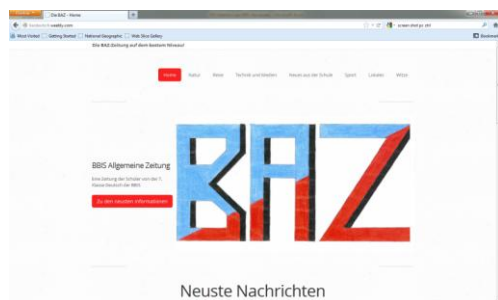
If you have comments, questions or suggestions concerning the High School please contact me on 033203 80 360, email richard.bartlett@bbis.de, or just drop in.

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Michaela Jung, Middle School Principal

GRADE 7 STUDENTS CREATE ONLINE PUBLICATION

By Fionula & August



BAZ is the latest BBIS newspaper, which was produced in Ms Giegerich's German group recently. In class, the students decided on categories, layouts and the leaders for the different sections of the publication. On top of that, each student was encouraged to write three articles for the BAZ, the BBIS Allgemeine Zeitung.

Teachers and parents are delighted to see the students' creations, Ms Jung visited the editors' offices and the page, so please don't be the only one who hasn't read it!

You can find the publication here: www.bazdeutsch.weebly.com

Editorial team: Chantal, Murti, Fee, David D. and K., Lucas, Paul K., Harry, Aaron, Ivo, Leo, Alexis, Justus & Frau Giegerich

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

READ TO FEED

During Book Week in the Elementary School this year, the children are being asked to participate in Read to Feed, a reading incentive program designed by Heifer International, a non-profit organization dedicated to ending world hunger and poverty while caring for the Earth.

The children are asked to find sponsors for each evening they read during Book Week. The goal is to promote reading and to help Heifer provide livestock for struggling families who have few resources and need an ongoing source of income. These gifts help families lift themselves to self-reliance. Sponsors set a pledge amount for each day, even a small amount will help make a difference. Each class will choose which animal they would like to provide and when they bring in the money they have collected we will see how much each class has managed to raise.

We appreciate your encouragement and support of your child while he or she participates in Read to Feed. It will not require much time on your part, but will mean less fortunate children around the world will have an ongoing source of food, an opportunity to go to school and hope for a better tomorrow.

The children have been introduced to the idea this week and full details of the programme will be published after the February break.

You can find out more about Heifer International by visiting their website, www.heifer.org

Matthew Stinziani
ES Teacher

SCHOOL WIDE NEWS

LINK TO THE PTA NEWSLETTER

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

THE WILLOW SHELTER – A LIVING SCULPTURE

The EC5 children, along with some older elementary students, are working on a very special outdoor art project – the Willow Shelter – to connect art with their unit of inquiry about shelters. Willow is unique in that the branches, once cut, can be re-planted and will continue growing. This means that

we should expect our sculpture to grow in the springtime and beyond! In fact, each year should reveal more growth and unpredictable beauty.

This project has already brought over 100 students together, working on a single community project, which they can then use themselves. Look for it, just outside of House 1.

A special thank you to Ramona Boeckler for donating the branches, making this all possible.

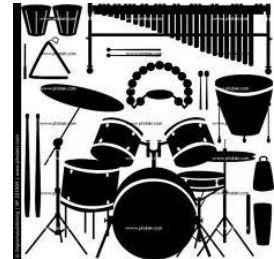
Please check the elementary art website for more pictures of the progress.





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**

NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

First of all, I would like to personally thank the following families for their help in hosting for February 7th and February 14th. Thank you for supporting the Athletic Programme, you all came to the rescue at the perfect moment:

Marie M.
Kate T.
Petra L.
Monika Y.
Cindy V.
Angela L.
Esther R.
Einar S.
Karen M.
Susanne S.
Kate C.
Friederike H.
Tamara T.
Susana B.
George K.

Thank you to the following families for hosting on February 7th, 2014:

Cynthia G.
Kerstin F.
Renee J.
Amanda F.
Klara S.
Julie K.
Lisa R.

Annette A.
Stefanie H.
Miroslav K.
Sarah K.

Housing needs for ESC tournament at BBIS, March 6-7

BBIS will be hosting the first European Sports conference (ESC) tournament on March 7-8, and for the occasion we will be hosting 70 students. We need the help of the whole BBIS community to help out with this event, as it is our biggest sports competition of the year with the ESC Track & Field that we will be hosting in May. I would like to start pairing hosting families already, as the logistic of housing.

Here is the process to help us with housing:

Registration process

1. Sign up online for housing stating which dates you can help with.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1fDh84JUUYf1_N3YZGTAqQR10An8N6YUuQpedEL2I3Xo/viewform
2. An email will be sent to confirm that students will be paired with your offer of housing. Please reply to let me know that you are indeed available and interested in hosting students.
3. Once the roster from the other school is received, an email will be sent with the pairing for each family. Please email Dominique.desormeaux@bbis.de to confirm that you have received the details for students that you will host.

On the day that teams arrive in Berlin

Teams are flying in to Tegel and Shonefeld airport. However, we are picking them by bus and driving them to the BBIS Sports Hall. Students can be picked up by hosting families at the designated time on the pairing list. In the event that flights are delayed, hosting families will be contacted to avoid any wasting time from host families.

What is ESC?

ESC is a new league that was created last year by a few international schools, which BBIS was part of, to allow our Varsity athletes to participate in tournaments against international schools with strong athletic programs and to supplement the friendly matches and GISST tournaments that we are participating in. This year, we are registered in the Volleyball Girls, Volleyball Boys, Football Boys, Football Girls, Basketball Girls, Basketball Boys and Track and Field. ESC also offers competitions in Swimming, Golf, Rugby and Tennis, which we might join in the future years as our school and athletic program grows.



- In order for students to participate in both GISST and ESC tournaments, they must maintain the minimum attendance throughout the year of 90%.
- We are continuing to follow the rule of only 2 weekends away per sport, which has been the same rule for many years at BBIS. Rest assured that we are doing our best to minimize the amount of classes missed by students.
- We are using the cheapest mean of transportation available to travel to Esc tournaments. However, due to time constraints and distance to travel, we often have to fly at destinations. We try to use low cost carriers whenever possible, to reduce the cost of travel.

As of August 2013 the following schools are full-members of E.S.C.:

American School of Barcelona (ASB)
American School of Milan (ASM)
Berlin Brandenburg International School (BBIS)
Internationale Schule Frankfurt-Rhein-Main (ISF)
International School of Lausanne (ISL)
International School of Stuttgart (ISS)
International School of Zug and Luzern (ISZL)
La Grande Boissiere, International School of Geneva (LGB)
The American School In Switzerland (TASIS)

There are currently 5 new schools applying to join the ESC league next year, under probation, and we are hopeful that we will eventually be able to have 2 divisions within the league.

ESC - PHILOSOPHY

The European Sports Conference exists in order to provide opportunities for Varsity teams in international schools located in Europe to meet in specified tournament activities on a competitive basis. Each school should work toward a common aim to achieve an efficient and well-balanced program that promotes healthy competition, sportsmanship, and full participation.

ESC - AIMS

1. To organize competitive tournaments in various team and individual sports while believing that participation by all members of the team is desirable, we recognize that this is not always possible in every game. However, every student **MUST** be allowed to play during the tournament and preferably all members of the team should be allowed to play in every game.
2. To promote sportsmanship among fellow team members, members of the opposing team, officials, coaches and spectators.

What is GISST?

At GISST we aim to provide students from German International Schools with opportunities for participation in quality sporting activities on a competitive basis. In particular, through the tournaments that that we hold, we are hoping to:

- Foster a sense of enjoyment and achievement through participation in sporting activities.
- Encourage all participants to play and perform to the best of their abilities, accepting defeat gracefully and celebrating success in a sporting manner.
- Develop positive attitudes and social skills that encourage and allow students to observe the conventions of fair play, honest competition and good sporting behaviour.
- Promote a sense of commitment and responsibility and teach our students the principle of co-operation among individuals whilst striving for a common goal.
- Inspire and develop each individual to reach their full potential in their chosen activity.
- Develop an interest in and desire to continue sporting activities in later years and improve physical fitness.
- Provide opportunities for, and to encourage social interaction with, students from other international schools, and where appropriate other local German Schools or teams.

Current members of the GISST are:

Bavarian International School	(BIS)
Berlin Brandenburg International School	(BBIS)
Berlin British School	(BBS)

International School Hannover Region	(ISHR)
Internationale Schule Frankfurt-Rhein –Main	(ISFRM)
Dresden International School	(DIS)
Berlin International School	(BERIS)
Leipzig International School	(LIS)
Internationale Schule Rhein Main – Neuss	(ISR)
International School Stuttgart	(ISS)
Franconian International School	(FIS)

Swimming

We were unable to find a replacement pool to rent lanes to keep training for GISST, which has been moved from February to April. However, we will still participate in the GISST competition, in order to allow BBIS swimmers to compete. GISST swimming is held in Frankfurt on April 4th and 5th. Students will take the train from Berlin HPF at 6:15 am on Friday the 4th and will return to Berlin in the evening of April the 5th. The cost for the competition will be around 45 or 50 euros.

If you are interested in swimming at the GISST swimming meet, you must send your swimming time for contact Jocelyn.vanderpol@bbis.de or Dominique.desormeaux@bbis.de

Distance	Style	Time
50 m	Backstroke	
50 m	Breaststroke	
50 m	Butterfly	
50 m	Free	
100 m	Backstroke	
100 m	Breaststroke	
100 m	Butterfly	
100 m	Free	

Basketball News

On February 7-8, BBIS hosted Wroclaw international school as well as BBS, Hanover and Dresden International Schools. It was a fantastic weekend of Basketball, with 16 teams participating in U14 Boys, U14 girls, Varsity Boys and Varsity Girls matches. With so many teams playing, it was a great opportunity for your students to get to know other basketball players from different schools and to gain knowledge on the game.

On February 14-15, BBIS hosted Hamburg International School and BBS, for Junior and Varsity matches. Once more, it was a great opportunity for our students to learn and get to know other basketball players from other schools.

On February 14-15, our U14 basketball teams travelled to Hamburg, where they played 2 games against Hamburg. The boys won both of their matches, while the girls lost their first match and came within a few points of winning their second match.

The requirement to participate in a GISST and ESC team is to provide housing to visiting students coming to the events that are organized at BBIS. Because we are being provided housing when we travel to other schools, it is normal to give back when teams are travelling to our school.

Dominique Desormeaux
Athletic Director

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