



BERLIN BRANDENBURG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

THE KALEIDOSCOPE

No 26 _ 3 April 2009

CALENDAR DATES

Monday, 6 – Friday, 17 April	Spring Break – no School
Monday, 20 April	ECAs begin for term 3
Wednesday, 22 April	MYP Information Evening (particularly for Grade 5 Parents) from 5.30 to 6.30 pm in the Project Room 3410/3412
Wednesday, 22 April	MYP Grade 10 Personal Project Exhibition from 7 to 9 pm in the Sports Hall
Thursday, 23 April	Sports Shop open from 11 am to 2 pm
Wednesday, 29 April	ES Principal's Coffee Morning at 8.15
Wednesday, 29 & Thursday, 30 April	Musical Mania
Thursday, 30 April	Sports Shop open from 1 to 3 pm

NEWS FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Richard Bartlett, Deputy Director

School Hours

As a result of problems with our internet service provider some parents experienced difficulty in completing our online survey about possible changes in school opening hours. Therefore we have extended the deadline for responses until 10 April. Please let us have the benefit of your opinion.

It has been suggested that the school consider changing the basic opening hours from 08.00-15.00 to 08.30-15.30. One of the main reasons for this suggestion is that much research shows that (particularly older) students benefit from a later start to the school day. No decisions have been made and we are currently seeking opinions from all members of our community; parents, staff, and students as to whether they would regard this change as favourable or not. Below is the link to our website on which you can make your opinions known any time during the next week. Please do not hesitate to contact me on 033203 8036-0 or via email, if you have any additional questions or comments.

<http://www.bbis.de/content/new-events/survey.htm>

Richard Bartlett
richard.bartlett@bbis.de

NEWS FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Camille Du Aime, Elementary School Principal

Teresa Reichelt sent out a form recently requesting information about [your enrolment plans for next year](#). Making an educated guess about growth is always tricky and we try to base our decisions on the most accurate information available, so please return that form if you haven't already.

At this point, it seems as through we will have quite a [stable teaching force with little turn-over of staff for the 2009-10 year](#). There will be no change in the EC teachers. Grade 1 may have some temporary changes but no final decisions have been taken yet. In Grade 2 we are sorry to announce that Ashley Reser has decided to return to the US, but we are very pleased to welcome Mathew Stinziani. He is a very experienced PYP teacher, currently working in Milan. He has taught at five international schools and is married to an international school teacher (though she will be staying home next year with their baby). They have both lived in Germany before (she is a German national) so the transition should be smooth for them. There are no changes anticipated in the Grade 3 team. In Grade 4 we welcome back Lorraine Jacobs-Hyde from a three year maternity leave. David Hunt will join the Grade 5 team. Kirsty Pyner will be offered any homeroom position that opens up (possibly Grade 1). Barbara Bensen has taken a sabbatical as she will be moving to California. I have not yet offered the position but I have a very interesting candidate for the German Department.

We are always looking for good people to act as [substitute teachers](#) when a teacher is out. It is not necessary to have a teaching degree and you can specify which days you are available and which grades/subject areas you are willing to cover. We use our subs a maximum of five days per month so that it stays within the "400 euros job" category. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please ask Felice for a list of the documents that are required in order to qualify (Lohnsteuerkarte, health insurance, bank card, etc.)

We had a successful [Beach Day](#) today (thanks to the cooperation of the sun)! The students played on the "beach" between House 2 and 3 and enjoyed a popsicle with their lunch! Thanks to the Elementary Student Council and Mrs Bensen for coming up with fun spirit day ideas! We've also enjoyed goodies from the PTA bake sale over the last two days. A big thanks to all the parents who contributed baked goods and the parents who ran the stall. The PTA would like to especially thank the Elementary school parents who are always so generous when asked to help with this kind of activity!



Finally, I'd like to thank all the parents, teachers and students for making our [Student-Led Conference day](#) on Tuesday such a success. The returned surveys indicate that parents enjoyed seeing their children in this role and felt informed about their child's progress. If the conference raised any questions for you, feel free to set up an appointment with the teacher.

I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable break with your children. See you April 20 for the final ten weeks of school. We have a lot of things planned and are looking forward to a dynamic spring term.

Upcoming Events in the Elementary School

April 3 Student Council Spirit Day: BEACH DAY
Spring Break begins at 15:00

April 20 Welcome back! ECAs begin for term 3

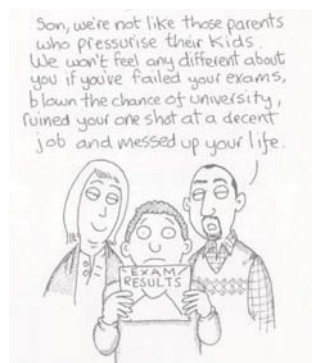
May 4-8 Trip Week

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!

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES NEWS

Dr. Christina Limbird, Head of Department

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN!



Spring is a time for renewal, growth and change, however... for the parents of our grade 12 students, it's also another season we are entering... it's final exam season! In December we wrote about how you could help prepare for the onset of the mock exam season. With May on the horizon, the "real thing" lies ahead of us and we are very aware that during this time your families' lives maybe a bit like a roller coaster and we would advise you all to spend a little time each day, especially in the months of April and May, to take care of yourselves and each other. In December the School Counsellors delivered a workshop on exam preparation and handed out a guide for all grade 12 students involved in

mock exams. This article includes some extracts from that guide that you may find useful. We hope that it will help you to help your child to cope better during this demanding period and we look forward to supporting your family in any way we can, in order that your child can perform to the best of their abilities, as they come one step closer to completing grade 12!

Advice for Parents - Exams

- Give encouragement, not pressure.
- Give support, not criticism.
- Make it easier for your child to study.
- Keep things in perspective.
- Get advice from your School Counsellors, your child's teachers, the IB Diploma Coordinator or the HS Principal if you're worried.

Advice for your children - Exams

Pamper yourself

- Remember it's important to eat and sleep well.
- Put yourself first, it is an important time for you – talk to your family about how they can make studying a little easier for you, eg. By agreeing times when you can have your own space, when they will try to be a little quieter around the house and when you'd rather not be disturbed (except perhaps for the occasional treat such as a drink or snack).

Prepare for the big day

Check...

- Have a good breakfast if you can.
- Give yourself plenty of time to get to the exam room.
- Make sure you know where the exam is being held
- Take everything you will need – extra pens, water, tissues – anything else?
- Go to the toilet before the exam starts!
- If you feel really anxious, breathe slowly and deeply while waiting for the exam to start.

Pace yourself

Read the instructions – ask the teacher or invigilator if anything seems unclear – DON'T PANIC!

- Read all of the questions, twice if necessary, and give yourself time to answer those questions you are required to do.
- Plan how much time you'll need for each question. If you're stuck on a question, go on to the next. You can always come back to the unfinished one later.
- If you're really stuck, try to have an intelligent guess anyway.
- Leave time to read through and check your answers before the exam finishes.

Perform as well as you can

- YOU'RE YOU, so you can only do the best that you can on the day.
- Knowing that you've done your best on the day may help you overcome feelings of letting anyone down.
- Don't go through answers afterwards with your friends if it is only going to make you more worried,
- Try to put the last exam out of your mind and look ahead to the next one – you can't go back and change things.

Phew!

- Exams over? Pat yourself on the back – it's time to relax and forget about them.
- If you did well – CONGRATULATIONS!

BUT...

- Remember, there's life beyond exam results. Disappointing results are not the end of the world – even if it does feel that way at the time.
- Remember, there'll be lots of other opportunities to express yourself and succeed later in life.

Don't hesitate to come and speak with one of us if you have any further questions, concerns, or if you need any help. All grade 12 exam students will be given priority by the School Counselling and School Psychology Department during the May exam time, so please encourage your child to take advantage of this offer!

We wish your children every success in their final exams.

Yours in support, advice, guidance and counselling,

Mr. Steve Gregory
Middle & High School Counsellor
PSHE Coordinator
BBIS Student Support Services
Tel. 033203 8036-320
Room 3101, House 3
Email steven.gregory@bbis.de

Mrs. Leslie Silverman Kamphausen
College and Guidance Counsellor
BBIS Student Support Services
Tel. 033203 8036-311
Room 2404, House 2
Email leslie.kamphausen@bbis.de

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

May 2009

May 2:

SAT reasoning and subject test at JFK School

May 5:

Outstanding replies from applicants declined by default where the last decision from universities and colleges was received by 31 March (except those living overseas and Extra). www.ucas.com

May 5:

SAT registration deadline for June 6 test (JFK)

May 9:

Outstanding decisions from universities and colleges on applications received by 15 January are rejected by default. www.ucas.com

June 2009

June 6:

SAT reasoning and subject test at JFK School

June 15:

Contact the JFK School if your child is interested in taking the October 2009 PSAT/NMSQT.

Reservations should be made by latest August 2008 with Mr Blount at JFK School or by contacting Ms Kamphausen at leslie.kamphausen@bbis.de

June 30:

Last date for receipt of applications for immediate consideration. Those received after this date held for clearing. www.ucas.com

Please see Mrs Kamphausen in Room 2404 if you need any other information
(Hours: Mon/Wed 8.30-14.30, Fri 9.00-12.30) or send an email to leslie.kamphausen@bbis.de

SCHOOL WIDE NEWS

LINK TO THE PTA NEWSLETTER

<http://www.bbis.de/content/new-events/index2.htm>

NEWS FROM THE FACILITY MANAGER: WE ARE EXPANDING!

Step 1 – Completed

If you would have been on campus last weekend, besides the basketball players, you would have seen several busy people. Last weekend we moved the ESL-, Design Technology-, and IT-Facilities, including the Server from House 2 Level 1 to the House 3 Level 1. At the end of last year, we had started to build the above mentioned facilities and new classrooms in the lowest level of House 3.

This level is the first level which is keyless like our Sports Hall. Doors can be opened and locked with our ID-cards. The temperature in every room sets itself to 19 degrees Celsius every evening. To change the temperature we installed touch panels next to the doors. The panels include buttons to turn on the lights as well.

We also added a second Design Technology room. Both rooms are separated by a glass wall. The smaller room houses the machines for practical work. The bigger room is intended for teaching. We are very happy with the construction work and that the move went so smoothly.

Step 2 – Ready to start

Half of level 1 in House 2 is now empty. This is for a good reason. [Now we have space to expand our cafeteria!!!](#) To meet the increased capacity of the BBIS, House 2 Level 1 will be reconstructed to include the following functions:

- Completely new kitchen area including:
 - Storage space
 - Cold storage cell
 - Preparation area
 - Scullery
 - Kitchen staff washing rooms
 - Outlet area
- Room for ventilation equipment
- Toilets for females, males and disabled
- Eating areas of 67 m², 65 m², and 71 m²
- Student IB room
- Nurse room
- Teachers room
- New access to the playground between House 1 and 2

The construction work has been planned to commence with the beginning of the school break on April 6, 2009 and to be completed by beginning of the next school year. The reconstruction will encompass the following building work:

- Demolition of columns, walls and technical installation
- Structural changes to allow for integration of kitchen outlet, and for future flexibility
- Delivery and service ramp, access to playground over new stairs

- Dry wall, suspended ceilings, and plasterwork
- New doors including fire and smoke proof elements, access to the playground and delivery ramp
- Linoleum flooring
- Paint works
- New kitchen and serving equipment
- Completely new sanitary installation including sewage pipes
- Electrical installation including network and telephone infrastructure, lighting, access control, fire alarm system, and PA

Up to 10 construction contractors will be involved in the building process. Due to the short schedule for the completion of the reconstruction, the school break in April will be utilized for the most noise and transport intensive demolition work. After the April break the construction work will be organized so that the most noise intensive work will be executed only after 3:00 pm.

Anna Kampe
Facility Manager

NEWS FROM THE SUMMERCAMP COORDINATOR

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

As promised in earlier articles, I will write regularly to you to update you all on the registration of students for the Summer Camp. Although we have only just started and it is still early days, the sign-up is going quite fast and we have a total of 30 students signed up already. I have also spoken to many families who have not yet signed up but are planning to do so in the coming weeks.

Numbers

Please see the table below with the camps and the number of students who have signed up:

	5-7	8-11	12-16
Week 1	English/ Multi-Act (3)	English/ Multi-Act (2)	English/ Multi-Act (0)
	Football/sports (1)	Football/sports (2)	Climbing/adventure (2)
	Fun games (2)	Adventure circus (1)	Film/ Theatre (0)
Week 2	English/ Multi-Act (2)	English/ Multi-Act (1)	English/ Multi-Act (0)
	Football/sports (3)	Football/sports (3)	Climbing/adventure (0)
	Fun games (5)	Adventure circus (2)	Film/ Theatre (0)

Promotion

At last I would again like to ask you to help us in promoting these wonderful summer camp opportunities, on the BBIS campus, within your local community. If you are in need of posters or more detailed information, contact me and I will provide that for you. If you have signed up, try to get a friend or neighbour interested to join you for a great adventure over the summer.

Information

Camp information can be found on the BBIS website under BBIS community. This includes general and detailed camp information, camp registration forms as well as the terms and conditions. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Joost Langendonck
BBIS Summer Camp Coordinator, summercamp@bbis.de

NEWS FROM THE MYP COORDINATOR

Dear Parents,

Are you interested in Latin Dance, web design or the history of film? Would you like to see a model of a bike park? Can we tempt you into sampling some home made chocolate or vegan food? Then please join us for the [Personal Project Exhibition](#) on Wednesday, [22 April](#) at 19:00 in the BBIS Sports Hall!



All Grade 10 students have been working on their Personal Projects since September, and last week we even had two horses on the campus in order to inform elementary students about horse riding as part of a Personal Project.

During the exhibition on the 22 April, over 40 creative and challenging projects will be on display. The Students have chosen the topic for their project themselves, normally it is something they have always wanted to try out or a topic they feel passionate about.

[Here are a few more examples from this year's list:](#)

How can I design and create an electric guitar?

How can I help problem children to gain self-esteem with the assistance of horses?

How can I write a part of a musical that could be staged at BBIS?

How can I learn enough sign language within six months to have a simple conversation?

How can I raise money for charity by designing a T-Shirt?

How can I effectively improve the quality of life of disadvantaged people in Indonesia with the help of a micro sewage plant?

On the evening of the 22nd, each student will be able to present their project to interested parents and members of the BBIS community, so please come and see all those amazing projects!

Kind regards,

Michaela Jung
MYP Coordinator

P.S. Should you be a parent of students who are new to BBIS and the IBO Middle Years Programme, the MYP Information Evening might be of interest to you, too. Please find the times and location listed in the calendar dates above.

ADVERTISING ON BBIS SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

"Resgatar a dignidade de crianças e jovens promovendo a transformação do meio social"; "To give dignity to children and young people and transform their social environment"



BBIS School Newspaper donates to a very worthwhile charity called ACER based in São Paulo, Brazil. Please help us by advertising on our back page. Donate 30 euros to ACER for a box with your company's corporate logo. The newspaper will reach the whole BBIS community. We are bringing out two more issues this school year and if you would like to advertise in both we will give a deal of 40 euros! For further information, please contact rebecca.unger@gmail.com.

What is ACER?

Acer was founded in 1993 to help the street children of central São Paulo. Today ACER's activities are focussed in Eldorado, Diadema, a poor and violent suburb on the outskirts of São Paulo, South America's biggest city. ACER offers social and cultural programmes to more than 420 children between the ages of 5 to 21 years old and their families. It runs a community lending library with 7,000 volumes and more than 4,200 cardholders.

It organises an annual street party for the children of Diadema and two popular bazaars, which I used to help out with! ACER helps give very poor children a better start in life. It teaches self-respect, honesty and hard work. It is always looking for more money to help with more programmes. We hope you can help us help them. Find out more about ACER at www.acerbrasil.org.br. ACER is run by Jonathan Hanney and is supported by the Children At Risk Foundation, London, England.

Rebecca Unger
BBIS Student, Grade 10

BBIS WORLD CHALLENGE PROGRAMME 2009/2010



BBIS World Challenge
Invites
All High School students for the next academic year

We call upon all those of you who are adventurous, want a challenge and would like to share a life altering experience with life skills and memories gained that you will never forget.



We are delighted to announce that we are launching a very exciting school programme for students to research and then lead their own expedition to Kenya in June 2010.

A World Challenge in Kenya provides students with a huge variety of opportunities and challenges in a stunning part of the world. For the acclimatisation phase the team could consider exploring Kenya's spectacular Rift Valley, climbing the extinct volcanic peaks of Mount Longonot or the Menengai Crater and visiting the beautiful lakes of Naivasha and Nakuru, teeming with wildlife.

There are a numerous parks and reserves in Kenya, home to a vast range of animals including the 'big five', and teams will have the opportunity of seeing these beautiful creatures close at hand.

The acclimatisation phase is followed by the more challenging part of the expedition; a longer trek invariably up Mount Kenya, the highest mountain in Kenya and the second highest mountain in Africa after Kilimanjaro. It is a starkly beautiful mountain with its magnificent cliffs and glaciers, tarns and alpine meadows.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact myself or Graham Maltby at the school via email or phone.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Ben Dutton
Email: ben.dutton@bbis.de
Phone: 033203 8036-0 or -302

Graham Maltby
graham.maltby@bbis.de
033203 8036-0 or -315

„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

