



BERLIN BRANDENBURG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

THE KALEIDOSCOPE

No 19 _ 6 February 2009

CALENDAR DATES

Wednesday, 11 February	Elementary PYP Open Morning from 8 to 10.15 am
Wednesday, 11 February	Informal Musical Soirée at 7 pm in the MPR
Thursday, 12 February	Sports Shop open from 11 am to 2 pm
Friday, 13 February	MS/HS Report Cards go home
Mo, 16 to Fri, 20 February	February Break – No School

NEWS FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL

Richard Bartlett, High School Principal

Teachers Learning

“All people within the school community...continue to learn alongside the students we teach.” This is part of our stated school belief. As many of you know BBIS spends a lot of effort on keeping its teachers well trained and up to date. Being an IB World School we have a responsibility to maintain the highest standard possible. Our teachers regularly visit other schools and attend conferences, most of which take place in vacations or weekends. Apart from the formal learning that takes place at such times the opportunity to meet colleagues from other schools, swap ideas, and support each other is a particularly useful function. After school today a group of over 50 teachers and other staff from BBIS will set off to Hannover for the annual Association of German International Schools conference. They will spend the weekend attending workshops and seminars on a wide range of topics that will generate many new ideas both in the classroom and more generally, and help us improve BBIS still further. I am especially pleased that several teachers have been selected to give presentations to colleagues in other international schools about our work here. I would like to thank all those who are spending their weekend in this way and assure you that we all plan to be back in school on Monday morning!

Trip Update

The Grade 9 trip has just been announced and the students will look forward to “Combining Nature and Culture” in the Sächsische Schweiz.



Course Building Blocks

- Boat expedition with tent-camping
- Introduction to climbing and belaying on rocks when possible
- Variety of problem-solving exercises and interaction challenges
- Various methods of reflecting and giving feedback, to transfer the learning experiences to everyday life
- Alternative building-blocks such as raft-building, focused nature experiences, complex team

Assignments are all available if asked for during the planning phase

Learning Goals

- Strengthening the self-awareness through direct interaction with the group and with themselves
- Improving social skills
- Taking direct responsibility for oneself and others
- Strengthening the class/group community
- Using Challenge, Action, Fun, and Relaxation as a basis for motivation

Programme includes

- Individual development and execution of the course programme
- Leadership and guiding the group process by experienced, professional instructors
- Instructors take over responsibility for the participants during the programme
- Lodging in tents or dorm rooms and all meals included
- All safety gear
- All transfers and transport within the course
- Certificate of Achievement

If you have comments, questions or suggestions concerning the High School please contact me on 033203 8036-0, email richard.bartlett@bbis.de, or just drop in.

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ben Kestner, Middle School Principal

This week I talked about [social networking](#) and particularly [facebook](#) in assembly.

We saw some video clips from the organization NetSmartz (www.netsmartz.org) which explained the dangers of posting information on the web. The most important message I would like us to get across is that students need to be aware of the dangers of posting information about themselves on line and the dangers of posting information about other people.

I definitely do not take the approach that social networking is bad. In fact social networking has been around for hundreds of years, it's just that now the opportunities for bullying, harassing and harming each other are greater, easier and more anonymous.

Before this technology, if a student wanted to say something unpleasant about a fellow student the options included; speak to them personally, write a note and give it to them or start saying things about them to others which gradually spread. These methods of bullying of course still exist today, but tend to need some form of premeditation before carrying them out. Now students can communicate instantly from their phones and computers at home. They can type comments about people or post a picture or video of fellow students from the safety of their bedroom, press 'return', and the job is done. The message may then be seen by potentially hundreds of fellow students instantly. It's much easier than before.

Students, particularly in middle school need a great deal of personal and social guidance. They are struggling to come to terms with puberty and all the issues this brings. The dangers of the solitary technological 'bubble' some students surround themselves with at home are immense.

I have written a much longer article on my blog www.benkestner.wordpress.com if you are interested.

English is our Shared Language

At BBIS we promote and encourage mother tongue language development alongside the common language of instruction, English. Students know that they need to be sure that they include everyone when they talk to each other in a social setting. For example; if there are a group of students talking in one language and someone else in that group doesn't understand, then they should all speak English, so as not to make the other student feel uncomfortable.

In general, the students need to think about this:

Look around you when you speak...

...to make sure that all can understand.

...to make everyone feel included and welcome.

If you have any comments or questions concerning the Middle School please contact me on 033203 8036-768, email ben.kestner@bbis.de, or just drop in.

NEWS FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Camille Du Aime, Elementary School Principal

The grade 4 students put on a fantastic [Science Fair](#) yesterday in the MPR. The central idea of their current unit is that science is a way of investigating that combines our natural curiosity with a systematic way of thinking. In order to give the students some practical experience applying the scientific method, each child was asked to design and experiment within the discipline of physics. There were lots of great investigations into light, sound force and motion. For example, the photos below show Arthur bending light by shining the flashlight through water. Anjolie is holding up a class in which a marble is floating in honey, on top of which a grape is floating in water, on top of which a cork is floating in oil. Finally, Constantin is demonstrating the ease with which a bottle of water can be lifted when using a double pulley system. Well done grade 4 students and teachers. Also, congratulations to the parents! Much of this work was done at home and it was great to see that the kids maintained ownership of their projects. There were plenty of “kid fingerprints” on their work!



You received a flyer by email about next week’s [Elementary PYP Open Morning](#). If you have not yet sent in your reply slip, it’s not too late. Even if you never send in your slip, please come (though having an estimate of numbers allows us to prepare better)! The teachers have prepared some lessons that we hope will show you the range of differentiation strategies that go on in the classroom.

I’m off to Hannover for the Association of German International Schools conference this weekend. I look forward to the exchange of ideas between teachers from other schools!

Upcoming Events in the Elementary School:

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|-------------------|---|
| Wed, Feb 11 | Elementary PYP Open Morning (parents visit classes) |
| Fri, Feb 13 | Pizza Day (deadline for payment Tues, Feb 10) |
| Mo-Fri, Feb 16-20 | Vacation |
| Wed, Feb 25 | Principal’s Coffee (8:15 in her office) |

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

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

February 2009

Mid-year reports due for most American universities March 2009

March 2009

March 4

Career Day at BBIS

March 31:

Universities and colleges should aim to have sent decisions on all applications received by January 15.

www.ucas.com

SAT registration deadline for May 2 test (JFK)

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.bbisd.de/content/new-events/index2.htm>

GRADE 4 HAD IT'S SECOND ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIR

All three classes of the 4th grade at BBIS participated in the second annual Science Fair, which took place in the Multipurpose Room on Thursday, February 5. The three homeroom teachers, Mr. Jesse Worley, Mr. David Hunt and Mr. Nathan Shrom, have been working on this project for about three weeks. Each class had a focus area within the general subject of Physical Science. The students, working in pairs or on their own, had a topic based on a question that they had developed with the support of their teacher. Each project included an experiment which was designed to answer the main question that the students came up with. The scientific process was followed carefully and was displayed on their colourful and informative posters. Parents and students were invited as well as other teachers. The young scientists demonstrated and explained their experiments. This action concludes the unit: "Let's Investigate."

David Hunt

Grade 4 Homeroom Teacher



YOUR HELP NEEDED

We are still looking for BBIS families to host for **one night**, on **Friday 27 March**. BBIS are hosting the GISST Varsity Girls Basketball tournament on Friday-Saturday 27-28 March. We have to house **70 girls for one night**, nothing fancy; sleeping bags on sofas are ok! Normally we like to house in 2's or 3's. For more information please contact Christine Hatakka (christine.hatakka@gmx.net) or Hannele Rintanen (hannele.rintanen@t-online.de). Or contact me in school (stephen.vandersteen@bbis.de)

Steve Vandersteen
Athletic Director
Tel.: 033203 8036-302

ADVERTISEMENT/DONATION FOR BBIS YEARBOOK 2008/2009

The Yearbook team is currently working on this year's edition of our BBIS Yearbook.

As the Yearbook is being read by the entire school community and also by new families arriving in Berlin, it is an excellent opportunity to place your **advertisement** in the Yearbook and thus make your company or services known to a wider public. If you are interested in placing an ad in the yearbook you are very welcome to do so.

If you would like to support the printing of the coming Yearbook by making a **donation** you are very welcome to do so, too. As in previous years, donations are announced in the Yearbook. You will receive a donation receipt for your tax-return.

If you place an ad or make a donation you will get the Yearbook free of charge. Please contact me by phone (033203 8036-184) or by email (tamara.hager@bbis.de) if you have any questions or comments.

BBIS Yearbook Ad -Technical Data

Print submissions:	PDF, TIFF, EPS
Pictures:	Minimum resolution 300 dpi
Printing colours:	CMYK/Euroscale
Data media:	CD-ROM, DVD
E-mail transmission:	Up to 10 MB maximum

Formats and Prices

Whole page:	750 EUR*
a) 1/1 portrait 190 x 280 mm within type area	
b) 1/1 portrait with bleed: 210 x 297 mm + 2 mm trim on all sides	
Half page landscape:	400 EUR*
a) 1/2 landscape 190 x 140 mm within type area	
b) 1/2 landscape with bleed: 210 x 148 mm + 2 mm trim on all sides	
Quarter page portrait:	200 EUR*
a) 1/4 portrait 90 x 140 mm within type area	
b) 1/4 portrait with bleed: 105 x 148 mm + 2 mm trim on all sides	

* All prices exclusive of value added tax

Send to

E-mail: tamara.hager@bbis.de

Deadline for submission: 15 April 2009

Tamara Hager
PR, Marketing, Fundraising

„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

