



BERLIN BRANDENBURG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

THE KALEIDOSCOPE

No 22 _ 6 March 2009

CALENDAR DATES

Thursday, 12 & Friday, 13 March	Grade 4 Opera "The Magic Flute"
Thursday, 12 March	Sports Shop open from 11 am to 2 pm
Monday, 16 to Friday, 20 March	Book Week
Tuesday, 17 March	Usborne Books - Book Order/Sale from 8 am to 4 pm
Thursday, 19 March	Sports Shop open from 1 to 3 pm
Monday, 23 to Friday, 27 March	La Fête de la Francophonie
Monday, 23 March	MS Trip Information Evening at 6 pm
Wednesday, 25 March	ES Principal's Coffee at 8.15 am
Wednesday, 25 March	MS Instrumental and Small Ensemble Evening at 6.30 pm in the MPR
Thursday, 26 March	Sports Shop open from 11 am to 2 pm
Thursday, 26 March	IB Information Evening at 5 pm
Thursday, 26 March	IB Art Show at 7 pm in the Heizhaus
Tuesday, 31 March	ES Student-Led Conferences
Thursday, 2 & 30 April	Sports Shop open from 1 to 3 pm
Thursday, 23 April	Sports Shop open from 11 am to 2 pm

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ben Kestner, Middle School Principal

[Trip Information Evening](#)

The Middle School trip information evening will be on Monday, March 23 at 6 pm. The evening is a chance for you to meet the chaperones for the trips and to receive information including itineraries, and rules. At 6 pm, I will meet all parents to go through some collective information and then we will break off into different rooms where you can meet the trip leaders and get more information about each individual trip. I do hope you have a chance to come and meet the wonderful staff who are going to be responsible for your child during the week.

Making Good Choices.

Children of middle school age are going through many changes both physical and mental. They are reaching a stage of their life where they place increasing importance on being noticed and accepted by their peers and this is a time when peer pressure becomes a major influence in the many choices a child faces.

The school/parent relationship has a very important role to play in terms of helping children make good choices in terms of being healthy, safe and respectful to others.

What are 'good choices'? They are choices which keep students safe and healthy and they are choices which give them opportunities for friendship and self confidence. It is very important for us to help students take responsibility for the choices they make and take responsibility for the things they choose to involve themselves in.

Parents choose BBIS because of the culture we foster. Our mission statement emphasizes respectful, caring and encouraging behaviour within a diverse community as the backbone of who we say we want our community to be. But we can't achieve this without parents' help. There was a famous Rabbi who once said "Educating children without parental involvement is like heating a house with the windows open."

Families have a set of values which are defined through traditions and moral or sometimes religious beliefs, which are sometimes known as 'family values'. Our school's mission statement is a living document which declares what we value as a community. It is a statement of our 'family values'. For the parent/school partnership to work most effectively we need to have shared values. Schools have an impossible task ahead of them in terms of helping students make 'good' choices if the values or definition of what good choices are differ.

An interesting activity each family reading this could try would be to sit down with all the members of the family and come up with a family mission statement -a statement that defines the family's values and goals. Once this statement is agreed upon and written down, the family could take out the school's mission statement and compare.

What things are the same what are different? The choices we make have an effect on others and it is important for us all to be able to reflect on these and move on. It's also important for us to reflect on what we do to support the communities' shared set of values at school and at home.

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 schedule for [student-led conferences](#) went out today. You should be receiving a sheet of paper from your child, telling you your scheduled time. There is one big change. The student-led conferences will take place on Tuesday, March 31, not April 1 as previously announced. The reason for the change of date is to allow the students to show their parents the sports skills they've been working on (this was a very successful part of last year's conferences). Since the MS/HS parent-teacher conferences will now take place in the Sports Hall, we had to adjust the date. We're very

sorry if this is an inconvenience and if the change means that you cannot come on Tuesday, the teachers are also happy to reschedule your conference for Wednesday after school (but you won't be able to see the sports aspects).

The [Early Childhood](#) team has been doing a programme review now that the EC 3-4 year old programme has been in place for four years. The result of our evaluation process is a few changes to the programme for next year. We have been concerned that the programme is too challenging for the children who are two years old at the beginning of the year (currently children must be 3 by December 31). Therefore we have changed the cut off date (for the 3 year old programme only) to August 31. We will also add an extra assistant in the afternoon, so that we have more flexibility, i.e. children who need a longer rest can have it, while there are still enough personnel to oversee those who don't need a sleep. Finally we believe that the mixed-age nature of the programme works best when there is a balanced number of 3 and 4 year olds, therefore we will accept up to eight of each age group. We believe these changes will greatly improve the class make-up and ensure that the rich and varied programme that is offered is suitable for the students in the class. If these changes affect you (perhaps your child's birthday falls between August 31 and December 31), please contact Teresa Reichelt or me so we can discuss the situation. Thank you.

As we approach spring, you may be in the market for shorts, skirts or T-shirts! Please have a look at the [Sport Shop opening hours](#) for the next two months right at the beginning of this Kaleidoscope.

[Upcoming Events in the Elementary School:](#)

Thu, March 12	Grade 4 Opera "The Magic Flute", 9 am, Vienna Cast
Fri, March 13	Grade 4 Opera "The Magic Flute, 9 am, Berlin Cast
Mon – Fri, March 16-20	Book Week
Fri, March 20	Book Character Parade
Wed, March 25	Principal's Coffee (8:15 in my 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](#)

[March 2009](#)

March 31:

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

BOARDING SCHOOL NEWS

Dr. Christina Limbird, Head of Department

We have been up and running for 6 months!

We are delighted to report that all our students have managed the transition from their lives in their home countries to being members of BBIS Boarding School. The students can be proud of their favourable school reports and of the fact that they have managed life and school in Berlin and Brandenburg so wonderfully. With spring around the corner we are looking forward to enjoying our courtyard together during longer daylight hours.

A request for help: A place to stay during spring break for two Korean boys and a possible two week internship for each of the boys

Two of our Korean boys (17 and 18 years old) could use your help. Unfortunately, we were informed this week that the place they were going to stay at during the April break will not be available. Their lives would be very enriched if BBIS families could take them in during spring break from Friday, April 3, to Sunday, April 19, 2009. In addition they would benefit greatly if they could complete a short two week "Practicum" at a doctors office or a hospital. Both of the boys are planning to study medicine. If you can offer something or if you have any suggestions, please send me an e-mail at: whitney.sterling@bbis.de or call me at: 0178 8036 020.

Thanks for your help in advance,

R. Whitney Sterling

Head of Boarding School

SCHOOL WIDE NEWS

LINK TO THE PTA NEWSLETTER

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

HUMAN RIGHTS CLUB AUCTION

The Human Rights Club Auction is right around the corner on March 18. All proceeds will go to the Bolivia project and the auction will be held during High School assembly.

We are asking for donations for items to auction off. Here are some ideas:

Art

Music

Books

Cakes and baked goods

Lessons (music, language, dance, yoga...)

Anything really – that you think would sell!

If you plan to bring a cake/baked goods please send an email to Jenn Wood: jenn.wood@bbis.de
Please bring all donations to room 2418.

Thanks in advance for your support,

The Human Rights Club

MIDDLE SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL AND SMALL ENSEMBLE EVENING

Middle School is organizing a first time ever Instrumental and Small Ensemble evening. It will be a fun, informal venue of sharing musical talents with each other. Come to support and enjoy the music!

When: Wednesday, March 25, 18:30; Where: MPR

Anna Kovacs

MS Music Teacher

BOOK WEEK MARCH 16 – March 20

The Elementary school will celebrate Book Week this year with the following activities.



Book Fairs

Two booksellers, from Usborne Books and Storytime Bookshop will be conducting Book Fairs during the week.

Tuesday, March 17: Usborne Books.

Parents only to purchase books. Audrey Schneider will set up the Fair in the Atrium of Haus 2 starting at 8:00am and she will be there for the whole day.

Wednesday, March 18 & Thursday, March 19

Diane Pantelleri will set up the Fair both days from 11:00am – 3:00pm. She would like classes to book in to view and purchase books. Students can buy directly or can put books aside for their parents to purchase later on in the day.

Puppet Show

Audrey Schneider has kindly volunteered to run a puppet show for the EC/Grade 1 classes during their Book Week time in the Library.

DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) Everyday

Annie will come around and surprise classes by ringing Camille's hand bell. Everyone in the class has to then stop and drop everything and read for 10 minutes.

Book Character Parade: Friday, March 20, 8:30 am

Student Council is helping the Library to organize a Book Character Parade. Students and staff will be encouraged to dress up as a favourite Book Character. We will parade through the school following Annie (like the Pied Piper) ringing her hand bell!

'Storytime Adventure' for Grades 2-3

"We'd like to go a wandering...." - through the pages of books!

Join Annie and Tamzin – clad in costume, for a rip roaring story time adventure! Each class will experience 20 minutes of poetry, stories, action songs and activities.

'Create a living book!' for Grades 4 -6

After a brief instruction on the art of writing short stories, each class in groups of 4-5 children will then be asked to write a few lines or small paragraph (time allowing) which will then be read aloud and joined together to create a story. The emphasis for this exercise is on fun and letting the imagination flow spontaneously! As an added bonus, the class can then take their story back to their class with an option of later creating a cover and title for it. If the class chooses to do this, the finished book can then be brought to the library where it will be displayed.

BOOK SALE: USBORNE BOOKS – AT HOME AND SCHOOL

Usborne Books at Home and School will support the BBIS Book Week on Tuesday, March 17 from 8:00 – 16:00 (Lower Atrium) with a book order/sale. Parents, students & staff are welcome! Usborne Publishing, UK is a leader in the field of high quality English language books and a pioneer in internet-linked resources for children. Stop by and review the great selection of fiction/non-fiction books, browse the complete catalogue and place your order. (cash payment; delivery ca. 10 days via the library). - 60% of total sales generated will benefit our school library!

INTERNET LINKED NON-FICTION....science, nature, history...

STICKER BOOKS...fairy tales...

THINGS TO DO BOOKS...fairies, mermaids...

FARMYARD TALES...with the duck...

1001 THINGS TO SPOT....bugs, wizards, fairyland, pirates...

PUZZLE ADVENTURES

PHONICS READERS / BOOKS W/CDs

FICTION IN SERIES

SPORTS & HOBBIES

REPORTS ON MATH COMPETITIONS IN BRUSSELS AND MUNICH

ISMTF Junior Math Competition 2009

Three hundred and thirty-eight Students from about 30 schools in Europe and Africa gathered at the International School of Brussels to participate in a major event – The ISMTF Junior Math Competition. On the 12 February 2009 the BBIS delegation (Lisanne, Anna, Justus, Alexander and our coach Mrs. Tatiana Uspenskaia) departed early in the morning to Brussels. We were lucky not to be affected by the strike at Tegel Airport that day.

The trip to Brussels was an exciting event. Besides the actual competition, we did some sightseeing in the city of Brussels (with some stops at chocolatiérs to try the famous Belgian chocolate) and went to the Technopolis Science Museum. All the time with us – our math teacher and coach, who either gave us an insight into Math history or advice for the competition. Every now and then we had fun, when Mrs. Uspenskaia came up with some interesting ideas – Learning some basic Russian words or just dancing outside in the fresh air. We did not have a single free minute. We were always on the move.



Being in Brussels, you would expect to live in a Belgian host family. But they came from the Asian country of Bangladesh. They were very kind to us and wanted to make our stay in Brussels as comfortable as possible. Although our school did not win a prize at the competition, it still was a very successful trip. In my opinion, participating is even more important than winning.

I think we all have learnt a lot during the trip. A big THANK YOU to our coach and everyone else who had made it possible for us to go to Brussels. Last but not least I would like to say that the organisation of the event at ISB was really fabulous. Next year we will need YOUR help when the Senior Math Competition will be held at BBIS. I, personally, am already looking forward to this important event.

Alexander T. Klinner
Grade 10 Student

ISMTF Senior Math Competition 2009

This year the ISMTF Senior Math Competition was taking place in Munich. On the 27 March 2009 nine students from 11th and 12th grades travelled to Bavaria's capital to represent the school. The students enjoyed a tour through the historical city, tasted traditional Bavarian food and had lots of fun spending there weekends doing math. Students have improved; Alex Koenig and Daniil Perets achieving 1st and 2nd place in the Sunday Chase competition. Katy Hatakka, Benjamin Ziomek and Byung ok Kim doing best in the Team Competition with 17th place out of 57. Finally Byung ok Kim and Daniil Perets achieving the best scores from BBIS on the Individual Contest, places: 26 and 29 out of approx. 170 contestants.

Dr. Tatiana Uspenskaia, HS Math Teacher



BBIS SUMMER CAMP 2009
10-14 August 2009 and 17-21 August 2009

Dear Parents, Students and Staff Members,

I am very pleased to let you know that after a very positive and exciting Winter Camp to Austria we are now looking ahead to our Summer Camps at BBIS. After an extremely successful inaugural year, with 83 students participating, we are pleased to announce that we will return with more exciting and new camps during the last two weeks of the summer holiday.



This year our camps will be expanded with a video and a circus camp as well as a specific football and sports camp. The nice mix of activities per age group will hopefully create something of interest for your son or daughter. Not all the camps are confirmed yet but this will be finalized soon.

The camps cater for 3 different age groups and run for one week. Below you will find the schedule of the camps on offer. The sign up procedure will start in two weeks from now. More information regarding the sign up procedure will be announced through the Kaleidoscope and the school's website and will be on a first come, first served basis.

Overview of camps available this summer 2009

	5-7 years	8-11 years	12-16 years
Wk 1+2	English enrichment/ multi activities camp (confirmed)	English enrichment/ multi activities camp (confirmed)	English enrichment/ multi activities camp (confirmed)
Wk 1+2	Football/ sports camp (confirmed)	Football/ sports camp (confirmed)	Climbing/ adventure camp (to be confirmed)
Wk 1+2	Fun adventure camp (to be confirmed)	Adventure summer circus (confirmed)	Film and theatre work shop (confirmed)

General information

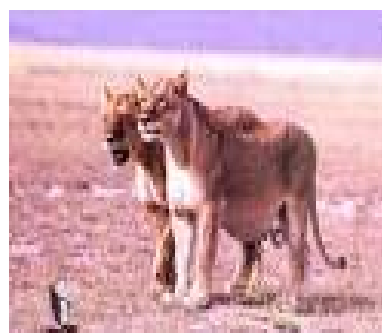
When: week 1: 10-14 August, week 2: 17-21 August
 Camp time: 08.30 – 15.30
 Where: on BBIS campus
 Costs: 260 Euros per camp, per person
 For whom: open to any student 5-16 years of age

For more specific information on each camp, we will update the BBIS website, under BBIS community (www.bbis.de) as well as the information notice board in House 3. Our aim is to have this done in the coming week.

Kind regards,

Joost Langendonck
BBIS Summer Camp Coordinator
Email: summercamp@bbis.de
Phone: 033203 8036-302 (PE office)

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

NEWS FROM THE FRENCH TEACHERS

The French department is organizing “La Fête de la Francophonie” for the first year. It’s a worldwide celebration of the French-speaking world.

It will take place from the 23 March to the 27 March with different events all week long. Indeed, we are planning on sending some French learners to teach elementary kids, there will be exhibitions of students’ works, a pétanque tournament, bake sales, musical events etc. We would also like to have a fashion show or exhibition about costumes from different countries in which French is the home language.

For that we would need different outfits. So if you have some and are willing to lend them for this special event, please contact the French department. Your “beau geste” will be sincerely appreciated. We will take great care of your belongings and return them right after the show/exhibition.

Soazig Purenne and Julien Le Sourd.
soazig.purenne@bbis.de
julien.lesourd@bbis.de

„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

