



BERLIN BRANDENBURG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

THE KALEIDOSCOPE

No 29 _ 29 May 2009

CALENDAR DATES

Friday, 29 May	Graduation at 6 pm in the Sports Hall
Monday, 1 June	Whit Monday (National Holiday) – No School
Friday, 5 June	ES Spring Concert at 1 pm
Thursday, 11 June	MS UN Day
Friday, 12 June	ES Sports Day from 8.15 am to 3 pm
Friday, 12 June	Middle School Party
Wednesday, 17 June	Information Evening on BBIS CAS Project at 6 pm in Room 3404
Thursday, 18 June	Grade 8 Science Fair
Friday, 19 June	Informal Musical Soirée III
Saturday, 20 June	BBIS Summer Fest from 11 am to 3 pm
Monday, 22 June	BBIS Sports Awards Banquet
Tuesday, 23 June	EC Summer Concert at 8.30 am
Wednesday, 24 June	MS/HS Sports Day from 8.30 am to 2.45 pm
Wednesday, 24 June	Grade 5 Moving-On Ceremony at 3.15 pm
Thursday, 25 June	Grade 8 Moving-On Ceremony
Friday, 26 June	Last Day of School - Early Dismissal at 11.30 am

OPENING HOURS – SPORTS SHOP

Thursday, 4 June	1 – 3 pm
Thursday, 11 June	11 am – 2 pm
Thursday, 18 June	1 – 3 pm
Thursday, 25 June	11 am – 2 pm

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ben Kestner, Middle School Principal

Middle School Concert

Thank you to all those who came to the wonderful Middle School Concert last night. It was really nice to see so many parents there. The students have been working hard in class to prepare for the concert and they gave some excellent performances. It was also great to hear the Elementary Choir as well as some High School involvement.

There are so many people to thank for putting on an event like this, but the most important is [Panni Kovacs](#) for spending so much of her energy and time to give the kids at our school the opportunity to shine. Panni is a very experienced choir director who is asked by professional organizations to come and direct and we are very pleased to have her expertise and enthusiasm as part of our school.

Middle School Party

The last Middle School Party of the year will be on June 12th. The starting and ending time will be announced shortly.

Middle School UN Day

The seventh grade English and Humanities classes have started a project on the United Nations which culminates in a day of debates and discussions on June 11th. This promises to be a very special occasion and a great journey of discovery on many levels.

Joint Orchestra

In a couple of week's time, we will be holding a meeting at our school of the heads of Music from the International Schools in Berlin. The aim of the meeting is to discuss the possibility of organizing a joint orchestra or choir project for next year, which could end with a big concert. We will keep you posted as to how things develop.

Ben Kestner's Blog

A reminder that you can read about my current thoughts on education matters on my blog: www.benkestner.wordpress.com.

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

During the long summer vacation kids have lots of free time. This may mean lots of unsupervised time on the computer. I'd like to share with you some things I have found helpful in keeping a reasonable level of control/awareness when it comes to my own [children's use of the internet](#) (they are currently 13 and 14).

My main "tool" is that I keep all internet access in public parts of the home. In my home, the family computer is in the kitchen so that people are in and out all the time. This prevents kids from purposefully accessing sites that are questionable and also makes it easier to stay available to help younger children who might encounter questionable material and not know what to do about it.

I also create opportunities for discussion about internet related issues. Talking about your own experiences/challenges in what is basically new territory for all of us, helps keep the conversation as an exchange of information, rather than an interrogation.

Finally, investing in a filtering system that allows you to set perimeters is a worthwhile passive protection but does not replace the other two “tools” I described.

At a recent grades 4-5 assembly, I surveyed our students to see how many of them were using social networking systems such as Facebook. Half of the grade 5 students said they had Facebook accounts (even though there is a minimum 13 year old rule for registration). Since Facebook is a relatively new phenomenon, I would expect that by the end of the school year most Gr. 5 students and many grade 4 students will be on Facebook on a regular basis. I asked the same question at the grades 1-3 assembly and most internet use was game sites.

Social Networking sites (Face book. Twitter, etc.) are platforms, which according to my son allow you to “play games, take quizzes, write on people’s walls, watch videos, look at pictures, talk to people”. They are very powerful tools for connecting with people, but are also vulnerable to abuse. Children who know each other may feel that the format allows them to do/say things that they would never do/say in a face to face encounter (i.e. on-line bullying). People who don’t know the children may try to approach them and may not be very honest about themselves and their intentions.

In terms of specific advice, my kids say there are three things kids need to know as you enter the world of social networking systems:

1. Do not give any private information (name OK, but no address or specific location).
2. Only “talk” to people you already know.
3. Tell an adult about any thing you find upsetting.

I’ve also looked at a number of websites on internet safety and found that a UK based site called Kismart was most useful. Below is a survey, meant to test your comprehension of information that is on their website. If you take it and feel you are not “websmart” please do some research on the Websmart website (www.kismart.org.uk) or any other similar source. Internet use is a part of our children’s lives and keeping up with our children’s technological competence is probably the greatest knowledge challenge we face as parents.

However, I believe that the real answer to all parenting issues is building your relationship with your child. No matter what issue you are trying to work through, the factor that will matter most in your ability to solve it, is how well you and your child get along. So don’t agonize over the challenges of raising children in a web 2.0 society. Go for walk, talk over dinner, read a good night story, apologize if you lose your temper, hug them even when they are driving you nuts ... That’s what works.

Websmart Quiz

- 1) How can you make your next Google search more safe?
- 2) What can you do to check if online information is correct?
- 3) What keys can you press to instantly get rid of pop up adverts?
- 4) What can you win by participating in our competitions?
- 5) What is the fourth TOP TIP about?
- 6) What can you use as your gamertag or username instead of your real name?
- 7) What is a ‘griever’?
- 8) What is the name of the song that you can write a third verse to in order to win a free poster?

- 9) What website could you check out to find the best legal music downloading sites?
www. _____ .com
- 10) You should only chat with people you ...
A. meet in chat rooms.
B. know in real life.
C. think have cool names.
D. complement you.
- 11) What is an 'IP Address'?
- 12) How long do photos you post online last?
- 13) What could happen if you leave Bluetooth on all the time on your mobile phone?
- 14) What should you do if you get a rude or nasty text message from someone?
- 15) Who should you check with before you post photos or video clips on your SNS?
- 16) What is one crucial piece of personal information you should keep to yourself at all times?
- 17) True or False: You should have a public profile on your SNS?
- 18) What kind of Net Nasties could get on your computer if you share files on a P2P network?
- 19) Are all file sharing networks illegal? Explain.
- 20) What does this symbol mean ©?

Upcoming Events in the Elementary School:

June 1	NO SCHOOL
June 5	Elementary Spring Concert (1 pm)
June 12	Elementary Sports Day (all day)
June 23	EC Concert (8:30 am)
June 24	Grade 5 Moving On Ceremony (3:15 pm)
June 26	Last Day of School (11:30 am dismissal)

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

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>

NEW BBIS FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN “TAKE A SEAT”

On 8 May 2009 we started our new fundraising campaign [Take a Seat](#) to support the purchase of new chairs for the BBIS Sports Hall. The response has been immediate and beyond all our expectations. On behalf of the school I would like to thank the following parents who have already made a generous donation:

Alexandra Becher
Maximilian Kunte
Barzani
Dres. Muhle, Gewalt and Tosch-Muhle, Anke
Emilia Schreck
Ha, Yinyoung and Ha, Minyoung
Mertens
Seeling Family
Young Gyu Ahn
Ensser Family
C. and R. Zimmermann
Ines and Frank Hennig
Dr Qingjun and Lnhua Zheng
Rachela and Patrick Reich
Carsten R. Eggers
Beat and Monica Geissler
Dr Schultz Family
K.-W. Liebrecht

Kiene IT – Service & Consulting
Reifen-Müller, Georg Müller GmbH & Co. KG
EMB Erdgas Mark Brandenburg GmbH
HENNIG Haustechnische Gesamtplanungen
AHNER/BREHM

Altogether **66** chairs have been donated by these parents!

If you have any further questions about our campaign, please have a look at our website (<http://www.bbis.de/content/bbis-community/donations.html>) or contact

Tamara Hager
Fundraising, PR, Marketing
Tel. 033203 8036-184
Email tamara.hager@bbis.de



NEWS FROM THE CAS COORDINATOR: BBIS COMMUNITY, ACTION AND SERVICE PROJECT

HFH Global Village, <http://www.habitat.org/eca/>
Build a House in Skopje, Macedonia

Students currently in grades 9 and 10 are being invited to participate in a House Building Project with Habitat for Humanity in the first week of summer 2010.



We need to start preparing **now**. We need a team of at least 8 students and up to 15.

All students who participate will earn valuable Community, Action and Service hours that are required for all Grade 11 and 12 students. Because the project will be in the summer of 2010, students will have completed Grade 10 and can start their CAS programme.

Students will need to commit to a year of preparation, fund raising and a solid week's work in Skopje, Macedonia. An initial €500 will be required in October and the students will then fundraise up to another €1000 each during the year. The costs cover flights, accommodation, food, donation to HFH and building supplies.

If you are interested in finding out more please come to the Information Evening or contact me.

Information evening: Wednesday, June 17, 6 pm, Room 3404

For details please contact

Mr. Simon Brodie
BBIS CAS Coordinator
simon.brodie@bbis.de

NEWS FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA COORDINATOR

The New BBIS High School Diploma – Getting the bigger picture of the world of business and work!

Starting in August 2009 BBIS will offer a new alternative for Grades 11 and 12: the 'BBIS High School Diploma'. The unique curriculum will focus on Business Studies and set of core subjects in combination with exciting internships in companies and organizations outside school. The High School Diploma aims to provide students with 'hands-on', career-oriented learning opportunities, broadening access to the curriculum and catering for the specific needs of individual students. Of course, internships and real-life experience will enhance applications for jobs and colleges when students leave school.

The BBIS High School Diploma is geared towards students who want to earn a secondary school certificate enabling them to study in North American university systems, private European universities, technical or university preparatory colleges in Germany or to pursue non-academic training after BBIS. Many other international institutions of higher education also recognise high school diplomas. Our college counsellor will work closely together with each student to help them find their path beyond BBIS.

If you or your company/organization can offer students suitable internship placements, we would love to hear from you!

...and also for further information on the programme please contact

Julia Peters
High School Diploma Coordinator
julia.peters@bbis.de

NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

BBIS are crowned overall GISST school champions for 2009! Second year running!

After last week ends GISST tennis tournament results BBIS have now scored enough points where they cannot be caught by the second place school. And we still have the GISST athletics tournament to come next week!!

Tennis results:

BOYS OVERALL 1st place (4 GISST points)
Ville Fagerlund, Zach Hellman, Yutaro Fujiyama, Anthony Bielenstein

GIRLS OVERALL 3rd place (2 GISST points)
Sarah Hellman, Dana Gelerman, Savia Weidinger, Valerie Loer.

For your diary:

GISST athletics, Sunday-Monday, 7-8 June

BBIS SPORTS AWARDS BANQUET, Monday, 22 June, 19.00 in the Sports Hall

To celebrate the achievements and success of our athletes and teams for this year. Slide show with music, awards to students in all sports and teams and to announce the BBIS FEMALE AND MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR. After the awards there will be refreshments in the fitness room upstairs. ALL students are welcome along with their families.

For more information contact the PE office or Hannele Rintanen or Christine Hatakka from the PTA.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Steve Vandersteen
Athletic Director
Tel.: 033203 8036-301/302
stephen.vandersteen@bbis.de

“AKTION TAGWERK”

On Tuesday, 23 June 2009 BBIS will take part for the fourth time in a fundraising initiative called “Aktion Tagwerk – Your Day for Africa” (www.aktion-tagwerk.de). On this day High School students have the opportunity to spend one day working in a company of their choice, instead of going to school. The money raised through this effort goes directly to school projects in Burundi.

This social initiative was founded in 2003 and is under the patronage of German Federal President Horst Köhler. The idea behind it is simple. Students can trade in their schoolbooks and notebooks for garden shears, paint brushes, or microphones in an effort to assist underprivileged youth in Africa.

The money raised is donated to the NGO Human Help Network. HHN then invests the donations in a variety of development projects in five countries in Africa: Angola, Ruanda, Burundi, South Africa and Sudan.

This year's student representative for "Aktion Tagwerk" is Saskia Stolk. She will introduce the initiative to the other High School students at assembly on June 3rd, present the projects, show a movie to illustrate where last year's money went to and also give more detailed information to interested students. Students will also receive blank work contracts and flyers with more information about the "Aktion Tagwerk".

With the contracts students can go to potential employers, explaining the initiative and asking for a job on June 23rd. Potential employers can be found everywhere: the shop around the corner, the local supermarket, the farmer down the street, the company where the parents are working..... The students then need to bring a copy of the signed contract to the High School Office. That way we know where they will spend the day and on the attendance register this will be marked as a school activity.

If you as parents are in the position to offer a job to one or two students on June 23rd then please let me know. I can then allocate those jobs to students who have not succeeded in finding a job for themselves. There are already 20 jobs on offer for interested students.

We hope that many of our students will join in this work day for a good cause and help make this a successful event. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or to get in touch with "Aktion Tagwerk" directly.

Thank you,

Kathrin Puehmeyer
Assistant to the HS Principal

What is the "Aktion Tagwerk"?

- The basic idea: A voluntary social action of students during one school day for a good cause.
- The money earned on that day goes directly to projects helping children and youths in developing countries.
- On that day students experience school in a completely different way and they have got a chance to get an impression of a work environment.
- The initiative can be seen as a one-day work placement, e.g. in the shop around the corner, in mum's office ...
- The action of our students here will directly help students in Africa.
- Last year more than 195 000 students all over Germany earned a total of more than 1.6 million Euro that went to projects in Africa.

Contact persons for "Aktion Tagwerk" at BBIS are:

Kathrin Pühmeyer
kathrin.puehmeyer@bbis.de
Tel. 033203/8036 – 110

Saskia Stolk (student representative)
Federal office Aktion Tagwerk e.V.
Walpodenstraße 10
55116 Mainz
Tel: 06131 – 9088100
info@aktion-tagwerk.de

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS - ES SPORTS DAY ON 12 JUNE

General information

Like last year, we will be running a Sports Day for the Elementary School students on our own campus. It is a day of fun, action but also one of team work and collaboration. Above all it is a wonderful get together and one that provides the students with an opportunity to show what they have been doing in our subject and that Physical Education is for all.

The Sports Day will start in the morning 8.15 am with an opening with all classes, from EC3/4 to grade 5. At 9 am the EC3/4 up to grade 1 will go indoor in the sports hall for their Day of Sport which will finish at 11 am. Grade 2 till grade 5 will be outside for the whole day with breaks and lunch time included. All classes will meet outside at the end of the day for a final whole Elementary School activity before we will thank everybody and end the day.

The students will be doing track and field events but also fun activities like sack race and team games like football. Last year was a fantastic event and both students and parents fully enjoyed it.

Would you be willing to come and help?

To run a day like this we are looking for volunteers among our parent body. Each activity will have a PE teacher to run it so you would be assisting them. We are also looking at jobs like umpiring, score keeping, first aid (assisting our nurse). In general there are many small things to do and all the help is welcome. If you are keen to be involved in this wonderful day please inform Joost Langendonck by email (joost.langendonck@bbis.de) what you would like to help us with. We are looking at 20 to 30 helpers so... bring a friend!

Thank you very much for your help already and we hope to hear from you or see you on the day.

Joost Langendonck
On behalf of the PE department

BBIS SUMMER CAMP 2009

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff,

The end of the year is coming closer and the registration deadline for the summer camp is near. The [official deadline is June 5](#). Registration is still going well although some camps still have quite a few places open.

We have a very exciting programme for our Middle and High School students with a Climbing camp as well as a Film and Theatre camp. For more detailed information on these camps I would like to direct you to the BBIS website where detailed camp descriptions can be found.

Our younger students have plenty of opportunities with a Football and Sports camp, English Enrichment, Fun Games and an Adventure Circus camp. These camps are for the 5 to 7 and 8 to 11 age groups.

The camps will take place on our school grounds during the last two weeks of the BBIS summer break. The exact dates are; 10-14 August and 17-21 August.

If you are interested, please inform me by email or register by filling out the registration form which can be found on the website (see the link above).

One of the goals of our camps is to offer a chance to all students from outside BBIS to come and join activities on the Seeberg. To be able to reach those interested students and their parents, I would like to ask you again to spread the news about our camps within your own community.

Website link: <http://www.bbis.de/content/bbis-community/index.htm>

Thanks for your support!

Joost Langendonck
BBIS Summer Camp coordinator
Joost.langendonck@bbis.de

BOOKS NEEDED FOR NEW HOME LANGUAGE PROGRAMME

Dear Parents,

We would like to create a library for our new Home Language Programme. If you have books – old or new ones - you do not want to keep, please donate them to this new library. All sorts of books are welcome (both children's books and book for young adults, books in all languages ...)

Please leave your books with myself in room 241 I.

Thank you very much for your help!

Claudia Schmidt
On behalf of the Home Language Team

BBIS SUMMER FEST – KIDS' MALL

There is an opportunity to find new homes for your children's old toys, books, videos, sports equipment etc.! Clear out your cupboards, spring-clean your cellars and bring us those homeless toys which are still in good condition.



For your convenience, two of our BBIS parents, Kerstin Kuhle or Barbara Landers-Schultz, will be at the front of the [Hotel Berolina](#) (building next to the BBIS main entrance/reception) on the following days to take your contributions: [Friday, 5 June, 8.00 - 08.30 and 14.30 - 15.00](#)

Thank you for your generous support as always.

Barbara Landers-Schultz



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

