



IN THE LOOP

25th August 2023 UPDATES FOR BMIS SECONDARY PARENTS

Our Mission

"We are a diverse and welcoming community in a joyful learning environment that promotes well-being, sustainability, and inclusivity and celebrates growth as success".

HOW DO YOU BUILD A LIVING MISSION STATEMENT?

There was much excitement as our students crowded through the portal to be welcomed by teachers keenly awaiting their return and the first day of school had begun! Following Monday's orientation, it was heads down and back to learning, and of course, some fun thrown in. Our students are really enjoying the new outside seating areas, including brightly coloured furniture and platform areas in both courtyards. Even the new grass has taken well, so no more muddy patches when the rainy season begins.

One of the main priorities at this stage of the year is to get Week Without Walls up and running. We call on your support in submitting the permission forms to classroom tutors, completing the Indemnity Forms online and making the bank transfer. The final deadline for this is September 1st. Since we are extending learning beyond the classroom and into the community all students are expected to attend and will be marked as absent if they don't participate in a week of service activities, team building, learning new skills, and lots of fun in the process.

Another priority was for our students to become fully acquainted with the BMIS Mission Statement introduced last year. How better to do this than by making a graphic representation on the field from PE equipment and the students themselves. I'm sure that after an hour and a half of problem-solving, collaboration negotiation, and lots of creativity the words are now embedded in their memories. While unpacking the meaning of what lies beneath these words has been reinforced in the classroom.

This is a friendly reminder that all students are required to come to school wearing their school uniform: White on top, dark blue/black on the bottom. Please know that the uniform store has plenty of white polo t-shirts in all sizes available if you need any. Round-neck white t-shirts were ordered and should be here soon. The uniform store is open from 7:00 to 7:30 am and from 2:00 to 3:30 pm.

All the best for the exciting year ahead!
Lesley Peacock, Secondary Principal



OVERVIEW:

- Message from the Principal
- The Building Project
- Orientation
- MYP Independent Reading
- Alumni Climate Change Presentation
- Sports Plus
- Student Council Elections
- Up and Coming Events



Compare - August 1st to the Start of School



Teacher Orientation Sharing teacher's cultural backgrounds



First Secondary Assembly





MYP Independent Reading Has Begun!

MYP students have already begun choosing independent reading books that are both challenging and fun. Each week, students read and discuss their chosen books for one lesson, promoting well-being and joyful learning during the school week. Students are choosing reading groups and books that are inclusive for all reading levels, and their teachers are asking them to view progress in independent reading by their ability to grow as sustained readers. Please encourage your child to read independently at home, as independent reading is just as important to student growth as any other homework they could do. Plus, it's fun!

Richard Braithwaite

Climate Change Presentation from our Alumni

In Individuals and Societies, Grade 6 have started their first explosive unit on the hot topic of Climate Change. We are always delighted to make contact with experts in the field and if we're lucky, they may even agree to come in and speak to our students directly. This week, we managed to get a former BMIS graduate to come and speak to our Grade 6 students about his current work within the field of Climate Engineering at The University of British Columbia in Vancouver.

Harishankar Krishnan was a BMIS student from reception until 2019 when he finished his Diploma. He was our former STUCO President and Valedictorian amongst many other achievements. Hari prepared a fun, interactive and inspiring presentation for the students about the effects of Climate Change and the various ways to engineer solutions for the future...Be sure to ask your children what they learned!

Romana Hajat



ECP's

The Extended Curriculum Programme (ECP) will be starting next week on Monday 28th August. The ECP will run for six weeks and will allow students to engage in activities that will improve their physical, emotional and mental wellbeing. The competitive sports this term are Netball, Boys Football and Basketball and will involve competitions in Kamuzu Academy and in Blantyre. Everyone should take advantage of the activities that we offer, including our incredible service element that includes Ecowarriors, Interact and Student Council to name a few.

Pool Heating and Basketball Court

At the beginning of August, BMIS installed 20 solar panels to help heat up our swimming pool so that we can make the water more inviting to our students! As of today, the water is 5 degrees Celsius warmer than what we would normally expect at this time of year. In addition to this, we are in the process of bringing a state of the art basketball court up from South Africa to provide our students with a durable, flatter and softer surface than what we currently have. The court will come with brand new, NBA approved basketball frames and net and two new court surfaces in BMIS colours. We have also created more seating so that parents and the community can enjoy watching their children play.

Mission Statement House Activity

On the first day of school we wanted to remind all students for what we believe and stand for at Bishop Mackenzie. The Secondary PHE team created a joyful and inclusive learning activity where each house was given two important words from our mission statement that they had to recreate with items from the sports container. They then had to make the rest of the sentence up using their bodies! A drone was flown up and captured the picture of every student in secondary being involved in creating the entire mission statement.

School Gym

As we begin the school year I want to remind all Grade 9 - 12 students that the school gym is open every day from 2-4pm. The PHE Team is passionate and committed to creating a happy and healthy community where sport and the gym are at the center. Last year we made great strides in creating a healthy gym culture for both male and female students and we want to push on and continue that again this year.

Neil Black

Student Council at BMIS

At BMIS, we have a very active Student council(STUCO) whose aims are to serve the student body by providing student opinions to the administration and school board, raising funds for various student body and campus needs, cultivating school spirit and aiding student awareness of youth, community and world concerns. BMIS STUCO gives students an opportunity to grow personally and contribute positively to our school community, while also developing leadership skills that will benefit them in their academic and professional pursuits.

BMIS Secondary STUCO is made up of elected members of Core positions including President, Vice President (Runner-up from the Presidential Election), Service Student Coordinator, Social Impact Director and Activities Director. The rest of the student council is made up of Class Representatives for each of the tutor groups.

Monday 28th August

Campaign Week begins

Thursday 31st

-Service Student Coordinator, Social Impact Director, Activities Director speeches (Upper Hall)

Tuesday 5th August

-Presidential Speeches and Elections (Assembly)

-Class Rep Speeches and Elections (Tutor)

-Core Candidate Election (Tutor)

Friday, 8th September.

Presidential Election and Core member election results will be announced

Inauguration

Ms. Blessings Banda

BISHOP MACKENZIE INTL SCHOOL

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2023/2024

MONDAY 28 AUGUST
- PRESIDENT AND CORE MEMEBER CAMPAIGN WEEK BEGINS

TUESDAY 29 AUGUST
- CAMPAIGN RALLY DURING LUNCH CAFETERIA

TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER
-PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES AND VOTING
-CLASS REP SPEECHES AND VOTING
-CORE CANDIDATE VOTING

FRDIAY 8 SEPTEMBER
-PRESIDENTIAL AND CORE MEMBER ELECTION RESULTS
-INAUGURATION

BISHOP MACKENZIE INTL SCHOOL
STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS
5TH SEPTEMBER 2023

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

Neil Nambiar

Tamanda Mbang'ombe

Tamanda Tambala

Gedeon Raimi

Its time to choose class Reps!

CLASS REPRESENTATIVE ELECTIONS

If you would like to run for Class Rep for your class, let your teacher know and write a short speech sharing:

- Your vision for BMIS
- What qualities you bring to the role
- Why your classmates should vote for you

Open House-Wednesday 30th August

I hope you will be able to join us for the Secondary Open Evening next Wednesday. You will have the opportunity to meet your children/s teachers, and hear more about the subjects taught, and ask plenty of questions. It is important for you to know the subject teachers of your children/child in advance so that you can locate their tables.

BISHOP MACKENZIE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

SECONDARY OPEN EVENING

Dear Parents/Guardians,

You are cordially invited to our Secondary School Open Evening to meet your child's teachers, and find out more about their subjects, routines, and support services.

We look forward to you joining us and working in partnership with the school.

The Secondary Team

Will be held at Canteen on August 30th:

ManageBac-help with setup: 5.30 pm-6.00 pm

Open Evening: 6.00 pm-7.30 pm

Contact Us
0111 756231 | 0111 756264
www.bmis.mw

Bishop Mackenzie International School, Barron Avenue, Area 3, Malawi

BISHOP MACKENZIE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
STUDENT SERVICES

Coffee & Connect

BMIS Family Workshops

Time? 7:30am
Where? Lower Hall
When? See Below!

Date	Topic
21 September	Online Safety: Promoting safe usage of technology
26 October	Wellbeing for All: a community approach
16 November	Strategies to Support Your Student at Home
18 January	Inner Self Talk
15 February	Neurodiversity
21 March	Healthy minds: Supporting our children through challenges
16 May	Transitions: Supporting Children through Big Changes
6 June	Preparing for a Big Break

"Family-school-community partnerships are a shared responsibility and reciprocal process in which schools engage families in meaningful and culturally appropriate ways and families take initiative to actively support their students' development and learning."

NATIONAL CENTER ON SAFE SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Up and Coming Events

- Monday 28th August Start of ECP's
- Monday 28th August STUCO Campaign Week
- Wednesday 30th August Open Evening 6.00-7.00 pm in the canteen
- Thursday 31st August STUCO Champaign Rally
- Friday 1st September Student Service Learning Fair 11.35 am-12.10 pm
- Tuesday 5th September STUCO elections and Assembly 7.10-8.00 pm
- Friday 8th September STUCO Inauguration 11.40-12.15 pm
- September MYP Parent Evening 6.00-7.00 pm in the BOS
- Thursday 8th September Yr 13 College Evening 6.00-7.30 pm in the canteen