

23rd February 2024

# IN THE LOOP

23rd February 2024

UPDATES FOR BMIS Secondary Parents

## BMIS Student Profiles

Our objective is to develop profiles for BMIS students, teachers, and parents, with each group contributing insights into their roles within the BMIS community and their aspirations in line with our Mission. The time has come to consolidate this effort, starting with our students. Since October several tutor sessions have been allocated for students to discuss and examine what is a 'global citizen' and how this is manifested within the BMIS community from their perspective. According to their comprehension levels, our students actively participated in contributing to a shared definition of 'intercultural learning and global citizenship'. These sessions have continued, fostering discussions and examining resources, evolving as the key themes from the Mission Statement were finalised as part of the strategic planning process.

Three posters will encapsulate the aspirations of BMIS students, juxtaposed with our Mission, Vision, and the IB Learner Profile defining what it means to be a student at BMIS. Similarly, a poster for teachers will illustrate how they embody our mission and vision in their teaching and interactions within the school community. This will be invaluable during the recruitment process, providing prospective staff with a deeper understanding of our school's culture. Furthermore, a parent poster will convey the perspectives of parents in being part of the BMIS community and the shared culture we cultivate. This resource will be beneficial for new parents facilitating their integration and buy-in into our community. The project provides the opportunity to showcase our new branding and utilize the work that epitomizes the unique qualities of

Lesley Peacock, Secondary Principal  
l.peacock@b



## OVERVIEW:

- Message from the Principal
- Carnival
- Service
- Move This World
- Neurodiversity Week
- International Mother Tongue Day
- Subject Up Dates
- Quiz Night
- Grade 11 College Counselling check-ins
- Wizard of OZ
- EAMUN
- 80th Anniversary
- Up and Coming Events



11-15 MARCH

ALUMNI STORIES

BMIS ALUMN SHARE STORIES OF THEIR TIME AT BMIS AND WHAT THEY ARE CURRENTLY UP TO!

# BMIS AT 80

19 APRIL

80,000 MILES FOR 80 YEARS

CELEBRATE 80 YEARS OF BMIS BY COLLECTIVELY WALKING, RUNNING, AND CYCLING 80,000 MILES.

# EVENTS

TBD MAY

LEGACY TILES

LEAVE YOUR MARK AT BMIS! ALL BMIS CURRENT AND FORMER BMIS FAMILIES, STUDENTS, AND ADMIN ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN LEAVING THEIR MARK ON CLAY TILES THAT WILL BE LAID ON THE SCHOOL GROUNDS.

3-7 JUNE

BMIS COMMUNITY MURAL

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US IN PAINTING THE BMIS MURAL!

19-24 AUGUST

JOIN US FOR A REUNION WEEK TO CELEBRATE BMIS' 80TH ANNIVERSARY AND REUNITE WITH FORMER STUDENTS, TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATION AND FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL.

## A l'agence de Tourisme

This week, students in Phase 2 and 3 conducted a speaking activity 'A l'agence de tourisme' in French. They had each researched a French-speaking country or region of their choice (La Reunion, La Guadeloupe, le Maroc, le Senegal, La cote d'Ivoire, etc...) and written a brochure using convincing language and making a connection with the reader. Once they created their brochure, they played the part of a travel agent and answered questions from potential tourists and promoted their country. It was a lively, informative session during which students spoke in French the whole time. Pascal Rezende



## An Amazing Effort from Stuco

A mixture of Valentine's Day and Carnival, the best of both worlds! Friday night was buzzing with activity. Around the quad, Stuco had set up rooms offering a range of games and entertainment. Comfortable chill-out areas were ideal for sipping mocktails and admiring the lighting decorations. The ice cream van proved extremely popular not to mention the candy floss. This could all be danced off in the breakout space and room made for a delicious braai to finish up the evening.



## Locker deposits

If students would like to use the locker, please send a MK5000.00 to this account. Parents should put the name of their child and reference locker

Account Name : Bishop Mackenzie International School

Account No : 9100002382374

Bank : Standard Bank Branch

Branch : Lilongwe

Please report missing items immediately to Mr Lawrence in the Secondary office. Thank you

## Service Projects

Students in Grade 10 are engaging in service projects to help prepare them for the CAS work they will take part in in their DP years. This includes brainstorming impactful initiatives, investigating issues, researching the need for help, planning, and setting meaningful goals. Many are cooperating with current after-school service activities and other NGOs. This will develop their leadership, teamwork, and critical thinking skills, as well as equip them with a service mindset that will empower them to overcome challenges and embrace the opportunities of the following years.

Here is a look at each Service group's project:

### *Interact (Gaia Pomodzi)*

Only 13% of girls complete upper secondary school in Malawi, and among the poorest children, this falls to 2%. In Malawi, 42% of girls are married before the age of 18, and 9% are married before the age of 15. Cognisant of these dire issues, CAMFED is an organisation that works to integrate into Malawian society and aid in mitigating this barrier to education for secondary school girls to enable their full potential. In Interact, we have been planning and researching the ways in which we can contribute and integrate into this society considering matters of ethics, personal abilities, possible constraints, and models of action. As passionate individuals about the subject of education, we believe this project will be impactful for both women in Malawi and a valuable learning experience for us.

Fatima, Vanshika

### *Permaculture Gardens*

One of Malawi's biggest issues, is their consistency in creating large landfills, because of these landfills, large sectors of areas become poisoned, animals die from ingesting the pollution and it can cause diseases. Our goal is to clean and educate local villages on the problems that arise from land pollution. Our plan is to go once every two weeks, in which we will travel to these large communities that suffer from large landfills. Once we have sorted and removed the trash that covers the land, through the help of the community, we will start to create gardens in these areas, planting crops such as beans, cassava, cabbage, and pumpkin leaves. Through the use of crop diversity, it doesn't ruin the soil's nutrients. Throughout this period we will be educating the community about the problems that arise through landfills, as well as solutions they can take to stop this from happening. We will teach about more educated ways of growing their food. This allows for us as well as the community to clean up Malawi together.

Lucas, Nicholas, Khush

### *Sportssync:*

Sports Sync aims to address issues in schools in Malawi's sports communities, including equipment scarcity, limited knowledge access, and a lack of ability to do certain sports. Sports Sync will work with sports coaching to get connected with schools and, in return, will help with fundraising and coaching. Lack of equipment hinders schools' sports, leading to fewer sports being played which can mess with physical growth while limited knowledge access gets in the way of everyday activities. Through collaborative efforts, Sports Sync endeavours to enhance sports engagement and opportunities within Malawi's school communities.

Themviso, Stuart, Luis, Mateo, Zidaan, Muhammed, Yaya, David, Tawonga

### *WHH:*

One of the biggest issues primary public schools in Malawi face is the lack of knowledge about what is a nutritious balanced meal. Our goal with this service is to create fun and engaging games to teach primary students what a balanced diet looks like and how one can achieve a balanced diet. The reason we decided to concentrate on educating people on nutrition is because there are around 35% of the population who don't have a balanced diet. Instead of giving out nutritious meals, we decided to work on the education sector as this will help people in the long run as they will have the information of what a balanced diet is.

Louisa, Mwayi, Amanda

## Service Projects Continued

### **Project Child Malawi:**

Due to little to no parental support, poverty, and being uneducated, some children, teens, and young adults have been staying around dumpsites, having to scavenge for food in these areas. This is unsanitary and can lead to these kids contracting lots of different sicknesses. Our goal is to raise awareness for these kids, raise money, and to donate things like clothes, shoes, toys, books, etc, so that we can keep them away from the dumpsites, and bring them back into school as well. We are working with an NGO called "Project Child Malawi" to help these kids stay away from the dumpsite, and hopefully find a permanent solution for them instead of temporary ones. Tawanda

### **Water Purifier:**

A pressing issue in Malawi is the waterborne disease cholera. Which is caused by contaminated water. Through our research, we discovered that Malawi is dealing with a significant cholera death rate, implying that various people are facing challenges due to water quality issues. Our goal is to raise awareness about waterborne diseases and promote preventive measures. To achieve this, we plan to conduct engaging teaching lessons at the children's ward of KCH, where we'll demonstrate how to make a simple water purifier .Luran, Aliyah, Muskaan, Tiyamike, Martha, Hikari

### **Community Crochet For KCH**

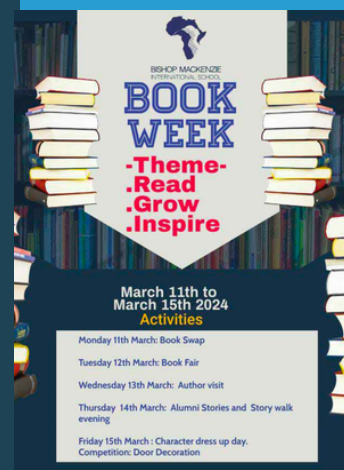
We have identified a lack of resources for new mothers and their newborns at Kamuzu Central Hospital. To help solve this problem we will be crocheting and knitting soft goods (such as baby hats, socks, blankets, etc..) and donating them to new mothers at KCH or mothers who can't afford to buy these necessities for their newborns, or who don't have a community that can pass down these items to them. We will be selling a variety of handmade crocheted animals in the next few months to raise the funds to purchase our materials. We will get our materials from DAPP, by purchasing used t-shirts and using them to make yarn that we will then crochet or knit into blankets. Adeline, Nina, Ana, Sreen, Bianca, Katherine, Yuri

### **Ending Child Marriage**

Malawi ranks in the top 10 for most child marriages in the world.37.7% of girls are married before 18 and 7% of them are married before the age of 15 as well as 7% of boys are married before 18 according to the group 'Girls Not Brides'. This shows that there is a need for help along with other organisations that can provide support. My goal is to reduce the amount of child marriages and increase the number of children who will finish their education. My plan is to visit rural areas where child marriage is popular and provide spaces where children can hang out, learn, and discuss with one another as kids while we have educators come in and teach them the importance of life and how they can move forward with theirs if they choose to do so along with help provided. Rana

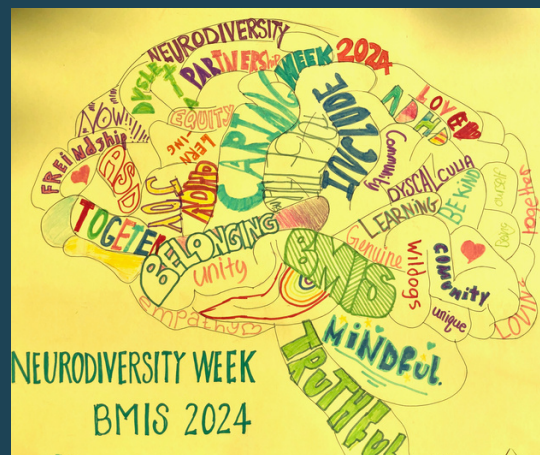
## Move this World

In developing our social and emotional learning programme we have brought into a WS programme called 'Move This World'. This is a good fit for our school as the programme is designed for all grade levels and tackles key areas of discussion and concern designed appropriately for the age group. It includes videos, a resource library and lesson plans. We just began to roll it out during tutor sessions. The good thing is that we don't need to follow any specific order, but if a topic or concern comes up we have the resources in place to turn to during the tutor period. Move This world is authentic, engaging and relevant to student needs.



## Neurodiversity Week 12th-16th Feb.

The purpose of Neurodiversity Week at BMIS was to foster a truly inclusive and empowering educational experience. We believe in recognizing and celebrating the diverse needs of our learners, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive. The week featured activities and educational opportunities for students to learn more about neurodiversity. Also, an assembly run by students and a coffee morning for parents. Focus in both cases was placed on breaking down stigmas and working together to normalize understandings about Neurodiversity. **Posters completed by students during lunchtime activities**



## Happy International Mother Language Day!

February 21st is the day set aside by UNESCO to reflect on the importance of the diversity of world languages. This year's theme is "Multilingual education is a pillar of intergenerational learning". To celebrate this day, the Language Acquisition Department is excited to share a video, featuring some of our very own secondary students, that highlights the beauty of linguistic diversity.

Check the video [here](#) .

Raquel Constenla Garcia Leader of Learning Language Acquisition

## Our Very Own Scottish Band

One show only, The BMIS Scottish Band will perform at 10:00 am this Saturday at the Farmer's Market, which takes place each month at Woodland's Hotel. Come and enjoy some traditional Scottish (and some Irish) fiddling featuring, Darwyn, Hikari, Tiyamike, and Mr. Montreuil This performance has been organised by Hikari for her work experience in the Grade 10 Music Business Unit, where students become the manager of a band and find venues, speak to management to arrange a booking, create the advertising, plan logistics... everything needed for a show!  
Dave Montreuil



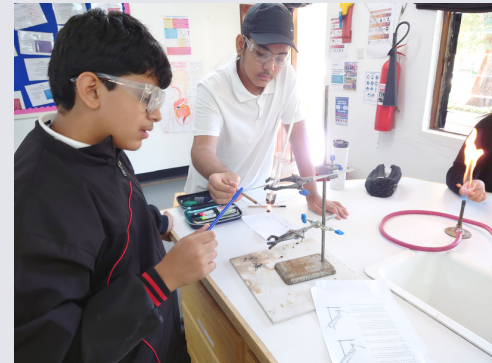
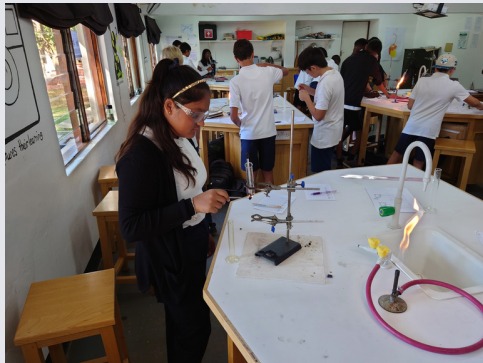
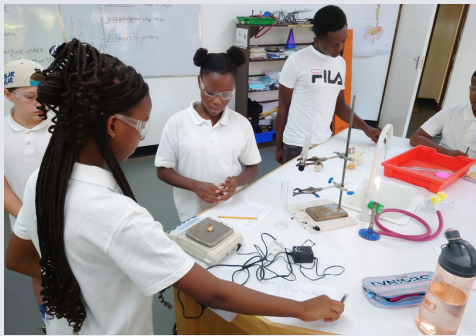
## MYP Theatre

The 7th grade MYP Theatre performed adaptations of fairy tales for the 3rd graders who just completed a unit on 'Fractured Fairy Tales'. They were a wonderful audience.



## Food Nutrition

Grade 7 have been studying food and nutrition this week and that has included investigating the amount of sugar in their favourite sweets treat, the importance of a balanced diet, and experimentally the amount of energy in different foods.



**CAS Project: Quiz Night ( Jonathan, Amaan & Castro)**

As part of our CAS project, we decided to host a family quiz night. We partnered with the Wildlife and Environmental Society of Malawi (WESM) in order to donate funds to help with the conservation of the Michiru Forest near Blantyre. It was an overall success as we received positive comments from the participants. The quiz consisted of six rounds which were general knowledge, pop culture, wildlife, and environment - general, sports, geography, and wildlife and environment - Malawi. The top six teams received prizes. The prizes were, three snack baskets, Dedza Pottery mugs, tree seedlings, and bamboo oil. We would like to congratulate the winning team which was "WTYAL". The team consisted of Mr. Kelly, Ms. Macmillan, Ms. Banda, Mr Gilbert, and Ms Davies. We would also like to thank Mr. Braithwaite for being the MC and making the night enjoyable for all the participants. We would like to thank Ms Burr for helping us get into contact with WESM and the general planning of the quiz night. Lastly, we would like to thank the EcoWarriors Service Club for giving us a helping hand with the food sale and the calculations of the points. In total we managed to raise MWK 310,000! Once again we would like to thank all the participants, WESM and all the individuals who helped us.



## Science V Love

11th Grade Literature students prepared and acted out the final scene from the Arcadia. Students explored the physics of entropy, metaphorically linking the rationality of science to the irrationality of love. Richard Braithwaite



### Grade 11 College Counseling Check-In

During career and college counseling sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday this week, Grade 11 students had an opportunity to work on BridgeU, our college counseling platform. They could research careers and colleges and keep their profile and activities list up-to-date. Additionally, they were encouraged to use the Pre-College Program Digest to consider experiences they can undertake before the start of next year to better position themselves for applying to university.

They were also reminded that today, Friday, February 23, is the registration deadline for the March 9 SAT, which will be administered on the BMIS campus. Any current Grade 11 student applying to university in the U.S. should be taking this exam. It can also be useful, situationally, for students applying to schools in other countries.

Finally, these students registered for the March 26 Council of International Schools Virtual College Fair with a focus on international schools in Africa and the Middle East. This will take place during the last two periods of class on that Tuesday. As I write this, 47 universities from 14 countries and 4 continents will be participating. It is a great opportunity for students to learn about specific schools, communicate with admissions representatives (through information sessions and 1-1 Zooms and text chats) and attend education sessions (focused on general themes, such as going to school in Canada and financing education). Parents are allowed to attend this online fair as well, so feel free to register and join from home. Charlie Bowles

### Wizard of Oz Visits BMIS

On the 12th of February, Class 6HDR performed a pantomime of 'The Wizard of Oz' written by Stacey and Megan, with input from the entire class. The class worked very hard, and despite some curveballs were able to entertain the audience to much applause and laughter. The audience took well to the humour and joined in, 'boo's' for the Wicked Witch of the West, who put on an amazing performance getting into character as the green sleeved antagonist. It is very hard to be evil. Especially under the light of Glinda the Good Witch who showed awesome expression. I really liked the little twist in the pantomime which highlighted how Dorothy and Toto had accidentally become murderers when they first landed in Oz. It was definitely a good moment for the audience to get involved with some "Oh, yes you are!". As the pantomime went on, the students gained more confidence, clearly enjoying the spotlight and interacting with the audience. A large round of applause to the students in 6HDR, and Scarecrow and Tin-Man who really know how to dance, and Dorothy for walking in those tall silver slippers, and Toto, for putting up with the baby-talk! With special mention to costumes, and lighting, as well as, Mr Montreuil who stayed up late putting together the sound system. Well done, guys! Greta Rysdale (Volunteer Worker)



### **Yibambe!**

### EAMUN

The 42nd EAMUN conference theme was 'Yibambe'. Yibambe is a phrase you may have heard from Black Panther and Endgame. The definition of Yibambe is staying determined and preserving even in the face of adversity! Yibambe, was the perfect word to describe this year's EAMUN.

Despite the rollercoaster of emotions and nerves, the overwhelming amount of joy overpowered every other emotion. There are no words to describe the feeling of sitting in the general assembly in a room filled with 900 delegates at the UN headquarters in Nairobi. It was truly a blessing and privilege.

The first day started us off in full swing! Our delegates made us proud in Ecology, despite their resolution not being passed. Caren Kampondamgaga presented our resolution, followed by an amendment by Maya Munro and Ishika Vajpai to support it. In the Historical Decisions Committee, Mwayi Mhango delivered a strong opening statement. Fatima Kasmani represented Canada in a case against Syria in the International Court of Justice. The first day of the conference came to an end with a whopping majority of our delegates having the opportunity to speak, debate, and voice their opinions. Continued.



With an exciting end to the first day of the conference, we were refreshed and back at UNON on the second day 2. Fatima concluded her case with the Judging panel unanimously voting in favour of Canada!! As a guest speaker for ICJ, the applicant was under pressure and Fatima swooped in and provided the court with her knowledge and understanding of the issue. In the Special Summit, Tamanda delivered a closing statement for the opposition team debating the use of fossil fuels in African nations. Ishika was able to offer two points of information. Although the second day was slow-paced, the night ended with some smiles, laughs and jumps at the trampoline park.



On the third day, Mwayi Mhango had an opportunity to present part of her closing statement and initiated an opening statement. Fatima with confidence spoke against the hijab ban bill in France. Mwara Manyara, Abby Rukundo, and Gedeon Rami shared a point of information, and Tamanda delivered an opening and closing statement in the Special Summit. Furthermore, in the Human Rights Committee, Mwara Manyara presented our resolution to address medical concerns in Palestine. She spoke in a commanding and confident manner, convincingly answering follow up questions. This resolution was passed.



Day 4 brought the end of this year's MUN journey. Gabrielle Bizarro gave a brilliant speech on why his resolution should be supported, as well as Gedeon Raimi supporting this argument. There came the ending ceremony where we were delighted to announce that Fatima received the award for Best Applicant in the International Court of Justice and was awarded honourable mention for Best Speaker in the Human Rights Committee. Fatima represented BMIS as an exemplary student that Bishop is proud of. We are proud of all our students who had the courage to come on this trip and represent our school in such a professional way.



**YIMBABE!**  
By Mwayi, Caren and Gedeon



## 80th Anniversary Assembly

The 80th Anniversary Committee is presently organising a range of events and activities to mark our 80th Anniversary occasion. Throughout the year, we will offer several events to celebrate our history, culminating in a final "80th Anniversary Celebration Week," scheduled from Monday, August 19th, to Saturday, August 24th, 2024. On Friday the 23rd of February we kicked off with a whole school assembly on the upper field. The highlights included

Welcoming words by STUCO, Words by our Director, Memories shared by our Alumni the Akbanie family Grade level adding an item to the Time Capsule, and Tree seed planting by students, with the seeds organised by Gill Hoskins and the Eco Warriors



### Neurodiversity Week Coffee Morning

During the Neurodiversity Week Family Coffee Morning, discussions took place based on personal engagement, and active sharing of ideas. A 'building toolbox inspired by parent insights, tips, and tricks will prove very useful to families and teachers. The participation, openness, and support of the BMIS community during this week was incredible.

### Grade 6 Piano Recital/Rock Concert

Last week, on Monday the 12th of February, Grade 6 HDR performed in a musical recital with parents in attendance. Students played the classical piano pieces they were working on at the speed and level they were comfortable with. Students outdid themselves and performed extremely well for an appreciative and supportive audience of parents and peers. After the classical performances, the class switched gears and played the rock/pop songs The Seven Nation Army and In the End for the parents who were noticeably impressed by both the quality of the music (and the volume!)

Well done to all! D. Montreuil

★★★★★

BMIS PTA  
REQUESTS YOUR HELP:

**WE NEED BINGO PRIZE DONATIONS**

On Thursday March 7, BMIS PTA will be hosting a BINGO night for families.

We would like to have prizes for the winners of each game.

We need YOUR help collecting prizes!

NEEDED: CHILD AND ADULT PRIZES

Examples of child prizes: small games, balls of any sort, ice cream certificates, craft supplies, anything your child would enjoy!

examples of adult prizes: manicure/pedicure/massage gift certificate, wine, food basket, food gift certificate

Please bring donations to the Primary or Secondary main office by Friday 1 March

★★★★★

★★★★★

**BINGO NIGHT!**

bring the whole family for a fun night of BINGO!

THURSDAY 7 MARCH 6PM - 8PM


Bingo boards will be available for sale at the door  
Please bring your own marker

Food will also be sold: hamburgers, hotdogs, veggie burgers and drinks

★★★★★

FRIDAY 8TH MARCH

**DP THEATRE**



**NIGHT 2024**

SEC DRAMA STUDIO  
START - 6:00 PM  
END - 8:00PM

GRADE 10+  
NO CHARGE  
DONATIONS  
WELCOME

### Up and Coming Events

Monday 26th February-Saturday 31st February P/S Swimming Nations in Blantyre

Wednesday 28th February- Wednesday 6th March-DP Mock Exams

Monday 4th March Martyr's Day

Tuesday 5th March Parent practical session on Internet Security and Safety

Thursday 7th March PTA Bingo Night

Friday 8th March International Women's Day

Friday 8th March DP Theatre Night from 6.00 pm- 8 pm in the Drama Studio

Saturday 9th March SAT Testing 8.00 am-12.00 pm

Monday 11th March- Friday 15th March Book Week

Tuesday 12th March DP CAS Exhibition Upper Hall 6.00 pm-8.00 pm

Thursday 14th March Personal Project Exhibition Upper Hall 6.00 pm-8.00pm

Thursday 14th March Duke of Edinburgh practice exhibition at Chongoni Dedza