

BAIS Buzz

Message from the Director

Dear BAIS Families,

Today we celebrated Gambian Independence Day with our annual Gambia Day festivities. Congratulations to all of the Gambian members of our community on this important occasion. Thank you so much to all of our staff for their efforts, for our parents who provided food, and for Mr. Jeff Blythe and his staff at the U.S. Embassy for the use of the tables and chairs.

This week we were blessed to have Dr. David Bateman visit the school and work with our staff in the area of special needs. Dr. Bateman helped our staff to better understand how to identify students who need assistance and how best to provide that assistance. In the coming weeks he will continue to meet with our staff via Zoom.

It was good to see Ms. Angie, Ms. Hala, and Madame Joof will be back at school this week. I know that they and their students missed each other. I am sad to report, however, that Ms. Angie is unable to continue beyond this week. We will hate to see her go, as she has been an important part of our staff. Mr. Muhammad will continue to teach the social studies classes he was teaching in her absence, and Mr. Zina will continue to teach art.

Please remember the musical on February 21, and please remember Mr. Emmanuel's notices in the WhatsApp groups. I know we all look forward to a wonderful performance.

Have a safe and wonderful holiday weekend!

Robert Harper, Director

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Upcoming Events

Sat. Feb. 15
 Saturday Basketball

Mon. & Tues, Feb. 17 & 18
 No School

Fri. Feb. 21
 BAIS Musical

Thurs. Mar. 6
 PTO Meeting...4:30I

Wed. Mar. 12
 Professional Development Day
 12:00 dismissal



Staff Spotlight

Ms. Abbey Brewington



My name is Abbey Brewington, and I'm excited to join the team at BAIS for the rest of the year! I've previously taught in the United States and at International Schools, working with students from many different countries. Most recently, I've been working remotely in curriculum design, deepening my passion for creating meaningful and engaging learning experiences.

This semester, I'll be teaching middle and high school literature, and I can't wait to start exploring some fantastic books with my students! Cultivating a passion for reading is, in my view, one of the most essential ways to empower students and prepare them for future success. I'm eager to create a classroom where students feel inspired to think critically and connect personally with stories. I'm looking forward to working with my students to help them grow as readers, writers, and thinkers!

Blood Drive Update

There will be a Blood Drive happening at BAIS, on the 15th March 2025. Since this will be during Ramadan, a time when blood donations tend to decrease significantly, yet the demand for blood remains high, especially for patients in need of urgent transfusions, including children, pregnant women, accident victims. Your donation can make a life-saving difference, ensuring that we have an adequate supply of blood for those who depend on it. We encourage everyone to participate and invite colleagues, friends, and family members to join. Every drop counts, and together, we can save lives. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Cesare Medri on WhatsApp at 220 201 7471.

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2025-26 Registration

This school year seems to be flying by! It is now time for us to start planning for the 2025-26 school year. For those of you who have already responded to our request for enrollment information for next year, we thank you for that. If you have not already replied, please use the following link to indicate if your children will be returning to BAIS next year. You do not have to be 100% certain of your plans; it would be helpful even if you can just give us your best estimate, and indicate that. Thank you so much for your assistance; this is very helpful information for us.

2025-26 Enrollment Survey

PTO Update

Based on the received responses, the best day for our next PTO meeting will be Thursday, March 6 at 4.30!

Please join us! We will chat about PTO finances and big ticket PTO purchases such as solar lights, playground equipment and instruments.

Thanks and hope to see you then!

Jeremy Ogusky

From the Business Office/ Tuition Reminder

This is a reminder that second trimester tuition payments were due on **November 20**. If you have already paid...thank you!! If you have not yet paid, please see Ms. Leah in the business office as soon as possible to make arrangements for payment. Thank you!

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Saturday Basketball Update

Remember Saturday basketball tomorrow! Attendance has been good for both older and younger students. Times for the younger basketball group will remain the same...9:00-10:10. Older students will be from 1:00 to 2:00 PM. Please feel free to invite your friends from other schools, as long as it doesn't get too crowded. Any parents who enjoy playing are also encouraged to come out and join us. Come out and join in the fun!

Staff Development Update



This week we have been privileged to host Dr. David Bateman. Dr. Bateman is a highly regarded consultant in the area of special needs. He has been able to visit classes and meet individually with teachers, and also conducted our staff development workshop on Wednesday. Dr. Bateman will continue to meet with our teachers via Zoom, and also will collaborate with Kimberly Seefried, our incoming learning support director. Rather than simply be a one time event, this is the

beginning of an ongoing relationship with DR. Bateman, and we are happy that he will be able to follow up and continue to provide assistance to our teachers.

Dr. Bateman's visit is made possible by the grant from the U.S. State Department. Meeting the needs of students with special needs has become an area of increased emphasis by the State Department, and we are grateful to be able to benefit from that.

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February 2025

STUDENT NAME _____ Class _____
 PARENT CONTACT Name: _____ Phone _____

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Choose Portion Size:

Small - 200 Dalasi

Large - 250 Dalasi

2. Choose how you will order:

Tick here to order all the lunches for this month.

Full Period : 13 lunches (Total cost: Small = D2,600 OR Large = D3,250)

Tick here to order lunches by the day.

By the day:

1. Tick the days desired in the chart below

2. Multiply x D 200 (small) or D250 (large)

3. Write in here: Total # lunches: _____ x Cost per portion _____ = D _____

3. Get money and form to BAIS OFFICE

February 2025	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Feb 3 - 6	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Grill Chicken with Vermicell & Vegetables & Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Beef Burger with Salad & Fries & Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Spaghetti with Tomato Sauce & Cake ☺	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Fish Benachin, vegetables, Bissap Sauce & Fruit
Feb 10 - 13	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Creamy Mushroom Chicken Penne Pasta & Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Vegetable Kolhapuri with Rice & Fruit ☺	★★★★★★★★★★ Faculty PD Noon Dismissal ☺ ★★★★★★★★★★	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Roast Chicken with Vegetables & Fruit
Feb 17 - 20	★★★★★★★★★★ NO SCHOOL ☺ Independence Day ★★★★★★★★★★	★★★★★★★★★★ NO SCHOOL ☺ Independence Day ★★★★★★★★★★	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Fried Noodles with Beef & Vegetables & Chocolate Cake	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Chicken with Cherry Tomato Sauce & Rice & Fruit
Feb 24 - 27	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Crispy Chicken with Salad & Baked Veggies & Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Pasta in Creamy Meatball Sauce & Cake	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Chicken Fried Rice with Vegetables & Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> <u><i>Tick to order</i></u> Margarita Pizza & Ice Cream ☺

Scenes from Gambia Day



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