

December 12, 2025

2025-26 Issue 16

BAIS Buzz

Message from the Director

Dear BAIS Families,

This will be the last Buzz before we come back in January. A big thanks to all of our staff who have worked so hard this year. I always appreciate the hard work, care, and empathy they demonstrate every day.

Thanks again to all who made the PTO Christmas Party a success. It was wonderful to see so many in our family enjoying the good food and engaging with each other. The bouncy house was a big hit! And thanks so much to **Mr. Sekou** and all of our staff who worked to make the musical program a big success! I heard so much positive feedback.

Please see **Dr. Kim's** information in the Buzz, and please click the link to check out her newsletter. As was mentioned last week, we will have a parent information meeting about I-Ready on January 8, which can be attended either in person or virtually.

For all who celebrate, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! If you are traveling, I pray for safe travels for you and your family.

Have a wonderful holiday season!

Robert Harper, Director

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Upcoming Events

Mon., Jan. 5
School Resumes

Thurs., Jan. 8
I-Ready Parent Informational Meeting

Fri., Jan. 9
CoL...Hosted by Grade 3

Fri., Jan. 16
CoL...Hosted by Grade 1/2

Fri., Jan. 23
CoL...Hosted by Grade KG

Semester 1 Ends

Fri., Jan. 30
CoL...Hosted by Grade Pre-K

Wed., Feb. 4
Staff Development Day
12:00 Dismissal

Wed., Feb. 11
100th Day of School



Staff Spotlight...Mr. Edward Badjie



Bonjour...A salam malekum!

I am the BAIS French teacher and Gambian Studies focal point. I am Gambian and I have taught French for many years in various institutions in the Gambia, including Alliance Française and the University of The Gambia. I hold several teaching certificates in French didactics / pedagogy and a Master's Degree from Limoges University (France).

I joined BAIS nine years ago from teaching adults from The University of Gambia. I must confess that it was a bit of a challenge to handle the lower grades in terms classroom management and transition. I confided with the director then and benefitted from the support from colleagues from the Elementary section and over a few years, I improved with this. This is one of the things BAIS does best.

I like to state that each year looks different at BAIS, and this requires one to be flexible, and to quickly adapt to new setups. I particularly like collaborating with colleagues in designing and teaching units. We are a small school and many a time one's duties, responsibilities or role expands quickly to areas one did not think off. Such was the case when I was made Chair of the Finance during the reaccreditation of the school, two years ago. A good experience, indeed.

My goal is to maintain an environment where French language will be spoken even outside the classroom. I particularly like seeing students from all grade levels shine during our Celebration of Learning. One notable achievement of the French curriculum is the High School French Literature program that was developed a few years ago and that produced its first three graduands last June.

As the Gambian Studies focal person, I would like to promote the local culture in the school. I look forward to supporting all field trips and other initiatives that connect to our host

country. This year, BAIS will finalize the drafting of the program on Learning about the Gambia.

On a personal note, I am married. and my wife Isabelle and I are blessed with three children who were or are currently BAIS alumni. When I am not teaching, I enjoy volunteering for my community and others in rural Gambia. I work with several youth groups and also serve as Board Chair of a local nursery school. I was also a Board member and Treasurer of Alliance Française for many years. My passion for children inspired me to initiate a summer camp for children of an organization that I am a member. My hobbies include gardening, camping, volleyball and frequent travels to my ancestral village.

Diantrec Edward Badjie

Morning Dropoff Procedure

At their board meeting last week, the Board revisited the morning dropoff and afternoon pickup procedure. The Board unanimously decided to keep the current procedure in place. Car riders are to be dropped off and picked up only at the back gate. This is for the safety of all of our students. The Board also recognized the condition of the road turning off of Atlantic Blvd. and is looking into ways to make improvements. Thank you.

PTO Update

A heartfelt thank you to our entire BAIS community for making this year's Christmas Party such a warm, joyful, and memorable event. The delicious food, the wonderful activities, from the bouncing house to the face painting, and the energy from all of you truly made it special.

A very special thank you to Santa, whose visit filled the day with excitement and smiles. And our deepest appreciation to Mr. Sekou for all of his hard work and creativity in putting together the beautiful musical performance. His dedication added real magic to the celebration and made the afternoon unforgettable.

Wishing all of our families happy holidays and a wonderful, restful Winter Break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back and seeing you in the New Year!

Warmly,

BAIS PTO

Toy Drive Delivery Announcement

Hello BAIS community,

We are absolutely thrilled to share some wonderful news regarding our recent Toy Drive in Kindergarten!

This week, we successfully completed the delivery of all the collected toys to the students and teachers of the **RoyalSeed Nursery School** in Kunkujang Mariama.

A highlight of their visit to our class was watching our own students engage with the guests by introducing themselves and sharing the inspiration behind our Toy Drive. I am very proud of the remarkable improvement in the public speaking and communication skills of our students here in BAIS.

On behalf of the students in Kindergarten and myself, I want to express my deepest gratitude to all the families in our school community. This project's success is a direct reflection of your extraordinary generosity and support to our school's activities.

Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for making a real difference in the lives of these children.

Happy Holidays!
Ms. Hala Dbouk



Personalize Learning All the Way!

Dr. Kim

iReady is a powerful online learning program we are now using to support K-5 and identified middle school students in Reading and Math. iReady helps us to understand each child's strengths and areas for growth through a diagnostic assessment and then provides personalized lessons tailored to their needs. Click on the link below for more information!

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Kim or Mr. Michael.

- [Tell Me More About iReady - CLICK HERE](#)
- [iReady Personalized Instruction - Proven to Work! - CLICK Here](#)

Additionally, Dr. Kim and Mr. Michael will host an *iReady Parent Night on Thursday, January 8th, from 6:00 to 7:00*. The meeting will be *held in Mr. Michael's classroom*, with a *Zoom Link available for parents who would like to attend virtually*. We hope you will join us for this informative meeting!

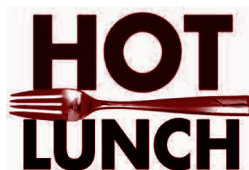
Finally, Dr. Kim sent out her first parent newsletter via WhatsApp, Learning Together with Dr. Kim: Support for Student Success, on Tuesday this week. Click on the link below to access it!

- [Learning Together with Dr. Kim: Support for Student Success - CLICK HERE](#)

Follow BAIS on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/BAISGAMBIA>

Check our Facebook page for more photos and updates! I really want to thank Mr. Michael Seefried for revitalizing our Facebook page. More and more, that will be the source to go to for photos of school happenings and events. Thank you to **Mr. Michael!**



January 2026

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 : **16 lunches** (Total cost: **Small = D3,200 OR Large = D4,000**)

☐ 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

January 2026	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Jan 5 - 8	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Fish Fingers With Roasted Potatoes & Veggies & Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Grilled Chicken W/ Coconut Curry Rice & Cake	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Tagliatelle With Truffle Mushroom Sauce & Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Crispy Chicken W/ Baked Vegetable Salad & Fruit
Jan 12 - 15	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Beef Stir Fried Noodles W/ Vegetables & Fruit Salad	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Spaghetti with Tomato Sauce & Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Chicken Benachin Vegetables with Bissap Sauce & Cake	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Fish in Batter With Roasted Potatoes & Veggies & Fruit
Jan 19 - 22	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Beef Ragu W/ Tagliatelle Pasta & Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Fish Brochette with potato Salad & Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Spaghetti Bolognaise & Fruit Salad	<u>Tick to order</u> Chicken Tagine with Rice & Vegetables & Fruit
Jan 26 - 29	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Chicken Fried Rice with Vegetables & Cake	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Margarita Pizza Mixed Salad & Ice Cream	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Beef Burger, French Fries W/ Cucumber Salad & Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tick to order</u> Crispy Chicken W/ Baked Vegetables Salad & Fruit

iPad Pro for sale

We're selling an iPad Pro 11-inch (2018) in Space Gray — WiFi + Cellular with 64GB of storage. It's in excellent condition, has a screen protector already installed, and comes with a carry case. This iPad is still fast, powerful, and perfect for school, work, travel, or entertainment. Asking around \$240 or best offer. If you're interested, please contact Dr. Kim on WhatsApp at +1 720 352 0124.



