

March 6, 2026 2025-26 Issue 25

# BAIS BUZZ

## Message from the Director

Dear BAIS Families,

**The Fun Run will be here soon!** This is an important annual event sponsored by the PTO. Not only is it an important fundraiser, it is also a fun BAIS community event. Please mark **March 28** on your calendar. More information is inside the Buzz.

**Please remember the the Art Exhibition on Thursday, March 26,** after Ramadan. This will be a come-and-go as you please event in the evening. You will be able to see works created by all our students and even bid on them in the silent auction!

Also, we have changed the date for the musical concert to **Saturday, May 9**. This will be a collaborative event with other students from Maarif and Marina. I am excited to see what Mr. Sekou and his colleagues have in store for us!

Thank you to everyone who has returned the enrollment survey for next year. It is very important for us to have a good idea of what our enrollment will be at each grade level. **Please remember that this only needs to be your best estimate at this at the front and time.** But it important that we get an update from each family.

Finally, I want to say a word about current world events that may cause concern for some students and parents. I communicate regularly with the Regional Security Officer at the U.S. Embassy. The Embassy staff is actively monitoring for any concerning issues and will update us as needed. Also, the security cameras which were purchased with a special grant from the State Department are now up and running. Finally, as an added precaution, you may see a police officer in front of and behind the school. Again, this would just be as a precaution and should not at all be viewed as a sign of a response to any threat,

Have a wonderful weekend!

Robert Harper, Director

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## Upcoming Events

**Fri. Mar. 13**

Pi Day

**Th-Fri., March 19-20**

Koriteh Holiday

No School

**Thurs. Mar. 26**

Art Show, 6:00-8:00 PM

**Sat., Mar. 28**

Fun Run

**Fri., Apr. 3**

Good Friday...No School

**M-F, Apr. 6-10**

Spring Break...No School



JOIN THE EXCITEMENT!

# COLOR FUN RUN!

**MARCH 28** | **MRC**  
8:30 - 10:30 AM



**RUNNERS AND WALKERS  
OF ALL AGES  
ARE WELCOME!**

**DONATION/PARTICIPATION FEE  
FOR NON-BAIS IS GMD 400.**

Proceeds will go to charity or BAIS (your choice!)

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO  
VOLUNTEER**  
CONTACT CRISTEL  
(+1 703 438 1030)

**HELP WITH THE  
BAKE SALE**  
CONTACT MS. MARY

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN, BUT PLEASE  
REGISTER VIA THIS GOOGLE FORM:**

Scan QR



<https://forms.gle/EErDbTW1vSZk6rHr6>

## The Fun Run Is Coming!

The Banjul American International School (BAIS) is organizing its annual Fun Color Run to raise money for charity on March 28!

The run/walk consists of a 2KM loop at the MRC compound in Fajara, which you can do as many times as you like in an hour. Anyone is welcome as long as you click on this link and fill out the [Google Form](#) and donate GMD 400 for fixing up the facilities of a local school.

Water and medals will be provided, baked goods will be for sale!

## After School Activities Update

The next round of After School Activities will begin Monday, April 13, the day we return from Spring Break. The schedule and registration for will go out in the next couple of weeks. We will once again be having swimming at the Tropic Garden Hotel. In addition, we hope to provide **swimming instruction for younger students** who do not know how to swim. This will be offered by **Aquafit**, the same instructors who taught swimming in the middle and high school PE class earlier in the year. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

## Re-enrollment Form 2026-27

Please complete the re-enrollment form on the next page and return to the office as soon as possible. It is important that we get this information as soon as possible so that we can more accurately plan for next year. Hard copies of the form will also go home next week.



**Enrollment Intentions Form 2026-2027**

To: **BAIS Parents**

From: Robert Harper, Director

In order to plan with accuracy for class combinations, staffing and tuition for the 2026-2027 academic year, please note your intentions below, sign and return the form to the BAIS Office as soon as possible.

**Due Date: March 13, 2026.**

Enrollment Plans:

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren) at BAIS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Tick all that apply.**

\_\_\_\_\_ We will continue residence in Banjul and **all our child(ren) will continue at BAIS in 2026-27.**

\_\_\_\_\_ We will continue residence in Banjul but one or more one child(ren) will **not** continue at BAIS in **2026-27** because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ An additional child / children will join BAIS from our family in **2026-27** in grade \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ Our family/child will leave Banjul/BAIS at the end of **2025-26.**

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a replacement at my organization. S/he is bringing \_\_\_\_\_ children to Banjul.

\_\_\_\_\_ We are currently unsure about whether we will be in Banjul next year. We should know our definite plan by this date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Other situation:

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

**-- Return this form to the BAIS Office – Thank you –**

## **Art Exhibition Update.**

**The date of our Art Exhibition has been moved to after Ramadan.** The exhibition will be **Thursday evening, March 26, from 6:00 to 8:00 in the evening.** Our students so far are super excited and looking forward to this event, with several preparations. with parents and friends being able to stop by at their leisure. The artworks will be ranging from traditional to modern art, crafting etc. It's going to be a moment of celebrating BAIS creativity! Also, we will have a silent auction for the students' artwork, with all of the proceeds going directly to the student artist! Please make plans to join us!

*Mr. Zoker*

## Chess News

Hello Chess Friends! We have some very EXCITING news!! The Gambia will be participating in FIDE's Online International Princesses Unrated Chess Tournament! Calling all young chess princesses! Whether you're a seasoned player or have just started and want to try your hand at an online tournament, please send us a message at +220 766 7464 to sign up! More details will be shared soon! (Girls under 17 years old only)  
DEADLINE TO REGISTER: 7th March

*Christina Aziz*

Queen's Online Chess Festival 2026  
**UNRATED PRINCESSES' TOURNAMENT**

*Princesses from  
The Gambia  
Competing Online!*

**22<sup>nd</sup>  
MARCH**

CGSC  
Chess in Gambia  
Schools & Communities

THE GIFT OF CHESS  
www.thegiftofchess.com

africell  
**IMPACT**  
foundation

## Saturday Basketball Continues

Saturday Basketball is back in action and will continue for the next few weeks. Younger players will be at 9:00 AM and older players at 11:00 AM. As always, you may bring a friend from another school. Parents are also encouraged to participate!

## Pi Day is Coming!

Pi Day is celebrated on March 14th (3/14) around the world. Pi (Greek letter "π") is the symbol used in mathematics to represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159. Pi Day is an annual opportunity for math enthusiasts to recite the infinite digits of Pi, talk to their friends about math, and eat pie!

Pi has been calculated to over 50 trillion digits beyond its decimal point. As an irrational and transcendental number, it will continue infinitely without repetition or pattern. While only a handful of digits are needed for typical calculations, pi's infinite nature makes it a fun challenge to **memorize**, and to computationally calculate more and more digits.

Here at BAIS we will plan some fun activities on Pi Day. You can learn more about pi and Pi Day here: <https://www.piday.org/>



# BAIS 2026-2027 School Calendar

Approved December 8, 2025

## August 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

17 TAs & New Teachers report to work  
24 All Teachers report to work  
25 TBC - Prophet's Birthday

## February 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

19 class days  
3 Faculty PD (12pm dismissal)  
18 Gambian Independence Holiday

## September 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

22 class days  
1 - School Opens  
9 Faculty PD (12pm dismissal)

## March 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

18 class days  
3 Faculty PD (12pm dismissal)  
TBC 10 Koriteh/ Eid Ul Fitr  
Holiday, Approximate date - BAIS will observe the date confirmed by Govt of Gambia  
26 Good Friday  
26- 2 Spring Break

## October 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Book Month!  
20 class days  
1- Book Month begins  
7 Faculty PD (12pm dismissal)  
22-23 BAIS Holiday  
31 End of Quarter 1 (42 days)

## April 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

20 class days  
8 End of Quarter 3 (46 days)  
1-2 Spring Break

## November 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

21 class days  
4 Faculty PD (12pm dismissal)  
26 Thanksgiving Holiday-noon dismissal

## May 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

18 class days  
3 Labor Day  
17 Eid ul Adha/ Tobaski  
Holiday, Approximate date - BAIS will observe the date confirmed by Govt of Gambia  
25 Africa Day  
26 Faculty PD (12pm dismissal)

## December 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

9 class days  
11 Dismiss for break  
Dec 11-Jan 4 - Winter Break

## June 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	31			

14 class days  
17 End of Year Ceremony & Graduation  
17 Semester 2 Ends (45/91 days)  
18 Last Day (12pm dismissal)  
21 Teacher Work Day

## January 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

20 class days  
4 Classes resume  
22 Semester 1 Ends (45/87 days)

## July 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

<b>180 PK - Grade 8 Learning Days</b>	<b>180 High School Learning Days</b>	<b>PD Half Days = 6 days</b>
Quarter 1 = 45 days	Quarter 1 = 44 days	Sep 10; Oct 8; Nov 5
Quarter 2 = 46 days	Quarter 2 = 45 days	Feb 4; Mar 4; May 27
Quarter 3 = 43 days	Quarter 3 = 46 days	
Quarter 4 = 46 days	Quarter 4 = 45 days	
Semester 1 = 91 days	Semester 1 = 89 days	
Semester 2 = 89 days	Semester 2 = 91 days	

**Yoga!**  
**Classes for adults and children of all ages!**

**YOGA KIDS**

Ages 5-8  
Saturday 12-1pm

Ages 9-12  
Saturday 1-2pm

Drop-in 600d or  
1 month 1.800d



**KOLOLI BEACH RESORT SHALA**

To Book: +44 7739 754673  
hello@alinajaberyoga.com



# YOGA CLASSES

**Kololi Beach Resort Shala**



Join us Tuesday and Thursday at 11am for Yoga by the ocean.  
Refresh your mind, body & soul with peaceful wave sounds.  
Suitable for All Levels.

**Tuesday & Thursday**  
**11:00AM-12:00PM**



Scan to Book

To Book: whatsapp +44 7739 754673

Price: 700D

**Social Media Update**  
**Follow BAIS on Facebook AND Instagram!**

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

<https://www.instagram.com/baisgambia/>

**The school Instagram page should be updated this weekend with new photos.**

Thank you to **Ms. Fatou, India Pearson-Davis,** and **Sara El Mrabet** have taken on this project. As previously mentioned, we will have important safeguards in place (public comments will not be allowed, there will be no direct messaging to the account, no students will be identified, etc.). When we are ready to launch, we will send out the link. This can be a wonderful way (with appropriate supervision) for our student leaders to help promote the school. **Thank you, Ms. Fatou, Sara, and India!**

Please continue to follow BAIS on Facebook. I want to thank **Mr. Michael** for all of his efforts in keeping our Facebook page updated with photos, videos, and stories. We are getting more and more followers. If you haven't started following us, please do. This will increasingly be the source for photos and videos, along with our class WhatsApp groups.

**Gambia Day Video**

[Click this link to watch the Gambia Day video on You Tube!](#)



# March 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 : **14 lunches** (Total cost: **Small = D2,800 OR Large = D3,500**)
- **Tick here to order lunches by the day.**

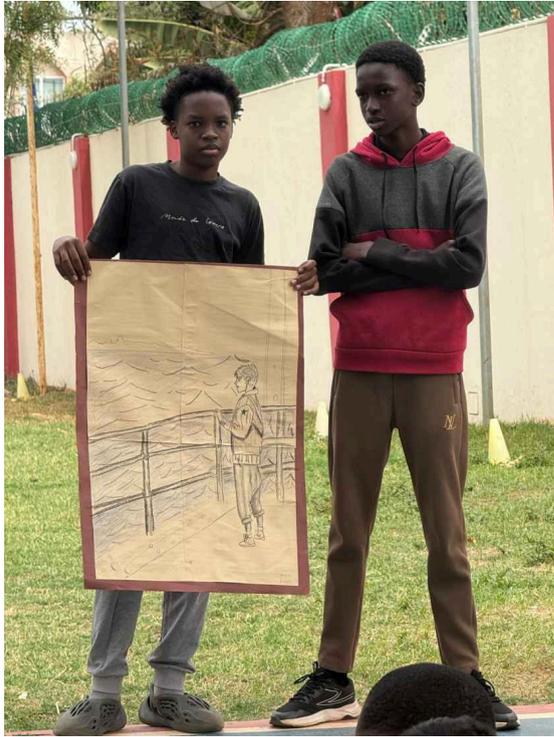
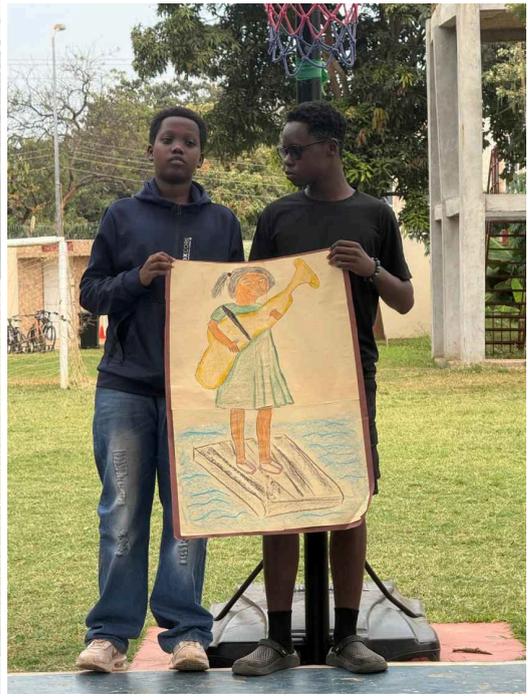
By the day:

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

March 2026	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Mar 2 - 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Grilled Chicken W/ Coconut Curry Rice &amp; Cake</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Spaghetti with Tomato Sauce &amp; Fruit Salad</li> </ul>	<p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p><b>Faculty PD</b> <b>Noon Dismissal</b></p> <p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Fish in Batter With Roasted Potatoes &amp; Veggies &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>
Mar 9 - 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Meatballs With Creamy Tomato Sauce W/ Pasta &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Crispy Chicken W/ Baked Vegetable Salad &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Fish Fingers With Roasted Potatoes &amp; Veggies &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Spaghetti Bolognese &amp; Fruit Salad</li> </ul>
Mar 16 - 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Fish Brochette with Potato Salad &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Glazed Chicken W/ Rice &amp; Vegetables &amp; Cake</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Beef Stir Fried Noodles W/ Vegetables &amp; Fruit Salad</li> </ul>	<p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p><b>NO SCHOOL ☺</b> <b>Eid Ul Fitr</b></p> <p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p>
Mar 23 - 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Fish Benachin Vegetables with Bissap Sauce &amp; Cake</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Beef Ragu W/ Tagliatelle Pasta &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Grilled Chicken With Roasted Potatoes &amp; Veggies &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Margarita Pizza Mixed Salad &amp; Ice Cream</li> </ul>

14  
Scenes from CoL





## BAIS Gardeners in Action

