

April 17, 2026

2025-26 Issue 29

# BAIS BUZZ

## Message from the Director

Dear BAIS Families,

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Spring Break. The year has flown by so quickly. We have so many events coming up..the STEAM fair, the music concert, beach day...and then comes graduation. Summer vacation will be here before we know it!

Speaking of the **music concert**, we are now back to our original date of **Saturday, May 16**. Unfortunately, due to logistical issues, Marina and Maarif will not be able to participate. Mr. Sekou has a very special evening planned for us! In addition to each music class performing, there will be individual talent showcased during the evening as well. Students AND parents who have special talents are encouraged to enter. Students can perform with their friends, parents can perform with their students, and even groups of parents! Please see the information from Mr. Sekou inside the Buzz and reach out to him if you are interested in performing.

Please remember the **Africel Banjul Marathon** coming up on **Sunday, April 26**. Again, you do not have to run to participate; there is a walking event as well. The flyer and information went out in the WhatsApp groups. Please reply in the WhatsApp group or send an email to Isaac Bockarie at [adminassistant@baisgambia.org](mailto:adminassistant@baisgambia.org). Please put this event on your calendar! More information is inside the Buzz.

**Mr. Zina Zoker** will be hosting his own art exhibition on May 2. I am so proud of Mr. Zoker's work with our students and the art exhibit he recently organized. Please put this date on your calendar and go support his exhibit. A flyer is inside the Buzz.

Finally, on Monday night **Ms. Mary Jobe** and I will be traveling to Barcelona with her **Model United Nations** class for the MUN conference. These high school students have worked so hard to prepare, and I know they will represent BAIS well and make us proud. I also want to thank Ms. Mary for all of her hard work in organizing this memorable event for our students. Please keep us all in your thoughts.

Robert Harper, Director

## Inside this Issue

Banjul Marathon Info (p. 2-3)  
Director's Pizza Palooza (p. 4)  
Music Update (p. 5)  
ASA/Basketball Info (p. 6)  
Swim Info (p. 7)  
Re-enrollment Form (p. 8)  
STEAM Fair Update (p. 9)  
Mr. Zoker's Art Exhibit (p. 10)  
2026-27 Calendar (p. 11)  
Yoga News (p. 12-13)  
Social Media Updates (p. 14)  
April Lunch Menu (p. 15)

## Upcoming Events

**Fri., Apr. 17**

Q3 Reports Go Home

**T-M, Apr. 21-27**

MUN Trip to Barcelona

**Fri., May 8**

STEAM Fair

**Sat., May 16**

Music Production

**Mon., Mar 25**

Africa Day...No School

**Tues. May 26**

Eid ul Adha...No School

**Wed. May 27**

Professional Development  
12:00 dismissal

**Fri., May 29**

Beach Day...Kalimba Resort



## **From Our Friends at Africell**

We have received the following message from our friends at Africell about the upcoming Banjul Africell Marathon. They will be at CoL on Friday, April 17, to provide more information and to register any interested participants. It would be awesome if BIAS can have a team!

"We would like to inform you that the Banjul Africell Marathon is scheduled to take place on 26th April.

As part of our engagement with schools, we would be delighted to support BIAS in facilitating student participation in this event.

We look forward to your response and to having your students take part in this exciting event."

*Mr. Emile Kanaan*



**Sunday April 26th**

Start & Arrival at

**Africell Kairaba Avenue**

**4KM WALK | 5KM | 10KM | 21KM | 42KM  
PARA MARATHON**

**TO REGISTER:**

Independence Stadium | [www.banjulmarathon.org](http://www.banjulmarathon.org) | [info@banjulmarathon.org](mailto:info@banjulmarathon.org)



For more info Dial 144 or +2207222133

#RunBanjul

**africell**  
NYOKO YORR

From Dr. Kim.



Thank  
You

A BIG thank you to the office staff and the custodial staff for helping ensure that our Pizza Palooza & Ice Cream party for students who completed 100 iReady lessons in either math or reading was a great success! You are appreciated.



**BAIS Got Talent: Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>, Coco Ocean, 6:00 PM.**

Do you have a (hidden) talent that you want to share with your friends? This is your chance to shine!

Whether it is singing, playing an instrument, dancing, poetry, storytelling, juggling, acrobatics, standup comedy or anything else.

Open for all: solo acts, or together with your friend(s) or parent(s).

Please signup before Friday May 1<sup>st</sup>, by sending an email with your performance proposal to: [svanheusden@baisgambia.org](mailto:svanheusden@baisgambia.org)

If you have any doubts or need some advice, please let me know, I am happy to help you develop your idea!

In addition to the talent portion of the evening, individual music classes will perform, so there will be something for everyone!

*Mr. Sekou*

### **After School Activities Update**

The last round of After School Activities has begin and are off to a good start. Swimming instruction for the younger student by **Aquafitis** especially going well. Unfortunately, a couple of activities were canceled due to lack of interest. But we were able to reschedule any affected students.

### **Saturday Basketball Update**

Tomorrow there will only be Saturday basketball for younger players at 9:00 AM. Older players will restart after the MUN trip.



## Kids Beginner Swim Checklist



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Trainer: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

### Water Safety



- [1] Can hold breath underwater (3-5 seconds)
- [2] Blows bubbles in water
- [3] Can turn and reach the wall safely after entering water
- [4] Understands and follows basic pool safety rules

### Water Basics for Kids



- [5] Comfortable in water (no fear)
- [6] Can enter water safely
- [7] Can float with assistance
- [8] Can float without assistance
- [9] Can kick while holding the wall
- [10] Can move a short distance in water
- [11] Can tread water (a few seconds)
- [12] Can swim a short distance independently

### Trainer Notes

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## 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 –**

## STEAM Fair Update

As we look ahead to the BAIS STEAM Fair on Friday, May 8th, 2026, both teachers and students are excited to begin preparations. This event provides a wonderful opportunity for students to showcase their creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills across all STEAM areas through projects, experiments, demonstrations, and interactive displays.

It is also a special occasion for families and community members to experience the joy of learning and see how curiosity and imagination come to life in our classrooms!

***Ms Amal & Mr. Jain***



**MAY**  
**2nd**  
2026



**ZIZO ART  
STUDIO**

**PRESENTS**

# Life in COLOURS **2.0**

FINE ART EXHIBITION

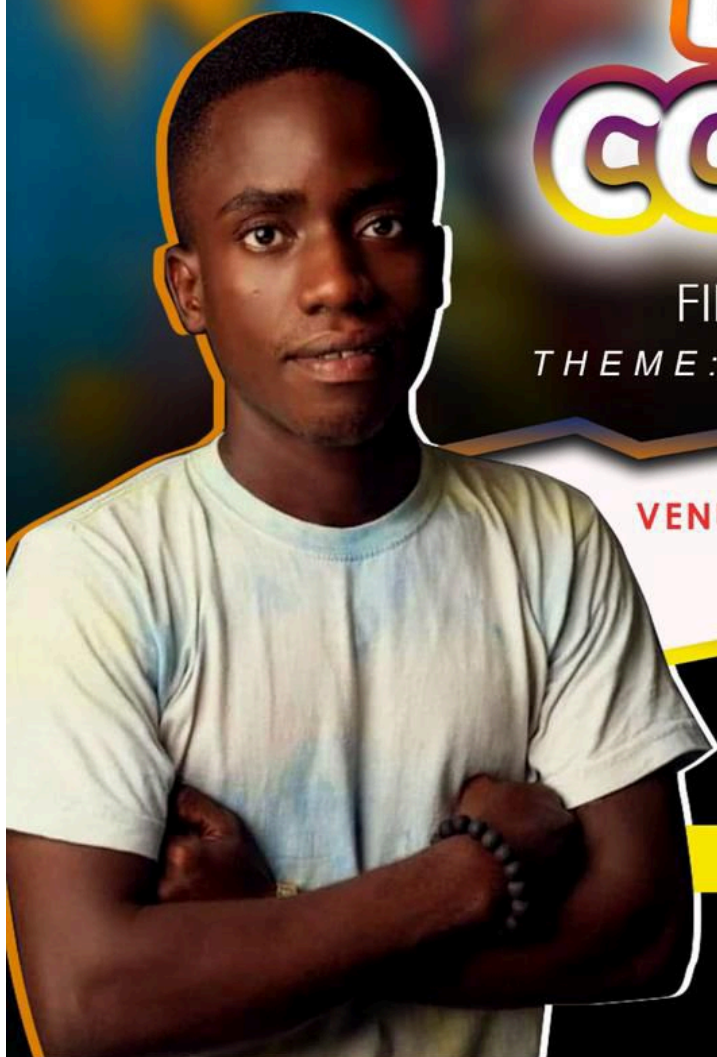
*THEME: STORIES UNSPOKEN*

**VENUE:** AFRICELL IMPACT FOUNDATION  
NEXT TO EMPORIUM, FAJARA

**TIME:** 4:30 PM

**ENTRY: FREE**

**ARTIST:** ZINA ZOKER - ZIZO





# 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 3 = 43 days	Quarter 1 = 44 days	Quarter 3 = 46 days	Sep 10; Oct 8; Nov 5	
Quarter 2 = 46 days	Quarter 4 = 46 days	Quarter 2 = 45 days	Quarter 4 = 45 days	Feb 4; Mar 4; May 27	
Semester 1 = 91 days	Semester 2 = 89 days	Semester 1 = 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 Ilam 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!**

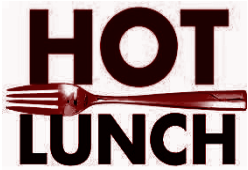
**<https://www.facebook.com/BAISGAMBIA>**

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

**Be sure to look for photos from last night's Art Exhibition on Facebook!**

**Gambia Day Video**

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



# April 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

April 2026	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Mar 30-Apr 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Spaghetti Bolognese &amp; Fruit Salad</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Butter Chicken W/ Rice &amp; Vegetables &amp; Cake</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Fish Fingers With Baked Veggies &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Creamy Mushroom Chicken Penne Pasta &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>
Apr 6 - 9	<p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p><b>NO SCHOOL 😊</b></p> <p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p>	<p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p><b>NO SCHOOL 😊</b></p> <p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p>	<p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p><b>NO SCHOOL 😊</b></p> <p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p>	<p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p> <p><b>NO SCHOOL 😊</b></p> <p>☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆</p>
Apr 13 - 16	<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> Spaghetti with Tomato Sauce &amp; Fruit Salad</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Chicken Tagine with Rice &amp; Vegetables &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Meatballs With Creamy Tomato Sauce W/ Pasta &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>
Apr 20 - 23	<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> Beef Ragu W/ Tagliatelle Pasta &amp; Fruit Salad</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Chicken W/ Cherry Tomato Sauce with Rice &amp; Cake</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Fish in Batter With Roasted Potatoes &amp; Veggies &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>
Apr 27-30	<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 Brochette with Potato Salad &amp; Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Chicken Benachin Vegetables with Bissap Sauce</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tick to order</b> Margarita Pizza Mixed Salad &amp; Ice Cream</li> </ul>

