

June 20, 2026

2025-26 Issue 38

BAIS BUZZ

Message from the Director

Dear BAIS Families,

Another successful school year is in the books! I want to thank all of our teachers, teaching assistants, office staff, maintenance staff, and guard staff for all their hard work over the course of the year to help make the year a success.

Thank you to all who attended our year end ceremony yesterday, and our Graduation Ceremony last night. I am so proud of our three graduating seniors, **Simon Badjie, Cheikh Sagna, and Fatoumata Sillah**. It was so heartwarming to hear them speak from the heart as they thanked their families, friends, and teachers. I am also proud of our other students who won awards, and of course our Elementary Chorus, who did such an outstanding job singing the National Anthems. A video of the entire ceremony was made, and we will let you know when that is available so that those of you who could not attend will be able to watch.

The Student Council lock-In was a big success, and the students had a lot of fun. The same goes for our field day. The foam machine was a HUGE hit!! Thank you to Ms. Fatou, Mr. Valentine, and everyone else who put so much effort into organizing these.

Summer camp starts Monday, and we know many of our students are excited about that!

Finally, as many of you are already aware, Ms. Kiran and Ms. Fatou will be moving on from BAIS to pursue other opportunities. I know that all of you join me in wishing them well as pursue these endeavors. We will miss them!

I hope that everyone has a wonderful summer, and for those who are traveling, I wish you safe travels.

Have a wonderful summer!

Robert Harper, Director

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Upcoming Events

Mon. June 22
Summer Camp Begins

Mon. Aug. 24
Teachers First Day 2026-27

Tues. Sept. 1
First Day of School, 2026-27



Important Calendar Change for 2026-27

This week the School Board approved an important change to the calendar for 2026-27. The October holiday has been moved to **October 1-2**, with a half-day professional development day on **September 30**. There will not be a PD day on September 9. This is because our teachers have been invited to attend a conference sponsored by the Educational Collaborative for Independent Schools (ECIS). This conference will be in Lisbon, Portugal. Among other speakers and presenters, our teachers will have the opportunity to hear noted African-American children's author and Newberry Award winner **Renee Watson**. This will be the first time in several years that our teachers have had the opportunity to travel as a group to a professional development conference. We are grateful to the Board for their support. The updated calendar is attached.



BAIS 2026-2027 School Calendar

Approved June 15, 2026

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
 30 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
 1-2 BAIS Holiday
 5- Book Month begins
 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	30	31		

14 class days
 17 Semester 2 Ends (45/91 days)
 18 End of Year Ceremony & Graduation
 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

180 PK - Grade 8 Learning Days	180 High School Learning Days	PD Half Days = 6 days
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	

Important information regarding fee payments in 2026-27


Starting with the 2026-27 school year, the Board has made some policy changes regarding the collection of school fees. Beginning with the coming year, fees will be paid by semesters, rather than trimesters, in keeping with the timing of our academic terms. **The due date for fees is the first day of each semester, September 1, 2026, and January 25, 2027.** We will send out invoices on August 15. In addition, you may have noticed on our schedule of fees that for many years we have said that we will charge a 5% late fee on past due balances. However, the school has never previously enforced this. **This year we will begin enforcing this policy.** The due date for semester 1 payments is September 1. Balances which are past due on October 1 will be subject to the 5% penalty.

The Board recognized a need to streamline our collection procedures. We wanted to inform families well in advance of the start of school on September 1 so that you can plan accordingly.

Thank You!

Another BIG THANK YOU to the Office Staff, Custodial Staff, and the Teachers for helping in making our Pizza Palooza 2 celebration such a success. I truly appreciate the time, energy, and support you gave to help make the event special for our students. Your willingness to help and be part of the celebration made a big difference, and I am grateful for everything you did. Thank you again for helping create such a fun and memorable day for everyone.





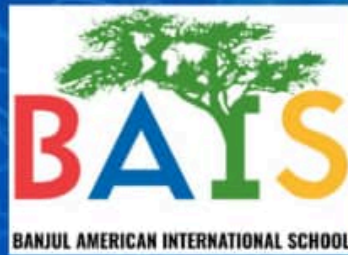
iReady Summer Success Challenge & Parent Letter

Keep your learning going this summer! We encourage all elementary students to complete 2-3 i-Ready Reading and Math lessons each week to stay sharp and continue building their skills.

Students can log in using their regular i-Ready username and password. Also, a parent letter with login information and the i-Ready Growth Reports was sent home by the office this week. If you did not receive the letter or your child's report, please contact Mr. Isaac in the front office.

Have a wonderful summer, and happy learning!





Summer Camp 2026

The Ultimate
Summer Experience



Lots of:

- Indoor Activities
- Outdoor & Water Games
- Art & Creative Activities
- Interactive Games
- DIYs & Swimming

Ages
4-15

Fee
D3000
WEEKLY

22nd June - 23rd July
9am - 12pm

What to bring? A snack and a water bottle.

For More Information Please Contact:



Mr. Isaac - 6939206

Ms. Leah - 7744477

Mr. Valentine - 7898872



Register Today

The BAIS SUMMER CAMP is back again! 🎉

Give your kids a summer to remember! ☀️

The BAIS Summer Camp offers the perfect blend of learning 📖, creativity 🎨, fun 🎮, and friendship 👫 in a safe and engaging environment.

From exciting activities and games 🏃🌐 to arts and crafts ✂️, team building 🤝, and educational fun 🗣️🌟 — every day is designed to help children grow, explore, and shine! 🌈

Afford your child this unique opportunity to:

- ✨ Make beautiful memories
 - 💪 Build confidence
 - ♥️ Forge friendships
 - 👫 Enjoy an unforgettable summer experience!
-
- ⚡ Slots are filling up quickly!
 - 👉 Hurry, Register now!!!

Register here!!!

<https://forms.gle/zhd4R3pBXWpGguS69>