

BAIS Buzz

Message from the Director

Dear BAIS Families,

Greetings from chilly Oxford, England. At the moment, I am at a workshop required for all heads of schools as part of the application process for schools seeking to offer the **International Baccalaureate Diploma**. This will be quite a long process for BAIS, but all indications so far are that this is a very realistic option for BAIS.

Last Sunday our School Board was involved in an all day training workshop on Board governance training, led by Ms. Kristi Williams. Kristi is an outstanding presenter who has been working with our Board for a few years. There is more information from Fady Ghanim in the Buzz. I am very appreciative of all of our Board members and the time they devote to this important responsibility.

Please also be sure to read the information about the **PTO**. Parents play such an important role in organizing important events during the year, the first of which will be our **Halloween Party** on **Saturday, October 31**. Please get involved with the PTO.

Also please remember our **Open House** next **Thursday, September 24**, from 6:00 to 7:30. Again, this is a wonderful opportunity to come and meet your children's teachers. Please remember that this is not a time to have a conference about your child's performance; please schedule a separate conference with the teacher if you would like to do that.

Have a great weekend!

Robert Harper, Director

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Upcoming Events

Tues & Thurs Sept. 22 & 24

Writing Diagnostic

Thurs. Sept. 24

6:00-7:30 Open House

Wed. Sept. 30

Professional Development Day
12:00 dismissal

Thurs & Fri Oct. 1 & 2

BAIS Holiday

Mon. Oct. 5

After School Activities Begin

Mon.-Fri., Oct. 12-16

Map Testing K-5

Mon.-Fri., Oct. 19-23

Map Testing 6-8

Sat., Oct. 31

Halloween Party



Open House Thursday September 24

Our Back To School Open House will be Thursday, September 24, from 6:00 to 7:30. Please mark this on your calendar and plan to attend. In conjunction with this evening, **I would like to meet with all high school parents from 7:15 to 7:30** in the science lab. We have some special events related to high school that I want to share. Also, please remember that this is a time for you to come and meet your children's teachers and see their classrooms. If you want to have an in-depth discussion about your child's performance, the teacher will be happy to schedule a conference with you at another time.

Morning Dropoff Procedures

Please remember our morning dropoff procedures. Students arriving by car should not be dropped at the front gate...they should only be dropped at the back gate. Treat the road across from the American Corner as a one-way road coming to the back of the school. Then turn right, proceed to the back gate, drop your children, then turn right and exit back toward Atlantic Road.

Also, please use caution as you approach the school on Atlantic Road. We have several students who arrive on foot and on bicycle. Please be mindful of them and their safety.

Saturday Soccer

Saturday Soccer continues tomorrow. Younger players at 9:00 AM and older players at 10:15. Please remember that players are allowed to bring friends from other schools. All players should wear appropriate footwear, wear sunscreen, and bring a water bottle. See you then!

From the PTO

BAIS PTA – Get Involved!

At BAIS, we have a long tradition of parents volunteering their time, ideas and energy to make school life more fun and our community stronger. As a small school, we rely on every helping hand — and every contribution, big or small, makes a difference.

We're looking for parents to join our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and help with events such as our Halloween party, Fun Run, Christmas celebrations and Teacher Appreciation Week — as well as any new ideas you might have!

You don't need lots of time or previous experience. Come along, share your ideas and help make things happen.

 Want to get involved? Join the PTO WhatsApp group by contacting **+44 7823 767340** on WhatsApp to be added to the group.

Staff Spotlight...Ms. Nora Johnson

Hello! My name is Nora Johnson, and I'm excited to start my second year at BAIS teaching second and third grade.

I am from Oak Park, Illinois, just outside the beautiful city of Chicago. I graduated from Carthage College in Wisconsin with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary and Middle School Education and a minor in English. I am currently studying to get my ESL endorsement. This year I am beyond lucky to be working with Mr. Valentine, teaching the same wonderful group of students from last year. I am very fortunate to have connected with this wonderful community in The Gambia and to be a part of the BAIS family.

Outside of the classroom, I enjoy reading, watching movies, traveling, and spending time with my friends. I am truly looking forward to another wonderful year here at BAIS!

Ms. Nora



From the School Board

The newly elected board would like to welcome back everyone. We would like to thank everyone for their support at the last AGM and look forward to seeing new members of our community. The board just completed board training; both new and existing members benefited from the training. Our schedule is set for the year, and we would like to remind everyone that you can attend open sessions of the boarding meeting.

This year's Board is comprised of Fady Ghanim (chair). Kris Murray (treasurer), Nora Boukzhoub, Hussein Ghanem, Gilleh Thomas, and Rob Anderson (U.S) Ambassador's representative).

Fady Ghanim

From Dr. Kim

SUMMER IREADY CELEBRATION

We are celebrating those students
who completed iReady lessons this
summer on Friday, September 25th!!

Invitations will go out next
Tuesday to the students
participating.



From the Student Council

Dear Parents,

We are excited to announce that our **Student Council Elections** are coming up!

We would like to encourage all parents to support and motivate their children to consider running for a Student Council position, we are looking for candidates from **Grade 3 up to Grade 12** to represent Elementary, Middle and High school students.



If your child is interested in running, please encourage them to prepare and submit their election speech to either Ms. Elin or Ms. Hala by Wednesday September 23rd. Speeches and Elections are going to be held on Friday September 25th during the celebration of Learning.

Please note that there will be no fixed meeting times. Occasionally, students may meet for part of their lunch break to prepare for or support specific events, but this will not be every week or the entire lunch break.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students to develop their confidence, leadership, communication and teamwork skills, while also making a positive contribution to our school community.

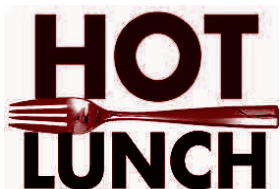
Thank you, as always, for your support and encouragement.
Student Council Teacher Representatives

From the Business Office

Please remember that first semester tuition payments are now due and that the deadline is September 30. **Any outstanding first semester payments after September 30 will be assessed a 5% late fee.**

BAIS Teachers to attend ECIS Conference

From September 30 to October 3, many of our teachers will have the opportunity to attend a conference hosted by the Educational Collaborative for International Schools (ECIS) in Lisbon, Portugal. The topic of this conference will be **"The Human Edge Summit—Preparing School Communities for an AI Age."** In addition to other presenters, our teachers will have the opportunity to hear Newbery Award-winning and best-selling children's author [Renee Watson](#). They will also have the opportunity to network with other teachers from American/international schools. This will be the first time in many years that several of our teachers have had the opportunity to attend a conference, and I'm sure they will be eager to share their experiences when they return.



September 2026

STUDENT NAME _____

Class _____

PARENT CONTACT Name: _____ Phone _____

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Choose Portion Size:

- Small - 250 Dalasi
- Large - 300 Dalasi

2. Choose how you will order:

- **Tick here to order all the lunches for this month.**
Full Period : **19 lunches** (Total cost: **Small = D4,750 OR Large = D5,700**)
- **Tick here to order lunches by the day.**

By the day:

1. Tick the days desired in the chart below
2. Multiply x D 250 (small) or D300 (large).
3. Write in here: **Total # lunches: _____ x Cost per portion _____ = D _____**

3. Get money and form to BAIS OFFICE

September 2026	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Sept 31 - 3	☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ NO SCHOOL ☺ ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆	• <u>Tick to order</u> Fish Fingers With French Fries Salad & Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Spaghetti with Tomato Sauce & Fruit Salad	Chicken Cutlets with veggies, Roasted potatoes & Fruit
Sept 7 - 10	• <u>Tick to order</u> Beef Ragu W/ Tagliatelle Pasta & Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Fish Benachin Vegetables with Bissap Sauce & Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Chicken Kebab with Potato salad & Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Spaghetti Bolognese & Fruit Salad
Sept 14 - 17	• <u>Tick to order</u> Creamy Mushroom Chicken Penne Pasta & Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Spaghetti with Tomato Sauce & Fruit Salad	• <u>Tick to order</u> Chicken Fried Rice W/ Veggies & Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Beef Stir-Fried Noodles W/ Veggies & Fruit
Sept 21 - 24	• <u>Tick to order</u> Chicken Tagine with Rice & Vegetables & Fruit	Meatballs With Creamy Tomato Sauce W/ Pasta & Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Creamy Peas and Pasta & Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Fish Brochette with Potato Salad & Fruit
Sept- Oct 28-1	• <u>Tick to order</u> Shepherd's Pie & Fruit Salad	• <u>Tick to order</u> Crispy Chicken W/ Baked Veggies Salad & Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Beef Stew W/ Rice & Veggies & Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Margarita Pizza Mixed Salad & Ice Cream

10
Photos from CoL





