

October 16, 2026

2026-27 Issue 7

BAIS Buzz

Message from the Director

Dear BAIS Families,

Halloween is only two weeks away!! This is always such a fun event here at BAIS and is usually our first big community event of the year that is organized by our parents. Please see the updated information inside the Buzz. A big thank you to **Mary Jobe** and all the other parents who have already put so much effort into organizing this event. And I am told that the **U.S. Marines** are excited again about putting on the Haunted House! Every year, different Marines come and go, but they always embrace this activity. You can't have an awesome Halloween party without a Haunted House, and they always do such a wonderful job! We so appreciate them!

I shared last week the news of our candidacy status with the IBO. This week I have shared more information about the IB core, with more to follow. In many respects, the CAS program will just be an expansion of things we already do here at BAIS. Also, offering the Diploma Programme can then lead to an expansion of the IB at BAIS with the Middle Years Programme and the Primary Years Programme.

It has been reported that there is an uptick in the occurrence of conjunctivitis locally. Please give your attention to the flier inside the Buzz.

Being such a small school has advantages and disadvantages. Today we saw one of the advantages, as our student council organized buddy activities. Students of all grades, PK-12, are grouped together, reinforcing that we are all one family. Our older students really are looked up to by our younger ones to as big brothers and sisters, who embrace that role. That's hard to achieve in a big school. Thank you **Ms. Hala** and **Ms. Elin** for sponsoring STUCO this year!

Finally, MAP testing continues next week for middle and high school students. Students should come to school rested and ready!

Have a great weekend!

Robert Harper, Director

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Upcoming Events

Mon.-Fri., Oct. 19-23

Map Testing 6-8

Wed. Oct. 28

Vision Screening

Sat., Oct. 31

Halloween Party

Nov. 15-19

Visit from The Altamont School
Birmingham, Alabama

Thurs., Nov. 17

Staff Deleopment Day
12:00 dismissal

Thurs., Nov. 26

Thanksgiving Holiday
12:00 dismissal



What is the International Baccalaureate Core?

Last week I shared with you that BAIS had been granted candidacy status to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma. This week, we take a look at the I.B. Core.

The I.B. Core is made up of three components separate from the academic courses: a Theory of Knowledge class, an Extended Essay, and the Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS) component.

From ibo.org...

Studied throughout the Diploma Programme, CAS involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies.

It is not formally assessed. However, students reflect on their CAS experiences as part of the DP, and provide evidence of achieving the seven learning outcomes for CAS.

How is CAS structured?

The three strands of CAS, which are often interwoven with particular activities, are characterized as follows:

- **Creativity** – arts, and other experiences that involve creative thinking.
- **Activity** – physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle, complementing academic work elsewhere in the DP.
- **Service** – an unpaid and voluntary exchange that has a learning benefit for the student. The rights, dignity and autonomy of all those involved are respected.

In order to demonstrate these concepts, students are required to undertake a CAS project. The project challenges students to:

- show initiative
- demonstrate perseverance
- develop skills such as collaboration, problem solving and decision making.

Halloween is Coming!

BAIS COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN PARTY!

Get ready for a spooktacular evening of Halloween fun!  

Join us on **Saturday, October 31, starting at 5:30 PM** for an evening filled with treats, thrills, and plenty of Halloween excitement!

What's in store?

-  Trick-or-treating
-  A haunted house
-  Scary movies
-  Food and refreshments
-  Plenty of Halloween fun for everyone!

 **Tickets go on sale Monday, October 26!**

D100 per child

Each BAIS student may bring up to **two friends**, so invite your friends and get ready for a frightfully good time!

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Want to help make this Halloween party a success? We are still looking for volunteers to help with activities, decorations, and event preparations. If you can lend a hand, please sign up here:

[Halloween Volunteer Sign-Up](#)

Let's make this a Halloween to remember for the entire BAIS community!

 Costumes encouraged. Spooky fun guaranteed!

See you on October 31st!   

Vision Screening Update

Vision screening has been moved to Wednesday, October 28. i-Care has informed us that conjunctivitis is on the rise here. Please give your attention to this flier.



i-CARE OPTICS

— OUR MISSION, CLEAR VISION —

How to Avoid

VIRAL

CONJUNCTIVITIS

(Pink Eye)

Viral conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye) is currently being reported widely in The Gambia. As a precaution, I sincerely request everyone to take extra care of their eye health and personal hygiene.

*Healthy Eyes
Happy Lives*

 **A few simple precautions can help protect you and your family:**

1



Avoid handshakes and unnecessary hand-to-hand contact while cases are spreading.

2



Wash your hands regularly with soap and water, or use hand sanitizer.

3



Avoid touching or rubbing your eyes with unwashed hands.

4



Do not share towels, handkerchiefs, or personal eye-care items.

5



If you have symptoms, avoid close contact with others and seek advice from an eye-care professional.

6



Protective glasses may help reduce exposure to droplets, but they do not completely prevent infection.



As your eye-care partner, I am sharing this message out of genuine concern for the health and well-being of our community.



*Your health matters.
Your eyes matter.*

Let us all stay alert, stay safe, and take care of one another.

OUR BRANCHES & CONTACTS – THE GAMBIA

HENDON COURT	LONDON CORNER	AZIZ MALL	THE DIPLOMAT	BANJUL
 Former Dream park near Eco Bank	 Safdeen	 Senegambia		 Opposite City Council and Polly Clinic
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*Together for
Healthier Eyes*



Better Vision



Healthier Communities



Stronger Together

i-Care Optics Ltd.

CLEAR VISION, BETTER LIFE.

From Dr. Kim

i-Ready @ BAIS

The school year is off to a great start. i-Ready Reading and Math diagnostic assessments are now complete for most students in Grades K–8. Teachers are reviewing the results to better understand student strengths and areas where students may need additional support or challenge. i-Ready reports will be sent home to families along with a letter explaining how to read and understand the results. I will be happy to meet with any parents who have questions about their individual child's/children's report.

We are excited to expand our use of i-Ready this year to include our middle school students in Grades 6–8. Students in Grades K–5 complete individualized i-Ready Reading and Math lessons four to five days each week, depending on their class schedules. Students in Grades 6–8 complete i-Ready lessons three times per week.

These lessons help students build and strengthen important skills in both reading and math. We are especially excited that many of the reading lessons include science and social studies content. This gives students an additional opportunity to strengthen their reading skills while also building knowledge in other subject areas.

i-Ready is a great way to give students additional practice at their individual level. Whether a student needs extra support or is ready for enrichment, the lessons give us another way to support continued growth throughout the school year.

We are also looking forward to our 1st Semester Pizza Palooza! To earn an invitation, students must successfully complete and pass 25 i-Ready Reading lessons and 25 i-Ready Math lessons during the semester. Pizza Palooza gives students a fun goal to work toward while recognizing their effort, persistence, and progress in both reading and math.

Pizza Palooza & Ice Cream Party

TO QUALIFY:

You must complete and pass at least 25 i-Ready reading **AND** 25 math lessons by Monday, November 30th.

WHEN: Friday, December 4th.

TIME: 10:30 @ the Music Patio



Swimming News



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ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!
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GIRLS & WOMEN SWIMMING TOURNAMENT

NOVEMBER 15TH

AGES 3+ • GIRLS & WOMEN
FROM LITTLE SWIMMERS TO ADULTS – EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

BEGINNER LEVEL
Build confidence and learn the basics.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
Improve technique and take your skills further.

BUILD CONFIDENCE

IMPROVE SAFETY SKILLS

MEET NEW FRIENDS

HAVE FUN & COMPETE

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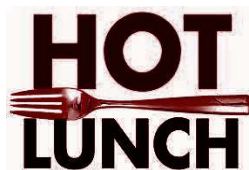
To all my Aquafit students 🏊‍♀️ 💙 💛

I want to see **EVERYONE** in this tournament! 🔥 🏆

You've been training with us, now it's time to challenge yourself, have fun, build confidence and show how far you've come! 💪 🏊‍♀️

Don't just watch... **GET IN THE WATER!** 😊 🔥

 **November 15th | Ages 3+ | Beginner & Intermediate**



October 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 : **16 lunches** (Total cost: **Small = D4,000 OR Large = D4,800**)
- **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

October 2026	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Oct 5 - 8	• <u>Tick to order</u> Beef Stew W/ Rice & Veggies Dessert: Fruit Salad	• <u>Tick to order</u> Margarita Pizza Mixed Salad Dessert: Ice Cream	• <u>Tick to order</u> Fish Fingers W/ French Fries & Salad Dessert: Cake	• <u>Tick to order</u> Creamy Mushroom Chicken Penne Pasta Dessert: Fruit
Oct 12 - 15	• <u>Tick to order</u> Grilled Chicken W/ French Fries & Veggies Dessert: Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Beef Ragu W/ Tagliatelle Pasta Dessert: Fruit Salad	• <u>Tick to order</u> Fish in Batter W/ Roasted Potatoes & Veggie Dessert: Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Chicken Fried Rice W/ Veggies Dessert: Fruit
Oct 19 - 22	• <u>Tick to order</u> Baked Ziti W/ Veggies Dessert: Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Fish Benachin Vegetables W/ Bissap Sauce Dessert: Cake	• <u>Tick to order</u> Spaghetti Bolognese Dessert: Fruit Salad	• <u>Tick to order</u> Crispy Chicken W/ Baked Veggies Salad Dessert: Fruit
Oct 26 - 30	• <u>Tick to order</u> Pasta With Creamy Tomato Meatball Sauce Dessert: Fruit	• <u>Tick to order</u> Chicken Cutlets with French Fries Dessert: Cake	• <u>Tick to order</u> Shepherd's Pie Dessert: Fruit Salad	• <u>Tick to order</u> Fish Brochette W/ Potato Salad Dessert: Fruit

STUCO Buddy Activities!





