

BISAK

British International School Al Khobar

Monthly Newsletter

15th | December | 2022

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Sick or away

If your child is sick or away please email: absentee@bisak.org

Uniform form

Uniform Form - Order Online

Contact

Tel: (+966) 13 831 7300

Email: Receptionist@bisak.org





Message from
the Principal
Mr Stephen Viner

Dear Parents,

As we reach the end of a very long term, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very enjoyable holiday. No doubt our pupils will be glad of the break and the chance to recharge. This term has been extremely challenging for everyone as it has been the first proper start of the school year since we moved to our new home.

It has been amazing to see our pupils being able to be back together properly. The opportunity for our children to play and work together face-to-face is irreplaceable. It has been absolutely amazing to see the quality of work and the excitement our pupils have shown since they have been back in school full-time. It is, without a doubt, truly wonderful. School is so many things and learning about specific subjects is only one aspect. School is also about being a community, a family and developing those all-important friendships that will carry us through our lives. It is amazing to see this process with all our children. All of this is part of building the whole person. Life continues to challenge our children in different ways, but to see them being able to lean on their friends and receive care and support from our superb school staff, is just simply great!

I am aware of many families who will be extending their winter break this year due to the constant issues that everyone has faced. If you already know that you are returning late in January, please ensure that you inform the appropriate school of any potential absence.

To request a leave of absence, please email the relevant school for your child:

- Pre-Prep and Prep School please contact Mrs Bourdon at preppa@bisak.org.
- Senior School please contact Mrs Delmonte at seniorpa@bisak.org.

I do hope everyone has had an enjoyable and fruitful autumn term. As always, to those families who are moving on at the end of this term, we wish you well for the future, and we hope you keep in touch with the friends you have made here in Al Khobar.

As always, I would like to thank you, the parents, for your continued support and wish you a safe and restful break.



Message from Head
of Preparatory School
Ms Tammy Naidoo

Last but not least, may I wish everyone a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year in advance. 2023 is going to be even better, brighter and an amazing year for our pupils.

I look forward to welcoming you back safe and sound on 8th January 2023.

Kind regards

Stephen Viner
Principal

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful Autumn Term it has been! There have been school trips, theme days and visitors to the school.

Our pupils have had a great term of learning. When I pop into lessons, they are enthusiastic, engaged and want to improve. Teachers are working extremely hard to ensure lessons are of a high quality.

You have had the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher as well as specialist teachers. The interim report was also made available on the VLE on 11th December.

The Prep School Council have made a fantastic start in their role by arranging, under the guidance of Mr Pavett, a cake sale to raise funds for playground equipment. Thank you for all your support with this.

Doing the best for our pupils by continuously making improvements is at the heart of what we do in the Prep School! Our staff, both teaching and support, foster a safe and nurturing environment encompassed by positivity. We are all really looking forward to what 2023 will bring.

Thank you for your continued support. On behalf of all Prep staff, we wish you all a safe and enjoyable winter break. We look forward to having all our pupils back on Sunday, 8th January 2023.

Tammy Naidoo
Head of Preparatory School



Message from the Vice
Principal and Head of Senior
School and Sixth Form
Mr Darren Aisthorpe

Dear Parents,

Thank you to the overwhelming majority of parents who participated in our Parents' Evenings over the past few weeks. The teachers valued the conversations with you about your children. Equally, it allowed you to ask questions directly to the staff.

It is great to see the re-introduction of school visits, and our pupils benefit enormously from these events. Last month, a group of pupils, accompanied by staff, took part in the exciting 'Battle of the Bands' weekend hosted by the British International School of Riyadh (BISR). As always, our pupils acted as great ambassadors for the school and had a great time meeting, working alongside pupils from other schools and making music together.

The PE department continues exploring innovative ways to build pupils' engagement and interest in PE and sports. The department is currently introducing a 'Games Makers' scheme whereby carefully selected pupils take on sporting responsibilities to encourage pupils to participate in a range of sports. The recent U19 vs U16 in-house after-school football match proved extremely popular with the players, and they all worked very hard and showed fine sportsperson characteristics.

Congratulations to our pupils who were awarded certificates by the Edexcel examination board for their high achievements in their summer examinations. In various subjects, we had pupils achieving the highest examination marks in Saudi Arabia and the Middle East. Other pupils were also recognised for their excellent achievements. More information is in this newsletter about the ceremony that took place in Riyadh.

This week we had our final assemblies with pupils awarded certificates for their achievements this half-term. Well done to all our pupils for their fantastic effort!

Finally, this week, the Music Department held the Winter Concert for parents of pupils participating in various musical groups – Orchestra, Junior Choir, Rock Choir, Year 9 and 10 Band, as well as soloists, playing a range of instruments. The concert was a great success, so well done to all who participated in a night of musical talent!

As always, I am so proud of everything that we achieve together with the strong home-school partnership.

With the end of 2022 coming to a close, I wish you and your families a peaceful holiday and a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Darren Aisthorpe
Vice-Principal
Head of Senior School and Sixth Form

PREPARATORY SCHOOL





Preparatory School

Lower Pre-Prep

This term, the children had a very exciting trip to Ronda Compound to visit Tamimi so they could buy some delicious fruits to make a fruit kebab. The children talked about their favourite fruits and used adjectives to describe them. We created a shopping list to take with us and the children had a fantastic go at writing the initial sounds they could hear in the words. We each took 5 SAR to spend. It was a lot of fun to have our first school trip.

Back at school, we created ABAB patterns with the fruits we bought. The children learnt so many new skills such as cutting, chopping and peeling.

The children have been enjoying the story 'The Gingerbread Man'. Something very strange happened on the morning of Monday 14th November. They returned from their specialist lessons to find a flour trail in our kitchen area. This led to many meaningful conversations and sparked their imagination of what could have happened. The children were full of excitement, and everyone had fantastic ideas to share. We found lots of clues to help us solve the mystery.





We have also been busy retelling the story, drawing story maps and making gingerbread men, but luckily none of them ran away! We had a surprising phone call from the Gingerbread Man. He needed our help to make something that he could use to cross the river safely. The children enjoyed getting creative and using their imagination to make something using recycled materials.

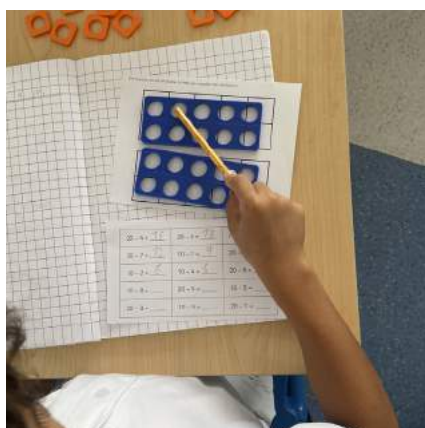
It has been a brilliant term and our children have been filled with enthusiasm and excitement for their learning. We are very proud of all their efforts and hard work. The EYFS team look forward to welcoming the children back after the holiday.

Mrs Marsh
Head of Lower Pre-Prep



Preparatory School

Upper Pre-Prep



We've had an action-packed term in Upper Pre-Prep with the project lessons for pupils in Year 1 and Year 2, focusing on the local area and, most recently, the four countries of the United Kingdom.

We were delighted to finally be able to arrange our first proper educational visit since the virus struck, and what better place to visit than Ithra! The excitement was clear from each class as they arrived at school on the day of their trip. As teachers, it was such a high point to appreciate the value that the children get from these visits, and the positivity of the whole experience. For many of the children, it was their first time travelling by coach or minibus, and their first time travelling without their parents.

Whilst at Ithra, the classes enjoyed a storytelling session, completed a craft activity and then had time to explore the fabulous children's science museum with particular highlights, among many, being building bridges and directing water through tunnels.

Every child was fully involved in all of the activities and loved ending their day with time in the indoor playground.

During this term, all of the children have looked at mapping and local landmarks, learning the basics of using a compass to find directions and testing this out by going on a treasure hunt around the school grounds. We were lucky enough to have a special visit from a local architect and engineer who talked about their professions, the buildings around the area and answered the children's prepared questions. The visitors also judged our landmark design competition. The entries were of a super standard and the children clearly enjoyed creating their models. Certificates were awarded for all the wonderful creations.





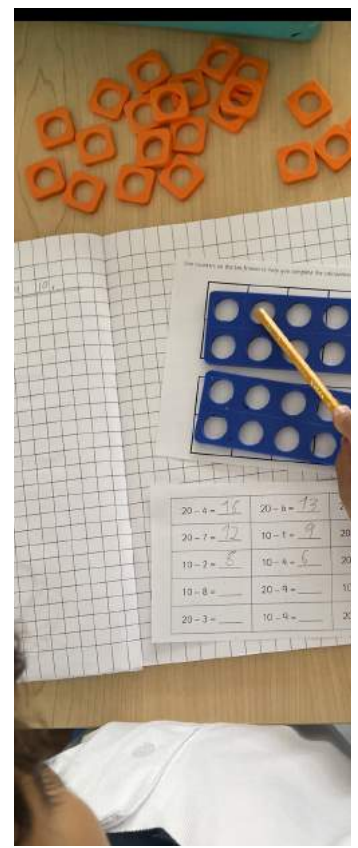
As well as learning about the geographical aspects of our local area, the children also looked at its history and even carried out their own archaeological dig to find artefacts from the past to discuss. English lessons, during this project, focused on the past tense and creating a recount of the school trip as well as other events.

The children are currently 'touring' the UK, learning about the capital cities in our 'Best of Britain' project, with Year 2 working on the story 'George and the Dragon', and Year 1 'The Queen's Hat' in their English lessons.

In Maths, in both year groups have been furthering their addition and subtraction skills, comparing numbers and most recently learning about shape. The children enjoyed a maths problem-solving day at the end of November, with each class trying out different activities in all of the different classes of their respective year group. In keeping with current events (The World Cup) and our project, the Year 2 problem-solving activities were all football- or country-focused. The children showed some great skills and thoroughly enjoyed the challenges that they faced.

After such a busy term, we wish you all a wonderful winter break and look forward to welcoming everybody back to school in January.

Mrs Howard
Head of Upper Pre-Prep





Preparatory School

Lower Prep

In Year 3, at the beginning of this term, we took part in a Stone Age to Iron Age Discovery Day, where we learnt about this prehistoric period through a series of activities. We baked our own lava bread, crafted our own Bronze Age jewellery, and even carved our own weapons out of soap! We have used our Topic lessons to find out and research information about what life would have been like during this prehistoric period. We have used this information to help us plan and draft a set of instructions about how to survive the Stone Age based upon the original text 'How to Catch a Grass Goblin'. The pupils have been learning the features of an instruction text and have been discussing devices that help to develop their sentences.

In Science, we have been learning about the human body and learnt about how our bones give our bodies shape, protect our organs, allow us to move with the help of muscles and how they support our skull. We were given the challenge of designing and building a structure that would act like a skeleton to support a tennis ball. All we were allowed to use were ten sheets of paper and a few bits of masking tape! We had to work as part of a team and think about how to raise our tennis ball as high off the table as possible, as well as considering how our 'skeleton' structure would stay balanced by itself.





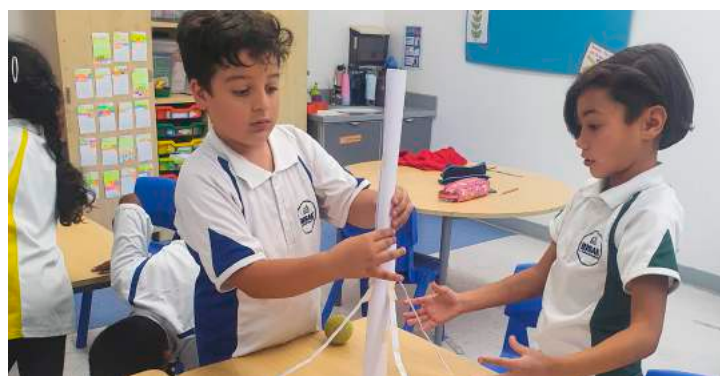
In Maths, we have been learning about multiplication and division. We have explored new mathematical vocabulary and we have looked at a range of practical methods to help us solve problems such as using arrays and grouping and sharing counters. We also used written methods such as bar models and number lines, as well as using our times table knowledge and derived facts. Problem-Solving Week was celebrated by completing a variety of activities and solving lots of challenges!

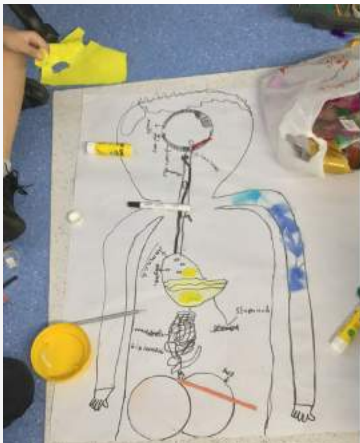
We are currently enjoying the very exciting book by Roald Dahl: 'The Witches' as our class reader. We have looked at a variety of other texts during our whole-class reading sessions, including ones about our current topic.

This term, Year 4 took part in Problem-Solving week during their Maths lessons. They showed resilience and perseverance to solve some very difficult challenges. Pupils used trundle wheels to measure the area of the playing field and other items such as tables and chairs. Using this information, we were able to calculate how many square tables would fit within the area of the playing field.

In Science, Year 4 have spent this term learning about animals, including humans. This has included learning about food chains and how disrupting the natural order can lead to a change in the Earth's natural habitats. We have also been learning about the digestive system, making and decorating diagrams then labeling them and explaining the amazing journey our food makes from start to finish.

In Computing, pupils in Year 4 have been focusing on spreadsheets. We have been introducing key vocabulary such as cell and formula wizard, as well as learning how to copy and paste using the keyboard. Pupils have also been exploring the use of a timer and spin buttons





to challenge their times-table knowledge. We have also learned how to create a line graph after inputting data into our spreadsheets and interpreting the information.

Mr Howard
Head of Lower Prep

		3P		Spelling		Scores:			
Name		score	out of	%				fraction	
				0 d.p.	1 d.p.	2 d.p.			
Thomas	96	140	40%	40.0%	40.00%				
Olivia	139	140	99%	99.4%	99.43%				
Jack	140	140	100%	100.0%	100.00%				
Oliver	138	140	99%	98.6%	98.57%				
Emily	100	140	71%	71.4%	71.43%				
Charlie	139	140	99%	99.3%	99.29%				
Grace	123	140	88%	87.9%	87.86%				
Harry	37	140	19%	19.3%	19.29%				
Sophie	70	140	50%	50.0%	50.00%				

Time	Temperature	Temp in hub	Temp in hall
9:00	15	18	
10:00	18	22	
11:00	19	18	
12:00	22	23	
13:00	25	20	
14:00	23	18	
15:00	22	16	



Preparatory School

Upper Prep

First Term Success

As our first term ends, we would like to say a huge 'Well done!' to all the pupils in Upper Prep. It has been an action-packed term full of hard work, good friends and beaming smiles. Whether they have been dissecting hearts or flying parachutes, the pupils have given 100% effort and enthusiasm, ensuring that our first term has been so successful. We hope they enjoy a well-deserved holiday! In addition, the teachers and learning assistants have also been working very hard. We all wish everyone the very best for the winter holiday.

Year 5

Greece has been the word in Year 5 as our history topic focused on this ancient civilization. As we are writing this, we are all looking forward to the upcoming Greek Day where the children will, among other activities, be taking part in our own BISAK version of the Olympic Games. We are hoping that many records will be broken!

In Science, the children have been learning about forces. One of the highlights was making their own parachute from different materials to test which was the most effective. They launched their parachutes off the outside bridge and timed how long it took to land. Unfortunately, some are still stuck in the trees!

In Maths, they have mastered multiplication and division. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed applying their learning to some area and perimeter problems around school. They had to find out exactly how big the classroom gardens were and even began to use their maths understanding and skills to redesign the playground! It is great to see their learning being used for something so practical.

The Year 5 pupils have been enthralled by their English book this half term – 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief'. The story reflects their learning about Ancient Greece and they have enjoyed exploring the adventures of Percy, Annabeth and Grover as they confront some of the most fearsome monsters from Greek mythology in a modern-day setting. We hope that they may go on to read the further adventures of Percy Jackson independently because, as Sydney Class show us, they love to read!









Year 6

It has been an action-packed term in Year 6! As part of their learning about sustainability and Saudi Arabia, an architect came to speak to them about local developments. In addition, they were very fortunate to have one of our maintenance team come and talk to them about the new development along the Red Sea coast which he has been working on.

The Year 6 pupils also enjoyed a trip to the Corniche to investigate how the land is used and how the area could be improved. They have collected data about visitors to the area and also asked members of the public for their opinions.

Hearts were broken in Year 6 a few weeks ago.... well, not so much broken as dissected! Miss Turner, Head of Science in the Senior School, very kindly demonstrated to the Year 6 pupils how a heart worked by dissecting a real sheep's one in front of them. The children loved seeing what they had learned in their Science lessons in reality, even if a few of them (and the teachers) did feel a bit squeamish!

Back in the classroom, the Year 6 pupils have been mastering their understanding of fractions. They have enjoyed grappling with complex tasks involving the addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of fractions – a very tricky concept for many. We have been delighted with their progress.

Their language work has been based around a fabulous picture book called “The Arrival” by Shaun Tan. At first, many of the children were confused as to why they were studying a picture book as, surely, these are for very young children, but they soon realised that the book is full of emotion, inference and opportunities to develop complex vocabulary, empathy and characterisation. If you have never read it, the Year 6 pupils do recommend it.

Mr Van Der Eyken
Head of Upper Prep



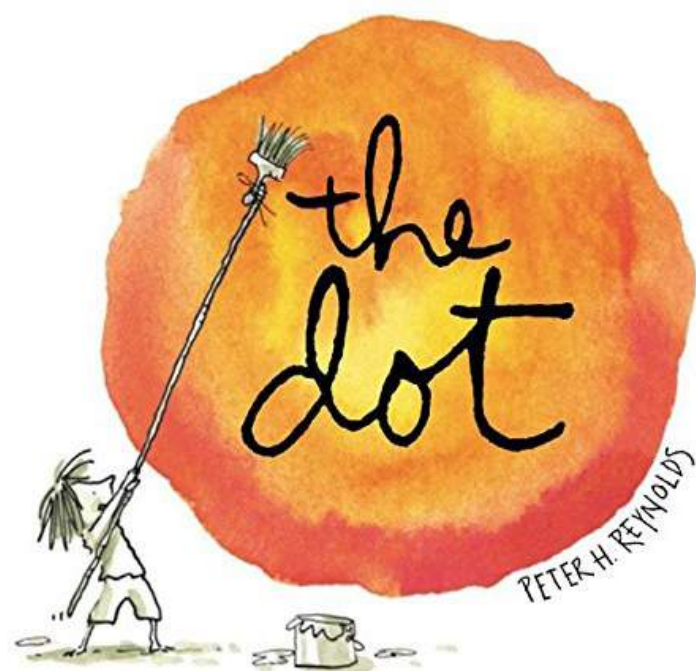


Preparatory School

ART

Dot Day Collaborative Mural

Pupils from Year 1 to Year 5 celebrated International Dot Day by each creating their own colourful dot. Peter H Reynolds's book, 'The Dot', was our starting point for this mural. The child in this story dislikes art class because she is convinced she can't draw. Her teacher gently encourages her to begin with a single dot and her creativity takes off. The story celebrates the creative spirit in everyone. Pupils were inspired by the message in the book to 'Just make a mark and see where it takes you' and used a variety of materials such as watercolours, tempera and oil pastels to create their dots. We learned how oil pastels can be used to create a wax resist. Pupils also explored the colour wheel and how analogous colours which are neighbours on the colour wheel can be used. The book teaches pupils about growth mindset, the idea that intelligence and skill are not fixed but rather can be developed through hard work over time.



Fine Motor Skills

Year 1 painted beautiful close-up flowers after learning about the female artist Georgia O'Keefe. Pupils practised how to draw using the formal elements of art: shape, space and balance. Pupils copied O'Keefe's signature style by using oil pastels to add details to the watercolour paintings, focusing on areas of shadow. A light wash was added to the background to create contrast.

Year 1s painting practice was further enhanced in our three-lesson 'Strawberry Fields' picture. Pupils created a light watercolour wash background, then carefully created strawberry shapes with acrylic paint. They have been learning how to refine their work with details, and the finishing touches were added with a combination of acrylic paint and oil pastels.

Pupils enjoyed a trip to Ithra and have been learning about Saudi Arabia in their Humanities lessons. We continued this learning in art class by focusing on a traditional Bedouin craft, the great hand-loomed fabric called Sadu. After learning about the Sadu cloth and how it was used both in the past and today, pupils created their own detailed Sadus, using paper and oil pastels. Fine motor skills were put to the test by carefully cutting and pasting straight and zigzag strips.





Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age

Year 3 have been learning about the Stone Age in their Humanities lessons. We continued this learning in Art class by focusing on a famous landmark, the Caves of Lascaux. After learning about the history of Lascaux, pupils drew simple symbols seen in cave art. Using earth tones, they added a watercolour wash and had fun discovering how the oil pastel and paint made a wax resist



Next, we focused on the famous landmark of Stonehenge in the UK that was completed in the Bronze Age. After learning about the history of Stonehenge, pupils drew rock formations in proportion. Pupils had fun mixing primary colours to make seven different tints for their sunset backgrounds. Using only three colours, they were challenged to make seven colours to create a blended background. The most exciting part of this topic was probably our ceramics lesson! Pupils had fun creating their 3D coil pots based on the Iron Age. We learned how to create coils, then attach them together using a slip and score method. Pupils painted their pots using acrylic paint before adding a varnish.



Japanese Notan

Year 5 have been learning about the Japanese ancient form of Art called 'Notan'. Notan has been integral to Japanese art for many centuries. At the heart of the concept of Notan is the simple, yet dramatic, contrast between light and dark shapes. After learning about the concept of positive and negative space and the harmony between them, pupils created their own detailed Notans using their Maths skills and symmetry. Each pupil researched and chose a theme to base their Notan on. The formal elements of Art - balance, contrast and shape - were applied when creating these tricky Notans. Fine motor skills were developed by carefully cutting and pasting the tiny pieces and using balance in their colour and shape choices.





Painting Club

Year 4 and 5 after-school Painting Club have been enjoying some sunshine whilst adding colour to the walls of BISAK! Pupils each designed their own colourful 'Folk Art' flower and planned out their colour choices before drawing and painting it carefully on the wall outside their art classroom. Pupils worked carefully alongside Mrs Aboura to add details to our beautiful flower garden.

Ms Carlin

Preparatory Art Teacher



Preparatory School

★ Artist of the month ★



Tereza S 1 Abuja



Preparatory School

Nursery Rhyme Week

In Early Years, the children had a fantastic time celebrating Nursery Rhyme Week which took place from Sunday 13th to Thursday 18th November. Reception Beirut, Reception Muscat and Nursery Jeddah explored lots of different nursery rhymes including 'I'm A Little Tea Pot', 'Miss Polly Had A Dolly' and 'Humpty Dumpty'. All three classes focused on 'Humpty Dumpty' and conducted a special test involving eggs. The children also made a crash bag with different materials including bubble wrap, cotton wool and fabric. Nursery Jeddah then made their predictions and dropped their eggs from a wall made from Duplo. The children in Reception also made their predictions and dropped their eggs from the Senior School bridge. Most of the children's predictions were correct and we could not keep Humpty Dumpty safe from having a great fall!

Mr Ahmed
Reception Muscat Teacher





Preparatory School

Problem Solving Day

The week beginning 27th November, each Prep class chose a day to celebrate a Problem-Solving Day. The classes discussed the skills it takes to be a good problem solver, such as resilience, perseverance and reflective thinking. They also had to have a growth mindset. (Meaning that they had to take on challenges and learn from mistakes. They try hard and keep practising even when the problem is challenging). They then put these skills into practice. Although problem solving is involved in most of our Maths lessons at BISAK, it was fantastic to see pupils getting excited about applying their mathematical knowledge to real life problems. Children solved problems around the World Cup, designed holiday resorts, went outside to use a trundle wheel and worked together to solve some of the trickier challenges. Our EYFS pupils thought of ways to help the Gingerbread Man cross the river without being eaten by the fox! There were plenty of opportunities for all pupils to develop their resilience and perseverance, and many seemed to really enjoy the challenge.

Miss Sullivan
Preparatory Head of Maths



Architect's Visit

To Y1 and Y6



We were lucky enough to have a professional architect come and talk to our children about the design process and provide feedback on Year 1's sculptures







Odd Socks Day



SENIOR SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM







Battle of the Bands 2022

Senior School and Sixth Form

We were delighted to be invited to attend a Battle of the Bands event from 24th–26th November, hosted by the British International School in Riyadh. Eight of our pupils from the Year 9 & 10 band signed up for the trip and had a wonderful weekend of making music and new friends. BISR were fantastic hosts and we are already planning future musical collaborations with them. Thank you to all the parents who supported this trip and to the Music Department at the British School in Riyadh.

Mrs Henderson

Pupil Report

We left for Riyadh from BISAK on Thursday 24th November at 8:00 am. The journey was full of tasty, extremely unhealthy snacks, an hour-long conversation about sand, accidentally waking someone up with a kazoo, and attempting to produce a band name.

The BISR campus was large and had many excellent facilities, lovely instruments, music studios and an auditorium. The first day was full of rehearsals, lunch, back to the hotel, Spiderman: Far from Home as a movie night, and then back to the hotel.

The day of the performance was non-stop rehearsal, in which we managed to learn a song three hours prior to the actual performance. There were masterclasses during the day and we had an amazing time learning more about the instruments we play and playing with new people. After our performance, we had a disco party where we danced, sang, played volleyball and just lightened the mood after a day full of rehearsals.



On the last day, we split up into mixed groups with the other bands and learned completely different songs in two hours to perform to each other as well as mini-interviews with the BISAK band members before departing back to Al Khobar on Saturday. The journey back was exhausting but we made jokes, played games and saw an abandoned ferris wheel.

We enjoyed socialising with other bands, meeting new friends, and learning new things from them and from the teachers chaperoning the event. We had a lovely time thanks to the host school, BISR, and we hope that we can experience this trip again next year.

Co-written by Mariam Hindawy and Tamara Awadallah

BISAK Band (Indecisive) Aiden Dindial, David Azamfirei, Orla Hannan, Mariam Hindawy, Sandy Wang, Selena Mahmoud, Tamara Awadallah, and Yejin Kim



English

Senior School and Sixth Form

Getting Creative

The year began with our “Flash Fiction” creative writing competition and the entries were exceptional. After a few lessons of exploring “Flash Fiction”, Years 7-11 demonstrated just how creative they can be. Short stories ranging from mythical fantasy to abstract poetry were submitted and winners were selected. A big thank you to everyone who took part. Below are the winners and runner-ups from each year group.

Year 7 runner-up: Moath K 7C

Year 7 winner: Razan A 7B

Year 8 runner-up: Ahd E 8C

Year 8 winner: Zhuoran L 8A

Year 9 runner-up: Hibbah K 9C

Year 9 winner: Alessandra P 9B

Year 10 runner-up: Sandy W 10C

Year 10 winner: Martin A 10A

Year 11 runner-up: Ziyad E 11C

Year 11 winner: Aasia A 11A

We will not rest on our laurels as there are further English competitions taking place over the academic year:

- Ramsi Shami Poetry competition
- World Book Day
- Shakespeare off by Heart
- Debate Mate

I look forward to the pupils participating in all these events.

A return to the library

With the difficulties of the previous years behind us, things are now returning to normal. Our KS3 English groups are once again using the library, and, with a dedicated reading lesson every two weeks, have seen a return to our emphasising the importance of wider reading for pupils. Please keep up the hard work! To continue to support the on-going development of reading across the school, we will be implementing the Accelerated Reading programme (AR) and amongst all the wonderful things this will do for reading in the school, we will be able to celebrate our devoted readers in a much more effective way.



KS4 & KS5

At KS4 and KS5, I look forward to establishing the Ambassador programme in the coming months, where we will be looking for pupils from across Years 10-13 to help run a variety of activities, competitions, mentoring programmes and after-school clubs within the English department. A busy year ahead but the English team are looking forward to fully engaging all our pupils in the English curriculum.

Mr Matthews
Head of English

Pearson Edexcel awards

Senior School and Sixth Form



Award Winners for Excellence

Adam A	Karishma U
Leila A	Hasan B
Natalie A	Moad G
Hamza B	Ahmed M
Majd E	Ibrahim Y
Nadim H	Hamnah K
Sofia L	Rida S
Sarah W	Ammar K
Muhammad F	Fayez S
Tobias N	Ali K
	Deniz P

On Wednesday 7th December, many of our pupils were invited to attend the Pearson Edexcel awards ceremony in Riyadh, highlighting excellent achievement and outstanding learning.

In total we had 21 award winners for excellence (pupils who achieved grade 7 or above in six different subjects) as well as eight awards for Highest Mark in Saudi Arabia or Highest Mark in the Middle East. These awards highlight the incredible achievement of our pupils that represents their hard work and the effort they have put into their studies. The total number of awards won by our school also makes us one of the highest performing Pearson Edexcel schools for GCSE and IGCSEs in Saudi Arabia.

A special mention to Ammar K who amazingly collected five different awards on the evening. We had some very proud parents who attended and on behalf of all the teachers a massive well done to all our pupils who sat exams last year.

Highest Marks in Saudi Arabia/Middle East

Name	Award	Qualification Title
Ammar K	Highest Mark in the Middle East	International GCSE Business
Ammar K	Highest Mark in Saudi Arabia	International GCSE English Literature.
Ammar K	Highest Mark in the Middle East	International GCSE History
Ammar K	Highest Mark in Saudi Arabia	International GCSE Mathematics
Fayez S	Highest Mark in Saudi Arabia	International GCSE Geography
Judy A	Highest Mark in Saudi Arabia	International Advanced Level Business
Karishma U	Highest Mark in Saudi Arabia	GCSE Psychology
Natalie A	Highest Mark in Saudi Arabia	GCSE Arabic

Movie Afternoon

Senior School and Sixth Form



The Foreign Languages Department organised a Movie Afternoon on Thursday 4th November. Pupils from Years 11, 12 and 13 watched *Les Choristes* (+13), a French film - part of the French AS/A Level course. After pizza and refreshments, Pupils were introduced to the plot, characters and the history of this multiple awarded production. Pupils left the hall very emotional about the ending and please to have taken part in this event. Pupils have reproduced the “affiche” of the film with Mrs Annoni and Mrs Dasouki.



Celebrating Achievement in End-of-Term Assemblies

Senior School And Sixth Form



Y7A



Y7B



Y8A



Y8B



Y9A



Y9B

During the end-of-term assemblies, many pupils were awarded certificates. Congratulations to these pupils – well done! Best of luck for the next assembly to those pupils who didn't receive an award this time.



Y7C



Y8C



Y9C



Nadim H. Y12





Y10A



Y10B



Y11A



Y11B



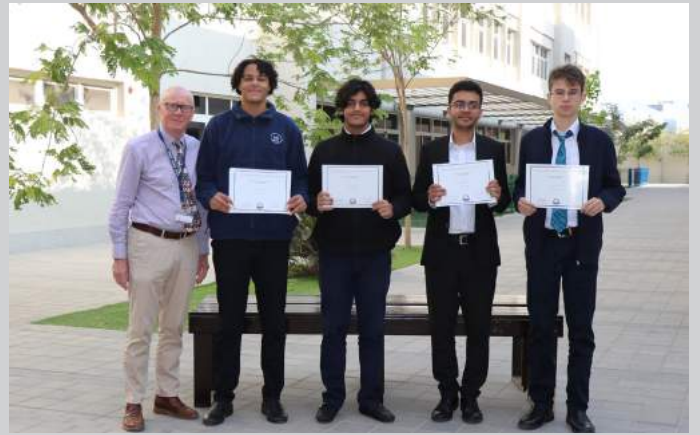
Y12A



Y12B



Y10C

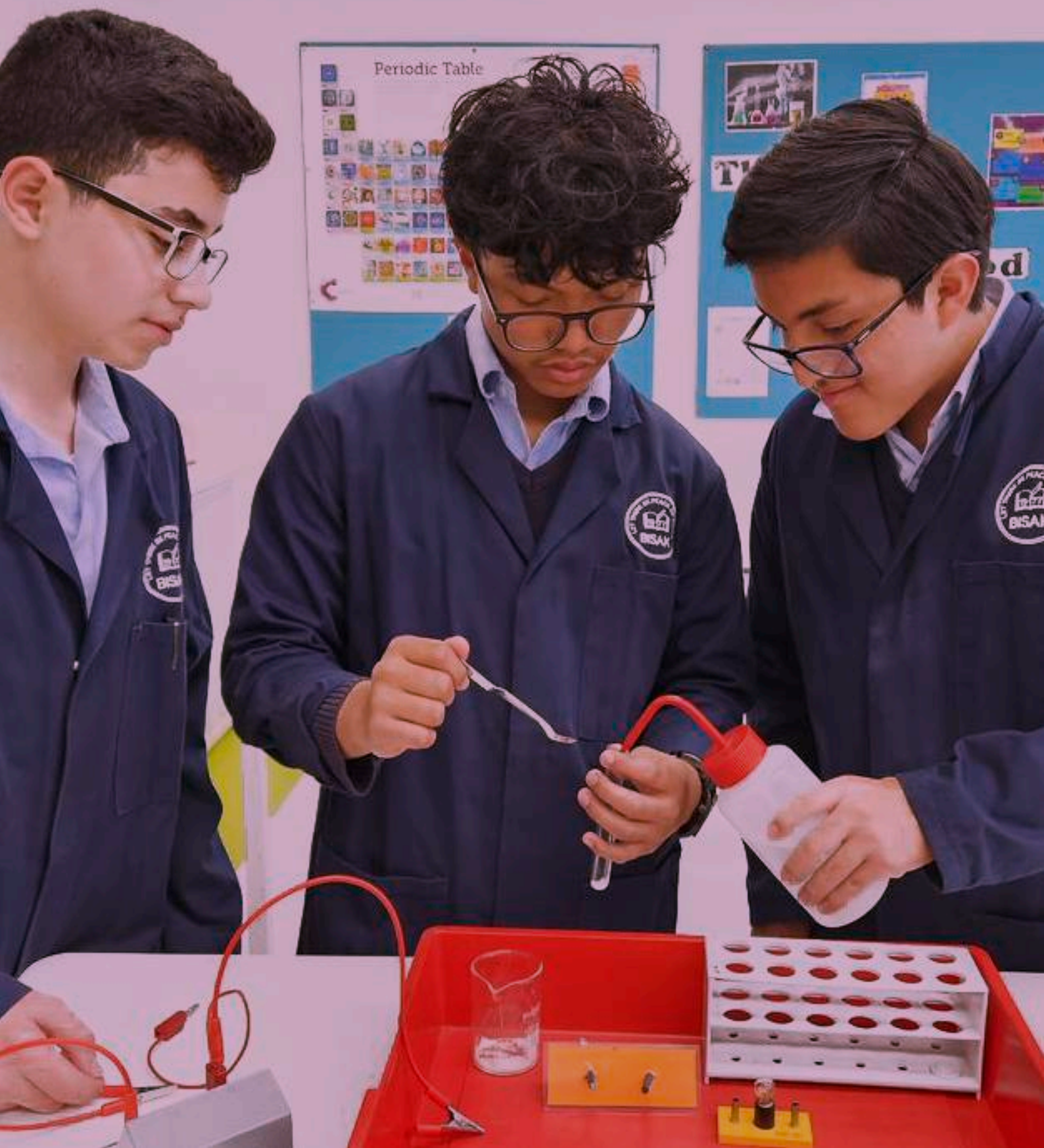


Y11C



Y13





Science

Senior School and Sixth Form

Year 7

One of the topics that Year 7 pupils have been learning this term is energy and the many different aspects of how energy plays an essential part in our modern day lives.

The pupils have been busy designing and creating eco-friendly homes, farms and even towns to reflect the different types of renewable energy resources that can be used to generate electricity and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

They also developed PowerPoint presentations which discussed the advantages and disadvantages of renewable vs. non-renewable energy resources. Here is a sample of some of the brilliant work produced by our talented Year 7 scientists.

Year 8

Year 8 have been learning all about the wonders of Science through food and nutrition (Biology), combustion (Chemistry) and most recently fluids (Physics).

They have been busy conducting experiments such as finding the density of various regular- and irregular-sized objects, investigating factors that affect upthrust and carrying out a circus of experiments to demonstrate the effects of fluid pressure as shown in these pictures.

Year 10 Double Science

Our Year 10 Double Scientists have been studying the different types of chemical bonds present in compounds such as ionic bonds and covalent bonds. They had the opportunity to investigate the properties of a common ionic compound: table salt! The pupils had to set up a simple series circuit which included an ammeter and lightbulb and were able to show that table salt can conduct electricity when it is dissolved in water but not when it is in its solid form.







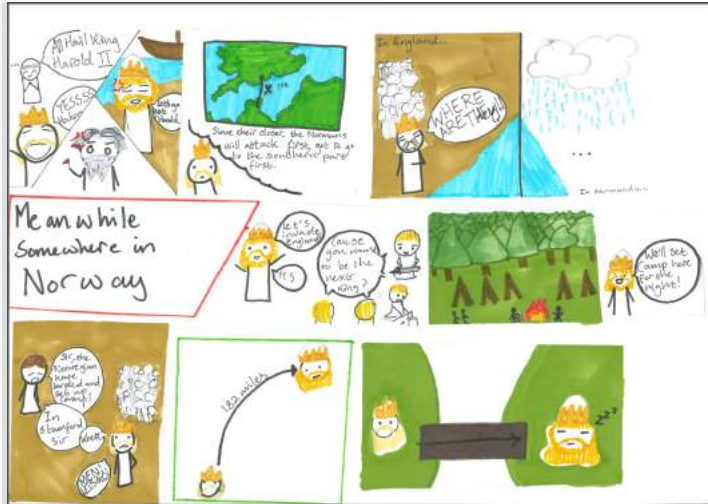
Science is a way of thinking much more than it is a body of knowledge.

Carl Sagan



History

Senior School and Sixth Form



BISAK History have had a great start to the year. Our IGCSE History pupils last year had a fantastic set of results. 70% of pupils at BISAK scored grades 9 – 7. Not only this, but one of these, Ammar K, achieved the highest grade for IGCSE History in the Middle East.

We would also like to welcome Ms. Berouijel to the team. She has already had a wonderful impact, designing an informative, imaginative display board, that highlights how history is relevant to our world and our everyday lives.

Please enjoy a selection of outstanding work from our Year 7 pupils, who have been learning about the Norman Invasion of England.

Mr. Costelloe
Head of Humanity



Battle of the Hastings



The battle of the Hastings we had the three king (well wanting to be kings) Harold god Winston wa very experienced. They wanted to be angle Saxi king. It all started in 1066 October 14th. Harold sadly passes through the fighting. He was invading the Normans. His forces were destroyed. Harled died from an arrow shot in his



They were against William duke. He just wanted to king for power and money. He won the battle. He w skin people dead he was cruel. After the battle William went and conquer England. William was a g leader he could see people's weakness people respe him. The Normans overall had a better army they v The battle went for a day. The Normans came up w a tactic to pretend they were in flee pain and ther turning. William needs to have that right to the throne.

In the battle they used shield's, swords, axes etc. King Harold was not ready when Normans attracted, they were not prepared. Unlike William he was unexperienced, he was weaker. Not much of his army were trained ether.

Students were given a project to research the history of a country of their choice; this was open in the sense that their focus was to highlight an area of significance pertaining to a specific country covering either an event or individual. The outcome manifested in a magnificent display showcasing all the amazing histories of the world around us! Not only does the display look very impressive, but it is also purposeful, reflective of our international community at BISAK and ultimately serves to enrich students around the school daily. – Ms. Berouijel

BATTLE OF STANFORD BRIDGE

**LET'S GO BACK IN TO THE PAST
AND TAKE A LOOK! LET'S HEAD
TO 1066**

The battle of Stanford bridge all started on the 25th of September 1066. It was more east in Yorkshire. King Harold Godwinson was invading Norwegian with Harold Hardrada and Tostig. The British army king Harold won the battle against Norwegians. Harold marched with his army for 185 miles so 4 days.

Harold won the Sandford bridge was killed, it also killed the Vikings when they left, they had 28 longships, they had over 200 when they first sailed. Because of this it has the Norwegians and Vikings a disadvantage and an advantage to Harold. Hardrada won because they also had an advantage, God Winston left most of his armour on the ship.

**THAT WAS A VERY
THERENTING BATTLE OF
LIFE! LET'S TAKE A BREAK!**



Hardrada was killed from an arrow sadly into his windpipe. God Winston did that and killed most of his army. They marched north and counited the battle. Harold did have a surprise to the Vikings with his weapon's.

HISTORY AROUND THE WORLD

Mexican Independence
1810-1821

Jordan
1946-1951

UAE
1971

Georgia
1991

Canada
1982

Brazil
1964

Germany
1945

Pakistan
1947

The Civil War
1861-1865

The Great San Francisco Earthquake
1906

Faisal Mosque
1976

The Black Death
1347-1351



Photo highlights from Core PE

PE

Senior School and Sixth Form

In September, pupils completed a BISAK PE Audit. Pupils' voice and choice will form an integral part of our planning, and their wants and needs will help shape the design and delivery of our future PE curriculum.

Our PE learning objectives have been modified to ensure that there is an equal focus on the following three areas: Doing, Thinking and Mindset.

"Doing" relates to sport-specific skills, for example in badminton: grip, clear, serve and net play. "Thinking" focuses on understanding and analysing performance in the activity, for example identifying strengths and areas for improvement or the accurate use of technical

language. "Mindset" will consider factors such as resilience, self-management, responsibility and involvement in after-school activities such as sports clubs.

Pupils in KS4 have enjoyed playing netball in lessons and this will extend to KS3 next term. Units on health-related fitness, volleyball, basketball and handball have also been taught. Pupils have developed skills in isolation and in conditioned games and they have worked hard to demonstrate even more control in authentic game situations. Pupils can now look forward to athletics and football in the spring term.

DOING	THINKING	MINDSET
SKILL DEVELOPMENT	KNOWLEDGE	COMMUNICATION
FITNESS LEVELS	DECISION MAKING	RESILIENCE
SKILL APPLICATION	ANALYSE & EVALUATE	SELF - REGULATION
PERFORMANCE	LEADERSHIP	TEAM WORK
COMPETITION	TACTICS & STRATEGIES	SELF AWARENESS

PE STUDENT OF THE HALF TERM

Each half-term, a male and female pupil from each PE class will be recognised for their effort and commitment in PE. I am delighted to congratulate the autumn term pupils who received this award:



Omar D 7A, Lucia V 7A, Daria A 7B, Malek J 7B, Merryyn V 7C & Yousef A 7C



Samy M 8A, Jude H 8A, Sarah A 8B, Kareem E 8B, Ahd E 8C & Shayan J 8C



David L 9A, Rouqia M 9A, Yamina S 9B, Hamdan K 9C, Bilal H 10B, Eesa N 9B & Reine M 10G



Ahmed M Y12, Brayden K Y11, Tala A Y11 & Joanne A Y12

GCSE PE

In October, our GCSE PE pupils from both Year 10 and Year 11 undertook a mock practical examination in badminton. Pupils were required to perform several skills in isolation and compete in a series of games demonstrating their practical application of skills. Our pupils were very mature in their approach to this practical mock and learnt a lot from the experience. They can apply their knowledge and level of understanding in the real practical examination in early 2023 (Year 10s in early 2024).

In the Personal Exercise Programme (PEP - written coursework element of the course), Year 11s are finishing their evaluations before their final submissions to Mr Mattocks. Year 10s are conducting fitness tests, collecting raw data, analysing results and comparing results to normative values.

Both groups continued to make progress in their theory work with a specific focus on the examination papers and the command words.



SPORT & SAIKAC

As part of the BISAK After-School Activities Programme for 2022-23, several sports clubs are offered to our pupils across Years 7-12. Clubs include Badminton with Mr Gonzalez, Cricket with Mr Obri, Football (Boys) with Mr Mattocks and Netball and Football (Girls) with Ms Ryan.



Badminton Club



Junior Netball (Year 7-9)



Senior Netball (Year 10 - 12)



Girls Football (Year 9 - 12)

On Thursday 1st December, the U16 and U19 Football teams played each other in a season opener. We were honoured to play with an official World Cup football which had been kindly gifted to our Senior PE by Mr & Mrs Khawaja. The World Cup footballs are manufactured in Pakistan in their hometown of Sialkot. It certainly made our match feel extra special, so thank you Mr & Mrs Khawaja!

It was an entertaining game played between two well-matched teams. After some early nerves, both teams settled, coming close to taking the lead, with only brave goalkeeping from both keepers

keeping the scores level. The U16 boys showed great character and personality throughout but lacked a bit of composure in the final third. The U19s were more disciplined in front of goal, converting their chances to run out 3-1 winners. Thank you to Mr Mattocks for organising the game and coaching the U16 side, Mr Marsh for managing the U19 team, Mr McKee for refereeing and the number of teachers who came out to support. Match highlights can be viewed here: [U16 v U19 Football Highlights Dec 22](#)



U19 and U16 Football Team Captains:
Ammar and Brayden



U16 Football Team & Mr Mattocks



U19 Football Team & Mr Marsh

SPORT & SAIKAC

We are excited to be in a position this year to be able to build BISAK teams and squads who can engage in competitive sport against other schools. We look forward to entering some SAIKAC tournaments. Factors such as travel and tournament costs, clashes with examinations and the availability of BISAK players, along with sporting purposes will be considered before committing to tournaments. Alongside the SAIKAC tournament schedule, we have several friendly local games and tournaments. More information will be shared directly with players who are already attending the training sessions.

GAMES MAKERS

A Games Maker is a BISAK pupil who is an outstanding and committed sports leader and takes on the additional responsibility of promoting PE and BISAK school sport while being a link between teachers and young people.

They will help to develop projects to increase participation in sport and help promote healthy lifestyles, promote school PE and Sport, share PE & Sport information with their forms and houses, help to organise school events such as inter-house games, sports days and sports awards.

Interested pupils had to apply to become a Games Maker by completing a written application. They had to explain why they wanted to be a Games Maker, describe a time when they have demonstrated leadership skills and list three key skills that a Games Maker would regularly demonstrate.

I would like to thank all the pupils who applied. It is fantastic to see so many pupils keen to take up leadership and volunteering responsibilities in sport. Congratulations to the following pupils who have been selected to be Games Makers. We look forward to the amazing work you will do in helping to develop PE and Sport at BISAK.

Omar D 7A, Omar H 7A, Malek J 7B, Ramiz B 7C, Muhammad I 8A, Sarah A 8B, Sereen S 8B, Karma E 8B, Adh E 8C, Mazen 8C, Hamza K 9A, Loay H 9A, Ariana B 9B, Dan M 9C, Mariam H 10A, Adham E 11A and Yasmine B 11A.



Mathematics

Senior School and Sixth Form

The Maths department will hold a MathsterChef baking competition in the near future and we are all excited to see what treats will be made at BISAK.

A few Sixth Formers - Leila A, Karishma U, Sarah W, Hamnah K - and I have completed a pilot run to test the feasibility and logistics of the proposed baking competition. We overcame obstacles such as equipment malfunction, spillages, working under pressure and unexpected challenges that incited us to tap into our improvisational skills. After careful consideration and completion of the correct procedures, we were able to produce approximately 30 points to reflect on in order to plan this event successfully. Of course, we have taken ample notice of various safety hazards, precautions, types of equipment needed and other items to consider. Undoubtedly, challenges may arise that stray away from plans and calculations. However, a challenge is what we need to thrive, and we are ready to take it on!

Here are pictures of the cookies, brownies and cupcakes we baked. As great as they look, trust me, they taste even better.

My peers used to question the relevance of Maths outside the realm of a classroom but this baking competition gave us a chance to explore another side to the subject. For instance, doubling or halving recipes, converting fractions of ingredients to decimals,

comparing fractions of ingredients between recipes, converting one measurement to another like conversions of teaspoons to tablespoons and discussing measuring differences between cups and ounces/grams/ml - all these calculations have proven the relevance of baking to Maths and Maths to baking!

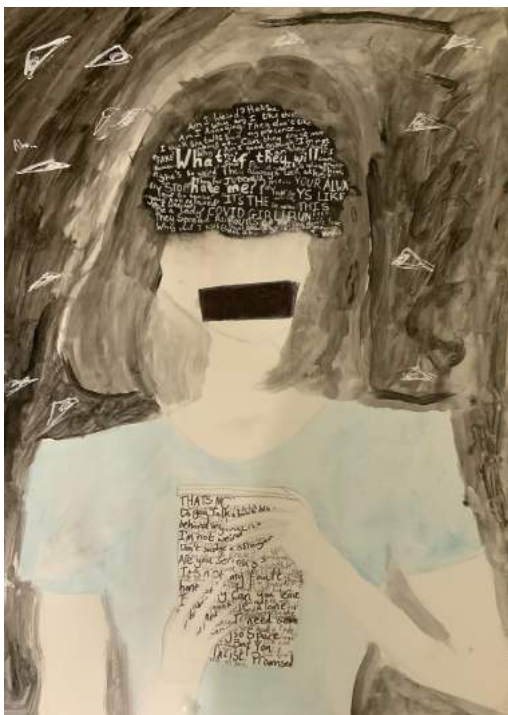
Hence, the competition will provide pupils with an innovative way to translate their mathematical capabilities of ratio and proportion into the abstract and creative outlet that is baking. Having pupils express their mathematical skills in such a new medium can help broaden and enhance a pupil's relationship to the subject of Maths and the myriad of opportunities it has to offer. Not only does this competition serve pupils with a great opportunity to taste the fruits of their own labour, but it will also help the pupils of BISAK learn life-lessons, such as being responsible and respectable in a collaborative environment and persevering through challenging moments.

We are tremendously pleased and enthusiastic to have pupils participate in this exciting new competition. This opportunity will be guaranteed to enrich and stimulate pupil learning within a safe, collaborative environment. Updates regarding pictures and announcements will be sent out soon. Thank you!

Farah A, Year 12

Workshop for Prospective Early Years Parents





Xin Rui P 7A



Lydia V 11B



Sandy W 10C



Dan M 9C

Senior School

Artist of the month

Lydia V. Y11B

