bis Bordeaux International School

NEWSLETTER / BULLETIN D'INFORMATION

N° 2 - NOV-DEC 2014

1ère trimestre / 1st term : 2014 - 2015

NEW LIFE

in a short while we will be saying goodbye to the Rodriguez-Avellaneda family, who with their usual energy will be flying to Canada. We should all like to wish Pedro, Ana, Clara and Alba all the success that they deserve. We will miss them awfully. As President of the PTA for the past three years Ana has always served the school with untiring verve, a keen sense of organisation and diplomacy and also tremendous courtesy. Ana is a model for us all, children and adults alike, so great and sincere is her sense of community life. Her action has considerably affected the school for the better by making it more lively and more pleasant for us all.

PTA

Ana Avellaneda, present until the 19th December, is preparing both the transmission and the transition for our new President, Flavia Vallim, who has arrived from Brazil. She is already gathering together the new team of Parent representatives. It is they who relay you the news and information about project initiatives in order to engage your help according to your interests and availability.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The show will take place in the La Glacière hall on **Tuesday, 16th December** from 6pm onwards. The show will last around an hour and will be followed by a buffet (from 7-8pm). The draw for the Lucky Dip will take place at the end of the concert. For reasons of security, we ask you not to attend as extended families as the theatre can only accommodate 220 spectators.
The itinerary and the times of arrival will be sent to you shortly.

BUILDING EXTENSION

As you must already know, the school is tight in accommodation. Some examples : the cafeteria is often used as a classroom ; certain drama classes take place in the playground, some in the classroom ; there is no staffroom; the science laboratory is too outmoded ; there is not enough storage space...

BIS successfully moved to its present location 10 years ago thanks to extended renovation work. The local councils contributed a third of the finance and we hope to renew the operation in identical conditions in 2017. The technical and financial dossiers have been updated and re-evaluated since May 2014.

CONFERENCE ON LEARNING TO LEARN

On Tuesday 25th November, Frédéric Rava-Reny presented the principles and main practices in this field of education, both recognised and encouraged by the National Education Authority, to a group of 50 people. His aim is to teach and develop specific and attainable learning strategies to each student (understand, memorize, think, imagine, work in autonomy). You can consult the site dedicated to this on (http://www.gestionmentale.org) to find references and advice.

NEW YEAR AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The new school term in January will begin with a teacher training day on Monday, 5th January. The main theme will be the development of the virtual central resources centre (on the ENT) also called the VMC (Virtual Media Centre) of BIS. The aims of this virtual library are : 1) to offer access to the resources available in different languages to all the students, as a complement to their lessons or an enrichment of general culture ; 2) to learn how to conduct efficient research by oneself.
For students, classes will therefore begin again on **Tuesday, 6th January** (8.15 for Secondary and 8.45 for Primary)
Remember to consult our web site for the school calendar which is always available (http://www.bordeaux-school.com/evenements-bis).

SECONDARY

- A presentation of Secondary curriculum is available on the ENT in the file "Secondary 2014-2015" (https://bis.itslearning.com/).
- Dates for Parents-Teachers & Students conferences :
  - For Lower Middle School : **Thursday 11th December** 16.30 – 18.30
  - For Upper Middle School, IGCSE & A Level : **Friday 12th December** 15.00 - 17.00
- ENT: from Monday 15 Dec., reports and grades will be available on the ENT on Educhorus.
- "Mock exams » for students taking examinations this summer, will take place between 19th – 23rd January. Results will determine entries to the final examinations.
- Canada trip : all reservations are now made (flights, accommodation) and from January, our students will be able to exchange with their partner friends and their families.

PRIMARY AND EARLY LEARNING

- The first term has been very rich and active, and the pupils are progressing very well generally.
- Two outings are organised for the Green and Orange groups, that will take place in May. They are linked to the theme of Discovering Bordeaux through its History, brought to us by the **Centre d'interprétation d'architecture et du patrimoine** (Centre of architecture and heritage interpretation) and the **Mairie de Bordeaux** (Town Hall).
- We will also have a visit in January from animators from the City of Bordeaux, who will be teaching the Green and Orange groups about recycling and sorting waste, in line with our theme of "Resources" and last year's project on sustainable development.

DATES TO NOTE: (http://www.bordeaux-school.com/evenements-bis)

- **Tuesday 6th January :** 1st day of Term – normal Tuesday hours.
- **19th - 23rd January** : "Mocks" for Senior Secondary students
- **Thursday 15th January (morning only)** : Awayday – rock climbing for UMS
- **Tuesday 20th January (morning only)** : Awayday - rock climbing for LMS
- **Saturday 7th February** : BIS Open day from 9.30 to 12.30
- **Friday 13th February to Monday 2nd March**: Half-term holidays

Kind regards.

Christine Cussac
Directrice

08.12.14