

NEWSLETTER / BULLETIN D'INFORMATION

N° 4 - FEB / MAR 2015

2^{ème} trimestre / 2nd term : 2014 - 2015

The first few months of 2015 have been very active despite some difficulties due to various viruses, illnesses and Internet disturbances. Nevertheless, the BIS "boat" continued its route and succeeded in accomplishing the following :

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING took place on the 5th January and was followed by weekly meetings. We have thus been able to reinforce the harmonisation of our programmes and the assessment of pupils' work throughout the school notably between Primary and Middle School, in Maths, Languages, History and Geography. The mastery of the use of new technology has enhanced individualised activities and the autonomy of the students.

THE MOCK EXAMS FOR THE IGCSE (at 16 years and Advanced Level students at 18 years) have helped us to advise both parents and students in the definition of exam choices best suited to their ability and future projects. Each student will receive his personal "Student Study Plan" which presents his objectives, the marks gained and teacher recommendations for the exams and their future studies.

INTERNATIONAL WEEK offered a number of opportunities to explore other methods of thinking, working and acting for oneself, for others and for our environment (see BIS blog for photos : <http://www.bordeaux-school.com/fr/blog>).

OPEN DAY brought together both parents and visitors (some from as far as Geneva) with much enthusiasm and conviviality. Everyone was able to appreciate the work done in classes which was reflected by the displays exhibited and of course the excellent mini-concerts !

THE ACTIONS OF THE PTA, organised by the parent representatives ("Reps") who are always very active and keen to contribute to the development of the community's spirit and to the well-being of the students. The PTA is now structured into a number of very effective committees amongst which are the Fund Raising Committee which is contributing to the financing and installation of an artificial lawn in the courtyard ; the Marketing Committee which is using its collective competence to ensure the development of the school ; the School Life Committee which is making concrete proposals for the improvement of the daily life of the students (see dates of meetings for Reps and teachers on our website : <http://www.bordeaux-school.com/en/events>). The PTA folder 2014-2015 on the ENT assembles all the documents pertaining to the meetings, actions and projects of the PTA. We should like to thank the PTA members for their commitment and success with the various activities.

THE WRITING UP OF THE 5-YEAR ACCREDITATION REPORT with a view to renewing BIS' accreditation with the "Council of International Schools" is well on its way to being finished and sent, as planned, during the holidays. We would have liked to involve more parents but lack of time for coordination meant this was not possible !

THE PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SCHOOL : The BIS school philosophy - its mission - and its four principal objectives is published on our web site. It is the keystone of our work and is revised every two years in order to guarantee that the programmes and methods used are adapted to the needs of the school which is constantly evolving. We should like to encourage you to read it on : <http://www.bordeaux-school.com/en/mission-and-aims>. A questionnaire about this will shortly be distributed to the Parent Reps.

IN MARCH:

- More professional development will take place at BIS and in Paris in line with other prestigious bilingual and international schools.
- The Middle School students will participate in an Awayday to Blaye (Art and History) as well as the IGCSE 1 Art students.
- The termly meetings between Reps and teachers will enable constructive exchange on all aspects of school life. Think about giving your comments to your Reps.
- Assessment for school reports will also be pursued as usual.

We should like to encourage you to come to the meetings **concerning the information on the programmes offered at BIS as far as Advanced Level**. These include preparation for the Brevet, the International GCSEs (common to all international schools) and the International Advanced Levels which mark the end of secondary schooling and are administered by the University of Cambridge. These meetings are also a way of registering your comments and expectations as well as determining in what way BIS, its mission and its truly bilingual and international curriculum equate to your intentions for your child.

IN APRIL :

- The school reports for Primary and Secondary will be published and presented to the students and their parents.
- Further professional training for the teachers will be organised as well as a professional development day on Friday, 17th April, just before the Easter Holidays.
- We shall also see the departure of our secondary students to Canada for two weeks.

You can consult the detailed calendar at any moment on our web site (<http://www.bordeaux-school.com/en/events>).

The office at BIS will remain open for the first week of the school holidays.

With best wishes.

Christine Cussac
Directrice

17.02.15