



Weekly Update

6th May 2026

Dear Parents,

Whether we like it or not, digital technology is here to stay. The modern world runs on technology: not just the internet and the devices in our bags or pockets, but also so many of the other items in our home; our energy, transport and financial systems - and so much more. You are reading this message only thanks to the wonders of modern technology, and you may be reading it in a language other than English, using auto-translate functionality.

However, digital technology can have a downside too. For example, we are all aware that we must not overdo screen-time, that we need to keep our children safe online, and of the risks of social media addiction. As a school, our duty is to work in partnership with you as parents to ensure that your children are well educated to use technology responsibly.

Technology develops faster than anyone can keep up! For example, five years ago, few schools were focusing on the educational benefits and drawbacks of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Now, this is an essential conversation for us to have with our students, especially in connection with areas such as academic integrity. Examinations will also be moving online in future, so we must make sure that all of our students have the appropriate skills and understanding to use technology wisely and effectively. We must also make sure that our infrastructure and digital devices are as future-proofed as possible, whilst never knowing quite what is around the corner.

We will be updating you further in the weeks to come regarding the future BSL vision for technology - watch this space!

We wish you a very pleasant weekend.

With best wishes,

Tom Vignoles
Head of School
The British School of Lomé



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Whole School

Summer Schools at BSL

We still have places for our [BSL Summer Schools](#) available. This year, there will be truly something for everyone, with our usual **English Language Institute (ELI) Summer School** and Primary section **Explorers Summer Schools** running as usual. For the first time, we also welcome an external company to run innovative **AI-focused Summer Schools**, which we hope may be of interest for our older students.

Leaflets were sent home to students in the Primary Section last term, which include a link to our [Summer Schools Website \(bsl.tg/summer-school\)](https://bsl.tg/summer-school), where you will find lots of further information. Secondary students and parents can pick up leaflets from Reception or the ELI. Please sign up soon, to avoid disappointment!

Long-Term Strategic Goals

At the end of last term, we shared with you a copy of our [BSL Long-Term Strategic Goals](#). These are also now on our website. We are always very keen to receive any input from parents regarding our future development objectives, so please reach out to us with any thoughts which this document may trigger.

DRAFT CALENDAR – 2026–2027

A reminder of the [Draft BSL Calendar for 2026–2027](#). At this stage, public holidays for the next academic year have not yet been officially confirmed, therefore it is still possible that changes to our calendar may occur at a later date.

Whole School Looking Ahead

Monday 1st to Friday 5th June – Assessment Week

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Primary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Primary Newsletter – Week 3 Update

This term is moving quickly—already we are at the end of Week 3! With a public holiday next week and another short week to follow, the end of term will be here before we know it. However, we must not become relaxed in our routines.

Appearance

Please ensure that your child comes to school in the correct uniform:

- Blue school polo shirt
- Dark blue shorts, skirt, or trousers
- Closed-toe shoes (not slippers, crocs, or slides)
- A hat for protection in the hot weather

A neat and consistent appearance helps children feel part of our community and ready to learn.

Lateness and Absence

Teachers are here to teach, inspire, and challenge—but it is a parent’s responsibility to ensure children arrive on time and attend regularly. Even small delays add up:

- Daily: 12 minutes late
- Weekly: 1 hour lost
- Monthly: ~4 hours lost
- Yearly: 36 hours lost (equal to 6 full school days)

Beyond the numbers, lateness often means missing the crucial “settle-in” period where teachers outline goals and give key instructions. Research from Attendance Works shows that consistent tardiness can create achievement gaps because students miss foundational context for their lessons.



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Primary School

Ready to Learn

Being “ready to learn” is more than having a pencil and paper—it’s about a child’s overall state of mind and body. Experts at the Harvard Center on the Developing Child highlight four areas:

- **Physical readiness:** Enough sleep, a healthy breakfast, and proper hydration.
- **Emotional readiness:** Feeling safe, supported, and free from stress or anxiety.
- **Cognitive readiness:** Focus, self-regulation, and the ability to follow directions.
- **Practical preparation:** Arriving curious, prepared, and with any pre-work completed.

Working Together

Parents, students, and teachers form a team. We cannot succeed without your collaboration, and we deeply appreciate your support in ensuring children are present, prepared, and ready to thrive.

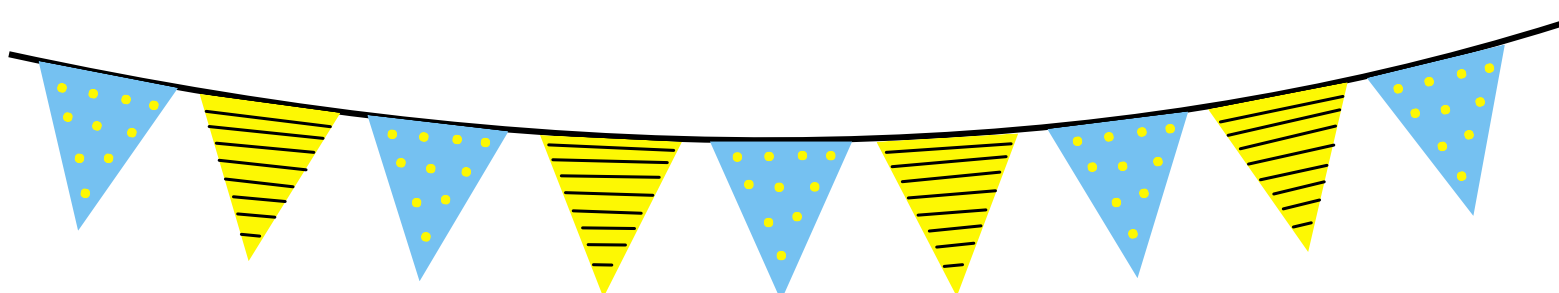
Kind regards,

Gareth Jones
Head of Primary

Judith Opiyo
Assistant Head of Primary

Primary School Looking Ahead

Monday 1st - Thursday 4th June - Assessment week
Friday 5th June - EY 'Moving Up' Celebration Assembly
Friday 12th June - Year 6 Graduation Event



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Secondary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Here is an update on the ongoing IGCSE and IBDP examinations, which remain our main priority at this time.

We are pleased to report that the examinations are progressing smoothly. Our teachers and invigilators are to be commended for their professionalism and dedication. They have demonstrated excellent punctuality, consistently arriving on time for their assigned sessions, and are conducting their duties with great care and vigilance. Invigilators are actively monitoring examination rooms, remaining attentive, and promptly recording or reporting any incidents to the designated examination officers.

We are also proud of our students, who have been well-behaved and respectful of all examination regulations. There have been no major issues reported so far, and they have approached the exams with the seriousness and focus expected of them.

Overall, we are very satisfied with how the examination period is unfolding.

We wish all our students continued success and the very best in their examinations, and we look forward to celebrating their achievements.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mr Francis Anquandah
Assistant Head (Academic)

Ms Jane Snell
IBDP Coordinator and Learning Development

Secondary School Looking Ahead

Friday 24th April to Tuesday 9th June – GCSE Examinations –

Tuesday 28th April to Wednesday 20th May – IBDP Examinations

Friday 15th May – International Buffet (Year 12 parents invited to participate)

Saturday 23rd May – Year 13 Graduation and Year 11–13 Prom

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University updates

Difficult choices and a step closer to the adult world.

The Class of 2026 has already been offered in excess of US\$350,000 (~210 million CFA) in university scholarships – a powerful recognition of their hard work, ambition and potential. These awards are opening doors to universities around the world, making global education more accessible for our students and their families. At the same time, this is a complex and important stage in the journey. While some students are still actively submitting applications, others are now carefully weighing their options across different countries, courses and institutions.

For many, this includes making difficult decisions – balancing financial considerations, visa and logistical realities, and personal aspirations. In some cases, it also means turning down offers from excellent universities in order to commit to the pathway that is the best overall fit.

Admissions timelines vary by country, and with some application portals only just opening, we hope to see this total continue to grow. It is already a fantastic achievement, and one that reflects not only academic success, but also the maturity and thoughtfulness our students are showing as they navigate these significant life decisions.

A remarkable milestone so far – and the journey continues beyond the exam period.



Key Dates

The latest version of our Key Dates for Parents is [HERE](#). Key Dates for next academic year will be shared at a later date, once they are finalised.