



PRIMARY

25TH SEPTEMBER 2026

NEWSLETTER

LETTER FROM THE HEAD OF PRIMARY

Dear Parents and Guardians,

A very warm welcome to this school year at the British School of Lomé—and to our first Primary Newsletter! Whether you are joining us for the first time or returning after the summer break, we are delighted to have you as part of our vibrant and diverse school community. To our new families, thank you for choosing BSL. We are honoured to be entrusted with your child's education and wellbeing.

In Primary, from our youngest learners in Crèche (just 18 months old) to our confident Year 6 students (aged 11), and in Secondary through to Year 13 (aged 18), we are committed to nurturing every child's curiosity, creativity, and growth. Already this term, I have had the pleasure of visiting every classroom and witnessing the energy and enthusiasm of our learners.

Our curriculum is designed to engage children in global topics, encourage critical thinking, and ignite a lifelong passion for learning. It lays a strong foundation for their journey from Primary into Secondary and beyond.

Each week, our **Primary Assembly** brings Years 1 – 6 together to celebrate learning and explore themes such as problem-solving, leadership, and kindness. A recent assembly introduced the children to characters from Roald Dahl's stories, exploring the choices they made and the consequences that followed. For example, Augustus Gloop ignored clear warnings and drank from the chocolate river, leading to his fall into the river and up the pipe and exclusion from the factory tour. This helped children understand that **every action has a consequence, and poor choices often lead to poor outcomes.**

We are also proud to announce the results of our Student Council elections, with KS2 classes nominating and voting for their representatives. This democratic process gives children a voice, helps them understand responsibility, and develops leadership in action.



PRIMARY STUDENT COUNCIL

LETTER FROM THE HEAD OF PRIMARY

Finally, each class continues to select a “Hero of the Week”, celebrating effort, progress, and positive contributions. These recognitions build confidence and reinforce the values we hold dear as a school community.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we look forward to a year filled with growth, joy, and shared success.

Warm regards,

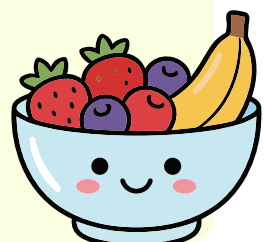
Mr Gareth Jones
Head of Primary

Fruity Wordsearch

Fruits

B	L	A	C	K	B	E	R	R	Y	A	G
E	G	R	N	R	M	Y	E	R	I	B	R
M	Y	S	O	P	P	P	R	A	B	A	L
Y	R	G	M	B	A	L	N	A	Y	R	O
A	R	E	E	L	P	P	A	W	I	R	T
A	E	R	L	C	C	P	Y	E	N	G	O
R	B	T	B	P	K	P	A	P	A	Y	A
R	W	E	A	Y	A	B	A	N	A	N	A
L	A	Y	E	L	E	T	I	W	I	K	O
I	R	B	L	U	E	B	E	R	R	Y	R
M	T	W	E	E	B	G	R	A	P	E	A
E	S	E	N	P	Y	O	O	E	A	C	N
W	A	T	E	R	M	E	L	O	N	A	G
R	A	S	P	B	E	R	R	Y	B	R	E

APPLE
LEMON
BANANA
LIME
ORANGE
WATERMELON
GRAPE
KIWI
STRAWBERRY
PAPAYA
BLUEBERRY
BLACKBERRY
RASPBERRY



AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

There is plenty happening after the school bell rings at BSL! Our After School Enrichment Programme (ASEP) offers students a fantastic range of opportunities to try something new, develop their skills and have fun outside the classroom.

This term, students can choose from a wide variety of sporting, creative, musical, practical and leadership activities, including Basketball, Tennis, Rock Climbing, Chess, Choir, Junior Masterchef, Needlework, Zumba & Afrodance and Dungeons & Dragons.

New this term: We are excited to introduce Beading Club, where students can create bracelets, bags and keyrings while developing their creativity and fine motor skills, and Drawing Explorers, where children explore a new creative topic each week through different drawing styles, colours and techniques.

Lights, camera, action! Our Drama Production ASEP is already preparing for this year's school production based on *The Lion King*. Students will journey to the Serengeti Plains as they develop their performance skills, creativity and teamwork ahead of the big show on 4 December.



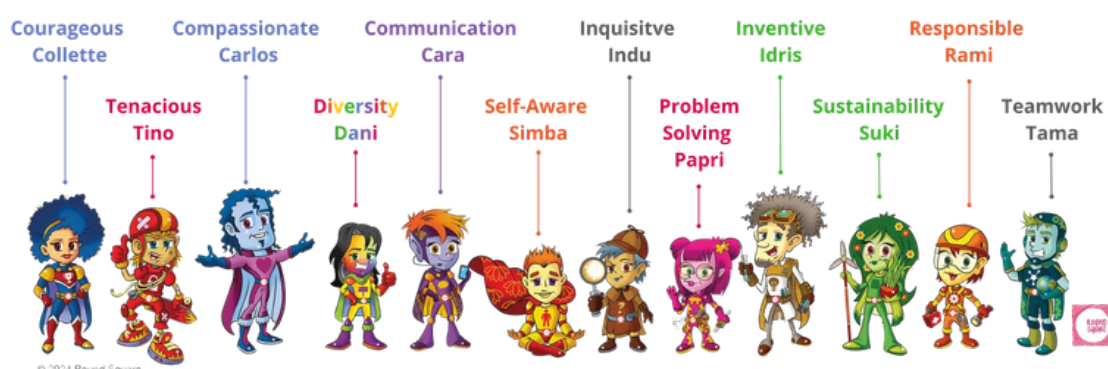
We encourage every student to try at least one new experience each term — you never know where a new hobby or talent might take you!

ROUND SQUARE

This year, we have brought the Round Square Heroes of Discovery into our weekly PSHE lessons, using their values to help our students reflect on the qualities they can develop in themselves and demonstrate in our school community.



Our Hero of the Week awards, previously known as *Star of the Week*, celebrate students who have shown one of these values through their actions, attitude or interactions with others. Each week, we shine a spotlight on a different hero and the qualities they represent, helping our students recognise that everyone has the potential to be a hero of discovery!



NURSERY

MARVELLOUS ME!

What a wonderful journey of discovery! Over the past few weeks, our Nursery children explored the “Marvellous Me” unit through playful, hands-on experiences — discovering who they are, their bodies, feelings, families and growing abilities.

Look What I Can Do! Through movement, creative activities, puzzles, role play and practical tasks, the children practised new skills such as dressing, balancing, and using different tools and materials.

These experiences supported the children’s confidence, creativity, communication and social skills, with the enthusiasm and encouragement of our caring staff. Thank you to our families for being part of this journey — your photos and stories from home made learning even more meaningful!



ALL ABOUT MY FEELINGS



MAKING FACES — MY BODY



BUILDING & USING TOOLS



BALANCING SKILLS



MY FAMILY



EXPLORING COLOUR TOGETHER



CREATIVE PAINTING



**LOOK WHAT I CAN DO
— DRESSING UP**



**ROLE PLAY &
INDEPENDENCE**

RECEPTION

SETTLING IN & ALL ABOUT ME.

It's been a fantastic start to the term! Our Reception children have settled in wonderfully, growing in confidence as they explore their classroom, make new friends, and get used to school routines.

This term's topic, "All About Me, My Family and Home," has been a highlight, with children sharing stories about their families and homes. Our Show and Tell sessions were especially fun, as each child proudly showed off their favourite toy to the class.

The children have also enjoyed lots of hands-on learning from early reading and writing to creative and sensory activities helping build their confidence, curiosity, and love of learning.

it's
me!



EVERY CHILD IS UNIQUE



NUMBER MATCHING



MY FAMILY CRAFT - BUILDING OUR HOMES AND THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THEM.



CREATIVE ART



LETTER HUNT



IMAGINATIVE PLAY



SHOW & TELL



SPEAKING CONFIDENTLY AND DESCRIBING WHAT MAKES OUR TOY SPECIAL.



SORTING & SHAPES

A big thank you to the parents for your continued support at home. We look forward to more fun, friendship and discovery in Reception!



YEAR 1

Maths: Exploring Numbers to 20

In Maths, our learners have been having fun exploring numbers from 0-20, counting objects and finding one more and one less through practical activities.



English – Blending, Segmenting and Reading

In English, we have been strengthening our phonics skills by blending sounds together to read words and segmenting words to help us spell and write independently.



Science – Alive or Not Alive?

In Science, we have been exploring the world around us and learning to identify things that are living and things that are not living through observation and discussion.



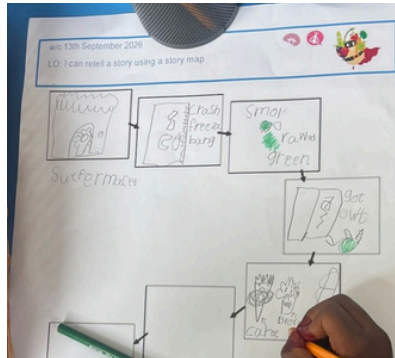
YEAR 2

In Year 2, we have been extending our place value understanding by learning how to partition numbers into tens and ones, using this knowledge to write larger numbers in words and compare quantities.

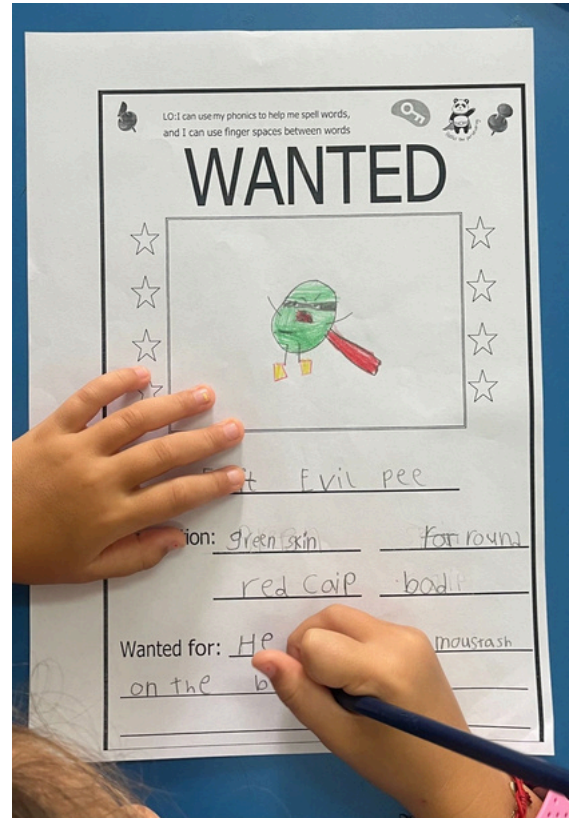


We have also been applying our phonics knowledge to write for a purpose, linked to our topic book, while developing our understanding of adjectives and verbs to make our writing more descriptive and engaging.

In Topic, we have started learning about everyday materials, comparing and grouping them according to what they are made from. This has encouraged us to think critically about which materials would be most suitable for creating our very own SuperTato costume!



SUPERTATO



We have also begun exploring the seven continents, learning where they are located and discovering which countries can be found within them.



YEAR 3

In Topic, we are exploring how early humans survived during the Stone Age. Students are investigating hunter-gatherer life, primitive tools, and daily survival techniques. For the rest of the unit, we will be comparing how humans have evolved since prehistoric times, examining the key differences in our modern world, how technology and shelter have changed, and how these advancements benefit our daily lives.



In English, we are bringing myths and legends to life. The children have turned the classic story of Perseus and Medusa into a short play, working collaboratively to write, direct, and act out their own original performances. This hands-on project gives them a fantastic opportunity to stretch their imagination, build strong descriptive language, express character emotion, and develop valuable stagecraft and teamwork skills.

In Art & Design, our weekly lessons directly link to our learning in Science and Topic, offering a creative space to explore different mediums and express our ideas. The children have already worked together to transform our classroom by creating their own ancient cave wall filled with prehistoric-style paintings. Linking to our Science topic, they have also used playdough to sculpt and construct healthy, well-balanced meal plates to explore nutritional needs.



In Science, our focus is on living things and life processes. Alongside exploring core functions like movement, nutrition, growth, and reproduction, students have been acting like real scientists by sorting and classifying animals. They are learning to observe physical similarities and differences, grouping various species based on their shared traits.

In Mathematics, we are continuing to build strong foundational skills. Our focus is on consolidating place value, discovering and extending number patterns, and building confidence in adding and subtracting 2- and 3-digit numbers. Students are applying these strategies to solve dynamic word problems both independently and in pairs.



It is proving to be a wonderfully busy and engaging term, and we look forward to sharing more of the students' learning, creativity, and achievements with you along the way!





YEAR 4

NEWS



ENGLISH

We have been exploring the English unit 'Recount Text', closely examining how letters, diaries, and newspaper reports are written. Children have had the opportunity to demonstrate their writing skills by writing a short diary recount and a newspaper report.

MATHS

Over the past 4 weeks, we have explored place value and worked with numbers up to 10,000. Children have been learning to write, compare, order and round 4-digit numbers.



TOPIC

In Topic, the activities were generally linked to Science, where we have been developing our research and map skills related to early fossils and their locations.





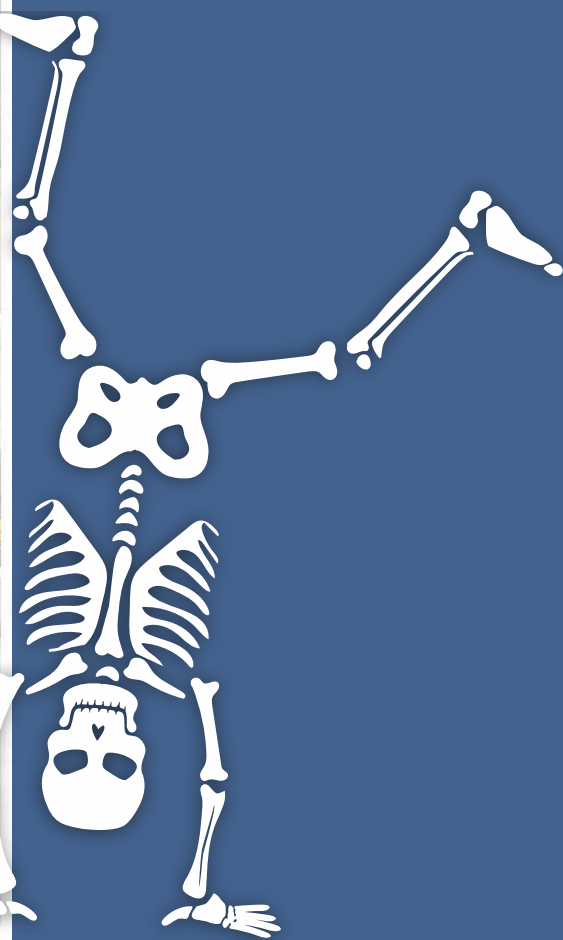
YEAR 4



NEWS

SCIENCE

It has been a joy to explore human and animal skeletons. We have examined their functions and named the parts of a skeleton. We have also learned how muscles help animals move.





Survival and Civilisations

As part of our Survival and Civilisations unit, cadets have been exploring the key features of a civilisation, using examples such as the Maya, Ancient China, Benin Empire, Mali Empire and Ancient Greece.

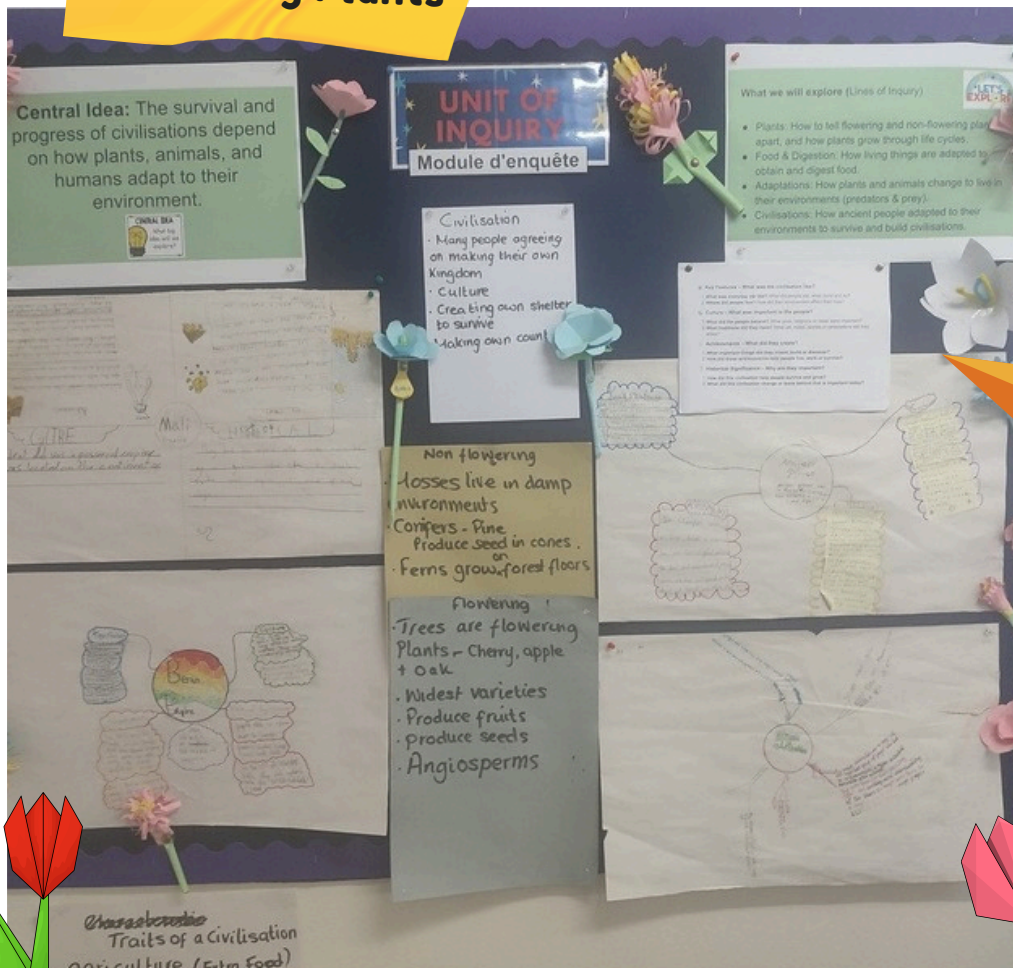
In Science, cadets have been learning about the differences between flowering and non-flowering plants. They have explored why flowering plants are important as a major source of the food we eat and investigated the types of crops that helped successful civilisations survive and grow.

Cadets have also been learning about how flowering plants reproduce and how plants use colour, scent and other features to attract the right pollinators. Through these activities, they have been making connections between plants, food, people and the development of civilisations.

Year 5 Cadets 2026-7



Flowering Plants



Origami





YEAR 5

In Mathematics, cadets have been reviewing and developing their understanding of place value, with a particular focus on decimal numbers. They have been partitioning numbers up to 100,000, including decimals, using both standard and non-standard methods



Cadets have also been using whole-part models to represent numbers and support their understanding when solving addition and subtraction problems. In addition, they have been exploring negative numbers and discovering how they are used in real-world situations, such as temperatures, money and changes in height.



Knee Tag



**BRAIN
break**

In English, we have been exploring stories from different cultures. Cadets began with a traditional story from Malawi, Why Cockerels Crow, exploring the lesson the story teaches and how this message is communicated through the characters and events. They also explored and defined culture, making connections to their own cultures and those of their peers.

Using this understanding, cadets began identifying cultural themes—the beliefs and values expressed through stories. They have been developing their ability to express their ideas and support their interpretations with evidence from the text.

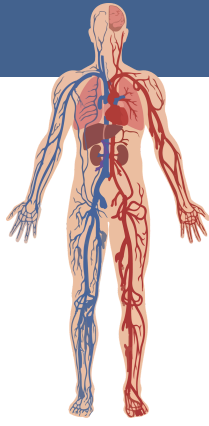
We have also begun reading our new class novel, There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom by Louis Sachar, which follows a troubled boy named Bradley Chalkers as he begins to change after forming a positive relationship with his new school counsellor.



YEAR 6

The Human Journey: How do systems work together to keep us alive?

Year 6 students have been exploring the unit the Human Journey to understand how living systems work both in the human body like the circulatory, respiratory systems and the systems in society. Our learning revolves around the human body systems and diseases, the human migration and stories about migration and refugee case studies across the globe.



Enquiring on the human body system and how the various systems, like the circulatory, respiratory, and reproductive systems, work, students engaged in testing the heartbeat and pulse rate. They also had a chance to investigate the process of breathing using scientific vocabulary. We will focus on infectious diseases that affect the system and possible human defence mechanisms.



Students discussed the push and pull factors as reasons for migration as part of the human journey. They looked at the impact of migration, and will understand how migration contributes to the spread of infectious diseases in host countries, and the impact on the health, school systems.

YEAR 6



In English Literature, students followed the journey of a boy named Africa, which exposed them to flashbacks, figurative language, role plays and the shifting moods presented. Through role-play and discussion, they developed their understanding of the Convention of Human Rights while exploring themes of identity, resilience, and hope.



In math, our focus on numbers and place values has strengthened our foundational skills and teamwork. We have used numbers using decimals, power of ten and number sequence to solve problems related to enabling us to solve more real-world problems with confidence.



**WHEN A PROBLEM COMES YOUR WAY,
DO NOT PANIC IT'S OK,
TAKE YOUR TIME AND THINK IT THROUGH,
THERE ARE MANY THINGS TO DO,
WORK TOGETHER TRY YOUR BEST.
PUT YOUR WORRIES TO THE TEST!**

LEARNING SUPPORT DEPARTMENT

Targeted English Support: Transitioning to the Intensive EAL Programme

To ensure our multilingual learners access our English-medium curriculum with confidence and reach their full potential, a dedicated group of our primary support staff has partnered with the English Language Institute. Through this specialised collaboration, we are tailoring our instruction to accelerate core language acquisition.

Currently, **seven students across Years 4 to 6** are benefiting from an intensive **10-hour weekly language programme**.

- **Current Stage (A1 Level):** Students are currently mastering short, everyday sentences and essential vocabulary to convey key factual information.
- **Target Milestone (A2/B1 Level):** Our goal is to guide students toward constructing connected explanations, engaging in rich academic discussions, comparing evidence, and confidently expressing and justifying their own viewpoints.

This targeted support provides our learners with the linguistic toolkit they need to participate fully in classroom life and present the very best version of themselves at BSL.

Upgraded Sensory and Social-Emotional Resources

We have recently acquired several fantastic new resources designed to nurture our students' wellbeing, focus, and social development:

Multisensory Equipment: We have a new triangular multisensory resource in this quiet space. This provides a calming, immersive environment where children can regulate sensory stimulation, manage triggers, and take a restful pause from academic tasks. This sensory mirror den is a tool for Special Educational Needs (SEN) environments, which also offers a safe, multi-dimensional space for visual stimulation, self-awareness, and core motor skill development.



Problem-Solving & Social Board Games: We have expanded our bank of specialised board games and interactive activities. These resources encourage collaborative problem-solving, delicate discussions, and cooperative play—allowing children to strengthen their emotional regulation, build meaningful friendships, and connect with our team in a relaxed, fun setting.

These dedicated nurture spaces offer a peaceful sanctuary where pupils feel safe, understood, and equipped with the life skills needed to succeed both inside and outside the classroom.

LEARNING SUPPORT DEPARTMENT

Outside Stakeholders

The Learning Support department is continually seeking meaningful ways to strengthen our connections with the wider community to ensure every child feels fully supported, understood, and valued at the British School of Lomé. We have begun collaborating with a dedicated staff member from the local Confucius Institute. This initiative focuses on helping our Chinese students integrate smoothly into daily life here in Lomé. By creating a warm and welcoming link between the local Chinese community in Togo and our young learners at BSL, this collaboration provides vital social and emotional guidance in their native language, ensuring they feel secure, confident, and deeply connected as they navigate their learning journey with us. More details to follow next month.



In addition to this cultural link, we are actively exploring new avenues to enhance the overall emotional well-being and mental health support available to all our primary pupils. As part of this effort, we are currently trialing a partnership with an experienced external school counselor to work with one of our students. Should this trial prove successful, it will open up a resource for other primary children who may benefit from professional counseling services on an as-needed basis in the future.

We look forward to sharing more details with you about these developing programmes very soon as we continue working together to foster a nurturing and inclusive environment for every single child.

**WORKING TOGETHER TO
FOSTER A NURTURING AND
INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT
FOR EVERY SINGLE CHILD**



SUSTAINABILITY WEEK AT BSL

This week has been Sustainability Week across the whole of BSL. The purpose of the week has been to give our students the opportunity to explore what sustainability means in their everyday lives and to consider the practical changes we can all make to protect our environment and use our resources responsibly.

One of the activities in which students took part involved using a Van de Graaff generator to demonstrate how electrical charge can be transferred and how energy can be converted from one form to another. This helped students make connections to renewable energy technologies, particularly how solar panels convert energy from the Sun into electricity that can be used immediately or stored in batteries for later use.

This learning is especially relevant at the moment, as we have recently introduced our official BSL Community Goal for 2026-2027:

RAPIDLY INSTALL A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF SOLAR PANELS AT BSL.

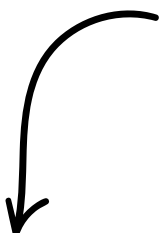
This goal aims to reduce the pressure of rising electricity costs by making use of two resources that are already abundant at BSL: the plentiful sunshine in Lomé and the extensive flat roof space across our campus buildings.

Investing in solar energy has the potential to significantly reduce our long-term electricity expenditure, helping to ensure that more school funds remain available for educational projects and improvements that directly benefit our students. We are keen to move forward with this initiative as quickly as possible, but its success will depend on the support of the wider BSL community.

We hope that members of our community will choose to support this goal in a variety of ways, whether by helping to raise awareness, identifying potential sponsors or community partners, sharing expertise, or supporting future fundraising activities.

BY WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A MEANINGFUL INVESTMENT IN BOTH THE FUTURE OF OUR SCHOOL AND THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR ENVIRONMENT.

ENJOY A COLLAGE OF PHOTOS FROM THIS WEEK.



SUSTAINABILITY WEEK AT BSL

HOW TO MAKE A FOOTBALL NET FROM WATER SACHETS!

