



SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

10TH OCTOBER 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to our first Secondary Newsletter for this academic year! It seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming everyone back from the holidays, and now here we are rapidly approaching the half term break. It has been a very busy term so far, and we are proud of how well our students have adapted to new challenges and embraced the opportunities available to them at BSL. Classrooms are full of energy and focus, and there is a real sense of purpose across the Secondary School as students engage with their learning and the wider life of our community. However, punctuality remains an area of focus.

A highlight of this half term has been our week of campaigning leading up to the election of the new Head Boy and Head Girl from Year 12, as well as Student Council representatives from other year groups. The enthusiasm, creativity, and courage shown by all candidates have been inspiring, and we congratulate those who will now take on these important roles. Student leadership at BSL is not only about positions and titles; it is about the everyday choices students make — supporting one another, taking responsibility for their actions, and collaborating effectively both in and outside the classroom.

These themes of effective collaboration and responsibility are central not only to leadership but to learning and personal growth across the school. Leadership is not only about standing at the front; it is about taking small steps to support others, develop the right attitudes, and practise the soft skills that make a difference every day. As John C. Maxwell reminds us, *"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way — and anyone can do this in their own way, every day."*

These qualities are reflected in students' academic progress and effort. Reports for Years 11 and 13, as well as for all students new to BSL, are being compiled and will be available via ManageBac next week. We hope they provide a clear picture of the responsibility, collaboration, and perseverance our students demonstrate daily. Parents are reminded to ensure their accounts are activated; if you require assistance, please contact itstaff@bsl.tg for support.

We are also delighted to end the half term with *Business Week*, a highlight in our calendar that showcases students' creativity, collaboration, and entrepreneurial spirit. We look forward to welcoming many of our parents to celebrate their children's commitment to developing and presenting the culmination of their business plans. Friends of the school are warmly invited to join us for this exciting event.

Heads of Secondary

BSL BUSINESS FAIR 2025

An exciting showcase of student entrepreneurship

TUE 14 - FRI 17 OCT 2025

THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF LOMÉ

Grand Finale: Friday 17 @ 10:30am-3:30pm

COME & SUPPORT YOUNG TALENTS!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Eco and Sustainability Council has also been working hard to create great effects from small acts. Since the beginning of Year 12, our organisation has been collecting and sorting different types of plastic waste—such as PET and PP—as well as aluminium cans around the school. These materials are then transferred to the local recycling company GIP (Green Industry Plastic), not only ensuring proper processing but also generating a small profit for our efforts.

All money raised from this campaign will be donated to support good causes, such as the Vivenda Deaf School and local orphanages, as well as initiatives like installing solar panels. We aim to extend the positive impact of our sustainability work beyond our school campus.

We warmly invite parents and families to join our campaign by donating any excess clean plastics and aluminium cans you have at home to the school. There are large collecting bins at the main school entrance near the basketball courts. With your help, together we can make a difference—one bottle or can at a time.

With thanks,

The Eco & Sustainability Council

Led by Year 13s, Chris-Junior, Meyyan and Samuel.

Tips for parents to practice sustainability:

Coffee cups



Bringing or borrowing a reusable coffee cup or dine-in at your local café.

Loose produce



Find plastic free alternatives when buying fruit & veggies.

Reusable shopping bags



Bring your own reusable shopping bags and help reduce plastic waste.

Plastic straws



Refuse plastic straws when buying a drink & BYO reusable alternative!

Water bottles



BYO reusable water bottle instead of buying plastic ones.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



The three R's for a better planet – reduce, reuse, recycle.



EXCITEMENT AND ENERGY AS STUDENTS CAMPAIGN FOR HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL

Last week, our Secondary School came alive at break and lunchtime as students campaigned for the election of our new Head Boy and Head Girl. The week began with a Secondary assembly, where candidates courageously presented their campaign speeches to the whole year group, embracing the challenge of public speaking and showing that leadership often starts with stepping outside your comfort zone.

Throughout the week, the school buzzed with ever increasing energy, creativity, and friendly rivalry. Campaigns featured vibrant posters, balloons, music, and a range of engaging activities, including musical chairs, cup-stacking games, raffles, and slogans or gimmicks like sunglasses used to persuade peers. Candidates also spent time having one-to-one conversations, sharing their ideas and vision for the school, demonstrating initiative, effective communication, and collaborative leadership.

The election itself was closely contested, reflecting the high calibre of all candidates. Every vote counted, making the results a thrilling conclusion to a week of spirited engagement.

We congratulate our newly elected Head Boy and Head Girl and all Student Council representatives for their creativity, courage, and dedication. Their efforts remind us that leadership comes in many forms – whether taking small steps to support others, organising activities, or inspiring peers – and that responsibility, collaboration, and initiative are just as important as standing at the front. The Senior Leadership Team look forward to their suggestions for, and involvement in, the continual development of BSL.



You did it!



David Aka and Leaticia Awesso

NURTURING SUCCESS: LEARNING SUPPORT AT BSL

The Learning Support department at BSL is experiencing significant growth, aligning with international best practices for inclusive education and evolving Togolese societal norms. We are creating a nurturing and supportive environment where every student, regardless of individual needs, can achieve academic success.



A Tailored Approach to Student Support

We understand that every child is unique and require their own level of support. The department is gradually refining individualized support pathways, which involves close liaison with parents, guardians, teachers, and the students themselves.

We focus on the child's strengths, supporting them to bridge the gap between their current level and their aspirational goals. Support interventions include:

- **In-Class Support:** Collaboration with the classroom teacher to assist students within the mainstream lesson.
- **Targeted Sessions: Small-group and one-to-one** sessions to focus on specific needs, including guided reading, life skills, and literacy & numeracy support.
- **Personalized Pathways:** Some students follow personalized academic plans, allowing them to participate in social activities like PE and the arts with their peers, while focusing on their own level of Math's and English within the Learning Support department
- **Social and Emotional Support:** Our team provides assistance for students with social and emotional needs, offering a safe 'time-out' space and alternative activities where they can find success, allowing the mainstream teacher to focus on the class.
- **Curriculum Adjustments:** At review meetings, we occasionally discuss the 'bigger picture,' and it may be prudent for a student to drop a subject to focus their efforts and achieve the best possible grades in their remaining subjects, thereby preventing overwhelm.



Providing robust learning support means that families with a child who has a learning difference can attend BSL with their siblings, fostering a strong sense of community. Our commitment to inclusion extends beyond the classroom:

- **Accessibility in Activities:** We ensure that all extracurricular activities, clubs, and sports are inclusive and accessible to students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities promoting social interaction and a deeper sense of belonging.
- **Positive Behavior Support:** We implement strategies to effectively address behavioral challenges, which promotes a more positive and focused school environment for everyone.

Data-Driven Progress and Parental Partnership

Our department utilizes an evidence-based approach to monitor progress and drive continuous improvement.



- **Tracking Performance:** We track the academic performance and progress of students with learning challenges by comparing their grades, test scores, and Individual Education Plans (IEPs) over time. This data is used to assess whether students are meeting their individualized goals and making demonstrable improvements.
- **Data-Driven Decisions:** We track and analyze attendance records, student performance, and other relevant metrics to inform our strategic decisions and resource allocation. We also utilize educational technology to streamline processes, track data, and provide students with valuable learning resources.
- **Parental Engagement:** We place significant emphasis on parental engagement through regular communication, parent-teacher conferences, and meetings. This approach ensures parents are easily informed about their child's progress and are active partners in their journey.
- **Feedback and Review:** We employ robust feedback mechanisms for students, parents, and staff to provide input and suggestions. This feedback is acted upon to make necessary changes, which is complemented by follow-up and review meetings to ensure everyone remains on track for the student's success.

The Power of Stakeholder Awareness and Collaboration

This year, our main goal is to raise awareness among all stakeholders and the wider community about the crucial role they play in the lives of students with learning challenges.



Transparency: We ensure that all stakeholders are well-informed about the department's goals, progress, and outcomes. This **transparent communication** builds essential **trust and confidence**.

Internal Collaboration: We have fostered a **positive and supportive** environment within the learning support department itself, encouraging collaboration, open communication, and a strong sense of belonging among our dedicated staff.

By consistently implementing these strategies, the Learning Support department is building a department that is effective, inclusive, and dedicated to the academic success and holistic well-being of all students.

COLLABORATION AND COMPROMISE IN Y11 FRENCH SL

In French SL, the Year 11 students collaborated on a writing task taken from an IGCSE past paper. After brainstorming in pairs for the task entitled "Un beau voyage à l'étranger" (A Beautiful Trip Abroad), the whole class came together to write a blog entry describing what turned out to be an unexpected trip to Spain—won in a basketball match! As the bell rang, a final sentence was timely pieced together, bringing the work to a satisfying close.

Through their perseverance and cooperation, Year 11 not only demonstrated their writing skills but also their ability to compromise, discuss ideas, and listen to one another to achieve a common goal: communicating a message in a foreign language. **Bravo, les Year 11!**



MODEL UNITED NATIONS (MUN)

Model United Nations (MUN) is both a simulation and a seminar designed to educate students about diplomacy, international affairs, and the UN SDG goals by incorporating them into debates on ongoing global issues. So far, our delegates have consistently attended after-school MUN sessions, been introduced to opening speeches, and started using only third-person language in our debates.

We now embark on our journey to formally discuss the exploitation of natural resources in developing countries while devising potential solutions for the protection of civil rights and the promotion of sustainable development in these nations.



Recently, we had the privilege of hosting a guest speaker, Mr Emmanuel Okorie, a BSL alumnus who graduated in 1998. He currently lives in Manchester, UK, where he works for a sports gear company, managing the firm's software systems.

We had a fruitful discussion as Mr Emmanuel shared his life experiences and offered insights into how he applies skills such as critical analysis, problem-solving, teamwork, and communication in his career. These are the same skills we cultivate through MUN. Mr Emmanuel demonstrated how he implemented these skills by preventing the crash of his company's website and restoring it to its former state. Moreover, he often needs to think critically and collaborate with colleagues from diverse backgrounds to enhance the company's efficiency and functionality.

During our discussion, delegates also introduced themselves and asked questions to understand the practical, day-to-day implications of the skills we develop through MUN. We sincerely thank Mr Emmanuel for taking time out of his holiday to speak with us and look forward to welcoming more inspiring speakers who will challenge our thinking and provide real-world context for the skills that MUN nurtures.

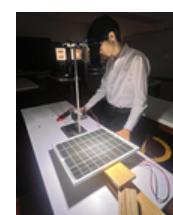


YEAR 13 PHYSICS INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

The Year 13 Physicists have been working on their individual Internal Assessments this term. The Internal Assessment is an integral part of the course and is compulsory for both SL and HL learners. It enables learners to demonstrate the application of their skills and knowledge, and to pursue their personal interests, without the time limitations and other constraints that are associated with written examinations. It will contribute 20% to a learner's overall grade in IBDP Physics. Each learner has created their own research question to investigate. They will be submitting their first draft on Friday 17th October.



How does the angle of a ramp affect the acceleration of a rolling car?



How does the angle at which the light strikes a solar panel affect the power produced by the solar panel?



How does the internal resistance of a battery change with temperature?



How does the number of aluminium foil wraps around a ping pong ball affect the time it takes to fall from a fixed height?

How does varying the angle of inclination affect the angular acceleration of a solid disc?



How does the surface albedo affect the change in temperature of a water container exposed to a constant light source?

YEAR 10 – A STUDENT LED ASSEMBLY

Last Monday, the Year 10 students led the Secondary assembly in celebration of World Teachers' Day which fell on Sunday 5th October. Their presentation included certificates of appreciation, a well-chosen video from UNESCO highlighting the importance of teachers, and a wonderful poem thanking every member of staff who plays a role in teaching within the Secondary School.

They were inspired to recognise this day by the work that UNESCO does in promoting education and the role of the teacher.

Science on the human body system and how the various systems, like the circulatory, respiratory, and reproductive systems, work. They engaged in testing the heartbeat and pulse rate. Students investigated some microbes that would cause infectious diseases that affect the system and possible human defence mechanisms.

Why Do We Celebrate Teachers' Day (According to the UN / UNESCO)?

- Recognize the Role of Teachers

Teachers are central to education systems, to personal development, to societies. Celebrating World Teachers' Day is a way to acknowledge their contributions, sacrifices, and impact.

- Raise Awareness of the Challenges Teachers Face

The day is also used as a platform to highlight issues and challenges in the teaching profession, for example, poor working conditions, lack of resources, low pay, unfair workloads, and teacher shortages.

- Promote Policy Dialogue and Reforms

Through campaigns, events, and advocacy, World Teachers' Day encourages governments, educational institutions, civil society and stakeholders to reflect on policies affecting teachers (their training, rights, status, working conditions) and to push for reforms.

- Uphold Quality Education

Because teachers are essential to delivering quality education, their well-being, training, and support are integral to meeting global education goals (such as the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 4: "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all").

- Foster Global Solidarity and Mutual Learning:

The observance fosters a sense of global solidarity among educators, and sharing best practices, challenges, innovations across countries.

A POEM for Our Wonderful teachers

Mr. Abdulaziz Ahmed.

With calm and care, he leads the way,
And helps us grow more every day.

Mrs. Bolaaji.

Her voice inspires, her words are wise,
She helps our hopes and dreams to rise.

Mr. Guy.

Prof de français, toujours précis dans ses mots,
Même sans le savoir, il nous aide comme un pros

Madame Agmenizin.

So full of grace, so warm and bright,
She turns each lesson into a grammar fight. :)

Ms. Claire.

With joyful heart and open mind,
She teaches us to always be kind.

Mr. Herve.

Maths, Physics and chemistry Teacher
When it comes to teaching , he is very eager

Mr. Aryee.

With wisdom deep and steady tone,
He helps us learn and stand alone.

Ms Chimene

She is so encouraging
Especially when it comes to swimming.

Mr. Jean-luc.

Calm And Collected
His Best performance, always expected.

Mr. Anaquanda.

Kind and thoughtful, Smart and fair,
He lifts us up with gentle care.

Mr. Dwuana.

A guiding light through every test,
He always helps us do our best.

Mr. Jibril

Sitting down and commanding
His exercise help with running

Mrs. Anaquanda.

Her heart is kind, her business sincere,
She makes us feel so welcome here.

Mr. David.

Calm and patient, smart and true,
He brings the best out of me and you.

Mr. Johanser

Perfect with english and literature
You must be excited to get his signature

Mr. Ado.

Through every sport and game
He builds up a lot of fame

Mrs. Diabo.

The spanish teacher everyone loves,
She makes people smile with everything she does.

Mr James

The one that helps those in need
Makes sure that everyone succeeds

Mr. Alfred.

The Sport And Tennis teacher
And Our Enthusiastic Leader

Mr. Elly.

With every word, he shows he cares,
And helps us climb the Business stairs.

Mrs. Laura.

Smooth at Dancing
And good at teaching

Mr Emmanuel (Math).

He helps us find the path
The path to help with math

Mr. Emmanuel (Library).

In his library, Knowledge truly thrives
And every book you find there, your imagination comes to life!

Mr. Lucas.

For your lessons, patience and all you impart You
make numbers dance and light up every heart

Mr. McGuinness

He guides us through business with care and makes each lessons
a delight to share

Mr Silver.

Such a good drama teacher
The one that directs the theater

Mrs. Nelly

For our guidance, stories and words so bright;
You teach us to speak, and our minds take flight

Mr Snell

Physics is his specialty
He always makes sure to give us fun activities

Mr. Obaro

So good at art
And has such a kind heart.

Mrs Snell

She always makes sure everything is fair
And always shows that she cares

Mr Ribouem

Piano, guitar, saxophone, you name it
He's good at it

Mr Saker

Our beloved Biology teacher
Always ready to teach us about a new creature

Mr. Seid.

Here to teach us a melody
And he's always singing in harmony.

Mr Tom

Such a kind and caring head of school
Always making sure that everyone stays cool.

THANK YOU!!!!!

YEAR 11 CHEMISTRY

Our secondary school Chemistry students have started the year on a very positive note, demonstrating focus, enthusiasm, and commitment to their studies. Recently, they carried out a practical experiment on rates of reaction as part of their preparation for the upcoming IGCSE examinations.

Neatly dressed and fully engaged, the students showed keen interest as they worked through the experiment, carefully observing and recording their results. Their concentration and teamwork were evident, reflecting both their dedication and the strong academic culture they are building in class.

It is encouraging to see such a promising start to the academic year. With this level of determination and curiosity, our students are well on track for a successful journey ahead.





Boostez votre anglais *avec* The British School of Lomé English Language Institute !

PROCHAINE RENTRÉE

1^{er} Oct.
2025

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Résidence du Bénin, (La caisse)



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GATEWAY TO UNIVERSITY **ENDEAVOUR IS ALL**



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