



Weekly Update

23rd January 2026

Dear Parents,

It is said that 'a picture is worth a thousand words'. On Thursday 29th January, our visiting team of professional photographers will be taking group and individual photographs for you to purchase if you wish. It is intended that this will become an annual event, so that we all have the joy of seeing our students, your children, grow and develop through their time at BSL.

A reminder please to ensure that your child attends school wearing their regular school uniform in the morning, not their PE kit, with their PE kit in a separate bag if PE is scheduled that day. We will be making small adjustments to lesson schedules on that day, to ensure that the photos can be taken with minimal disruption.

Parents will have the opportunity to purchase photos of their child, and of their child's class, if they wish. Please look out for the order form, which you will receive by email early next week.

We wish you a very pleasant weekend.

With best wishes,

Tom Vignoles
Head of School
The British School of Lomé

Whole School

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.

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Primary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are delighted to share that we have now completed three weeks of the new year, and already the children have settled beautifully into their routines. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm for our wide range of After School Activities, including cooking, tennis, swimming, art, learning musical instruments, football, basketball, and robotics, – just to mention a few.

Within the classroom, learning is equally exciting and engaging. Children are actively involved in meaningful, real-life tasks that build knowledge, skills, and experiences to prepare them as responsible global citizens. Their curiosity, creativity, and collaboration are shining through each day.

We are also deeply grateful for the role you play in your child's learning journey. Your involvement and support make all the difference, and we could not do this without you.

This week, we marked **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**, reflecting on his powerful words and enduring message. His quotes remind us to choose love over hate, to pursue justice through nonviolent struggle, and to persevere with hope and conscience. We especially remember his timeless reminder: *"The time is always right to do right."*

Making the right choices is a value we emphasize daily with the children, encouraging them to respond thoughtfully and positively, even in challenging situations. These lessons in character are just as important as academic learning, and we are proud to see our students growing in both.

Thank you for your continued partnership and trust. Together, we are shaping a community where children thrive, learn, and make choices that will guide them well into the future.

Kind regards,

Gareth Jones
Head of Primary

Judith Opiyo
Assistant Head of Primary

Secondary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are pleased to share important updates and key events as we move through the second term.

School resumed on 5th January, and students have settled in well. Our PSHE lessons for the term, is focused on "Understanding Myself," which is progressing positively across year groups.

MOCK examinations commenced on 8th January and concluded smoothly on 21st January. IGCSE students completed their exams on Wednesday 21st and returned to lessons on Thursday 22nd. IBDP students also completed their papers on Wednesday 21st. Year 13 students continued with a DP Core Workshop on Thursday and Friday rather than returning to regular lessons.

Staff participated in Exam Invigilation Training in preparation for the upcoming IGCSE and IBDP final examinations.

Also an Extended Staff Development Session, led by the Head of School, was held on Wednesday, 14th January to enhance teaching and pastoral practices.

After School Enrichment Programme (ASEP)

Our ASEP activities began as scheduled and are running smoothly. Students are engaging very well in the various enrichment opportunities offered.

We are pleased to welcome Ms Bolaji Aliyu as co-Tutor for Year 7, working alongside Mr Silver Ojieson to strengthen support for our students.

Reporting and Upcoming Events

Year 11 and Year 13 MOCK results will be entered into MB Gradebook as the Term 2 Grades. Reports will be published on 3rd February. Parents' Evening will be held on 5th February. Year 11 students will begin to think about how their IGCSE results and co-curricular activities support future study in the IB Diploma Programme and beyond. This will happen through information sessions, the careers fair, and mentoring. More details will be shared soon.

The Duke of Edinburgh Silver Adventurous Journey is scheduled for 24th–28th January. We wish all participating students a successful and rewarding experience and are hoping that the recent rain and high temperatures will be kind to them!

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to ensure a productive and enriching term for all our students.

Francis E. Anquandah
Assistant Head (Academic)

Jane Snell
IBDP and Learning Development

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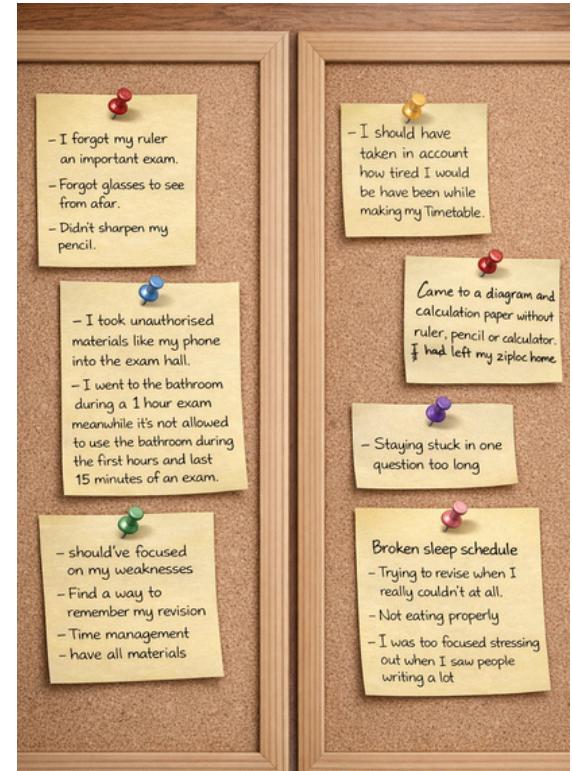


Secondary School

Mistakes are part of learning, but only if they are acknowledged and learned from

Reflection plays a vital role in helping students learn how to learn, not just what to learn. By taking time to think honestly about what went well, what didn't, and why, students begin to recognise patterns in their habits, decision-making, and well-being. This process builds self-awareness, responsibility, and resilience, allowing them to make more informed choices next time – whether that's managing time better, preparing materials in advance, or looking after their health. Ultimately, reflection supports long-term growth by turning mistakes into practical lessons and helping students develop independence and confidence in their learning journey.

Here are some of the reflections on the aspects of the Mock Exam that didn't go so well, and that students have control over. We are confident that they are not mistakes that will be repeated!



University Updates

Dreams Taking Shape: University Offers Are Landing.

University application season is well underway – and the good news keeps rolling in!

Our Year 13 students are continually submitting applications, preparing for interviews, refining portfolios, and celebrating offers from universities across the globe.

Guided by our University Counsellor, Mr David Nyamikou, and IB Diploma Coordinator, Mrs Jane Snell, students and families are being supported every step of the way through this exciting and important process.



The results speak for themselves. Thanks to their hard work and determination, the Class of 2026 has already been offered an outstanding US \$248,000 in annual scholarships to support them through their university studies, with plenty more offers still to come. We couldn't be prouder, and we can't wait to share what happens next!

Exploring Education City in Doha

From January 16 to 18, I had the opportunity to explore Education City in Doha, and it was nothing short of inspiring. This remarkable campus brings together world-class universities in one dynamic space where ideas, cultures, and ambitions collide, creating an atmosphere buzzing with curiosity and innovation. The visit was also an incredible chance to connect and exchange insights with 28 school counselors from around the world, discussing higher education application trends, challenges, and exciting opportunities for international students globally—a truly eye-opening experience.

A true highlight was the state-of-the-art student residences. Shared by students from all universities, these modern, beautifully designed dorms foster a vibrant, international community, where friendships spark across borders and collaboration is part of daily life.

Universities in Education City include:

- Georgetown University in Qatar – International Politics, Economics, History
- Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar – Computer Science, Business, Information Systems, Biological Sciences
- Northwestern University in Qatar – Journalism, Media, Communication
- Weill Cornell Medicine – Qatar – Medical Education
- Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar (VCUarts) – Art and Design
- Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) – Engineering, Law, Public Policy, Sciences, Humanities

What makes Education City truly exceptional is not just its scholarships and financial support through the Qatar Foundation and Georgetown University, but also its extraordinary learning experiences. Most programmes offer year-abroad opportunities, allowing students to immerse themselves in different cultures and academic environments. Others include sponsored individual projects from the undergraduate level, giving students an early taste of research, innovation, and real-world impact.

It's a place where IB top achievers flourish, and where well-rounded, curious students—creative thinkers, leaders, and problem-solvers—are celebrated just as highly.

A heartfelt thanks to Georgetown University in Qatar for their warm invitation and generous welcome, making this visit both enlightening and memorable.

Parents and students at BSL eager to learn more are warmly encouraged to reach out to david.nyamikou@bsl.tg for guidance and further information on these inspiring opportunities.

David Gathe NYAMIKOU

Careers and University Guidance Counsellor

“The only dreams impossible to reach are the ones you never pursue.” – Michael Deckman

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Exploring Education City in Doha



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Secondary School Looking Ahead

24th-28th January Duke of Edinburgh International Award – Silver Adventurous Journey (practice and assessed) – Year 12 and 13 students.

31st Jan and 1st February – Online MUN Conference – optional for Secondary students, no experience necessary, full training given by the BSLMUN Committee. MUN ASEP is on Tuesday afternoons in A1.

2nd-6th February – Careers Week – a series of career planning and information sessions will take place throughout the week. Parents who are interested in being involved should contact the BSL University and Careers Councilor, Mr David Nyamikou to discuss further
david.nyamikou@bsl.tg

5th February – Secondary Parent Teachers' Meeting (Years 7 to 13)

8th-10th February – Duke of Edinburgh International Award – Bronze Adventurous Journey (assessed) – Year 10 and 11 students.

Key Dates

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