

March 2015

The British School of Lomé

BSL BUZZ

Clowning Around!

On Tuesday 25th March actors from BSL performed a wonderful play by Matt Cameron, *Mr Melancholy*. It is an absurd comedy with themes that explore solitude, but conversely companionship and what it takes to be happy. It's about three hermits living on a remote island with a lighthouse without a light, who one day discover a runaway circus clown washed ashore. Ollie (Safouratou Ide Saley) is the lighthouse keeper. Her purpose in life is to steal the beach using a bucket. Enzo (Michelle Ode) is the caretaker, and she sends out messages in bottles. Margot (Gillian Ayim) who is scared of change returns the sand that Ollie stole from the beach so that she will never finish. The role of the clown Dolores (played by Savannah Chapman) draws attention to the human need for love and companionship. I think all the actors did a remarkable job. They appeared to make few mistakes with their lines. They were just amazing. The makeup was really well done especially the clown's. The lighting controlled by Nelly Tusime was really done well, especially when light was fading at the end of each day. The sound effects brought it to life and made more sense of the action and made it more interesting. The director (Nigel Tickner) also did a really good job directing. There are more people who did a great job making it such a wonderful play that I didn't mention so, thank you to everybody that helped!

Solène Gnassingbe Year 8



BSL Lions



BSL Lions Swim to Victory

“We trained really hard for this and it paid off!” – Dohoon Kim

The Togolese national inter-school swim competition (FISNA) finals were held on the 21st of March at Hotel Sarakawa, one week after the qualifications took place in Club BSL. Several French and Togolese schools entered the qualifications, but only six swimmers were selected to swim in the finals for each heat (stroke). Of the BSL Sea Lions swim team, Louis Bernard, Lucie Bernard, Emily Kamperman, Justine Kamperman (who unfortunately was sick during the finals and couldn't participate) Dohoon Kim, Timo Vandembroucke, and I (Team captain – Harri Vandembroucke) qualified to swim in the finals. Bronze, Silver, Gold and points were awarded for each heat respectively and the school with the most points won.



- 50m free was won by Harri Vandembroucke
- 50m breaststroke was won by Louis Bernard
- 100m free was won by GSSJ but Timo Vandembroucke came second.
- 100m breaststroke was won by Louis Bernard
- 50m free (females) was won by Emily Kamperman.
- 50m breaststroke (females) was won by Arc En Ciel but Lucie Bernard came second.
- 100m breaststroke (females) was won by Lucie Bernard.
- 4 x 50 free relay was won by the BSL “Gold” relay team of Harri Vandembroucke, Dohoon Kim, Timo Vandembroucke and Louis Bernard).

There were several heats which the BSL swim team did not have the capacity to participate in (Butterfly, Backstroke) but we were ecstatic to find out that we won regardless. The swim team would like to honour Ms. Spence for this victory – we couldn't have done it without her coaching.

By Harri Vandembroucke (Team Captain) and Dohoon Kim who both in year 11.



The Globe Theatre at BSL!



I never thought I would have the chance to watch one of Shakespeare's plays performed to a live audience! It was the first time I saw experts in action. One of the most important elements of that night was emotion. It was a night of emotional outpour. Instead of the mind, feelings took control of the body. Suspense, amazement, wonder, curiosity and imagination were in action; each audience member had a wide, loving smile plastered to their faces.

The performance was mind-blowing and full of heart-felt sensations. It was an emotional epidemic. The actors were charismatic and the audience was eager. The use of music and Shakespearean language kept the audience engaged. The audiences mostly responded with comedy, love and passion.

After the performance, comments such as "it was astonishing", "it was a spectacular show, I love it" came from different people but I was speechless. Such perfection, such a style! I've never seen anything like it. As Maya Angelou puts it, "People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel", and for the Globe Theatre actors and actresses, they have shown great character and made a positive, lasting imprint in our hearts.

By Ibrahim Mainasara, Year 10



Shakespeare Week!



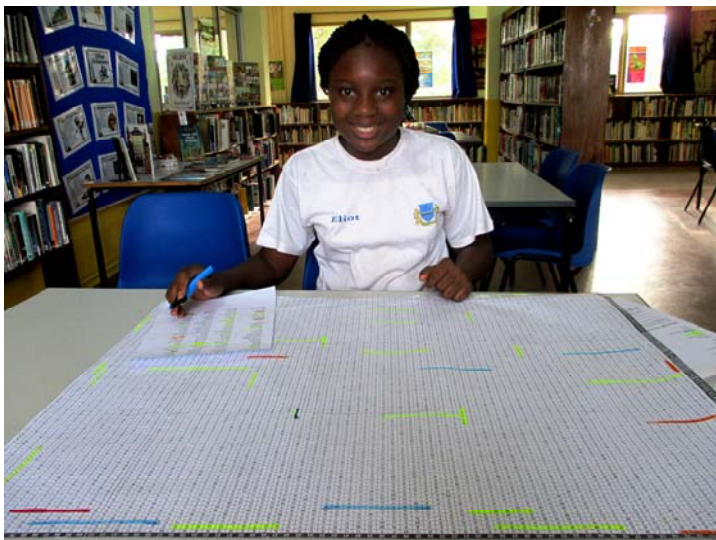
Wow! What a week!

A great week was had by all in the library as we celebrated the great bard, his life, work and times. This was a continuation from the brilliant performance of Hamlet that we saw the week before and coincided with the UK's Shakespeare week celebrated throughout the country.

Shakespeare week, coordinated by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, introduces primary and secondary aged children to Shakespeare in a fun and engaging way. This was our aim as we celebrated in the library last week.

Our programme included quizzes, competitions, creative tasks and much more. Participants from both primary and secondary had a great time at break, lunchtime and in lessons taking part in the organised activities. Students competed against each other, shared information and used their skill to highlight their knowledge of the great man.

One of our most popular events was the team quiz jeopardy, in which students from both primary and secondary competed against each other to answer questions. Each round was a hard fought battle but the team that had the courage to go for the high valued questions first ultimately won the day.



Several students showed their grit and determination by taking on the ultimate word search challenge. This massive undertaking required students to discover over two hundred words and phrases related to Shakespeare's works. The closing date for this activity is Friday and we are eagerly anticipating some high calibre entries.

Many of the activities gave our students the chance to shine! Competition winners will be announced this week and prizes awarded. Well done to everyone who participated.

Enriching Lives at BSL!

3D Printing at BSL

This month Year 10 welcomed WOELAB to their PSHE lesson. In preparation of their technology assembly in June our Year 10 group has started an amazing project with the support of Woelab, a local community initiative of talented young Togolese inventors who built a 3D printer using E-Waste!

Through interactive workshops year 10 are learning to sketch shapes and objects on 3D software.



In the coming weeks they will be ready to print their own 3D objects! 'Initially I was not too keen on learning how to use 3-D printing software, but after the folks from WOELAB showed us how easy and convenient it was to create three dimensional figures on a computer screen my mindset completely changed. Mr Dodji from WOELAB said 3-D printing is the future, and I completely agree with him' said Obinna from Year 10. The Woelab 3D printer were award winners at the UNESCO sponsored NetExpo 2015. They also won awards at the African Innovation Summit and the NASA Space App Challenge!

IB TOK Presentations



The Year 13 IB students have been completing their Theory of Knowledge assessed presentations this month. Theory of Knowledge, or TOK, is a course designed to encourage each student to reflect on the nature of knowledge by critically examining different ways of knowing (emotion, intuition, perception, language and reason) and different areas of knowledge (science, art, mathematics, religion and history). The IB students presented a range of interesting topics including animal testing, China's one child policy, media bias and corporal punishment. Here Eilfried Gbedey addresses the ethics of free speech.

Primary School News

Café de Paris!



Café de Paris opened its door to parents, teachers and friends of Year One on Wednesday. Wearing their finest outfits, Year 1 students served crepes, croissants, coffee and juice to their customers. It was a great morning and the customers were keen for us to open again!



Golden Tickets Galore!

Friday March 20th saw the Primary School celebrating the students' achievements not just in the classroom but also during afterschool activities. A record number of 24 students were handed Golden Tickets for excelling in their after school activities and specialist lessons. It was a well deserved, fun afternoon for these children!

Easter Eggstravaganza!



Year 3 and 4 students went to the Ephphata Deaf School on March 26 to make Easter Hats with our new friends in preparation for the Easter Hat Parade!



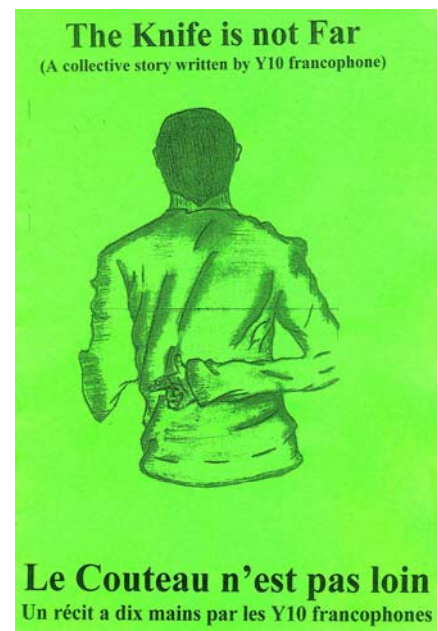
On the last day before the holiday Ephphata Deaf School, our TRACKS -Service partners, joined us for our annual Easter Eggstravaganza! The primary school had a fun filled assembly where the students paraded their hats and danced! For the remainder of the day students took part in a range of Easter crafts and activities, until it was time to go home for the holidays! Have a great holiday everyone!!





“Lire C’est Grandir!”

‘Lire-en-Fete’ 2015 was held at BSL from the 9th to 13th March 2015. It is an annual celebration of reading meant to encourage students to read in different languages. Both the primary and the secondary school had brilliant assemblies where different people were interviewed about what reading meant to them. Students in year 10 even wrote their own French language book called the ‘The Knife is Not Far.’



Week Without Walls

It is with great pleasure that we announce the first 'Week Without Walls' programme for secondary students at BSL! Taking place between the 15th and the 19th of June, the programme is intended to stretch the boundaries of learning, while providing your child with the opportunity to visit new places and learn new skills. We believe that the Week Without Walls should serve the purpose of making the students more internationally minded and better global citizens.



A range of different activities are on offer including international trips, regional trips, local trips in Togo and on site activities at school. All activities are carefully designed to enrich our curriculum and support learning with real life experiences. It is important to note that all students will be participating in either a trip abroad, or a local activity. There will be no standard classes taking place during the Week Without Walls. A separate booklet will be sent out to all secondary parents with details of each activity or excursion on offer. There are a variety of exciting activities to suit all needs and budgets. Activities include:

- A voyage to Zanzibar with many curriculum links to English, Art, History and Science.
- A field studies Geography centre in the Atlas mountains of Morocco
- A mountain Trek in stunning Ethiopia
- The Golden Eye outward-bound activities centre in Togo
- A trip along the coast of Togo and Benin
- A Young Writers trip to the Volta region of Ghana
- A safari to the wild places of Northern Ghana
- Exploring Science: An in school activity with a focus on 'hands on' science
- Maths Magic: An in school activity with a focus on practical Maths
- The 15 Minute Shakespeare: Drama workshops
- Art Attack: An in school activity with a focus on art in the community





Service in the Community Back On Track!

IB students have for the past four weeks done some fantastic work outside of the classroom as part of their CAS service activities. There has been an awesome buzz within the various service groups and the students have been full of positive energy and commitment to the activities they have planned and organised.

The Ephphatha Deaf School group has conducted two training sessions of the game of rounders both here at BSL and at Ephphatha. This week they had a mini football tournament and it was played so competitively that we did more than the usual hour of work. There were four teams, each made up of five players; team Antoine, team Christopher, team Gedeon and team Franck. Team Antoine carried the day with 7 wins out of 11 games.

Vivenda Deaf School group has had basketball and football games with the deaf children. The basketball session was such great fun it was filled with laughter the whole time.



A student from Ephphatha deaf school having a mould made for his new hearing aid! Service in the community is a vital part of life at BSL!

The St. Claire & Aneho orphanages group has been extremely busy preparing presentations for the American Embassy about our service in the community initiatives. Earlier this term the group did the same by showing the Director of Brussels Air a succinct PowerPoint presentation about the numerous projects the CAS service groups are involved in. Their presentation was so good that we have already been put in touch with people to help provide advice on our "One Well a Year" project and other ongoing activities in the local community.

Up Coming Events at BSL!

1. Monday 13th April 2015: School will resume after the holiday. It will be a week B!
2. Friday 17th April 2015: The ever popular 'Primary Family Games Night'
3. Saturday 25th – Sunday 26th April 2015: International Award Expedition to Kpalime for both Bronze and Silver candidates.
4. Monday 27th April: Togo National day, School Closed.
5. Wednesday 29th April 2015: The Primary Swimming Gala
6. Friday 1st May: Labour day, School Closed
7. Monday 4th May: Primary Book week begins
8. Tuesday 5th May: External IB and IGCSE examinations begin.
9. Thursday 21st May: Secondary Art Exhibition
10. Friday 22nd May: Prelude to Graduation
11. Saturday 23rd May: IB Graduation Ceremony and Prom
12. Monday 25th May Pentecost, School Closed

THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF LOMÉ



Extends a warm invitation to Year 13 parents and families to celebrate the

Graduation of Year 13 IB

Students Class of 2015

Date: Saturday 23th May 2015

Time: 10.15 a.m. Ceremony starts promptly at 10.30

Venue: 'Outdoor Theatre': The British School of Lomé

Dress Code: Formal attire or traditional dress.