



PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

Head of School Message

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, Staff and Friends,

A warm welcome to all, and special Independence Day wishes! We are also pleased to welcome the new families who joined us this term.

As we begin the new term, I am delighted to share some key updates:

End-of-Year Assessments: We are preparing for the second year of GL Assessments in Mathematics, English and Science. These standardised tests compare our students' performance with peers in the UK and internationally, while also providing valuable practice for future digital online examinations for IGCSE and IBDP.

After-School Enrichment Programme: Our After-School Enrichment Programme will launch soon, offering a wide range of activities that help students develop their talents, build confidence, and enrich their learning beyond the classroom.

Celebrating Our Graduates: Preparations are underway for the Year 13 Graduation Ceremony and Prom, a special moment in our school calendar.

Cambridge Curriculum and Technology Updates: In Primary, teachers have recently received training to fully implement the new Cambridge Curriculum. In Secondary, we are introducing ManageBac as our new Management Information System (MIS), which will streamline learning, communication, and assessment. Further details will follow shortly.

Global Learning Opportunities – Updates and Plans: Due to limitations in senior leadership availability over the summer, we have postponed the UK Excursion and Cultural Exchange Trip to 2026. The British High Commission in Ghana and Project International UK remain committed to supporting us in the planning process. Meanwhile, our Humanities team is already preparing to take students to an international MUN conference next academic year, another enriching global opportunity.

AI and the Future of Education: During the break, I had the privilege of participating in a roundtable discussion with Sir Martyn Oliver, His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills. I also had the opportunity to engage with other international school leaders. We explored the future of education, including inspection frameworks and the transformative impact of AI.

AI is already reshaping the educational landscape. Schools will not remain as they are today; those that do not begin adapting and embracing AI risk failing to prepare their students for the future. The role of AI now goes far beyond drafting letters, proofreading or conducting online searches; it is becoming a critical tool for learning, innovation and personal development. I recently shared a helpful video offering guidance on how to prepare your children for this AI-driven future, and I encourage you to take a moment to watch it. Additionally, staff are receiving information on adapting AI into their teaching and learning.

Promoting Respect and Gratitude: Last week, I reminded students that success begins with humility and gratitude. This includes showing respect to parents, teachers, school staff and all those who support them at home. I encourage teachers and parents to reinforce respectful communication and simple courtesies like "Yes, please" and "Thank you." Please also remind your children to wear the correct uniform and note that chewing gum and mobile phones are not allowed in school. These small habits help build discipline, emotional resilience and readiness for future success.

VE Day – Honouring Sacrifice and Peace: On 8th May, Britain commemorated VE Day, marking the end of World War II in Europe. We honour the sacrifices made for freedom and peace and use this occasion to teach our students about resilience, unity, and the importance of history.

My heartfelt thanks to our entire BSL team for their dedication to our students. I am especially grateful to those who warmly welcomed me in 2023 and have supported our school's continued progress. Together, we will continue to achieve great things for this final term.

I send my best wishes to all our students, families and staff. To our IBDP and IGCSE candidates, we are incredibly proud of your efforts and confident in your success as you begin your examinations. With warmest regards,

NURSERY AND CRÈCHE NEWS

Play, Learn and Grow



This week in Nursery the children completed their work on sea creatures. The Crèche and Nursery 1 class created an under the sea picture using printing.

Nursery 2 made their own 'Little White Fish' book reinforcing sea creatures and colours.

Talk homework

Listen to and sing along with some of the songs we have sung in class. Ask your child to name some sea creatures found in the ocean and describe some features.



Down in the deep blue sea
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pMEQsk3c5Y>



Down in the bay
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oe-IPJXHWmM>

Reception: Little Mathematicians and Story Explorers!

Reception students have been busy combining maths and storytelling! While exploring the traditional tale Goldilocks and the Three Bears, they used their knowledge of measurement to compare the bears, their bowls, chairs, and beds using terms like big, medium, and small.

They also measured their own heights and explored capacity with fun activities using full, half full, and empty. A wonderful week of learning through stories and hands-on maths!



Year 4

In Year 4 French Intermediate, we worked on the spellings of the 'gh' sound. More specifically, we looked at the letters following the letter **g**, in words containing this sound. Our starting point was to write the names of particular objects and animals: can you guess the first one, of a reptile beginning with an i...?



**SUMMER @ BSL –
FOR CHILDREN
AGED
2 TO 12 YEARS OLD**



Summer months are fast approaching and BSL has something to offer all learners, from our very youngest pupils up to our older primary aged learners!

BSL is offering a Creche facility for our very youngest community members. Each morning will be spent enjoying arts and crafts, playing and exploring the themes on offer! All before a quick snack then home for a snooze!!!! Creche hours will be between 8:30 - 12:30 and pupils will be able to play in the familiar surroundings of their very own creche environment. Sign up by scanning the QR Code below or see the school bursar (bursar@bsl.tg)

Beat the boredom of the summer months by coming along to the fun-themed weeks at BSL.

Each morning will be spent participating in a number of activities ranging from rock climbing to relay racing and swimming to cooking and trips around the sites of Lome. All this coupled with enriching learning activities.

Sign up by scanning the QR Code below or see the school bursar (bursar@bsl.tg)

Year 5

Year 5 are currently investigating the local area. We have been discussing the use of land in La Caisse and creating a range of maps to show our environment. During our topic lesson this week, we took the learning outside and carried out a fieldwork exercise in La Caisse.

Pupils surveyed the traffic entering the area from each gate and observed the different uses of land in our area. We will be using the data that we collected to carry out some cross curricular activities.



Year 6: Investigating the upthrust force

Year 6 students have been learning about mass and weight on Earth and the Moon. This week, they investigated upthrust force through floating and sinking depending on the mass of an object (clay) and the surface area using the designed boats. They concluded that an object's shape changes the upthrust force's size. The students understood why metal boats are always used for cargo transport. They further challenged themselves by calculating the weight of the clay in newtons (N), assuming that it was on the moon, which is $\frac{1}{6}$ of the weight on Earth..



BSL Trips

The BSL Humanities Department presents the 2025 trip: **Layers of Emirates: From Desert Roots to Global Heights**

- Event: CWMUN Emirates and Humanities trip
- Location: Abu Dhabi and Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- Eligible Students: Years 8–13 (for the 2025–2026 academic year)
- More information can be found in the letter handed to students and emailed to parents this week.

**Please submit an Expression of Interest
by Monday, 12 May.**

Forms may be submitted as a hard copy to your Humanities teacher or emailed to jane.snell@bsl.tg

CPD at BSL

At the British School of Lomé, continuous professional development (CPD) remains a cornerstone of our commitment to educational excellence. This week, both the Primary and Secondary teams engaged in valuable training sessions to support their professional growth and the school's strategic goals.

The Primary team participated in a high-quality training session organised by Cambridge, focusing on best practices in teaching and learning. The session provided insightful strategies and resources aligned with international standards, which will further enhance classroom delivery and student outcomes.

Meanwhile, the Secondary team explored **ManageBac**, the new Management Information System (MIS) that BSL is in the process of implementing. The session aimed to familiarise staff with the platform's features, from curriculum planning and assessment tracking to reporting and communication tools, as part of our wider digital integration efforts.





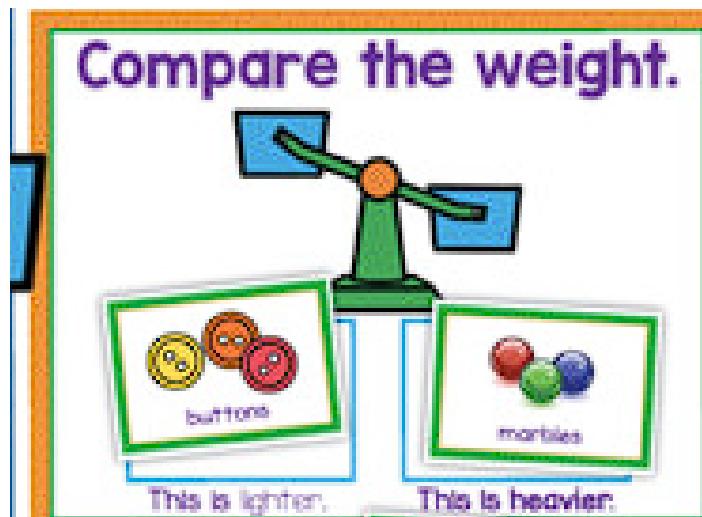
YEAR 2 ASSEMBLY



This morning, Year 2 delivered a fantastic assembly on Weights and Measurements, showcasing their skills and talent. The students engaged the audience with confidence and demonstrated impressive leadership throughout the presentation.

A special thank you goes out to Year 2 students and their teachers for their support, what a big weight off your shoulders!

Keep up the great work, Year 2!



Celebrating Coach Jibril Ainla

We want to express our heartfelt appreciation for our PE team, especially Coach Jibril Ainla, who has been appointed as the head coach of the Togo Under-17 national basketball team.

Coach Ainla's dedication and passion for the sport have inspired our athletes and strengthened our programmes.

We are incredibly proud of his achievement and wish him and the Togo team continued success





PRIMARY ACHIEVEMENTS



Stars of the week



Happy Birthday

Update on Primary Swimming Lessons

We have been eagerly awaiting the completion of refurbishment works at the Harmonie Swimming Pool to begin our essential Primary swimming lessons. Unfortunately, despite our efforts, we have not been able to reach a mutually agreed-upon arrangement with them. As a result, we are now in discussions with École La Madone, Lomé, to explore the possibility of using their swimming pool facilities. In the meantime, swimming lessons will continue as planned next week, either at Harmonie or at École La Madone, depending on which venue is confirmed.

Head of Primary Message

Dear parents and guardians,

I hope this message finds you well. As part of our commitment to providing a comprehensive international education for your child, and improving the way we assess, support and report on your child's progress we would like to share some information about the upcoming progress tests in English, Maths, and Science. These assessments will be taken in the week beginning 26th May by Years Reception to Year 9. Reception and Year 1 will take the assessments in class and on paper, so that they feel comfortable in a familiar environment. Years 2 - 9 will take the assessments online. After the assessments are finished you will receive a full and detailed report about how your children did and how you can help them in the future.

- **Progress Test in English (PTE):** The PTE is designed to assess each student's attainment in English. It covers various aspects, including phonic knowledge, spelling, punctuation, grammar and comprehension.
- **Progress Test in Maths (PTM):** The PTM will assess mathematical skills and knowledge in areas such as number, shape, data handling and algebra, as well as their mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills.
- **Progress Test in Science (PTS- Physics, Chemistry, Biology & Working Scientifically)** The PTS assessments aim to evaluate students' understanding of scientific concepts and their ability to apply knowledge.

These are not the type of assessments that you can cram for, however you can support your child in these ways:

- ★ Ensure your child arrives on time to school
- ★ Ensure they have eaten a healthy breakfast
- ★ Ensure they have had enough sleep and are wide awake by the time they arrive at school
- ★ Encourage your child to take the tests seriously and do their best
- ★ Discuss the importance of these assessments and how they contribute to their overall learning journey

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us. We are here to support you and your child.

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education. Together, we can help them achieve their full potential.

Kind regards,

Gareth Jones

Head of Primary



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To our Indian families/
community



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**Educating Children from
18 Months to 18 Years
(Day and Boarding)**



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