



# NEWSLETTER

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

As we reach the end of another busy and successful half-term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on some of the great things that are happening at BSL.

Recently I have seen some engaging and interesting lessons taking place at BSL.

Last Friday I was privileged to be part of a fabulous pottery lesson in Year 4 where we made some beautiful traditional Takienta clay houses from the North of Togo.

In Year 5 I saw some very interesting science work where students were carrying out a friction experiment using different angles of ramp.

In Year 6 I saw some very engaging and quite complex maths problems being solved, even though it was hard everyone was interested.

In Year 3 they were reading and expanding their vocabulary whilst reading about ancient Egypt.

In Year 2 they explored a writer's checklist to evaluate short stories, and practised subtraction regrouping using various strategies to reach mastery.

In Year 1 last Friday they gave us a fantastic example of their developing knowledge and confidence when talking about how to care for our minds in mental health week.

In Reception Class we are still receiving new students and we welcome them to our growing class. The children have been working on their individual poster project to demonstrate what they've learned over the past few weeks.

In Nursery and Creche they are so engaged in learning through play with some new equipment and resources that they received from the UK.

As we look forward to the next half-term, we remain committed to providing the best possible education and care for your children. Our interesting and engaging lessons, new resources and new memberships of Cambridge International Schools and National Day Nurseries Association are significant steps towards achieving this goal. We are excited about the opportunities these changes will bring and are confident that they will have a positive impact on our school community.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. If you have any questions or would like more information about our new memberships, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable break.

**Mr Gareth Jones**  
**Head of Primary**

# A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the midterm break, I am pleased to share some of the key initiatives and developments introduced this half term at the British School of Lomé.

Congratulations to our newly elected Head Boy, Head Girl, and the Primary Student Council. Their leadership will undoubtedly inspire the entire student body. Thank you to all the students and families who were with us last year and we extend a warm welcome to our new students and families who joined us this year!

Our IBDP provision has been streamlined, with student registrations completed and full support in place. Upgrades to the IBDP Centre are underway, ensuring a comfortable and well-equipped learning space. Supporting our senior students with university admissions remains a key priority.

This half term has also seen the revitalisation of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, helping our students develop essential life skills. Our Wellbeing & Learning Support team continues to provide assistance with English language development and emotional support. I am pleased to announce that we now have a qualified SENCO, to offer tailored support for students with specific learning needs. The After School Enrichment Programme has seen enthusiastic participation, with students thoroughly enjoying the diverse activities offered. For new students, we have introduced Settling In Reports, followed by parent meetings to discuss each child's progress. In Primary, we have introduced DELF for French language certification. Many of our students have earned certificates from the London College of Music (LCM). We have also launched Tuesday Tunes and Thursday Treats, where morning music has energised our school environment. This term, we also conducted the PASS Survey, providing valuable insights into student well-being.

We are excited to announce our accreditation as a Cambridge Primary School, providing access to cutting-edge resources and inquiry-based learning approaches. Our staff continue to upskill through ongoing CPD opportunities, with several completing UK teaching diplomas. Also, we are proud to announce that our Nursery is now a member of the UK National Day Nursery Association (NDNA), providing access to world-class resources and training. We have extended our Stay & Play sessions for Nursery families from 12:30 to 3:00 PM, allowing for more play-based learning and family engagement.

Our boarding students are fully embracing the opportunities and friendships that come with their boarding experience, while also receiving dedicated academic attention to support their learning and growth. The newly launched English Language Institute is already providing language support to the wider community. Our teachers have initiated various classroom projects, including a recycling campaign and Inktober, aimed at enhancing students' inking skills and raising environmental awareness. We have fully integrated coding and robotics into the curriculum, with two of our students recently representing Togo in the International Robotics Competition. Our students and staff will participate in an immersion trip to Datus International School in Ghana, with future trips planned to the USA and a Model United Nations (MUN) conference.

This term, as we emphasise staff empowerment, I want to express my gratitude to our Senior Leadership Team, Heads of Departments, Coordinators, teachers, operational staff and especially our students for their dedication and hard work. I would also like to extend my thanks to our Administrator for her vision and the solid support she provides behind the scenes to ensure the success of our school. I also extend my thanks to our parents for their unwavering support. I regularly hear from parents expressing their satisfaction with our progress, and I assure you we are ready for even more ahead. As always, BSL Bus will keep flying high and striving for excellence.

As Albert Einstein wisely said, "Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think." We remain committed to fostering critical thinkers and creative learners here at BSL.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable midterm break.

Kind regards,

**AKIF NAQVI**

**Head of School**



Dear Parents,

We are excited to announce that our nursery has recently become a member of the National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA). This membership brings a host of benefits that will enhance the quality of care and education we provide to your children.

## What is the NDNA?

The NDNA is a leading international charity and membership association that supports nurseries across the UK and in many other countries. Their mission is to ensure that all children and families flourish through high-quality early childhood education and care.

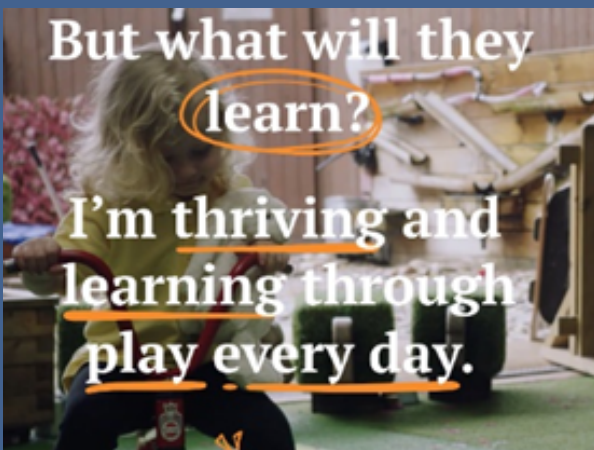
## Benefits of NDNA Membership

- 1. Expert Advice and Support:** We now have access to a wealth of expert advice and support from NDNA's team of advisers so that we can provide the best possible environment for your children.
- 2. Training and Development:** Our staff will benefit from exclusive training opportunities and webinars provided by NDNA. This will help us stay updated with the latest best practices in early childhood — education and continuously improve our teaching methods.
- 3. Sector Updates and Advocacy:** As members, we will receive regular updates on important nursery sector news and policy changes.
- 4. Cost Savings:** Membership offers significant savings on essential nursery supplies and services, allowing us to invest more in the resources and activities that benefit your children.



## Newly Refurbished Facilities

In addition to our NDNA membership, we are thrilled to share that our nursery and crèche have recently undergone a complete refurbishment. Our newly updated facilities include:



- **Modern Classrooms:** Bright, spacious rooms equipped with many new educational resources to support your child's learning and development.
- **Enhanced Play Areas:** Safe and stimulating indoor and outdoor play areas designed to encourage exploration and creativity.

We believe that our NDNA membership, combined with our newly refurbished facilities, will greatly enhance the quality of care and education we provide.

Also don't forget that we now offer 'Stay and Play' from 12:30 to 15:00 for Nursery 1 and 2 students.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions about our NDNA membership or the refurbishment, please do not hesitate to contact us.

# NURSERY NEWS

We all continue to Play, Learn and Grow!

This week in Nursery the children have been learning all about people who help us. We went for a walk around our school to meet some of our community workers. We visited the nursery, the crossing guard and the cook.



The children are beginning to think about what they want to be when they grow up.



Listen to the story [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hp0h\\_1ZI\\_UM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hp0h_1ZI_UM). Watch the video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4S8LnHZuuE> and talk with children about some of the jobs the children in the video talked about. Ask your child what they want to be when they grow up. We will continue to talk and do activities around this after the holidays.

# YEAR 1 LEADS THE WAY ON MENTAL HEALTH



Last week, Year 1 took centre stage in our assembly, focusing on the importance of mental health. They showcased impressive knowledge, confidently sharing ideas on how we can care for our minds and support each other. Through clear speaking and thoughtful acting, they engaged the entire school and delivered a powerful message. Their enthusiasm and confidence shone brilliantly, inspiring everyone to reflect on mental well-being. Well done, Year 1, for leading such an important discussion!

# LEADER IN ME

## LIZA AND MOHAMED (YEAR 4)

An Interview with Liza and Mohamed, Year 4. Liza and Mohamed are appreciated for being leaders, who think independently and are responsible.



Liza

Mohamed



- **What makes a good leader?**

**Liza:** Being responsible and sharing ideas

**Mohamed:** Being caring, sincere and honest.

- **Why are you a leader?**

**Liza:** Make the school a better place so that everyone can enjoy it and be happy.

**Mohamed:** To make the school more secure and a kinder and fairer place.

- **What is your favourite food?**

**Liza:** Sushi

**Mohamed:** McDonald's

- **What is your favourite thing to do after school or on weekends?**

**Liza:** Play the Piano and read

**Mohamed:** Playing video games like Fortnite

- **Can you tell me about something cool or interesting you've learned recently?**

**Liza:** The most travelled human.

**Mohamed:** Tutankamen Pharaoh because he was young and he had treasure.

- **What's the best thing about school for you?**

**Liza:** To learn new things and make new friends

**Mohamed:** Playing with friends

- **What do you want to be when you grow up, and why?**

**Liza:** Scientist

**Mohamed:** Footballer, Youtuber

- **What's your favourite book or story and why do you like it?**

**Liza:** Princess Academy - Palace of Stone By Shannon Hale.

**Mohamed:** BFG By Roald Dahl

- **How do you think we can help people who might be sad or upset?**

**Liza:** Try to comfort them.

**Mohamed:** Invite them to play

- **If you could have any animal as a pet, even if it's imaginary, what would it be?**

**Liza:** Hamster

**Mohamed:** Dog (Doberman)

## YEAR 2 NEWS

Scientists in Year 2 answered a question about how unhealthy habits impact our health. Students conducted an experiment to investigate the impact of germs. We followed the scientific method and observed firsthand how washing hands and having good hygiene can make a difference in keeping germs away. Our young scientists discovered the importance of healthy habits and also discovered germs are living organisms.



## YEAR 3 MENTAL MATHS

Year 3 has got whiteboards to do mental maths for our starter activities or plenaries. So we can focus on numerical calculations within 100. This method provides a 'quick fire' activity to promote mental recall. Year 3 children use mini whiteboards to record answers and each presentation provides answers which the children can mark immediately as they proceed through the tasks. There is an emphasis on presenting maths language in different forms like: add, count on, increase, plus, subtract, minus, 1 more/less, number bonds to 20, 10 more/10 less, 1 more/1 less, 11 more/11 less and 12 more/12 less. In this way the children learn key maths language easily and with enjoyment.



## YEAR 4 NEWS

In Year 4 last Friday we were honoured with the presence of Mr Omar, our pottery expert. He worked with us alongside Mr Christopher and Mr Jones to make Takienta houses. These are traditional clay houses from Koutammakou in the North of Togo. This really helped us understand and appreciate these constructions and the people that live there.



## YEAR 5 SCIENTISTS

Year 5 have been investigating Friction. They planned and carried out an investigation into the effect of friction when a toy car is dropped down a ramp. Some groups altered the angle of the ramp whilst others looked at the different surfaces that cars travelled along. It was fantastic to see them work in groups to come up with a scientific question and then make a prediction to prove or in some cases disprove these hypotheses.





## YEAR 6 NEWS

In Year 6, students inquired about migration and resettlement, understanding the reasons people move and the impact it has on their lives. It is a great way for them to understand the impact of migration on individuals and societies throughout history and today. The students reflected on real-life stories, making connections between migration and their own experiences. They were happy to share their journey with their peers.



## CELEBRATING OUR STAFF: HERVE KAGNOU TEFL 180 COURSE EXPERIENCE



My experience with the TEFL 180 course has been both enlightening and empowering, particularly in the context of teaching mathematics. The course has equipped me with essential pedagogical strategies that emphasizes effective communication and engagement, which are crucial for teaching complex mathematical concepts.

One of the key takeaways from the course is the importance of creating a learner-centred environment. I have learned to adapt my teaching methods to accommodate diverse learning styles, ensuring that all students can grasp mathematical principles. The focus on interactive activities and collaborative learning has inspired me to incorporate more group work and hands-on problem-solving in my maths classes, fostering a deeper understanding among students.

Additionally, the course has highlighted the significance of language in mathematics. I now appreciate how clear explanations and appropriate vocabulary can enhance students' comprehension of mathematical concepts. By integrating these language skills into my lessons, I aim to help students articulate their thought processes more effectively, thereby improving their problem-solving abilities.

Upon completing the TEFL 180 course, I am excited to apply these insights to my maths teaching practice. I believe that the skills I have gained will not only enhance my instructional techniques but also empower my students to become confident and capable mathematicians.



# Y8 OUTING ON 16TH OCT 2024: UN TOUR ORIGINAL DE LOMÉ ...

As an illustration of the syllabus taught from September 2024, a group of 11 students with Mme Eliane Amegnizin and Mr David Nyamikou did a tour of Lomé to discover different places in town. The itinerary was as follows:

- From BSL to Klikame, then Tokoin hospital to the Boulevard du 13 Janvier leading us to LFL (Lycée français) at Nyékonopkoè, then, the unique Togo - Ghana Border.

The return route allowed students to discover 'Dekon' area, an ancient but well-known Togolese pâtisserie (la Croûte Dorée) where we bought some bread, then direction toward a famous monument 'La Colombe de la paix' and we went to the supermarket 'Le Champion Millénium' where a variety of cheese was bought plus some jars of pâté.

What a wonderful way of linking the actual syllabus with the Togolese reality! To conclude, during the trip students took notes of their discoveries, practiced French in their conversations and undoubtedly, this experience is worth repeating with other groups taught by the MFL Department. Well done Year 8!



## US UNIVERSITY FAIR

We are excited to share an opportunity for our students who aspire to study in the US. An online US University Fair will be held next week, and many universities will be available to engage with our students virtually.

The fair is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 22, 2024**, with the following time slots:

**Undergraduate students: 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM GMT**

**Graduate students: 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM GMT**

We encourage you to share this opportunity with students and their families, and feel free to pass along the registration link to anyone interested. It's a valuable chance for students to explore their academic future.

Please register here [US University](https://bit.ly/USVirtualFair24)



# PRIMARY ASSEMBLY



Year 1 were our green card winners for being caring and kind in the playground



Stars of the week



Happy birthday to this weeks birthday children and Ms Catherine, our Reception class teacher who celebrates her birthday today.



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



## **GATEWAY TO UNIVERSITY**

**ENDEAVOUR IS ALL**



- **CRECHE & EARLY YEARS**
- **PRIMARY**
- **SECONDARY**
- **UK GL ASSESSMENTS**
- **CAMBRIDGE IGCSE EXAMINATIONS**
- **PRE-UNIVERSITY IB DIPLOMA COURSE**
- **CAREERS GUIDANCE AND INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY PLACEMENTS**
- **ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS**

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