

BISAK

Monthly Newsletter

British International School Al Khobar

6th

October

2019

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Sick or away

If your child is sick or away please email:
absentee@bisak.org



Message from
the Principal

Mr Stephen Viner

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year. I would firstly like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new families who have joined us this term and I do sincerely hope that both you and your children find your time here as part of our BISAK family a happy and rewarding one.

I would like to thank parents for your support in ensuring every child is safely dropped off at and collected from school. I am aware as we try to settle into the new school that we ourselves are trying to get our systems right, and that we still have much to do. At present, only buses and minibuses will be permitted into the playground while we monitor the movement of vehicles. Your patience and understanding are truly appreciated.

I am also grateful to the parents who have commended us on our new school. As I have said to many, there are still improvements to be made, including to our outdoor spaces, as we get the building to full capacity. Although the swimming pool is functional, given the building work that is ongoing around us, it is not likely that we will be in a position to use it till later in

the year. However, we will monitor the situation as we would like to use it as soon as it is safe to do so.

The canteen is now fully operational, and I would like to thank Rezayat for their support in ensuring a continued quality provision for our pupils. Please watch this space for updates on our new coffee shop which will be open morning and afternoon for parents to use. These new facilities for our parents will I am sure be a very exciting addition to our school.

In regards to the after-school activities which will be restarting soon, you will shortly be receiving a letter regarding the activities available. Can parents please return the form as soon as possible as places are allocated on a first come, first served basis. I hope as many pupils as possible are able to take part.

Towards the back of the newsletter, I have published the 2020-21 School Calendar to enable parents to plan in advance. Remember, every school day is important in a child's life. We aim for a minimum of 95% attendance and your child's place is at risk if their attendance falls below this figure. If you feel you need to take your child out early for any reason, you must request permission from the relevant Head of School.

Sadly we are still waiting for our new telephone number and as soon as we have it, we will send it out. If you ever change any of your contact

details you MUST let us know immediately, especially about emergency contacts as it is essential everyone receives our school communications. In terms of our VLE, we about to undertake an update and the system will be reset. This will mean that we will be issuing everyone with new usernames and passwords.

This year will be extremely busy with music events, educational activities and visits from universities etc and, of course, those all-important Parents' Evenings. All I ask is that whenever you have the opportunity please visit us and take part in as many events as you can.

As always, thank you for your continued support and have a wonderful week.



Stephen Viner
Principal



Message from Head
of Preparatory School
Mr Darren Aisthorpe

Dear Parents,

Firstly, welcome to all, but especially to the new children and their families who have joined the Preparatory School. It is a wonderful time to join BISAK with the opening of our new school building. Our term has started very well, and the pupils have settled superbly into their new classes. I am delighted to see our pupils enter the school each day happy and eager to learn new things.

This month, I attended as a member school the Independent Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS) annual three-day conference in the UK. The keynote speakers, including Professor Deborah Eyre on High Performing Schools and Dr Nihara Krause on pupils' mental health, provided much professional debate and reflection. Such high-level outstanding presentations will allow me to develop further and refine our successful Preparatory School. I also spent one day with other IAPS Headteachers from across the world, including the Middle East, to share best practice from our schools. I also made links with other IAPS headteachers to promote further partnership working with other schools to benefit both our staff and pupils.

Thank you to all the parents who attended our very busy Open Afternoon and had the opportunity to see my presentation and find out more about the school. Most importantly, you then had a chance to walk around the school, visit the classrooms and meet your child's class teacher. The start to the year has been very good and I look forward to seeing our pupils flourish and develop, within our nurturing and caring school community.

Yours sincerely,



Darren Aisthorpe
Head of Preparatory School



Message from Head of
Senior School and Sixth Form
Mr Leo Gilbert

Dear Parents

The warmest of greetings from everyone in the Senior School team, especially to the families of the pupils who have joined us this year, either from the Prep School or from other schools around the world. One of the features of BISAK that we all love to celebrate is the truly international nature of the school, with something like 70 nationalities being represented on our school roll.

At the end of what has been an incredibly busy first month of the new school year, I am so pleased to see how much our pupils are enjoying working and learning in their excellent new surroundings. Even though not everything is yet as we would like it to be, we are putting more and more in place every day, both in terms of learning provision and our use of spaces outside the classroom, in order to ensure that our pupils have the very best possible experience at each part of their day. Given the fact that we have moved into an entirely new building, we are doing very well, and it is certainly a significant improvement on our old building, much as we loved it.

Now that things are settling down, we are able to get all the usual events underway over the coming few weeks – those things that make us such a special school. Some after-school activities have already begun and the full programme will be starting up very soon, so please expect to see lots of information coming your way about the wide range of clubs and classes that will be on offer. We are especially pleased to be able to offer 20 young people the chance to watch a production of *The Wizard of Oz* which is being performed live at the Ithra Centre. Also coming up very soon are this term's parents' evenings, with the first being an opportunity for Year 7 parents to get some early feedback on how their children have settled in. We also have a movie afternoon for our MFL pupils, and we are relaunching our Duke of Edinburgh International Award.

Please do encourage your children to make the very most of all the opportunities we provide for them - after all, this is what helps to make us such a successful school.

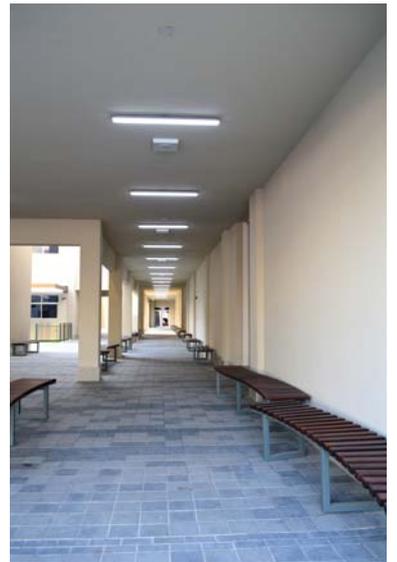
Thank you as always for your positivity and support.

Yours sincerely,

Leo Gilbert
Head of Senior School and Sixth Form

Our New School





Prep-School Awards



HOUSE POINT WINNERS

R	Muscat	Yasmina Itani		
R	Abu Dhabi	Lyla Carroll		
1	Johannesburg	Valerie Raimann Mora		
1	Cairo	Abdulrahman Jandali	XinYi Li	
2	London	Mira Salem		
2	Paris	Olubukola Akinyose		
2	Rome	Jawad Khan		
2	Dublin	Yara Salem		
3	New York	Jad Elsayes		
3	Ottawa	Maya Mazhar		
3	Mexico city	Imaani Choudhury	Sara Al-Mudhaffar	
3	San Francisco	Rinad Al Lafy	Renuka Revathy	Saad Tariq
4	Santiago	Abdulrahman Mahgoub	Lellian Nassar	Aliza Akram
4	Brasilia	Merryn Vaz		
4	Buenos Aires	Haniya Khan		
4	Lima	Aisha Bhat		



STAR AWARD WINNERS

R	Muscat	Daniel Jechi		
R	Abu Dhabi	Waleed Abouseada		
1	Johannesburg	Tamim Ehsan Osman		
1	Cairo	Omar Alhanjal		
2	London	Ibrahim Abdelkader		
2	Paris	Nathan Quintero Martinez		
2	Rome	David Oji		
2	Dublin	Sabian Peterson		

School calendar 2020-21

August 2020							September 2020							October 2020							November 2020							
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						
30	31																											

December 2020							January 2021							February 2021							March 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28							28	29	30	31			
							31																				

April 2021							May 2021							June 2021							July 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
							30	31																			

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term	Key
9th Sept Autumn term starts 25th Oct - 29th Oct Half Term 17th December Autumn Term ends 20th Dec - 4th Jan Winter Break	5th Jan Spring term starts 14th - 18th Feb Half Term 25th March Spring Term ends 28th Mar - 8th Apr Spring Break	11th Apr Summer term starts 13th Apr - 10th May Ramadan 11th May - 17th May Eid Al Fitr 30th Jun Summer term ends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Day - No pupils School Holiday Eid Al-Fitr Ramadan Saudi National day school closed 23rd September

The 20/21 calendar is available to download from the school website.



BISAK Menu - Week 1

	Sunday 06/10/19	Monday 07/10/19	Tuesday 08/10/19	Wednesday 09/10/19	Thursday 10/10/19
Indian	Lamb Biryani	Mince chicken kebabs (sheek kebabs)	Chicken Tandoori & rice	Chicken masala with saffron rice	Chicken biryani with raitha
Western	BBQ chicken with Lyonnaise potatoes	Swedish meatballs with mashed potatoes	Stir fried chicken with fried rice	BBQ chicken with Cajun potatoes	Fish & Chip
Arabic	Chicken Kebabs With Koshari rice	Arabic grilled chicken with Magloba rice	Beef lasagna with sweet corn & green peas	Lamb stew with Vermicelli rice	Chicken Kapsa
Pasta	Macaroni white sauce with cheese	Spaghetti with meat sauce	Pasta with mushroom sauce	Singapore noodles / Arabic pasta	Fussily pasta with white sauce

Lost property!

Please CLEARLY name and label ALL your child's belongings, especially jumpers, lunch boxes and water bottles.

The Lost Property collection points are filling up again. It is up to your child to go to these areas to check for their lost belongings. Items with easily identifiable names/labels will be returned to their owner in time.

Lost Property boxes are at the main entrance reception.

School Uniform Shop

- Order forms can be downloaded from the website <http://www.bisak.org/Uniformorderform>
- Fill the form out and place it in an envelope with the correct money, hand it into reception
- Senior – Pupils to collect from reception
- Preparatory – Orders will be delivered to the form teachers

Opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 7.30 am – 9.00 am.

Please Note:

School Badges are no longer available.