

BAIS Buzz

Message from the Director

Dear BAIS Families,

It's an exciting time to be at BAIS! After School Activities got off to a successful start yesterday. Please remember that

Saturday football starts tomorrow, September 21!

Grades K-4 will have their session from 9:00 to 10:00, and grades 6-12 from 10:15 to 11:45. Grade 5 students can choose either group, based on their size and ability level.

There is no cost for this activity.

We are also currently investigating the feasibility of offering **swimming** during the next round of ASAs. That information will be shared as we learn the different options.

Next Wednesday, Sept. 25, representatives from **Opticalia** will be on campus to do vision and hearing screening for our students.

Next Friday during Celebration of Learning, we will hear speeches from students running for Student Council positions. You can read more about that in the following pages.

Finally, please note the important announcement regarding the road to the back gate to the campus.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Robert Harper, Director

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Upcoming Events

Sat., Sept. 21

Saturday football begins

Tues. & Thurs., Sept. 24 & 26

Writing Diagnostic Tests

Fri., Sept. 27

Student Council Speeches

Mon., Sept. 30

MAP Testing begins

Important Traffic Update



Parents, as you are probably aware by now, a tree has fallen and blocked the road to the back gate. We have no way of knowing when the road will be cleared. In the meantime, parents should drop their children at the front gate. Please allow extra time in the mornings and afternoons to allow for the increased traffic in front of the school. We will share updated information with you as we receive it.

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PTO Update

Please mark your calendar for the BAIS Halloween Party for Friday, November 1st, from 6-9pm!

Mary Jobe (whose daughter Sadie is in Kindergarten) has generously offered to organize the party, thank you Mary! Her family is new to BAIS and excited to be part of our community.

If you are interested in helping coordinate the party, please message Mary on WhatsApp at +1 401 573 6199 or message Jeremy Ogusky at +1 248 219 8779. They will get you sorted out.

Last year's Halloween party was a big hit and we are excited to have another party this year!

Jeremy Ogusky

Hearing and Vision Screening

On next Wednesday, September 25, representatives from Opticalia will be on campus to conduct vision and hearing screening for our students. Screenings will begin at 9:30. Results will be sent home to parents the same day, so please be looking for that information.

Health and Safety Update

Yesterday, I met with members of our school community who are also members of the medical community here in The Gambia, to get an assessment of the current situation here, specifically related to monkey pox. At this point, there still have been no confirmed cases here in The Gambia. While we here at BAIS always are on alert and receive regular briefings on health and safety concerns that may affect the school, there are no issues currently that we have reason to be concerned about. If at any point that changes, we will have a plan of action in place to address that need, in consultation with those professionals. As always, we will continue to teach and reinforce to our students proper hygiene and safety practices.

Student Council Elections

Hello BAIS families,

This coming week marks the start of Student Council elections. This year students in Grades 4/5, Middle School, and in the High School will have the opportunity to run for representative. Two representatives will be elected for each of these grades. Students who are campaigning may put up election posters starting on Monday the 23rd. During Celebration of Learning on Friday the 27th students will give short campaign speeches. The election itself will happen on Monday the 30th. We're looking forward to seeing the democratic process in action!

Ms. Angie and Mr. Will, Student Council Sponsors

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Saturday Football is Back!

Saturday Football Club is Here! We are thrilled to announce the launch of our Saturday Football Club, starting tomorrow, September! This club offers a fantastic opportunity for students from Grade 1 to 12 to develop their football skills, stay active, and have fun with their peers.

Training Schedule: -

Grades 1 to 4: 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Middle & High School (Grades 6 to 12): 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Grade 5 may choose either group, based on their size and skill level.

Our sessions are designed to accommodate all skill levels, from beginners to advanced players. Each training session will focus on essential drills to improve coordination, ball control, passing, and teamwork.

Younger students will participate in fun, skill-building activities that nurture their love for the game, while older students will experience more advanced tactical training and small-sided games.

In addition to drills, we will also incorporate fitness exercises to boost agility and stamina, ensuring that our players stay fit and healthy both on and off the field.

Come join us for an exciting football experience, where teamwork, fun, and skill-building come together.

We look forward to seeing your child out on the pitch!

Mr. George

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Staff Spotlight

Ms. Amal Alfa



Hello BAIS Families! I was asked to share a little about myself, so here it goes! I am currently the longest-serving faculty member at BAIS, with over 37 years of teaching experience—34 of those years have been spent at BAIS (formerly BAES).

I grew up in The Gambia, but left for boarding school at the age of 12. I studied in Lebanon, the UK, and finally in the USA, where I earned a BSc. in Computer Science and Mathematics from the University of Evansville, Indiana. I later pursued an MA in Education from the University of Bath in the UK. After my studies, I returned to The Gambia to care for my elderly parents and have stayed ever since.

My teaching career began quite unexpectedly. When people ask how I became a teacher, I always say I "landed in teaching by accident"—and then fell in love with it! In 1988, the BAES director then asked if I was interested in teaching computer literacy, and I thought, why not? Before that, I had taught computer

programming to adults at a technology school in the US. This marked the beginning of my K-12 teaching career at BAES.

After a year of teaching IT, the school director asked if I would be interested in teaching middle and high school mathematics, and of course, I accepted because I've always loved math, especially Algebra. Since then, I have renewed my contract year after year, continuing to teach math and IT, while working closely with other teachers to integrate IT into the curriculum. Additionally, I served as the Internal Coordinator for four of BAIS's accreditation terms. In 2016, I attended the ECIS Teacher Training Program at the University of Cambridge, UK. Over the years, BAIS continued to provide the opportunities for professional development such as the AISA, AERO and JOSTI conferences for educators. Thus I participated in many technology and math conferences, which have helped refine my teaching strategies, enrich my lessons and build my professional network of educators.

My goal in teaching has always been to inspire a love for mathematics in my students. One of my greatest joys is seeing a student's eyes light up when they grasp a new concept. Equally rewarding is hearing from alumni about how my teaching helped them later in their studies.

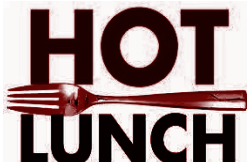
I'm also a proud mother of two BAES alumni, who are now successful adults, and a grandmother. My children have fond memories of their time at BAES and credit the amazing teachers here with helping shape them into the people they are today.

When I'm not teaching, I enjoy reading, traveling, and cooking.

In reflecting on my journey, I believe my passion for education and the support I've received along the way have kept me at BAIS for all these years. If I had to do it all over again, I wouldn't change a thing.

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October 2024

STUDENT NAME _____

Class _____

PARENT CONTACT Name: _____ Phone _____

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Choose Portion Size:

- Small - 200 Dalasi
- Large - 250 Dalasi

2. Choose how you will order:

- **Tick here to order all the lunches for this month.**
Full Period : **17 lunches** (Total cost: **Small = D3,400 OR Large = D4,250**)
- **Tick here to order lunches by the day.**

By the day:

1. Tick the days desired in the chart below
2. Multiply x D 200 (small) or D250 (large)
3. Write in here: **Total # lunches:** _____ **x Cost per portion** _____ **= D** _____

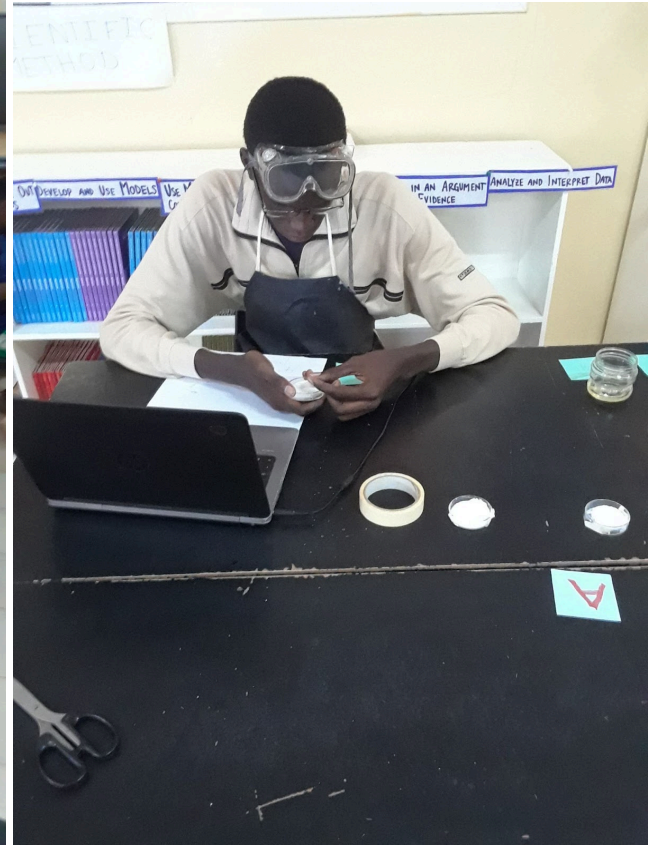
3. Get money and form to BAIS OFFICE

Sept/Oct 2024	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Sept 30 - Oct 3	• Tick to order Vegetarian Curry, Rice & fruit ☺	• Tick to order Fish fingers, baked vegetables, cream/cheese & fruit	• Tick to order Chicken and grilled pepper Fajitas & cake	• Tick to order Fried noodles, beef, vegetables & fruit
Oct 07 - 10	• Tick to order Creamy Spaghetti, w/ basil olive oil, & fruit ☺	• Tick to order Grilled fish with rice & butter-lime sauce & fruit	☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ Faculty PD Noon Dismissal ☺ ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆	• Tick to order Chicken Tagine with Couscous & fruit
Oct 14 - 17	• Tick to order Beef burgers, fries & fruit	• Tick to order Spaghetti, tomato sauce, cheese & fruit ☺	• Tick to order Fish Benachin, vegetables, bissap sauce & fruit	• Tick to order Creamy mushroom chicken pasta & fruit
Oct 21 - 25	• Tick to order Fried noodles, beef, vegetables & fruit	• Tick to order Vegetable Lasagna & fruit ☺	☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ NO SCHOOL ☺ ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ NO SCHOOL ☺ ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
Oct 28 - 31	• Tick to order Creamy fish & mushroom tagliateli pasta & fruit	• Tick to order Beef Benachin, vegetables & fruit	• Tick to order Grilled chicken, baked vegetables, salad, & fruit	• Tick to order Margarita Pizza Mixed Salad & Ice Cream ☺

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Science Happenings



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After School Art



Mission Statement

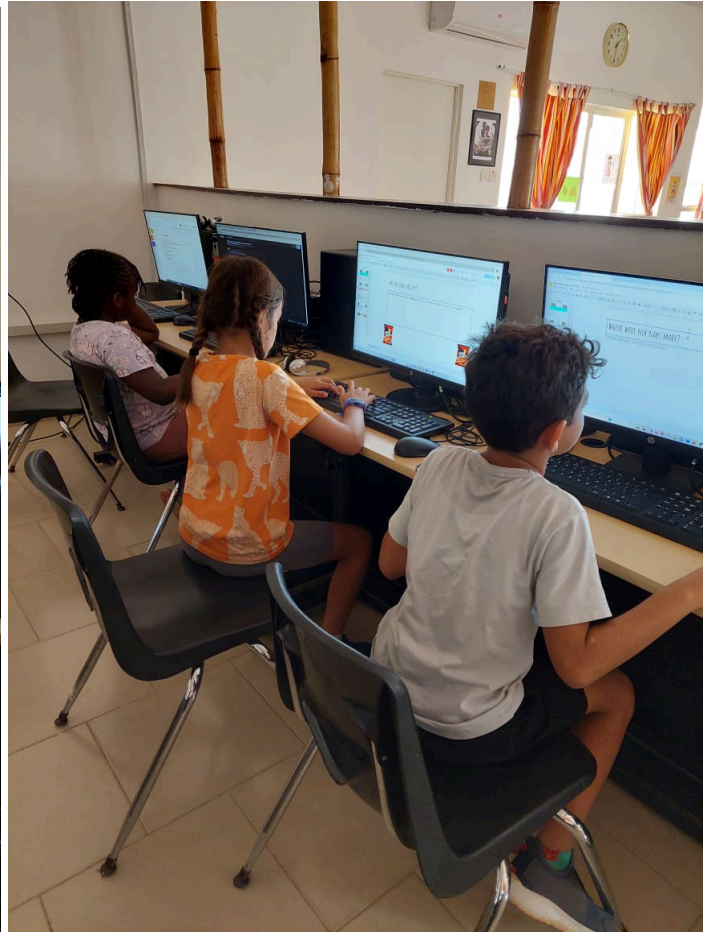
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Grade 4-5 Social Studies



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