



IN THE LOOP

UPDATES FOR BMIS SECONDARY PARENTS

26th May 2023

Our Mission

"We are a diverse and welcoming community in a joyful learning environment that promotes well-being, sustainability, and inclusivity and celebrates growth as success".

Message from the Principal

I hope that you had the opportunity to shop at the Boot Sale organised by our very own BMIS PTA. There was plenty to do, see and enjoy whether it was the bargains displayed on tables, bursting out of tents, and crammed into car boots, to the delicious samosas and cakes, and my favourite the bouncy castle with zip line. Unfortunately, I was told that I was too old to have a go! Thank you for organising a lovely Saturday morning, PTA.

There have been many highlights over the past couple of weeks that are been mentioned In The Loop. These have included, trips, service activities, sporting successes, a pantomime, and today as we celebrate Malawi Day. However for our Yr. 13 students it marked a milestone in their lives as they received their High School Diplomas and graduated in style from BMIS. We wish them all the best for the future. Photos will follow.

Lesley Peacock, Secondary Principal

OVERVIEW:

- Message from the Principal
- Student Eco Garden Project
- Chat GPT Conversations in Spanish
- Y11 Gym Trip
- Immunology Talk
- The Circus is Coming to Town
- MYP Arts Festival, Exhibition and Singers Night
- Dalitso Good Hope Foundation
- The Duke of Edinburgh and ESS Science Trip
- Jump Up Week
- Dzaleka Refugee Camp and Ubuntu Nations School



Student Eco. Garden Project

The garden area that was once known as the Potager garden is being developed by a group of dedicated students as a sustainable area that encourages biodiversity and is available for ecological studies. This has engaged many different skills, enabled students to gain hands-on experience and work with BMIS maintenance to implement action plans. BMIS maintenance has supported all of our actions, along the way we have been guided by Pembroke College, Oxford undergraduate environmental club and permaculture experts. We will continue to draw on this expert knowledge as we move towards a shared community space.

If you would like to be involved or are interested in visiting

the space please get in touch with Hisham Kanaan or

Ms Richards (hisham.kanaan@bmis.mw s.richards@bmis.mw) *Cont. Page 3*



Story cont. on the next page

Immunology Talk to Y10 Science

Thanks to Hormas Ghadially who returned to the Science Department to talk to Y.10 about how the immune system responds to pathogens, what happens when it goes wrong (autoimmune conditions), and how the immune response can be manipulated to treat complex conditions such as cancer.

Samantha Richards, 10SRI Tutor, DP EE Coordinator
Year11-13 Biology and ESS Teacher

Chat GPT Conversations in Spanish

In Language acquisition Spanish we are learning, and reflecting on the use of technology. Last week we focused on how ChatGPT impacts our lives. We have considered the advantages and disadvantages of using all the apps, especially ChatGPT and how it will impact education, and the way that we learn. It has been a very successful activity, where the students created a podcast with their reflections, thoughts, and opinions. Personally, I think the students have done an amazing job where they work in groups collaboratively and academically they have integrated all the skills needed (writing, grammar, vocabulary, critical thinking, listening, speaking, reading...). I am so proud of them, good job!

Yanet Moisa from Y. 10, one of our students, wrote this reflection.

"Today's lesson required us to create our own podcasts, which was a lot of fun because it let us use our Spanish language skills to discuss the drawbacks of Instagram as well as, ChatGPT, and some other online networks. Through this enjoyable activity, we not only improved our knowledge about the uses of some apps but also our communication skills." Sandra Climent Spanish Teacher.



Y11 - PHE -Neil Black

As part of their 'Lifelong Health' unit, the Year 11's visited the 'Fitness Studio' this week, one of Lilongwe's biggest gyms. Students got the opportunity to learn more about how to work different areas of the body, safely use a whole range of equipment including free weights, treadmills/air runners, cable systems and specialised machines. The main aim was to improve confidence in a gym setting so that when they leave Bishop Mackenzie they can stay fit and healthy in a gym setting anywhere in the world!



Student's Eco-Garden Project Part 2

Celebrating student success and sharing the progress made in the student garden (previously known as the pottage garden).

Our goals were to:

1. Encourage students to engage with their environment through action and the use of a communal space
2. Develop a self-sustaining garden area using native plants
3. Provide access to a bio-diverse area in the school grounds for ecology, authentic learning, and opportunities for data collection
4. Provide experience in construction and horticulture
5. Build skills that aim in the development of future school leaders

Progress to date:

1. Secondary students from Yr.7-12 have consistently contributed through the ECP and the service programme, developing transferrable skills and hands on learning. Primary students have visited the space in class time and during an ECP to appreciate how plants grow and the importance of dirt!
2. Students have collected data and practiced survey methods, applying their knowledge of scientific methods in real life situations to inform their internal assessment research question in Yr.12 and subject choices in MYP.
3. Biodiversity data has been collected and is ongoing to establish a database that informs future decision-making for the area.
4. Students have unblocked drains; pruned trees; built French drains; learnt about water management through trial and error; built benches; calculated, planned and are constructing a hammock area; improved soil fertility and water retention; learnt about endemic species and how to plan a garden for climate change; erecting a roof; reusing materials.
5. Teachers and students from abroad have been inspired to implement similar projects in their schools and communities.
6. Experts from ecology, permaculture and climate smart agriculture have all contributed to the development of the space and provide ongoing support.

Before.

Today



health awareness
presents:
blood drive

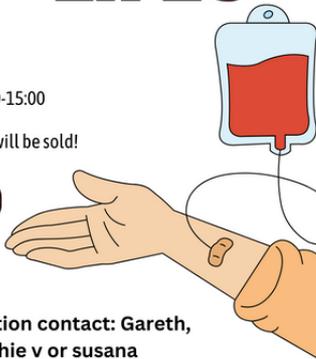
**DONATE
BLOOD
SAVE LIVES**

 BOS

 2nd June 12:00-15:00

 Baked goods will be sold!

16 years old, 45 kg



for more information contact: Gareth,
keegan, sophie v or susana

HEALTH AWARENESS
SERVICE CLUB PRESENTS

**THE ANNUAL
BLOOD-DRIVE**

DONATE BLOOD. BE A HERO. AND SAVE A LIFE.

2 JUNE 2023 12 - 3 PM

baked goods will be sold!
Location: BOS
must be 16 and 45 KGS
For More Info Contact
Gareth, Keegan, Sophie V or Susana

The Circus is Coming to Town!

Over the last 10 weeks, the Yr.9 students have been working on an Interdisciplinary Unit inspired by Cirque Du Soleil. This year's theme is "Emotions", where the students have explored emotions that impact young adults.

Through the Arts (Visual Art, Theatre & Music) and PHE, the students have created their own performances including, composing music, gymnastic routines, physical theatre, costumes, makeup and set design to produce a magnificent show.

Due to limited space in the Upper Hall, we are having to ticket this year's event. Tickets are MK2000 and are available for purchase from the Primary and Secondary offices. All proceeds from the show will be used to replenish various materials and tools, to make the show even bigger and better.

MYP Arts Festival- June 9th 7:10-12:15

The MYP Arts Festival is a fun day where students get to engage, create, connect, and explore various Arts activities like dance, crafts, painting, pottery, music, and theatre and partake in different art workshops. This event was an incredible success last year, and we are excited to run it again this year. Food will be on sale from the following providers Nkoko Juice, Land & Lake Cafe, Black Pepper, and The Farmer's Daughter. Please send your child to school with some spending money should they wish to make a purchase. We are excited for parents to join in on the festivities from 10 am onwards

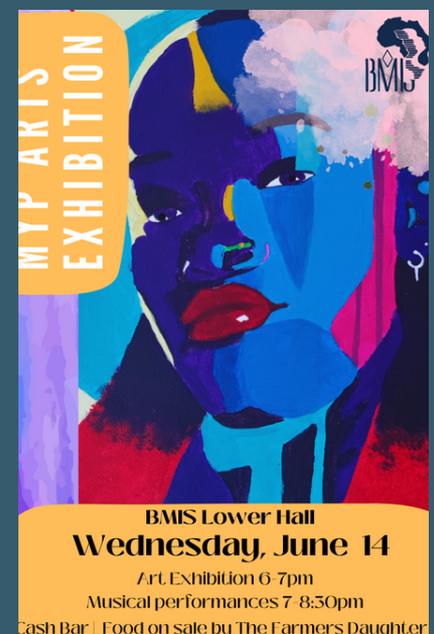
MYP Arts Exhibition & Singers Night June 14th 6--8:30pm

Join us for the last community event of the year! The MYP Visual Arts Exhibition is a celebration of Visual Arts at BMIS. The exhibition will showcase all the incredible work created by MYP students throughout the school year, and will feature a variety of artworks including Self Portraits, Sculptures, Printmaking, Illustrations and Paper Fashion to name a few.

Following the Exhibition, we will gather on the school grounds for the last Singer's Night Concert of the year! A night not to be missed!

The school Bar will be open and food will be on sale by The Farmers Daughter.

Blessings Banda- Leader of Learning Arts



DALITSO GOOD HOPE FOUNDATION

We have established a partnership with the Dalitso Good Hope Foundation, a primary school located in Inner Kauma. This collaboration was initiated by Mrs. Candida Nankhumwa, a parent, and her daughter Vicky, a Year 12 student leader. Together, we distributed 150 packs of porridge to the school community, and our Year 10-12 students conducted educational lessons.

To support this initiative, BL Habert (Mr. Croke- Tucker's dad, generously donated \$1,000 towards our efforts. We are also grateful to Mr. Raimi - Gedeon's Dad, who is affiliated with the same organization.) While this is just the beginning of our endeavors, we are now in the process of selecting students from the school to work with us in establishing a sustainable school feeding program.

In addition, we are exploring opportunities for collaboration between our school service activities, such as the Ecowarriors, and the Dalitso Good Hope Foundation. One such possibility is the creation of a permaculture garden that can provide a reliable source of food for the school.

By combining our efforts and forming these partnerships, we aim to make a positive and long-lasting impact on the Dalitso Good Hope Foundation and its students.



21-4 to BMIS Netball with Attitude!



U18 Netball BMIS 37-8 against Good Shephard



Student / Teacher Dress Up Day



The Duke of Edinburgh Trip



At 12 pm on Thursday, the 18th of May, we set off for a 2-day qualifying bush walk Expedition at Luwawa forest lodge in Mzimba district, Malawi. With our rucksacks and camping gear, we were fully prepared. The journey from BMIS to Luwawa took around 5 hours, showcasing breathtaking scenery and vibrant green vegetation. As a group of 3-6, we collaborated to set up camp, cook meals, wash dishes, and share stories at the lodge. On May 19th, our supervisors divided us into groups for a 6-hour bushwalk. Singing and capturing memorable sights through photos, we trekked and encountered a slippery friend. Exhausted and thirsty upon returning to the camp, we found the energy to play games like hide and seek, cards, and chess. Some ventured to the dam for fishing and rowing, and one of our fellow qualifiers caught a remarkably large fish. As night approached and everyone finished their dinners, the campfire roared, and we gathered around it, toasting marshmallows. Hisham entertained us with his singing and guitar playing. The presence of the year 12 students, who researched plant biology and collected water and plant samples, added to the experience. Overall, it was an unforgettable adventure that brought us joy. (By Mateus & Barakah)

Project 4 ESS Science Trip

Year 12 ESS and Biology students travelled with the Duke of Edinburgh group to Luwawa last week (18-20 May) to conduct ecological surveys, putting into practice skills learnt in the classroom and around the campus. Line transects were used with students clambering through cotton grass and blackberry bushes to collect data on invasive species distribution in four different habitats. Students will use the data to practice applying different statistical measures some are planning to use the data for their IA coming up early next year. Luwawa Forest Lodge are also interested in learning from our data and we hope to make this a regular excursion to build a bank of data for comparative study and conservation.



Samantha Richards

Jump Up Week

This week Yr. 6 students were initiated into the Secondary School beginning with a scavenger hunt. This provided the opportunity for them to discover subject rooms, teachers and locate key points around the Secondary School. Yr. 6 also received mini taster lessons, just to get an idea of some of the subjects they will be studying next year. The Yr. 7 students were on hand at the end of the 'Jump Up Week' to answer questions and share their experiences.



Dzaleka Refugee Camp and Ubuntu Nations School

I was invited to join a trip to the Dzaleka Refugee Centre and then to the Ubuntu Nations School by Ms Panni Varadi from Primary Art. We have ties with both the camp and Ubuntu School and would like to strengthen these and make the contacts more sustainable service projects.

A group of Secondary and Primary students travelled with us to the Ubuntu Nations School in Dzaleka and delivered a workshop to Reception and Years 1 and 2 students. As part of their Community and Service action programme the students planned and run two workshops using music and art. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Panni (primary art teacher) and Gilbert Simuchobi (Malawian musician). During this time I received a tour of the Dzaleka refugee camp and visited the Mutu School, which provides an education to children identified as 'at risk'. The morning session had finished, but I joined an adult English class. Most of the people were from the DRC and practiced their English by telling me some of their harrowing stories of how they had escaped from Kivu overland on a hazardous journey crossing 3 borders and often taking over 5 months. Many of them had never heard of the Dzaleka Camp, and had never planned to end up in Malawi. But here they are today, knowing that they probably will never return home.

Lesley Peacock



Up and Coming Events

Friday 26th May-Malawi Day celebrations all day. All students dress in chitenge, Malawi colours, Malawi T-shirt

Saturday 27th June-Yr. 13 Prom

Monday 29th-Wednesday 31st Yr. 10-11 Exams

Friday 2nd June Blood Drive in the Break Out Space from 12.pm

Friday 2nd June 'Glow in the Dark' dance from 6.30 pm-8.30 pm

Tuesday 6th-Wednesday 7th June Circus Olay from 6.00 pm-7.30 pm

Friday 9th June- 7.10 am-12.15 pm Arts Festival All Day

Wednesday 14th June, Singers Night 7.00 pm-8.30 pm

Friday 16th June -Secondary Prize Giving Assembly from 9.30 pm-11.pm Approx