

27 AUGUST 2021

IN THE LOOP

Updates for the Secondary parents of BMIS



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This week in our BMIS **community**

We've now been back in school for 9 days, and what a wonderful time we have been having!

It's so lovely to walk around the campus and feel the almost electric buzz coming from teachers and students, as we enjoy each other's company and learn and grow together.

This week I have really enjoyed meeting with our students each morning at the portal; it's such a great way to start the day, greeting and welcoming everyone.

I have also had the opportunity to speak with a number of students across the year levels, and they have shared their ideas and feedback on how the school year has started.

I look forward to meeting you next Tuesday at our Kaza Kitchen coffee morning to hear your thoughts about the start of the year too. I also can't wait to speak with you further about our theme of **community**, and what it means to you.

Until then, grab a "cuppa" as you read and stay "In the Loop!"

Kathryn Leaper
k.leaper@bmis.mw

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**Celebrate what
you want to
see more of.**

TOM PETERS

Y11 Personal Project



Our Year 11 students are now in full swing engaging in their Personal Projects, and what a wonderful range of projects we have! Check out some of the students' products below.

- Student to student tutoring platform where student help each other understand topic that they have difficulties with.
- Art exhibition (4 pieces) of contemporary textured art., where each artwork expresses a different global issue.
- Concept character of a video game.
- 6 track EP.
- Chess board for visually impaired and blind players.
- Instagram page, which will successfully advertise rugby as a sport for both genders.
- Large art piece about the Afghanistan crisis
- Instagram page presenting monologues I create and film

Wayne Kovacs, our Personal Project Coordinator, held an informative session with our Year 11 parents this week, sharing key information about the project and process.

We can't wait to be able to share and **celebrate**, with our **community**, all of the incredible projects! Watch this space!



What's been happening this week...?

It's been so lovely walking around the school and seeing our students care for our **community** by closely following our COVID safety guidelines. Check out our Year 7 students (to the left) having their socially distanced lunch!

Adnaan Abookaber, one of our Year 10 students, shares an update below on our MYP Independent Reading Program:

To begin our Independent Reading Program, we split off into groups based upon how much we could read every single week. All of us then proceeded to discuss our reading goals for our independent reading project. After we had discussed our reading target, we individually split off into a corner of our Year 10 area and read "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" independently.



ManageBac for parents

By now I hope that you have had an opportunity to login to the ManageBac parent portal, which can be accessed [HERE](#).

If you are having trouble logging in or haven't received a welcome email from ManageBac prompting you to set a password, please feel free to send me an email to Lawrence Nzerati, our Secondary Administrative Assistant, and he'll be able to assist: l.nzerati@bmis.mw

We use ManageBac in Secondary for so many things including to **communicate** academics, attendance, grades, messages, and reporting.

ManageBac has created some excellent videos to help you navigate the Parent Portal, which can be found [HERE](#). Please take the time to explore these resources, and if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.



ManageBac



Music @ BMIS

We were so thrilled to be able to reintroduce Music this year at BMIS, and welcome our new Music teacher Dave Montreuil.

Dave has such a passion and enthusiasm for Music, which makes his classes such a joy to be in. I had the absolute pleasure of attending one of our Year 9 Music classes this week, and was excited to see the students sharing their musical talents with each other, and discussing their passions so that Dave is able to tailor the curriculum to our students' needs.

Dave shares that:

"I like getting students out in the community performing the music they want to play. I can't wait for COVID to come under control as I miss all the student concerts, singer's nights, musicals, etc. that would normally go on."

"Previously, I was a professional freelance musician, specialising in trombone, piano, jazz, composing and arranging. I have played in orchestras, big bands, salsa groups, jazz bands, and on cruise ships."

While we are restricted in our live concerts and performances right now, we can't wait to find safe ways to **celebrate** and share our students' musical talents with you. Watch this space!

Student Spotlight: Priyasha Shriyan

This week we would like to shine the spotlight on Year 11 student Priyasha Shriyan, to **celebrate** her incredible achievements in chess! Priyasha shares:

"On the 25th of July, I participated in a ladies online chess tournament which consisted of 11 rounds; this tournament determined the players participating in the Fide Online Olympiad. In this chess tournament, I managed to come first and I won all my games, therefore I qualified to participate in the ladies' section during the Olympiad."

During the 20th to the 25th August, the Malawi team competed in division 4 of the Olympiad. Throughout the tournament, team Malawi won against 9 of the 11 countries that they were paired against, and ranked fourth in division four. Priyasha and the Malawi team have now qualified for the next round to compete in division three.

The Division 3 tournament will be held from the 27th to the 29th of August, where team Malawi will have an opportunity to play against stronger teams. This tournament will consist of 11 rounds, with a total of 16 countries participating.

We wish Priyasha the very best! GO PRIYASHA AND GO TEAM MALAWI!



College Corner with Charlie Bowles

Hello Parents,

The end of August is upon us and so much has already happened in the College Counseling office during the first two weeks of school. I wanted to check in through "In the Loop" to highlight some important dates that are coming up for our high school students, and for you.

Y13 Family College Night

Wednesday, September 1 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the canteen

This is a chance for students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) to meet the college counselor, understand important work and deadlines ahead, and ask questions about the college application season.

Y10 You're in High School Now

Tuesday, September 7 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm -- ONLINE

We will be talking about the transition to HS, becoming familiar with high school and DP terminology (it's around the corner), along with an introduction to university planning among other things.

Years 11-13 -- CIS University Exploration Day, virtual college fair

Wednesday, September 8 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm; Y11 will take part on-campus while Y12 and Y13 students will be attend the fair from home

This is an incredible opportunity for students at leading international schools in Africa to meet admissions representatives from 60 colleges and universities from 12 countries on four continents. I will spend time with each class before the fair to prepare them so that they can get the most out of the experience.

Y12 University Planning Night

Wednesday, September 29 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the canteen

Students, their families and I will take a look at what the next two years have in store regarding investigating schools, preparing students and applying to university.

These are the big things to mark in your calendars, but more is happening or in the works for all of your children as we work together to position them to turn their hard work in the classroom into a fulfilling and successful life after BMIS.

I look forward to meeting many of you soon. Please don't hesitate to email me at c.bowles@bmis.mw if there is anything I can help you and your child with.

Charlie Bowles



Put it in your calendar:

Tuesday 31st August

Community Coffee Morning @Kaza Kitchen @8.00-9.00am

All parents and guardians are invited to join our Primary and Secondary Heads, Eloise Engel and Kathryn Leaper

Wednesday 1st September

"Applying to University" @BMIS Canteen @6.00-7.00pm

Year 13 parents and students are invited to join our College Counsellor, Charlie Bowles

Thursday 2nd September

An introduction to the MYP @BMIS Canteen @6.00-7.00pm

All new parents to the MYP are invited to join our MYP Coordinator, Kathryn Leaper

Tuesday 7th September

"You're now in High School" @Zoom @6.00-7.00pm

Year 10 parents are invited to join our College Counsellor, Charlie Bowles, to learn more about credits and our High School Diploma

Wednesday 29th September * please note date change

"University Planning" @BMIS Canteen @6.00-7.00pm

Year 12 parents are invited to join our College Counsellor, Charlie Bowles

PLEASE NOTE: For virtual events, Zoom invitations will be sent directly to parents/guardians' email addresses