

24 SEPTEMBER 2021

IN THE LOOP

Updates for the Secondary parents of BMIS



OVERVIEW

This week in our BMIS **community**

International Day of Peace was this week (September 21), and today we held a peace day dress up, where students wore white or other peace inspired clothing, in observation of this day.

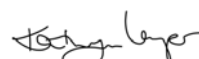
I've been reflecting on what this means for our **community**, both BMIS but also our local, regional, and global **communities**, and the key word that keeps surfacing is kindness. If our thoughts, actions, and words spring from kindness, then the world really would be a better place.

I really loved what the UN wrote on their website about International Day of Peace, and think that it's important food for thought for us all:

"Celebrate peace by standing up against acts of hate online and offline, and by spreading compassion, kindness, and hope in the face of the pandemic, and as we recover."

I encourage you to talk about what International Day of Peace means to you as a family, and how we can show kindness to one another to help build and strengthen our **community**.

It's with pleasure that I share with you today this week's bulletin, so please settle in, grab a "cuppa", and stay "In the Loop!"


Kathryn Leaper
k.leaper@bmis.mw

- Y13 Business Management
- What's been happening this week...?
- Y11 Visual Art
- Introducing our Extended Curriculum Coordinator: Nate Cole
- Biology! Biology! Biology!
- Digital Citizenship
- What else has been happening this week...?
- Girl Up: Serving our community
- Put it in your calendar

**KIND
NESS**

**gives birth
to kindness**

Sophocles

Peace Day

Y13 Business Management

Last Friday 17th, our Business Management teacher, Angelica Jones, helped to arrange a fantastic opportunity for our Year 13 students to learn more about leadership and management.

Nimaye Nambiar, one of our Y13 students, shares:

"Last week, our Yr.13 Business Management class welcomed Mr. Moody, Mr. Mac, and Ms. Engel to discuss a range of leadership and management approaches found in businesses. We found this particular exercise eye-opening as the class was able to debate with professional business leaders and understand their perspectives and respective approaches. For example, we discussed taking a more authoritarian management approach in contrast to a more libertarian one and debated the various outcomes respectively. The debate sparked several questions and helped us understand the real-life implications of each style. Having the outlook of business professionals assisted the class in grasping key concepts of the business syllabus, which was outside of the theoretical framework, offering an authentic view of the content we have been learning in class."

We are always looking for authentic opportunities to engage our broader community in the teaching and learning process. Please take a look at our Biology! Biology! Biology! write up today for an upcoming opportunity, and keep an eye out for more!



What's been happening this week...?

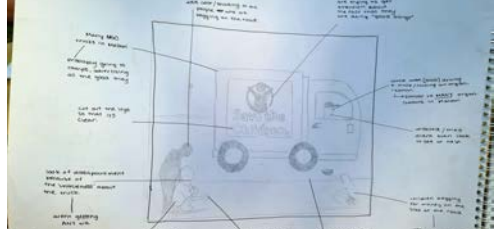
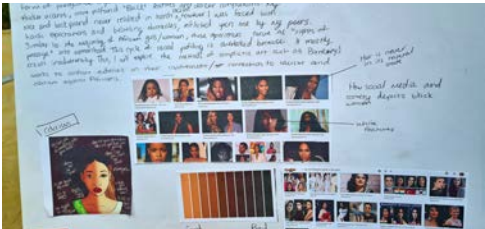
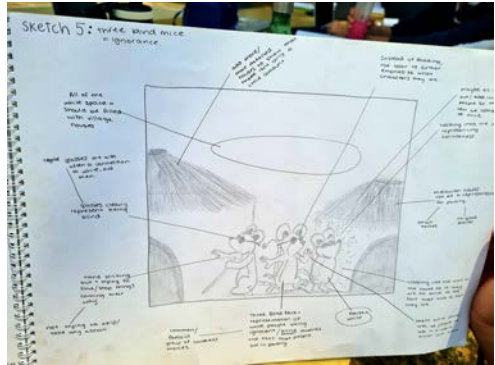
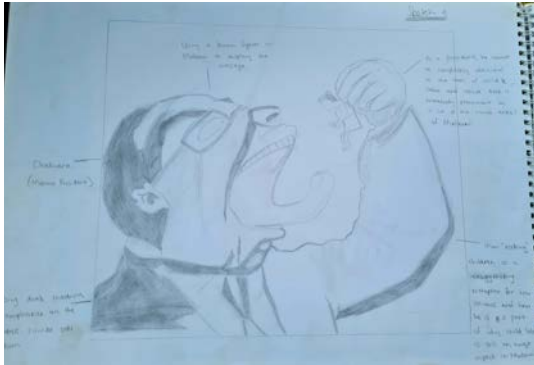
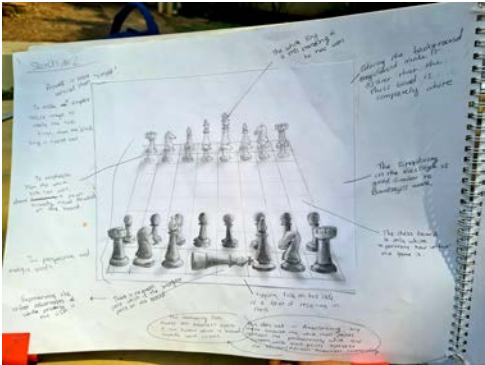
We celebrated International Day of Peace today. The kids looked fantastic in their peace inspired clothing!



Year 11 Visual Art

I popped into a Year 11 Visual Art lesson a few weeks ago, and had the pleasure to stop by again yesterday to see the students' progress, and I must share that the evolution of their work was incredibly impressive. Yami, Pari, and Bodine were very kind in letting me share some of their work with you today (featured below in that order). They also wanted to let you know a little bit more about their current unit:

"In Year 11 art we are focusing on more complex artist styles, and artistic intentions; which are the meanings behind an art piece. In this unit, we have looked at the controversial artworks of Kara Walker and Banksy, and are currently incorporating their styles into our own artworks. The students in art have created their own intentions, personal to them and their contexts, and followed a process of creating and critiquing multiple sketches, leading to their final art piece. Yami's artwork focuses on the harsh reality of colorism and racism that black/ African women face. Pari's was focusing on how child labour and verbal abuse go hand in hand together, and are extremely prominent in under developed countries such as Malawi. Bodine is addressing the issue of white privilege, living in a predominantly black African country, such as Malawi."



Introducing our Extended Curriculum Coordinator: Nate Cole

We are thrilled to be able to announce our new Secondary Extended Curriculum Coordinator, Nate Cole.

Nate shares:

"My name is Nate Cole and it has been wonderful to join the BMIS community this school year. I am excited to take on the role of Extended Curriculum Program Coordinator for secondary.

Over my 17-year career as an educator, some of my most meaningful experiences have come through coaching sports and leading extracurricular activities, and seeing the benefit they bring to a school community.

I look forward to working with our students, staff, and families for a successful program beginning in October.

If you have any comments, suggestions, or questions regarding our Extended Curriculum Program for 2021-22, please send them my way!"

n.cole@bmis.mw

Thank you so much Nate! We are excited to be able to safely reintroduce both sporting and non-sporting extended curriculum opportunities to our students! We can't wait to share more updates when they begin on Monday 25 October.



Biology! Biology! Biology!



Our new Biology teacher Sam Richards shares:

"A variety of activities that promote and highlight the importance of Biology in our lives and futures will be taking place in classes throughout the week."

"We are fortunate to have secured one guest speaker and would welcome more. If you are a parent in a Biology related career or interest and have the time to come and talk to students during this week of celebration please contact me (s.richards@bmis.mw)."



Digital Citizenship

Thinking more about International Day of Peace, and the UN's call to "spread acts of compassion and kindness" both online and offline, today we would like to share the concept of Digital Citizenship as so many aspects of our student's lives revolve around the use of digital media and technology.

This is more important in Covid times where technology has become a valuable tool for education, and when our online and offline lives have blurred so much.

Authors have defined digital citizenship as the responsible use of technology to learn, create and participate, and digital citizens are learners who use their technology-driven powers conscientiously — and with empathy — to help make the world a better place.

Digital citizenship is the umbrella term covering all sorts of things like: internet safety and security, digital footprints, etiquette, copyright, cyberbullying and more.

We wanted to take the opportunity to share with our parent community how we understand digital citizenship at BMIS.

Our students will be exploring these values in the coming weeks, and looking ahead we will be exploring these values with our parents later in the term too.



What else has been happening this week...?

Our students are loving their new books!

It was such a fantastic sight to see our Year 9 students reading during their lunch break this week!

They just received their new Independent Reading Program book "The Fault in our Stars" by John Green, and were excited to get started!

Please help support a love of reading by carving out the time as a family to read!



Girl Up: Serving our community

We are proud to be a service school! Service is a means of building, connecting, and enriching **community**, so it is with pleasure that I share an initiative lead by our service "The Girl Up Club" with you today. Please read carefully, and help to support where you can!

"We are holding a **drive** and **dress up** day to help a group of women start small businesses through the selling of popcorn, mandazi, and second hand clothes. The dress up day is being held as a fundraiser to get money for the pans and buckets the women require for food preparation and distribution, while the drive is being held to source the materials that the women can use to start their small businesses. The theme of the dress up day is **appreciating Malawian women** and everyone is encouraged to wear chitenge as well as donate Mk 500 on Friday the 8th of October. The drive is being held that same week, with year groups being requested to donate the following items:

- Year 7 - Clothes (new or second hand but of wearable condition)
- Year 8 - Popcorn (Uncooked)
- Year 9 - Table salt
- Year 10 - Sugar
- Year 11- Flour
- Year 12 and 13 - Cooking oil

Boxes will be placed in each year group's bubble, ready for collection of the items above. The Girl Up team is hoping to empower women through this project by opening the door of sustainable entrepreneurship by providing the initial resources required to start the business but leaving the women to continue running them. Any help we receive will be greatly appreciated."



Put it in your calendar:

YEAR 7 PARENTS: A reminder that if you'd like to share your details with our parent rep Eveline, please complete [THIS FORM](#)

Wednesday 29th September
"University Planning" @BMIS Canteen @6.00-7.00pm
Year 12 parents are invited to join our College Counsellor, Charlie Bowles

Monday 4th - Friday 8th October
"Appreciating Malawian Women and Girls" @BMIS
BMIS' Girl Up Club are running a drive, to empower women through sustainable entrepreneurship. Please donate this week. Year 7: Clothing (new or second hand); Year 8: Popcorn (uncooked); Year 9: Table salt; Year 10: Sugar; Year 11: Flour; Year 12-13: Cooking oil

Friday 8th October
"Appreciating Malawian Women and Girls" @BMIS
Chitenge themed dress up day, in support of "Girl Up". Please bring a MK500 donation.

Thursday 14th October
"Virtual Settling-In Conferences" @Virtual @7.30am - 2.30pm
Parents will be invited to sign up for virtual settling-in conferences with their child's teachers. Links for this event will be sent out closer to the time. Please note that there is no school for students on this day, and that students are encouraged to attend the virtual conferences with you.

Friday 15th October
"Mother's Day" - no school

Monday 18th - Friday 22nd October
"Mid-Term Break" - no school