



19 AUGUST 2022

IN THE LOOP

UPDATES FOR BMIS SECONDARY PARENTS

Welcome Secondary Students To The 2022-3 School Year.

This is the first 'In The Loop' for the year, welcoming all new and returning families to BMIS. I hope that you enjoyed the break and have recharged your batteries. I'm very much looking forward to the exciting and challenging year ahead as the new Secondary School Principal. We have had a busy two weeks preparing for the return of our students, beginning with the orientation week for the new teachers, followed by the return of all teachers, and concluding with the new families orientation last week. One crucial component was missing during this time and the campus seemed very quiet until our students entered through the portal on Monday and school once again returned to life. It is hard to believe that already a week has gone by as our students have settled in and teaching and learning are well underway. I look forward to meeting with you and getting to know you during the course of the year. There will be the opportunity to introduce myself and meet with you on Wednesday 31st of August from 6 pm-7.30 pm at the Secondary School Back to School Night.

Lesley Peacock, Secondary School Principal
l.peacock@bmis.mw

Lesley Peacock



OVERVIEW:

- **Introductions**
- **Meeting the Secondary Team**
- **Preparing for our Students**
- **First Day Back at School**
- **Personal Projects**
- **Drama Auditions**
- **Celebrating our DP results**
- **SAT's**
- **Up and Coming Events**

Meeting The New Secondary Team

We would like to welcome Mackenzie Peters as the Whole School Support Services Consultant, Richard Ellis has been appointed as the Secondary Student Support Coordinator and George Carpouzis is our new Aquatics Coordinator. We also welcome back to our Secondary teaching team Romana Hajat, teaching Year 7 English and Individuals and Societies, and Hazel Drummond, teaching Year 7 Mathematics and Science.



What's Been Happening Over The Past Two Weeks?

New Teachers' Orientation

A range of activities were offered to new teachers to help them settle in at BMIS and prepare for the busy year ahead. They moved into their houses, unpacked bags, did some essential shopping, and explored Lilongwe while gaining sustenance at some excellent restaurants along the way.

Teachers return to BMIS

A week was set aside for our teachers to prepare for the return of their students. There were meetings, goal setting discussions, time set aside for preparing classrooms and even some time for some fun team building activities.

Welcome Back Students!

It was great to see our students returning to BMIS on Monday. Once again the campus has returned to life, full of excited voices, laughter, and lots of catching up after the holidays.

First Secondary Assembly Of The Year

The Secondary School came together for a morning assembly. Our new students were introduced by StuCo and messages were shared, including a great promotion for our drama production this year 'The Greatest Showman', expertly sung by Mrs Barron. Other highlights included items from Nina Derrick and Yamikani Chponda, who entertained us with their singing and piano playing skills.



*"Move forward.
Good things are
up ahead."*

TAKE 1 THE FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL!



TAKE 2 THE FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL!



Personal Projects

MYP Personal Projects allow students to showcase and reflect on their learning in the last year of the IB MYP. The age-appropriate projects enable students to engage in practical and self-directed learning through a cycle of inquiry, action and reflection. The project allows students to work toward a learning goal, create a product/project, and document their learning journeys. Students engage in practical and self-directed learning through a cycle of inquiry, action, and reflection. The Personal Projects also lays particular emphasis on students' development of Approaches to learning (ATL) skills. It prepares them to be independent thinkers and problem solvers of the future.

Wayne Kovacs

Auditions for 'THE GREATEST SHOWMAN'

These will take place in the Upper Hall on Monday 22nd August 2 - 3:30pm. Auditions are for: actors, singers, dancers, talent (juggling, gymnastics) and general ensemble roles.

We will begin the auditions with group singing to warm up and make sure we all know the songs before each student will sing a small section of a song. Then the dancers will get a chance to showcase their talents- this can be done solo or in pairs (no more). Music and lyrics here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1in4ruaNZYGfvrCGV9B2G_5gW7S-n8Mhi?usp=sharing

It is advised to come well prepared for the audition If you would like to help with lighting, stage crew and make up, please come to the start of the auditions to write your name on the list and understand expectations.

We are very excited!

Mrs Barron (Miss Woods) and Mr Montreuil



Congratulations to the Class of 2022 for:

- **Achieving a 100% pass rate! (the world average was 85.6%)**
- **This is BMIS's fourth 100% pass rate in the past five years!**
- **Hitting a 34.5 point average (the world average was 32)**
- **Also 34.5 points is the highest average a BMIS cohort has achieved in the last 10 years!**
- **Highest BMIS Student Points: 42 (out of a maximum 45)**



SATs

I am the college counselor at BMIS and I'd like to introduce myself to you briefly, before getting to the SATs. I am beginning my fourth year at BMIS, and my second consecutive year as the College Counselor. Prior to coming to Malawi with my family, I had worked at international schools in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Oman as a Language & Literature and an Individuals and Societies teacher. I continue to teach MYP and DP Language & Literature at BMIS. Before becoming a teacher, I had an eleven-year career in university admissions at a variety of schools (both graduate and undergraduate) in the United States. Now, onto the SATs...

The SAT is an entrance exam used by most colleges and universities to make admissions decisions. The SAT is a multiple-choice, pencil-and-paper test created and administered by the College Board.

The purpose of the SAT is to measure a high school student's readiness for college, and provide colleges with one common data point that can be used to compare all applicants.

-- The Princeton Review

We are very pleased to announce that BMIS has become an SAT testing center and will be administering the SAT on three occasions this academic year:

Test Dates	October 1	December 3	May 6
Registration Deadlines	September 2	November 3	April 24

During an upcoming College Counseling class before the September registration deadline, I will speak with Y12 and Y13 students about whether they should consider sitting for the exam. The SAT is accepted at schools in 85 countries outside of the U.S. (and it is required by many of these institutions or is used for scholarship consideration), so it is worth checking into. Here is a [list of schools outside the U.S. that accept the SAT](#). Your child can register for the SAT [here](#).

The school has new SAT test prep materials coming in the shipment that is expected to arrive soon. In the meantime, students can go to [Khan Academy](#) to begin preparation.

Please feel free to contact me at c.bowles@bmis.mw if there is anything about the SAT or college counseling in general on your mind.



Best Regards,
Charlie Bowles

Music afternoon activities,

BMIS will be offering the chance for students to form their own bands and book a time in the music room to rehearse. A successful band usually has one drummer, one bass player, one or two piano players, one or two guitarists and one or more singers. Students will choose the songs and style of music that they want to play, and get ready to perform for Slinger's Night and other shows around BMIS and Lilongwe!

After the students see the ECP schedule, they can decide on a time and book it with Mr. Montreuil. There are two rehearsal times available for Monday and Tuesday afternoons.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Montreuil at d.montreuil@bmis.mw.

Kind regards, Dave Montreuil

MONDAY 22ND AUGUST

- PRESIDENT AND CORE MEMBER CAMPAIGN WEEK BEGINS

THURSDAY 25TH AUGUST

- SERVICE, SOCIAL IMPACT AND ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR CANDIDATE SPEECHES

TUESDAY 30TH AUGUST

**-PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES AND VOTING
-CLASS REP SPEECHES AND VOTING
-CORE CANDIDATE VOTING**

FRIDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER

**-PRESIDENTIAL AND CORE MEMBER ELECTION RESULTS
-INAUGURATION**



UP and Coming Events

Friday 19th August, ECP's sign ups-Google docs

Monday 22nd-Friday 27th August, Presidential Campaign Week

Monday 22nd August, 2.00-3.30 pm

The Greatest Showman auditions in the Drama Studio

Monday 29th August, ECP's begin from 2.00-3.00 pm and 3.00-4.00 pm

Tuesday 30th August Presidential elections in the Upper Hall at 7.10 am, followed by Core and class rep. voting

Wednesday 31st August, 5.30-6.00 pm Parent ManageBac help in the Breakout room

Wednesday 31st August, 6.00-7.30 Open House beginning in the Upper hall

Thursday 1st September Service Learning Fair and signup during Lunch 11:35-12:10.