



18th November 2022

IN THE LOOP

UPDATES FOR BMIS SECONDARY PARENTS

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

In the Loop begins by celebrating our new Mission Statement through a few photographic images of events and activities that have taken place over the past 2 weeks. They depict the Night Swim Gala on the 11th of November, the Sports Festival held on the 12th of November, events organised by STUCO highlighting Anti-Bully Week, House competitions assemblies, classes utilising our outdoor environment, and student service initiatives. In considering keywords that drive our Mission Statement in the photos we see the hall filled with secondary students comprising 50 nationalities representing diverse cultures and beliefs. They sit beneath a sign that acknowledges them as ‘Incredible Students’, who are welcoming and inclusive. The learning experience is enhanced, through lessons that are inquiry based, authentic and enjoyable. We celebrate growth and success both academically, socially and emotionally as our students develop their strengths and talents by actively participating in the extensive range of opportunities that BMIS offers.



Lesley Peacock, Secondary Principal

OVERVIEW

- Message from the Principal
- Night Swim Gala
- BMIS Sports Festival
- Theatre, Sciences and Maths
- Taster Week
- MAP
- Health Awareness and Eco-Aware
- Duke of Edinburgh Trip
- Supporting Readers at Home
- Art in the Park
- Yr 11 Sports Science
- Up and Coming Events





BMIS hosted St. Andrew's International School, Kamuzu Academy, Hillview and ABC this past Friday for the Night Gala Swim Meet. Over 120 swimmers took part in some very exciting races. Thank you to the student volunteers who stayed until 8:30pm to help us with the timing as well as the teacher and parent volunteers. Here are the combined school scores:

BMIS - 519 pts
St. Andrew's - 467 pts
ABC - 373 pts
Hillview - 299 pts
KA - 194 pts

Big kudos to Neil Black and Caitlin Macmillan for their hard work during the meet making sure everything ran smoothly and efficiently. Well done to the swimmers for their exceptional swimming.



George Carpouzis, Aquatics Coordinator



BMIS Sports Festival

On November 11th and 12th, Bishop Mackenzie hosted the biggest sports festival in recent years. The night swimming gala returned after a three year absence and was followed up with U13 and U19 Football, U15 and U19 Netball and the introduction of Ultimate Frisbee. Students from Saint Andrews, Kamuzu Academy, African Bible College, Hillview and Bishop Mackenzie battled it out both in the pool and on the courts/pitches to make a claim for bragging rights. There was some fantastic sport on offer with some of the country's best youth athletes competing hard but fair against one another. It was lovely to see how connected the schools and students were and that both on and off the field they respected one another. In total, over 300 students participated in a fun packed weekend of sport and took some long lasting memories home with them.

Winners:

- Night Swimming Gala - BMIS.**
- U13 Football - Kamuzu Academy**
- U19 Football - Kamuzu Academy**
- U15 Netball - Saint Andrews**
- U19 Netball - Kamuzu Academy**

Neil Barron-Black - Sports Coordinator for the Primary and Secondary School,



Physical Theatre

8DMO Theatre students have been inquiring into physical theatre, exploring the skills and techniques of this style of drama, and demonstrating their learning by transforming the children's story book "Where the Wild Things Are" into their own physical theatre performance. Our Reception students ventured up to the Secondary Drama Studio to be our audience and it's suffice to say they enjoyed themselves as there were giggles and smiles and applause abound! Congratulations on a fantastic performance, 8DMO!

Kathryn Leaper

Middle Years Programme (MYP) Coordinator



**A Night of Theatre:
DP Theatre Night
Monday 5th December 6:30pm –
8:15pm
16 year + only due to sensitive
nature of topics
Free entry
Highly recommended to students
in Year 11 considering taking DP
Theatre.**



Year 7 Sciences

It's all about Change in Year 7 Sciences!

The MYP Key Concept Change "is a conversion, transformation or movement from one form, state or value to another. Inquiry into the concept of change involves understanding and evaluating causes, processes and consequences."

The students have been inquiring into the difference between physical and chemical changes and what constitutes a chemical reaction. They carried out different experiments and decided whether chemical reactions had occurred based on their observations. They are learning about how new substances are formed when chemical reactions take place, and are beginning to use word equations to describe the reactions.



Year 7 Mathematics

Year 7 students have been applying Mathematics in real-life contexts with integers (positive and negative whole numbers). Examples involving changes in temperature, altitude, money and time allows the student to develop a deep understanding of the direction and value of integers. Positive and negative number lines have been extended to the Cartesian plane, and the students have been recognising how positions can be described by ordered pairs of coordinates lying in the four quadrants.

Hazel Drummond Maths and Science Teacher

Taster week

Congratulations to the Y11 students for completing an intensely informative and eye opening DP Taster week. This Pre-DP week is a subject specific introduction, which gave significant insight for subject selection in the three pathways we offer for our senior students at BMIS; the IB Diploma Programme (DP), Diploma Courses Programme (DCP) and BMIS High School Diploma (HSD). Our hope is that this experience brings clarity to what we offer and prepares students to make confident, thoughtful decisions about what subjects and levels to take for their final two years at BMIS.

Each subject had a scheduled session where DP teachers delivered their 'taster':

-Intro: A brief overview of subject specific content/topics/concepts and clarity about the course delivery or teaching methodologies, with a clear distinction being made between HL (Higher Level) & SL (Standard Level).

-Taster: This is a practical/ tangible experience of our DP classrooms and gives an insight into the complexity of a select subject-specific content. We intend for this to be engaging, interesting, and even inspirational while representing the actual experience in DP

-Conclusion: An overview of assessment and briefly addressing possible university options/career links.

I would also thank teachers for their dynamic deliver that included UN debates in Global Politics, a sketch book race in Visual Arts and an exploration of quadratic functions in Maths.

Jonathan McClenahan
Diploma Programme Coordinator



MAP Testing

Our Year 7-10 students completed their Growth MAP testing during the week beginning Monday 7 November. MAP testing occurs bi-annually and is one method used to understand students' growth in Maths, Language, and Reading. Individual growth reports will be shared with parents on Thursday 8th December, so please keep an eye on your inbox for these.

Kathryn Leaper
Middle Years
Programme (MYP)
Coordinator



Health Awareness Car Wash

During the Sports Festival the Health Awareness Club washed lots of cars, with the money raised going towards purchasing mosquito nets to donate to areas in Malawi greatly affected by Malaria.



Eco-aware

We are a service opportunity (co-run by Hisham Kanaan and Ms. Richards) for students of all ages to be engaged in the design process and creation of the school's eco-garden. Over the past two weeks, we have been working with the wonderful school carpenters and garden staff to create benches out of split logs from a tree that had been felled on campus. We have now finished designing and producing a total of four benches (using the uncured wood) that have been installed in the garden alongside our formerly-installed, upcycled metal bench, with the hopes of increasing student interest in the area, creating an outdoor space for secondary students of all ages to share. We will be planting and adding interest when the rains come!

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

After a short bus ride, we arrived at the campsite where we were told to collect our gear and head up Chongoni mountain. This proved to be very difficult as we had underestimated the weight of our backpacks and some of us had never climbed a mountain before. An exhausting hour and a half and lots of breaks later, we made it to the stopping point for the day and took in the beautiful view, before heading down and setting up camp. Once set up we challenged a nearby school to a football game, which we dramatically lost. Then the sun had started to set so we began cooking our dinner; pasta bolognese, ramen, and pizza tortillas. We played several team-building games (duck-duck goose and red light green light) before bed.

The next morning we woke up bright and early at 5, as the sun rose. For breakfast, we had porridge, cereal, and packages to celebrate Nina's birthday! We then headed back up the mountain, our speed far greater than the day before, hiking all the way to the peak in four hours. We lounged about, admiring the spectacular views and the cool breeze, after a well-deserved lunch. The trek down was only 1 hour long as some of us ran down the mountain unable to contain our excitement to get home and have a cooling shower.

Overall this trip was very tiring and a great learning experience to prepare us for the qualifier next year. We enjoyed roasting marshmallows around a gas stove and we all look forward to our qualifier expedition in Luwawa.

Adam, Darwyn and Zoey



SUPPORTING YOUR READER AT HOME

Mackenzie Peters, *BMIS Student Service Consultant*

Cultivate Passion Utilize Research Based Strategies Create Consistency

Reading is at the center of nearly every single academic subject. With our December holiday and a lock weekend coming up, we thought it might be a good time to discuss a bit about how to support and partner with your child at home when it comes to reading instruction and practice. Supporting our primary readers at home begins with three core focuses: Cultivating Passion, Utilizing Research Based Strategies, and Creating Consistency.

Cultivate Passion

- Connect Interests & Texts:** What activities and topics interest your child? Read about them! Does your child love spending time with friends? Start a book club!
- Read to and With Your Child:** We must model what we hope to see from our children!
- Write Notes to Your Child:** By writing to our children, we model the process. Reading and Writing are reciprocal processes.
- Create a Cozy Space:** Place pillows, lamps, and comfortable seating in an area at home to support your child's desire to dig into a book!

“SHOW ME A FAMILY OF READERS, AND I WILL SHOW YOU THE PEOPLE WHO MOVE THE WORLD.”

Napoléon Bonaparte

Research Based Strategies

When practicing reading with your child, it is important to remember that each individual reader progresses at different rates. Furthermore, regardless of a student's age, the skills we are about to discuss are necessary to develop and we should never assume that because a student is xx years old, they have mastered each of these skills. While the end goal of reading is to be able to gain meaning and content from what we read, there are a variety of skills that are necessary in order for students to get there. Successful readers are proficient in Word Recognition as well as Language Comprehension.

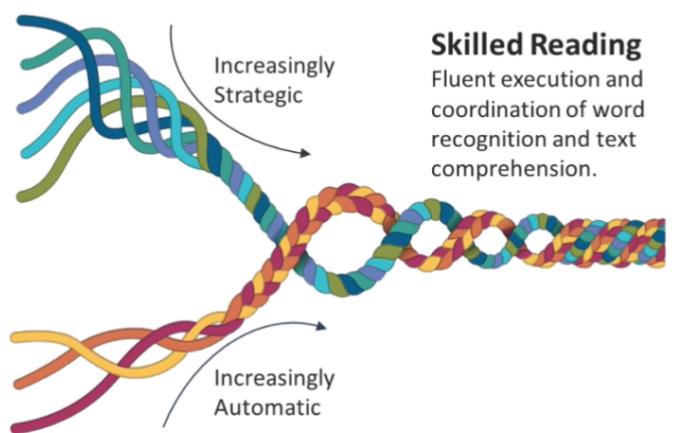
In 2001, Dr. Hollis Scarborough created what is now referred to as the Reading Rope. The Reading Rope provides a visual which depicts the many skills needed to become a proficient reader and is made up of both lower strands and upper strands. While the lower strands include Phonological Awareness, Decoding, and Sight Recognition, the upper strand includes Background Knowledge, Vocabulary, Language Structures, Verbal Reasoning, and Literacy Knowledge. In the next 'In The Loop' from the Student Service Consultant, you will learn about specific activities and strategies you can utilize with your child (primary and secondary) at home to support their growth and knowledge in the Reading Rope strands.

Language Comprehension

- Background Knowledge
- Vocabulary Knowledge
- Language Structures
- Verbal Reasoning
- Literacy Knowledge

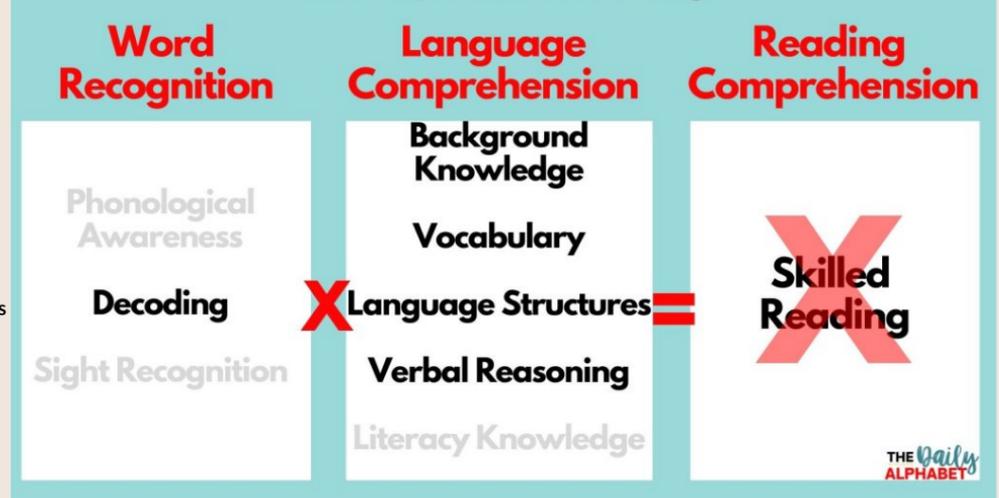
Word Recognition

- Phonological Awareness
- Decoding (and Spelling)
- Sight Recognition



Skilled Reading
Fluent execution and coordination of word recognition and text comprehension.

The Simple View of Reading



References and Resources
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 Epic! Books: <https://www.getepic.com/>
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 Johnson, K. Understood.org. 9 ways to build phonological awareness in pre-K and kindergarten. <https://www.understood.org/en/articles/9-ways-to-build-phonological-awareness-in-pre-k-and-kindergarten>
 Staake, J. 2021. We Are Teachers. What is Scarborough's Rope and How Does It Explain Teaching Reading? <https://www.weateachers.com/scarboroughs-rope/>
 Storyline Online: <https://storylineonline.net/>
 Victoria State Government. Literacy Teaching Toolkit: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/english/literacy/Pages/default.aspx>

Art in the Park

Last weekend, a few of our artists got to exhibit their artwork at 'Art in the Park'. This was a great opportunity for them to showcase their creativity and discuss their work with other working artists. The highlight of the weekend was connecting with IGCSE candidates from Kamuzu Academy, whose exhibition was right next to ours. The students got to share their artistic intentions and their artistic process! Well done to Adeline Sander, Martha Khoswe, Solomiyah Cely, Kian De Weerd, Xaris Francisco, Joyce Nikagudde, Lisa Ghysaert, Anna Parisotto, Louisa Schramm, Luna Braga, Yihan Zheng

Blessings Banda



Performance Outcome

The Y11's are currently completing a 'Sport Science' unit whereby they learn more about the DP course. This week we focused on performance analysis where students watched one another in competitive matches and tallied various outcomes of performance.

Neil Barron-Black - Sports Coordinator



STUDENT COUNCIL INVITES YOU TO THE

The Grand Masquerade Ball

PLEASE COME IN FORMAL ATTIRE

Saturday, December 3rd
6pm - 9.30pm
The Upper Hall

Tickets will be sold in the cafeteria from the 7th of November for 5000MK and can be bought for 6000MK at the door, on the night.

Every ticket allows you to have 1 free mocktail and snacks

BMIS PRESENTS

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

Wed, Thur & Fri 30th Nov, 1st & 2nd Dec
6-9pm- Upper Hall

Tickets must be prebooked for a specific day can be paid at the door. (no booking = no entry)
VIP 6,000
Standard 5,000

Dress code: festive carnival theme (or at least a fun hat!)

For ticket booking email g.woods@bmis.mw include name, number of tickets and show date

Up and Coming Events

Friday 18th-Blood Drive from 12pm-3pm in the Break Out Space

Friday 25th Long Weekend

Wednesday 30th November-Friday 2nd December The Greatest Showman in the Upper Hall from 6.30 pm

Saturday December 3rd The Gran Masquerade Ball in the Upper Hall from 6pm-9.30 pm

Monday 5th December -DP Theatre Night 16+ audience only, in the Upper Hall from 6.30 pm-8.15 pm

Thursday 8th December Secondary Swimming Carnival -All Day

Friday 9th December Secondary House Festival Quiz

Monday 9th January Term 2 begins