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## ISSUE 3 Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

Dear Parents and visitors to our website,

Well, autumn is finally upon us with multi-coloured leaves, conkers and hazelnuts underfoot, accompanied by a chill in the air. Thankfully we have not been subjected to too much rain thus far, but I would ask parents to keep an eye on the weather forecast <http://news.bbc.co.uk/weather/forecast/3090> and make sure our students come to school in appropriate clothing for the days conditions.

Before I officially arrived in Wroclaw, you may remember that I mentioned involving our school on some international projects. I have now started the application process and would like you read the following rationale about such involvement. In my opinion when a school has partners in the UK and overseas, this brings the school together and improves its sense of collective ethos and identity. Getting involved with partner schools makes teachers and pupils look at themselves and think about how others see them. It enables teachers to look at teaching practice and standards in other countries. Schools find that wanting to be viewed in a positive light by their partners encourages a whole school ethos and enhances the ways that teachers and pupils work positively together to improve the way they approach their school lives. And also, developing the curriculum with the global dimension in mind adds a sense of relevance to topics and really engages children, keeping your curriculum in a constant state of improvement. It can incorporate news items on current affairs, including the different viewpoints of those involved and of teachers and pupils. It can make creative use of ICT, can put languages

## BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL WROCLAW

# NEWSLETTER

WEEKLY SCHOOL INFORMATION, EVENTS AND NEWS



into an exciting new context and open up global issues through history, geography, and science. Schools will find that thinking about the global dimension as they approach their curricular work brings about work on human rights and sustainability in a natural way and improves pupils' understanding of these key issues. When our application has been approved we will be able to enter into partnership with schools around the world, and from this will be involved in fun and educational projects which will enrich the learning in our school. From there I envisage the opportunity for student/teacher exchange trips giving participants the chance to travel and experience other cultures.

Last week I mentioned the founding of our Student Council and would like to congratulate those elected, their names and the first meeting time and date can be found in the Secondary newsletter. Continuing with regard to our House system, I have agreed to extend the submission time for names to the end of school next Wednesday to allow for some additional thinking time (although some good entries have already been received).

I must also comment on the very well attended and productive meeting with our Primary parents and thank you all for finding the time and for your contributions. I must

reiterate one point I mentioned at that meeting, namely the difficulty I am having in providing Polish for parents. The increase in the school roll and the Polish programme means teachers who have before undertaken this no longer have time in their schedules. Please bear with me, as I am sure a solution can be found sooner than later.

Finally, I can announce that the first meeting of the School Advisory Board will take place on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 17.00 (a venue will be announced). If you are interested in becoming a member of the board, please read the description of the board at the end of this newsletter. Anyone still interested should contact me as such by the end of school Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October. As I will be setting an agenda for the meeting, I will need to be notified of agenda items by 12.00 Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October.

Wishing you all a good weekend,



Best regards,  
Wayne Billington  
Head of School



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Staff Morning Briefing 8.15a.m. dining room	20 Primary round table (0835 in dining room)	21 ESL for parents (2.40p.m.- 3.25p.m.)	22 Secondary School Assembly 8.35 a.m.	23 Primary School Assembly 8.35 a.m.  ESL for parents (8.35a.m.- 9.20a.m.)	24	25
26 Staff Morning Briefing 8.15a.m. dining room	27 Secondary round table (8.35a.m. in dining room)  Full staff Meeting after school (no clubs/activities except swimming)	28 ESL for parents (2.40p.m.- 3.25p.m.)  House System Submission deadline	29 Whole School Assembly 8.35 a.m.	30 ESL for parents (8.35a.m.- 9.20a.m.)  ISBC deadline		

## REMINDERS FOR PARENTS



Please take care when parking around the school.

Avoid blocking entrances to neighbours' houses and driveways.

**DO NOT PARK ON THE ZEBRA CROSSINGS!**

1. Mr. Lee our Korean Coordinator is available:

Monday – 8.30 – 12.05  
 Tuesday – 11.20 – 12.05 and 1.00 – 3.20  
 Wednesday – 8.30 – 12.05  
 Thursday – 8.30 – 12.05  
 Friday – 8.30 – 10.10 and 12.20 – 1.50

2. Revised Japanese Coordinator times:

Monday – 10.30 – 14.35  
 Tuesday – 8.30 – 3.25  
 Wednesday – 10.30 – 3.25  
 Thursday – 8.30 – 11.15  
 Friday – 9.25 – 1.00

3. Members of the creative writing club wanted!

Becoming a Writer: Write free verse poetry, fantasy, science fiction, fractured fairy tales, and become published in a creative writing magazine! Could posters, paintings, and books inspire you to write poetry and stories? Sign up for Mondays, 3:30-4:15, Room of Yr 6, on the sign-up sheet in the small villa, or send me an e-mail – [joannaschier@yahoo.com](mailto:joannaschier@yahoo.com).

4. To make the process of ordering school

lunches more manageable for Miss Marlena, could parents now note that the revised cut off date for payment will now be Thursday instead of Friday.

5. Parents are also reminded that our newsletter is only available via e-mail, the school website and a hard copy posted on the notice board in each of the villas. No additional hard copies will be supplied as it goes against our teachings on environmental issues and does not show a good example to our children.

6. School doctor is available for Parents on Mondays from 11.a.m. till 1.00p.m.

7. The next PTA meeting will be held on Wednesday the 5th October at 8.35am in the big villa. All welcome!  
 A welcome to the new mums and families morning tea will be held following the close of the meeting.

8. Due to the full staff meeting on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September all clubs/after school activities (except swimming) are being cancelled.

## Extra Curricular Activities

ECA	TEACHER	AGE GROUP	WHERE	WHEN
Homework Club	Christina Andrzejewski	Whole primary	Yr 3 room	Wednesday 3:30
Homework Club	Marta Mironiuk	Whole primary	Yr 1 room (sparrows)	Monday 3:30
Sewing Club	Anna Witańska	Yr 2-Yr 6	Yr 4 room	Wednesday 3:30
Newspaper Club	Kristina Galuska	Yr 3 – Yr 6	ESL room (opposite the gym)	Monday 3:30
ESL For Parents	Iwona Sokołowska	parents	ESL room in the small villa	Wednesday, period 7 Friday, period 1
Origami Club	Iza Łuczowska	Yr 1- Yr 6	Foundation room	Tuesday 3:30
Circle Art Club	Karolina Traut Karpińska	F - Yr 2	Year 1 room (eagles)	Tuesday 1:30
Paper Art	Diana Tonge	Yr 1- Yr 6	Year 2 room	Thursday 3:30
Card Making Club	Jennifer Jones	Yr 2- Yr 6	Year 5 room	Wednesday 3:30
Free Verse Poetry	Joanna Schier	Yr 3- Yr 6	Year 6 room	Monday 3:30
Art Club	Hye Seung Lee	Yr 3- Yr 6	Art room	Thursday 3:30
Football Club	Marcin Kwasiuk Alex Sitkowiecki	Yr 1 – Yr 6	Football pitch	Monday 4:00 – 5:15
Swimming	Marcin Kwasiuk	Yr 1 – Yr 3	ul. Trwała 17-19	Tuesday 5:20-6:05
Swimming	Marcin Kwasiuk	Yr 4 upwards	ul. Trwała 17-19	Friday 5:20-6:05
Guitar Club	Maciek Posluszny	Yr 3 – Yr 6 Y7 upwards	Music room	Wednesday 3:30 Friday 12.10
School Band	Maciek Posluszny	Y7 upwards	Music room	Tuesday 3:30
School Orchestra	Maciek Posluszny	Y5 upwards	Music room	Thursday 3:30
Drawing Club	Rebecca Grocott	Secondary	Year 11 room	Tuesday 12.10
Japanese for beginners	Hiroko Nagai	Secondary	Japanese room	Monday 12.10 Wednesday 12.10
Japanese for advanced students	Hiroko Nagai	Secondary	Japanese room	Tuesday 12.10 Friday 12.10
Creative writing Club	Joanna Schier	Y2 upwards	Year 6 room	Monday 3.30

## News from Head of Primary



It was a very active week in the Primary Section. Year 1 Sparrows continued to study human body parts in science (wrist, ankle, abdomen, chest, thigh, neck, elbow, etc.) and played a game of 'Simon Says' to practice naming the parts as well as showing them on their own bodies. Year 1 Eagles were exploring

the five senses this week and worked on addition to 5.

Year 2 were looking at plants and animals in the school garden and making wax leaf rubbings.

Year 3 were working on designing a pillowcase using block letters. They turned out quite well! Soon, they will try doing the same thing but with paint.

Year 4 carried on with their Skeletons topic in Science and enjoyed a great presentation on Hinduism by Mr. Satish, a.k.a Sanjana's dad.

On Friday all primary children attended the weekly assembly. It was Year 4's turn to make a presentation and obviously it had to focus on nothing else but a human skeleton :).

The following students joined our Star Gallery:

Foundation – Chang Muk

Year 1 Sparrows – Zhiyu

Year 1 Eagles - Cecilia

Year 2 - Jacob

Year 3 - Emilia

Year 4 – Chan Young

Year 5 - Rebeka

Year 6 – Chae Eun

Congratulations to all hard-working students! Since a little bird has told me that the weekend is supposed to be pleasantly sunny, let us all hope that the forecast shall come true.

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend,

Anna Witańska  
Head of Primary

## News from Head of Secondary



Dear Parents and Students,

Secondary students have been fully engaged on getting to grips with their studies, whilst balancing this with a hectic after-school schedule for many. Basketball training, swimming, the school band

and guitar club are in full swing, and I thank the teachers for their hard work in respect of this.

As I mentioned in the main newsletter, a Secondary School Council has been elected. The Council members are:

Year 7: Chloe, Martin.

Year 8: Ye Zu, Jun Ha.

Year 9: Victoria, Emmet, Anne Sophie.

Year 10: Capucine, Diana.

Year 11: Hyun Ji, Bo Moon.

6<sup>th</sup> Form: Wootie, Eloise.

Well done to you all, we will meet next Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> at 12.30 (room to be announced early next week).

In assembly this week we talked about 'Change' and how this impacts upon our lives, and how we can prepare ourselves to cope with it. A key lesson to be learned was that not everything we face can be changed, but nothing can be changed until we face it. Change I chose as a topic as our Year 9 student Fumiya left our school today, and we wanted him to be positive in facing the changes he would encounter. As part of the goodbye we read a farewell poem and a Haiku to wish him luck on his new life. Goodbye and good wishes from all the students and staff of our school.

A pleasant weekend to you all,

Best regards,  
Wayne Billington  
Head of Secondary

## BISC Wroclaw Advisory Board

What is the Advisory Board?

The Advisory Boards exists to ensure that the school is well run. It helps decide the direction, focus and ethos of the school, and has a special duty to represent and communicate with parents.

What does the Advisory Board do?

Board members discuss and have input on:

- The annual School Development Plan
- School policies on issues such as discipline, dress, sport, bullying and homework
- How the school budget will be spent
- How the school will try to reach performance targets
- Repair& maintenance of school buildings and health & safety
- Areas of concerns
- Staff appointments and dismissals
- Marketing.

Benefits of becoming a Board member

There is a lot to gain from becoming a Board member. As a member, you will have the opportunity to:

- Gain an idea of how the school is run and how the education system works as a whole
- Enjoy the personal satisfaction and sense of achievement of working to improve the school
- Enjoy using your skills for the good of the school community

What is involved in being a Board member?

Being a member of the Board requires energy, enthusiasm and a reasonable time commitment. The Board usually consists of approximately 10 members.

Board meetings take place once every two months in the evening. On occasion, an extraordinary meeting may be called. Board members make a commitment to serve for a minimum of one year, but can stay longer, and often choose to do so.

## ISBC (Formerly Red House Book Club)

ISBC is an international schools' book club to which BISC Wrocław has subscribed since 2006. Every term we send out catalogues to all parents, and about a week later orders are despatched to England by the school. The more you buy, the more our school library benefits, as we get free books to the value of 20% of the total order. A lot of the books in the library have been ordered from the RedHouse over the past four years, and this is thanks to the generous size of our parents' orders!

If you would like to place an order, please read below to make sure you follow the correct procedure:

1. Fill in the form at the back of the catalogues, ticking the books of your choice;
2. Convert the cost of the books into zloties, using the exchange rate of 5.00 PLN.
3. Add 25% to your total amount in order to cover the cost of postage, packing and bank charges;
4. Return the order to Ms Kasia, together with the correct amount of money, by 30th September.

Catalogues can be collected from the main office or you can access it at

<http://flipflashpages.uniflip.com/2/18784/66980/pub/>

If any of you would like more information about the International Schools Book Club, here is their website:

<http://clubs.scholastic.co.uk/Europe>



## Foundation Nature Walk

Autumn is a beautiful time of year with all leaves changing colours. Children wonder why it happens, so it is a great opportunity to use the power of science to show them the separate leaf colours and to explain how the leaves actually change colours.

This is also the best time of year to go for a nature walk with the children, and talk about the senses and explore them outdoors.

A simple way to get children involved with nature and creating art at the same time was our Nature Walk.

Children have got paper bags and collected various items that they have found outside, such as, rocks, leaves, small sticks, and chestnuts. When we got back from our walk we shared what we had found. We glued them onto a piece of paper to make a beautiful autumn collage.

Iza Łuczowska

Foundation Stage Teacher

# AROUND BISC WROCLAW



A brief introduction to parents at BISC Wrocław