



**BELVEDERE**  
British School

# BELVEDERE NEWSLETTER

25 October 2018 – Edition (188)

## News and Events

### Diary Dates

#### Week 8 Autumn

**2nd  
Parents' Coffee Morning**  
28 Oct 2018 @08:00

**BBS Book Fair**  
28th Oct– 1st Nov 2018  
07:30 to 3:30

**1st Parents' Evening**  
29 Oct 2018  
@16:00-18:00

**A Level Options Event  
for Students @13:20**  
4 Nov 2018

**A Level Options Event  
for Parents @17:00-18:30**  
6 Nov 2018

**Prophet Muhammad  
Birthday (to be confirmed)**  
20 Nov 2018

**Science Week**  
Starts 25 Nov 2018

**3rd  
Parents' Coffee Morning**  
25 Nov 2018 @08:00

**Martyr's Day/  
Commemoration Day**  
29 Nov 2018 (TBC)

**UAE National Day**  
2-3 Dec 2018 (TBC)

Dear Parents,

I hope that you are all well and that you and your families had a relaxing half term break. My family and I enjoyed spending time savouring Abu Dhabi's many attractions and events, including watching one of my favourite sports at Zayed Cricket Stadium. Whatever you did, I hope that you enjoyed it and that you and your children were happy to return to school for the remainder of this week.

As it has only been a two day week for us here at school I will keep my message brief. We focused on our values of **Community and Citizenship**, particularly in our British school of a truly international composition.

In order to help strengthen our community, I would ask you to do at least one of these things:

1. Apply to be a member of the BBS Board of Governors (BoG);
2. Volunteer to be a representative on the BBS Parents' Association (PA);
3. Bake something for our Bake Off on Sunday 28th October and purchase items on sale;
4. Support our Book Fair, as 25% of sales will be used to fund BBS Library purchases.

For 1) please email me [principal@belvederebritishschool.com](mailto:principal@belvederebritishschool.com)

For 2) please email Ms. Maria [m.domingo@belvederebritishschool.com](mailto:m.domingo@belvederebritishschool.com)

For 3) please follow the instructions included in this newsletter. I look forward to hearing from you and welcoming your participation very soon.

Many thanks for your continued support,

**Ciarán Cunningham-Watson**  
Principal  
Belvedere British School



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## Letter from School Principal

We strive to provide our students with the highest quality of education and of care, however, we can only accomplish this effectively with the continued support of families. We are grateful to receive suggestions from families to help us make improvements and feedback in order to address any serious concerns that may arise.

We would like to make the process as easy as possible for a complainant to submit their complaint to us and we accept that the process should be simple, impartial, timely, honest and reasonably flexible. We appreciate all assistance we receive from you in this way, knowing that we wish to make Belvedere British School a memorable learning environment for your child, and can only do that when any existing problems are brought to our attention. We will do all that we can to ensure that complaints are dealt with seriously and respectfully by all members of our staff, and we hope that all others will respect this vital procedure equally.

We will record the progress of each complaint from the moment it is brought to our attention, including details of all actions taken in response to achieve a resolution and the outcomes of those actions. The BBS Administration staff will hold these records and parents can be assured that all concerns and complaints will be treated seriously and confidentially.

- All parents are members of the BBS Community and have the right to make a comment or complaint about any services, activities, experiences or the way that they are treated.
- Staff at school and in other services must listen to parental complaints and let them know the outcome.
- If any parents have a complaint about any aspect of the school, they should raise it to the attention at the School Reception, so that it is appropriately lodged as a complaint; it would help if they tried to provide a solution too.
- The Administration Staff will log the complaint and pass it on to the most appropriate person to deal with it in the first instance.

- |   |
|---|
| 1. Primary Class Teacher/Secondary Form Teacher               |
| 2. Head of Key Stage/Assistant Principal Pastoral – Mrs. Anam |
| 3. Head of Primary/Secondary – Mrs. Leanne/Mr. Tony           |
| 4. Principal – Mr. Ciaran                                     |
| 5. BBS Board of Governors                                     |
| 6. ADEK   |

The full BBS Complaints Policy, along with all BBS policies, will be made available on Engage very soon.

**Ciarán Cunningham-Watson**  
**Principal**  
**Belvedere British School**



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## **Letter from the Vice Principal/ Head of Secondary**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to everyone in Secondary even though it has only been two days. The new academic year has started off really well and the first half-term has set the standard for the rest of the year. All of our students have completed their continual assessments and now we need to stay focussed and achieve our goals this term.

### **Parents Evening:**

On Monday 29th October we will be having our Secondary School Parents Evening for Years 7-13. It will commence at 4pm and finish at 6pm. This will be a perfect opportunity to speak with your child's teachers and discuss their progress this term.

### **Bake Off:**

On Sunday 28th October we have our Great British Bake Off competition. Mr Ciaran has already sent out information regarding this but it would be great for Secondary mums and dads to get involved as well. Our Secondary teachers will be taking part including myself. These cakes will be available during our Coffee morning. Please bring in lots of money.

### **Coffee Morning:**

Also on Sunday we have our half term parental coffee morning. This particular coffee morning will be extra special due to the fact we have cakes to try from our Bake Off competition - see above. All Secondary parents are more than welcome.

### **Uniform:**

Secondary students are looking amazing and teachers and parents are commenting on how smart and neat our BBS Secondary students look. Let's keep this up for the rest of the academic year. For those small number of students who are not wearing the correct uniform I would like parents to rectify the situation as soon as they can.

Have a great weekend,

**Mr Tony**

**Vice Principal/ Head of Secondary**



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## Letter from the Head of Primary

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your children had a wonderful mid-term break. Its lovely to see everyone back to school and fully refreshed.

### **Belvedere Bakeoff Coffee Morning**

We have some wonderful things ahead for this half term. Starting with the Belvedere Bake off which will take place on Sunday 28th October. We kindly request that you bake a cake for the event so we can sell it to raise money for charity. Our staff are getting involved so why don't you? The coffee morning is also the perfect opportunity to have a cake and a chat with other parents to discuss things with like-minded people. I will also be giving suggestions on some wonderful activities that you can do at home with your children.

### **Uniform**

I am continuing to crack down on non-uniform offenders so please do ensure your children are coming to school wearing the correct uniform. Not wearing the correct uniform can have a negative effect on your child's day. My advice as a mum myself is to prepare the uniform the night before so that it is ready and there's no need to go hunting for items of clothing the next day. Whatever is thrown at you in the morning at least your children will be prepared for the day ahead.

### **Homework**

We have had several parents voice their concerns about the number of books the students bring home for homework. Starting from November 1st, there will be one book only for the British Curriculum subjects. All homework will go out on a Thursday and must be returned on a Tuesday. The books will then be marked and sent again on Thursday. This will apply for all of primary and for every subject.

### **United Nations Day**

We had a fantastic United Nations day yesterday and celebrated all our wonderful differences. The children drew their own flags and wore them as a badge during our morning assembly. They also spoke about their country to their peers allowing them to find out about different places around the world.

### **Celebrations**

I am very pleased to announce that 60 primary students were awarded Bronze Attendance Awards certificates for 100% attendance for the last half term. Well done to all those who came to school every day.

I wish you and your families a very wonderful weekend.

Mrs Leanne Woodward  
Head of Primary



Dear Parents,

Our primary students (years 1-6) will be taking part in an international competition called Word Mania. The competition allows students to improve their spelling. Parents and teachers are always trying to find ways to improve a child spelling and now we have Word Mania to help us.

The aim of the activity is to create as many words as they can using a given number of letters. The school with the most points win!

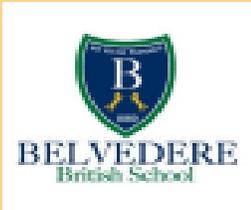
The program can be downloaded on apple store and Android. More details will follow in the coming days. The first round will be on the 4th Novemeber.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7T9ltBVrkOk>



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# Letter from the Head of Primary



## KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE



**Drop off is for dropping  
off your child, not for  
parking.**



# Letter from the Director of Studies

Dear Parents,

I would like to introduce myself as the school’s Director of Studies. Each week we will update you on the latest British Curriculum developments. The British National Curriculum is a set of subjects and standards used by Primary and Secondary schools to ensure students learn the same information. It covers what subjects are taught and the standards students should reach in each subject. We start with a basic overview of how the curriculum is created and how we design the BBS timetables.

**Key stages** The National Curriculum is organised into Key Stages (KS). At the end of each key stage, teachers formally assess each child’s performance.

- **Key Stage 1 – Years 1 and 2**
- **Key Stage 2 – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6**
- **Key Stage 3 – Years 7, 8 and 9**
- **Key Stage 4 – Years 10 and 11**
- **Key Stage 5 – Years 12 and 13**

During **Key Stages 1, 2 and 3**, all students are taught the same ten compulsory subjects at varying difficulty levels. The reason for this is to allow students to develop their knowledge each year they are engaged in education.

English	Mathematics	Science	History	Geography
Art and Design	Music	Physical Education (PE)	Computing	Modern Foreign Languages

During **Key Stage 4** the amount of compulsory subjects are reduced by 50% and the school provides an Options Programme of subjects for students to choose to studying in KS4. Options include: The Arts, Design & Technology, The Humanities and Modern Foreign Languages. These curriculum changes occur to encourage students to start thinking about their future careers and allow them to plan for their future.

English	Mathematics	Science	Computing	Physical Education (PE)
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**Key Stage 5/Sixth Form** is a term used to describe the two years of education for students aged 16-18, within the National Curriculum. Key Stage 5 is also the stage of education where students follow more intense and challenging courses in very specific subjects. This stage is the last stage of Secondary education for members of Sixth Form.

When students successfully complete their A levels they will be able to apply for university.

Yours Sincerely,

**Paul Davies**  
**Director of Studies**



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## Pastoral Message

Dear Parents,

This year we are going to focus in more positive and reward based culture in Belvedere British School. We have our new Pastoral System in place and ready to be implemented.

Our student council teams have been elected through elections in secondary. New House System is already introduced and lists are shared with teachers and students. Students will be rewarded with house points for positive attitude in the school. Please contact Class/Form teachers if you have any enquiries about your children's houses.

**Mrs Anam Zulfiqar**

**Assistant Principal Pastoral**

[pastoral@belvederebritishschool.com](mailto:pastoral@belvederebritishschool.com)

# Attendance Letter

## Attendance Matters



Dear Parents,

A child who is late for 12 minutes each day for a whole week loses 1 hour their learning. It is very important to ensure that your children are in school on time everyday.

We begin each day at 7:30 sharp. Please ensure your child arrives at least 5 minutes before the start time. The playground doors open at 7:10am.

If your child arrives after 7:30am, they are LATE. You cannot hold us accountable for the academic success of your child, if your children are not on time and present to learn.

Our aim is for attendance to be its highest compared to previous years. I know that we can do it because **you** want your children to succeed just as much as we do here at BBS.

### What are we doing to improve attendance?

If your child has-

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| ● 100% attendance for a full half term | = Bronze Attendance Award  |
|  | = Bronze Punctuality Award |
| ● 100% attendance for a full term      | = Silver Attendance Award  |
|  | = Silver Punctuality Award |
| ● 100% attendance for a full year      | = Gold Attendance Award.   |
|  | = Gold Punctuality Award   |

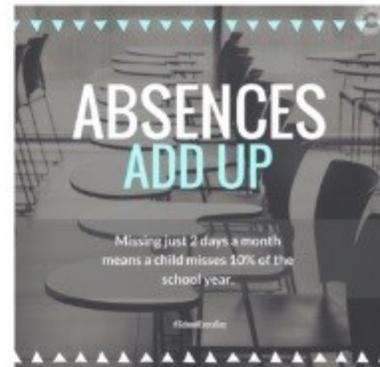
The class with the highest attendance, will win the Attendance Stars Class award .

The class with the highest punctuality rate, will win the Punctuality Stars Class award.

### How can you help?

You can support us by:

- Sending your child to school daily and on time.
- Discussing with your child that it's important for them to come to school.
- Celebrating their success with them.



# News from Year 3C



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In PE this week we have been doing different activity stations! Students practiced different hand eye co-ordination skills by doing activities from throwing hoops, ball catching, batting and bouncing.

Miss Elizabeth van Graan  
Year 3C Teacher



# United Nations Day



**BELVEDERE**  
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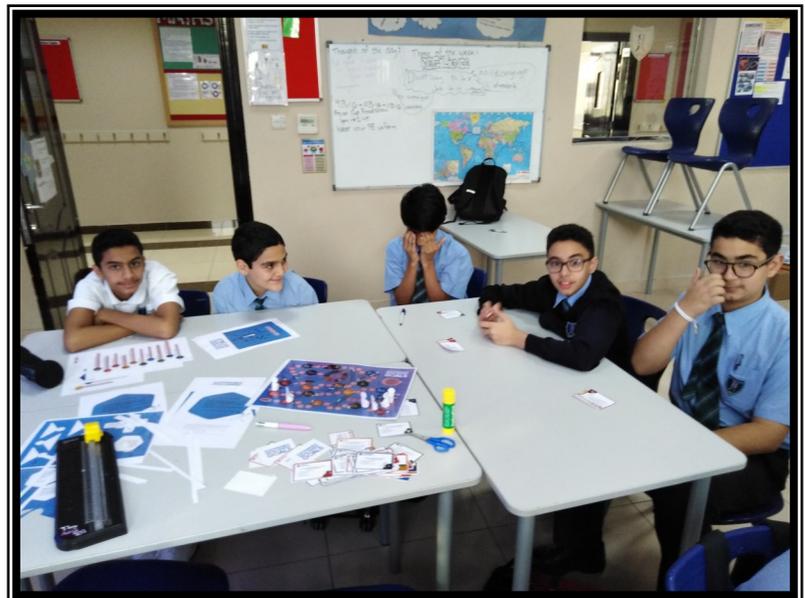


# United Nations Day



**BELVEDERE**  
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10B2 had a great tremendous time playing the United Nations Sustainable Development board game. They also learned about the role of the UN.



**Miss Aoife Flynn**  
Geography Teacher



# School uniform

**Dear Parents,**

Within Belvedere British School we have a strong history, vision and ethos for our students which encourages strong minds, independence, academic rigor and community spirit. With that we also want our students to feel part of the BBS family. The way this is shown is through engaging in school life, meeting our expectations and striving to accomplish their goals. Meeting our expectations encompasses wearing the correct school uniform which publically displays the students' acknowledgment and respect for Belvedere British School values and traditions.

Attached is a breakdown of our school uniform requirements. Can you please take some time to view the attachment and provide your child with the correct uniform as this is a vital component of your child's school life. We will be monitoring uniform infringements closely as with all aspects of your child's academic life. If there are continuous uniform infringements we will impose our uniform sanctions as stated in our Uniform Policy.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Kind regards



Tony McSheffrey

*Vice Principal*  
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Tel: +971-2-5090000  
Fax: +971-2-5599986  
[www.belvederebritishschool.com](http://www.belvederebritishschool.com)



**Important**

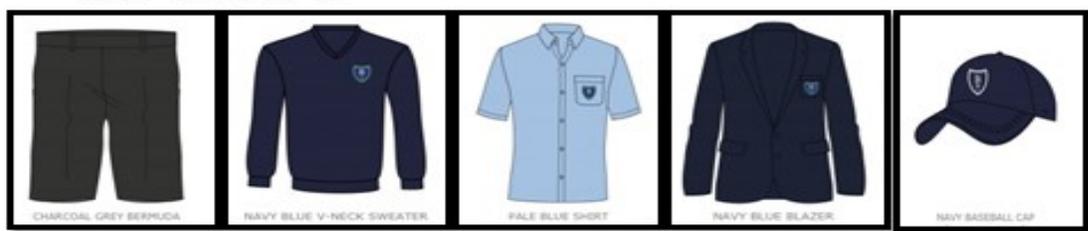
# School uniform

## Boys' summer

FS2



## Year 1-Year 3



## Year 4-Year 13



## Boys' Sports Kit

FS2- Year 13



**Important**

# School uniform

## Boys' winter

FS2



## Year 1- Year 3



## Year 4- Year 13



**Important**

# School uniform

## Girls' summer

FS2



## Year 1- Year 3



## Year 4- Year 13



## Girls' sports kit

FS2- Year 13



**Important**

# School uniform

## Girls' winter

FS2

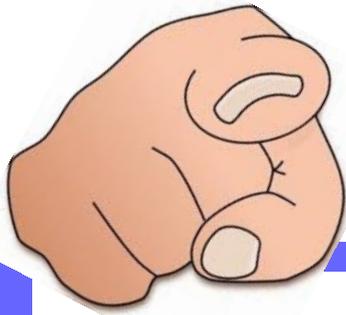


## Year 1- Year 3



## Year 4-Year 13





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## **Join us as a member of the BBS Board of Governors (BoG)!**

The Belvedere British School BoG work in partnership with BBS Senior and Middle Leaders and other members of the school community, to raise standards and improve outcomes for all children, staff and parents.

The BoG work on a range of school areas, including; finance, infrastructure, safeguarding, medical and health and safety, academic curricula, resources, public relations and marketing, discipline, complaints and employee affairs, as well as other areas that arise.

If you would like to put yourself forward as a BBS Governor, or would like to know more information, please contact Mr. Ciaran directly [principal@belvederebritishschool.com](mailto:principal@belvederebritishschool.com)

Meetings take place four times each academic year and we welcome people who would like to contribute to discussions on school related topics and help make a real difference to life at BBS.



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## Announcing the BBS Bake Off!

At the last Parents' Coffee Morning, we decided to have a monthly bake sale here at Belvedere British School, to help raise money for our charitable projects. In the spirit of all things British, we will also have a bit of fun and competition at the same time. The new BBS Bake Off is where we will find out who the master bakers of the BBS Community are and it is open to parents, students and staff. There will be a competition and bake sale on the last Sunday of each month.

Please bake your chosen delicacy (cake, cupcakes, buns, suffelees, chocolates, pastries...) and when it is finished, take a picture of it in its full glory, before you cut it up into saleable portions. This picture will be printed out here at school and put beside the item(s) that you have given in to be sold.

Take another picture of you (and any helpers you may have) with the finished product, as proof that you actually baked it. Send that picture into Ms Maria [m.domingo@belvederebritishschool.com](mailto:m.domingo@belvederebritishschool.com) This picture will be used after the voting is completed, to reveal the winning bakers in the BBS Newsletter.

The baked treats that parents, students and staff bring in will be sold at each Parents' Coffee Morning and students and staff will have the opportunity to purchase during break and lunchtimes and after school.

During the day of each bake sale, people will vote on their favourite item in two categories 1) Presentation (why the picture is important) and 2) Taste.

We look forward to receiving your baked items at our inaugural BBS Bake Off day, on Sunday 28th October!

# Follow Us



Official Belvedere British  
School Parents Communication  
Group



**belvedere2012**



<http://belvederebritishschool.com>



<http://bbserver.dyndns.org:14145>

Midwest  
**BOOK  
FAIR**



**BELVEDERE**  
British School

**BELVEDERE BRITISH  
SCHOOL**

**28th Oct - 1st  
Nov 2018**

**7.30am - 3.30pm**



ATTENTION!



# **1st Parents' Evening**

**Monday, 29 Oct 2018**

**@16:00-18:00**

**Book your appointments on Engage**

**Important**

# ATTENTION!



**Start**

## OF THE DAY

**7:25**

Bell Ring- Students go to their classroom  
(Primary and Secondary)

**7:30**

**Form Registration Time**

**7:35 AM**

**Side Doors Close**  
-No Entry to classrooms/Assembly Yard  
-Late Students wait in the Foyer

**7:40**

**ASSEMBLY**

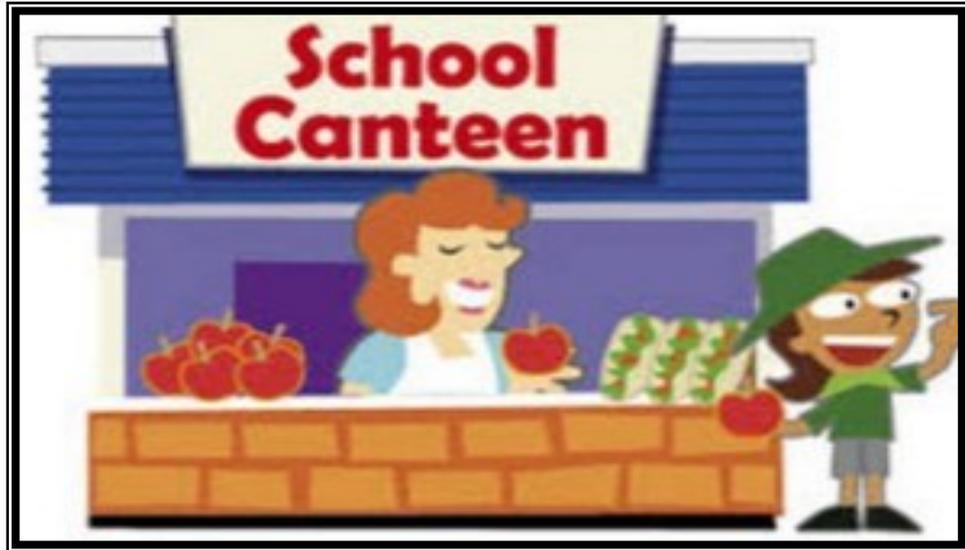
**7:55**

**Period 1**

**Important**

**ATTENTION!**

Available  
**NOW**



## Canteen Newsletter

We are pleased to have our new catering company, Raptors - delivering meals to students and staff of BBS.

Raptors' vouchers are available to purchase as whole booklets from the Finance Department office. They come in booklets of different values: 100 Dhs, 150 Dhs, 200 Dhs, 300 Dhs, 450 Dhs and 500 Dhs.

If you have any remaining old vouchers, please take them to the Finance Department, to exchange them for cash.