



BELVEDERE
British School

BELVEDERE NEWSLETTER

29 November 2018 – Edition (193)

News and Events

Diary Dates

Week 13 Autumn

UAE National Day
2-3 Dec 2018
School Closed

Controlled Assessment
4-13 Dec 2018

Term 1 Ends
13 Dec 2018

Winter Break
14 Dec '18 - 05 Jan '19

Term 2 Starts
6 Jan 2019

Year 10 & Year 11
Emirates Auto Museum Trip
20 Jan 2019

Year 10 Saadiyat Beach Trip
21 Jan 2019

4th
Parents' Coffee Morning
27 Jan 2019 @08:00

3rd BBS Bake Off
27 Jan 2019

Year 5
Eastern Mangroves Kayak Tour
27 Jan 2019

Year 3 & Year 4
Eastern Mangroves Kayak Tour
27-29 Jan 2019

BBS Open Day
17 Jan 2019
(TBC)

BBS International Day
31 Jan 2019
(TBC)

Dear Parents,

Happy UAE National Day to you all. The United Arab Emirates is still a relatively young country. Still forging its own proud characteristics, achievements and celebrations of what continues to make it unique. So what makes The UAE special, in its own right and in comparison with others?

In this Year of Zayed, it is apt to start with the achievements of the nation's founding father:

- He pursued a visionary path in establishing a modern, forward thinking nation. Bringing the leaders and the people of the Emirates together to form a strong union.
- Bringing people from all over the world to share in this new beginning.
- Creating a solid infrastructure to lay the foundations for the future.
- His belief in the cooperation and cohabitation of people together, working for the common good of all who reside in the UAE.
- Charitable and humanitarian works.
- Leaving a legacy of hard work and determination for all to pursue, to achieve and celebrate.

The fruits of H.H.'s labours are many and we only have to look around us today to see our fine school. The buildings, our multinational community, who in turn come from areas that offer different attractions, amenities and opportunities.

Under the leadership and protection of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and the leaders of the other Emirates, The UAE has accomplished great things through knowledge and innovation, including being a country with residents from over 200 countries, high literacy, numeracy and life expectancy rates, leading in oil extraction and production, having a world leading GDP, member of World Trade Organisation, a nuclear energy provider, world's largest solar power plant, home of the world's richest horse race, a venue on the European Golf Tour, showcase end of its season event, Burj Khalifa world's tallest man made building, home of the most visited place on the planet (Dubai Mall), Abu Dhabi Grand Prix the pinnacle of the truly world wide sport, cloned the world's first camel (which gave birth) and Expo 2020 heralding in the introduction of the Hyperloop, the sky is not even the limit, with April 2019 scheduled to see the first Emirati in space, then Mars exploration planned for 2021...

Most of all, The UAE is a world leader in safety and happiness - which, for our school community are our absolute priorities for our children. How can we be sure we continue to make our children safe, happy and ready for the future? Paraphrasing Sir Isaac Newton, 'The reason we are able to see so far into the future is because we stand on the shoulders of giants!' So, be thankful for our shared UAE heritage and let us celebrate and work together for a future of shared successes.

I wish you all a holiday weekend filled with occasions to both celebrate and relax,

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



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



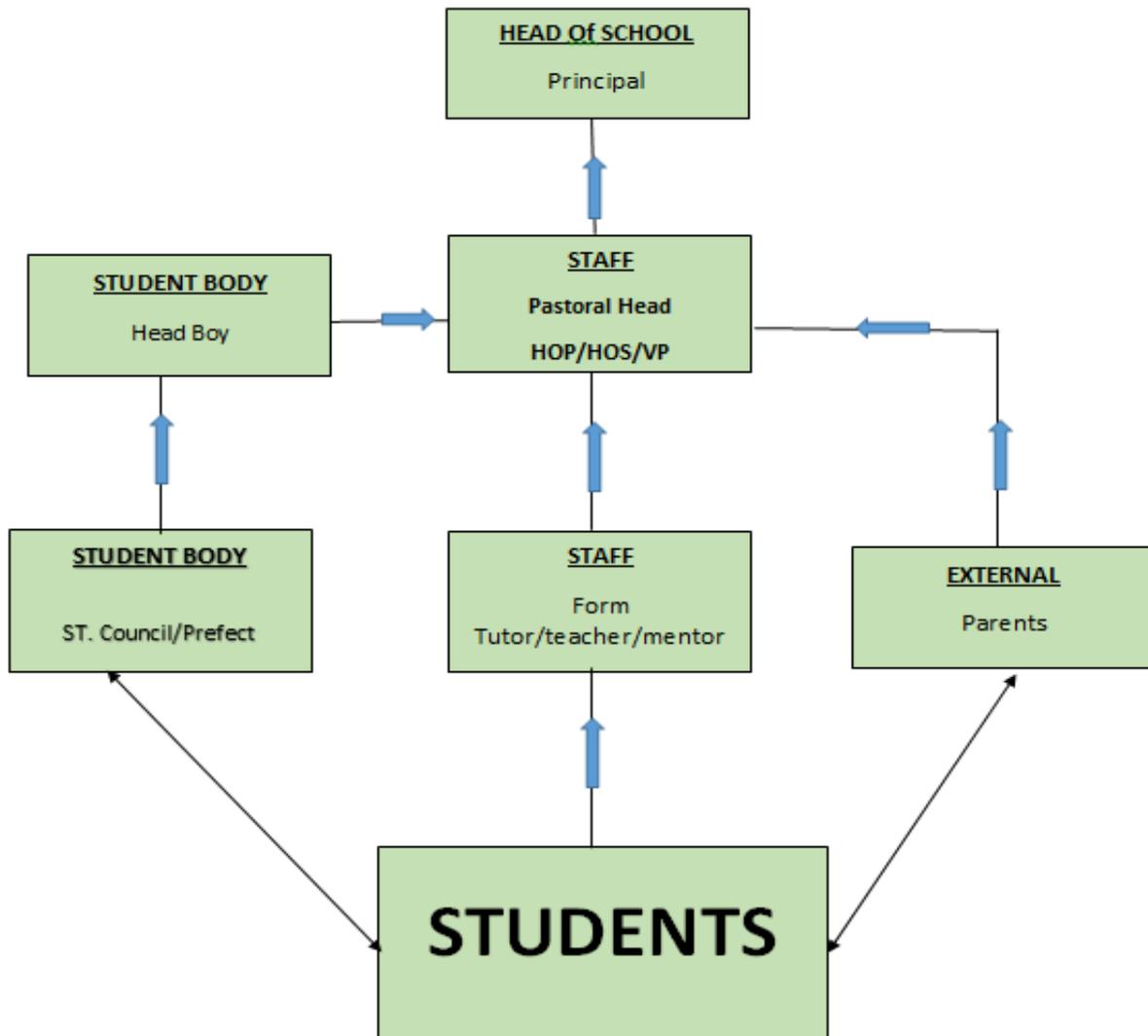
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Pastoral Message



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Students' Voice – How do we hear it?



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 |

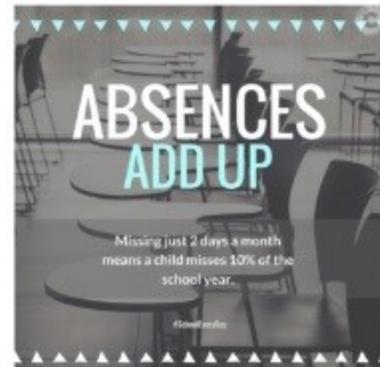
The class with the highest attendance, will win the Attendance Stars Class award .

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.



Commemoration Day at BBS



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BBS Celebrates 47th UAE National Day



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Photos Credit to:
Miss Francheska Camacho



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News from English Department

BBS PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION!

Come and join us here at Belvedere on Tuesday 15th January 2019 at 3pm for our in house competition.

Competitors from our debating club have been busy preparing their speeches on a plethora of topics and are ready to inspire you.

Come along ... as you may learn something new.



Come and show your support – parents welcome.

Mrs. Zoe, Miss Shanice and Ms. Louise
English Department



Two 'runners up' for the Anti-Bullying Story Competition

“Treat people as you wish to be treated”

By Hamda AlHammadi Y9G

I am here today to share my story, which taught me an important lesson that most people need to learn.

It all began when I was in Grade 9, I was a normal girl in class that no one wanted to get into trouble with. It was my second year in this school, but this year my sister was joining our school for 7th grade because her old school was only for primary. Of course I had friends but not everyone was my friend...

It was the first day of school. I went to my class and realised everyone in 8th grade are still in this school so basically all my friends were in class. I sat down with my friends and as we went about 5 minutes into our form time our teacher stood right in the middle with a girl of our age next to her. “Girls, this year a new girl is joining us!” I ended up not paying attention to anything else she said because one of my friends stated talking about what she was wearing, what she looked like and her skin colour, most of the girls started laughing at her during break and lunch almost every day, I could see she noticed them laughing, she also sat alone every single lesson.

The days passed and the same routine was repeated. Her sitting alone and being laughed at, I usually didn't laugh with them anymore because I started to get fed up with it. Then when I went back home one day I realised my sister was sobbing her eyes out, I asked her for the reason she told me it was some girls in class bullying her because it was her first year in school and because of her differences. Eventually my parents found out and went to school to sort it out.

Then it hit me what did that girl in our class do to get bullied and laughed at? Are her differences the reason she is getting bullied? I had to do something. I went to school the next day and as usual she was getting laughed at in break. I stood up from my seat, all of them started asking me why I am standing up. I started talking “you wouldn't like to be treated like this would you? No of course! So stop!” And as I finished my sentence I grabbed my stuff and left. I sat beside her, hoping to start a new page with her. “I am sorry” I apologized. “It's ok, I am used to it by now” we had a long conversation. She was fun after all. We had a lot of characteristics in common actually.

Since that day we became the best of friends, the other girls actually apologized too! I was surprised. I promised myself to not bully anyone again because of their looks or differences, because everyone has feelings, just like I do, just like we do. Our community is stronger together, our differences can bring us together.

STOP BULLYING!

Mrs Zoe Cunningham-Watson
English Teacher



Two 'runners up' for the Anti-Bullying Story Competition

Anti-Bullying Story

Going to school alone can be nerve racking. When people pick on you that'll only make it worse. This is something really common, bullying. As a victim of bullying I'd like to tell you some of my experiences and what I went through.

You might be thinking, why me? What did I do to deserve being picked on? Although this isn't an excuse, many bullies have issues with themselves or at home have family abuse or neglect. Some might just have insecurities of their own. This causes the child to have built up anger that makes them want to release it out. Therefore they tend to take it out during school to make other people feel what they feel. Making them insecure and feel unsafe.

As I said earlier many children that are a victim of bullying have really bad insecurities. Since I've personally gone through this for years I'd like to tell you my experience. Having curly hair wasn't always the most attractive thing. Having students point out and say "there is a bush in there" then laugh still is ingrained in my memory. Therefore I started straightening my hair everyday and wanting that sleek straight look. As I got older, I realised whenever my friends would see my natural hair after a shower, they would always compliment me and say it looked better. Being the victim isn't easy. After all the compliments I've gotten I still feel insecure, and I don't want you to feel that way. My best friend was also bullied and many more for the exact same reason.

How do I stand-up you may ask? I believe that going to an older student and asking for advice is a great idea. Most likely they would know what to do and how to give you advice. If your parents are supportive then tell them. Most of the time parents may get too emotional and barge into school; telling an older student may be more comfortable.

To conclude I'd like to say that although you might seem to be alone, you aren't. Many people as they grow older will have this to shape them as a person to become a strong independent woman/man. Talk to someone about it that you trust and again, know that you aren't alone.

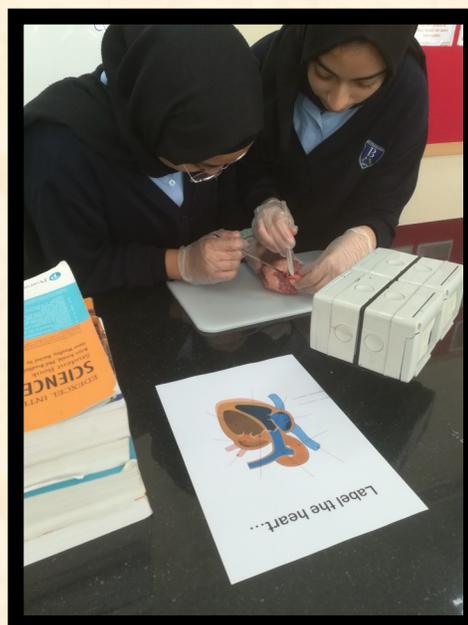
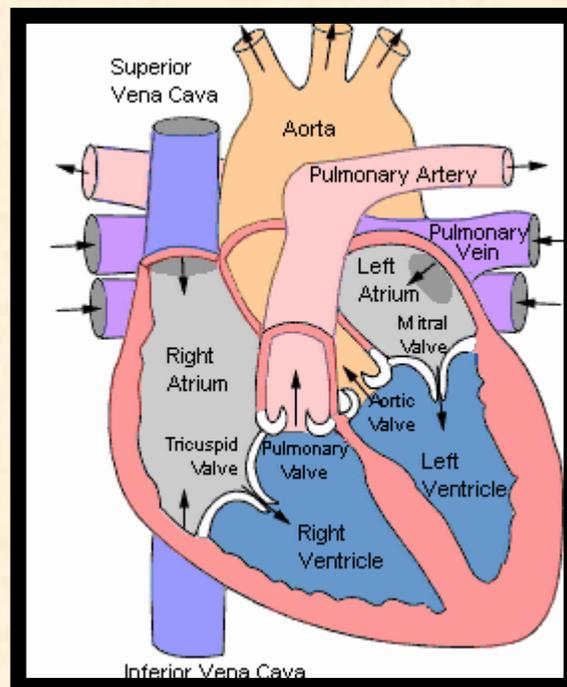
By Nura Y9G

Mrs Zoe Cunningham-Watson
English Teacher



Year 10 Girls investigated the structure of heart and analysed how it works with Mr Siam (HoD Science).

Heart is one of your body's most important organs. Essentially a pump, the **heart** is a muscle made up of four chambers separated by valves and divided into two halves. Each half contains one chamber called an atrium and one called a ventricle.



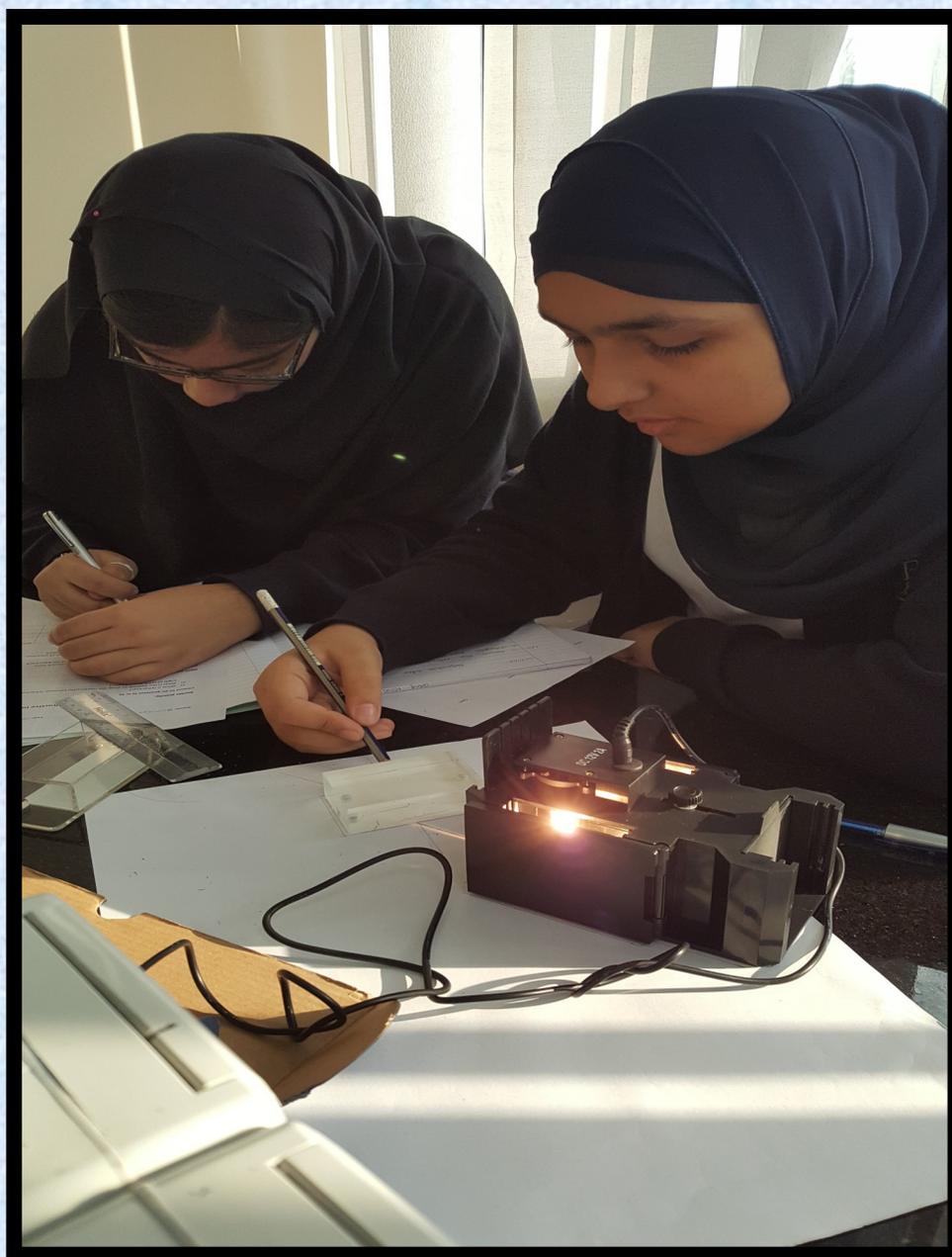
**Photos Credit to:
Ms Remya Praveen**



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News from Science Department

The Year 10G1 girls investigating the refractive index of glass using a glass block.



Mr Pádraig Guiney
Science Teacher

REFRACTION