



BELVEDERE

British School

Diary Dates

Week 1 Autumn

**Curriculum Presentation
“Meet the Teacher”
12 Sept 2018 @16:00**

**Islamic New Year
13 Sept 2018
Thursday
School Close**

**Student Benchmark
Testing Presentation
26 Sept 2018 @16:00**

**1st
Parent Coffee Morning
30 Sept 2018 @08:00**

**Term 1
Continuous Assessment
7-18 Oct 2018**

**Term 1
Midterm Break
21-23 Oct 2018**

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

BELVEDERE NEWSLETTER

6 September 2018 – Edition (181)

News and Events

Dear Parents,

It is an honour and a privilege for me to address you to the start of a new academic year at Belvedere British School. My family and I had an exciting summer in Ascot and London, a tranquil time in Ireland and an unforgettable tour through beautiful Oman, but our favourite moments were here at home in Abu Dhabi. Whether it is welcoming back families from their holidays, or those of you who are new to BBS, we look forward to a productive and happy time ahead together as a school community.

When I first joined BBS I was instantly aware of just how much potential there was here. Our excellent team of teachers, administration and support staff makes this an outstanding school community to be part of; reflected in the smiles on our children and evidence of their personal and academic development that can be seen in the classrooms and corridors on a daily basis. This is very much a team effort and by working together, with a child-centred focus, we can ensure the continued development of the school community and all of its members.

As a continually growing and developing school, we have to change and adapt. We do this to try and provide the best environment and educational experience for all of our children. Sometimes we can be proactive and start initiatives that we believe are in the best interests for us all, for the moment and for the future. On other occasions we have to react to changing demands, trends and even emergencies. Whatever the stimulus may be, what counts are that the actions taken are for the best interests of the greater school community and for the benefit of our children. I would like to share one of my favourite Aesop's fables with you:

A man and his son were once going with their donkey to market. As they were walking along by its side a countryman passed them and said: "You fools, what is a donkey for but to ride upon?"

So the man put the boy on the donkey and they went on their way. But soon they passed a group of men, one of whom said: "See that lazy youngster, he lets his father walk while he rides."

So the man ordered his boy to get off, and got on himself. But they hadn't gone far when they passed two women, one of whom said to the other: "Shame on that lazy lout to let his poor little son trudge along."

Well, the Man didn't know what to do, but at last he took his Boy up before him on the donkey. By this time they had come to the town, and the passers-by began to jeer and point at them. The man stopped and asked what they were scoffing at. The men said: "Aren't you ashamed of yourself for overloading that poor donkey of yours - you and your hulking son?"

The man and boy got off and tried to think what to do. They thought and they thought, till at last they cut down a pole, tied the donkey's feet to it, and raised the pole and the donkey to their shoulders. They went along amid the laughter of all who met them till they came to market bridge, when the donkey, getting one of his feet loose, kicked out and caused the Boy to drop his end of the pole. In the struggle the donkey fell over the bridge and his fore-feet being tied together he was drowned.

"That will teach you!" said an old man who had followed them:

"PLEASE ALL, AND YOU WILL PLEASE NONE."

When parents want what is best for the child, they have to do what is right for the school. All of the staff here at Belvedere British School, Abu Dhabi provide an environment, curriculum and experience of a British school that reflects the best in British education. As parents and staff together, we incorporate and celebrate, the eclectic mix of cultures and identities that make up our school community. We have a lot of work to get down, as parents and educators and expectations for ourselves and our children can be set high; we shall achieve them by working together as a **TEAM**, because **Together Everybody Achieves More!**

With all the best wishes for a happy, productive and successful school year for us all!

Ciarán Cunningham-Watson
Principal
Belvedere British School



Letter from the Vice Principal/ Head of Secondary

Welcome:

Welcome back to what will be another incredible school year at Belvedere British School. If you are new to our school, then I would like to extend a warm welcome to you from myself Mr Tony – Vice Principal and Head of Secondary – and all of the wonderful staff in Secondary. I am looking forward to seeing all of our students who are refreshed from their break and ready to learn and excited to face the challenges ahead of a new school year.

Staff News:

It has been a pleasure to welcome some new members of staff this term. Ms Zandilee will teach girls PE, Ms Louella will teach Music and Ms Shanice will teach English. We also welcome Mr Conor our new History and Moral Education teacher, Mr Peter our new Math's teacher, Mr Simon our new French teach and finally Ms Natalie our new Chemistry teacher. I wish these new members of staff every happiness and success as they join us and am sure that they will soon feel at home at Belvedere British School and part of the team.

Cultivate excellence and Expectations:

As we continue to move forward with our strategy to constantly strive to streamline, clarify and improve every aspect of school life for our students and community within Belvedere British School, we have changed certain elements of our school. Our school day has moved from 6 to 7 period per day allowing us to enhance our core subject teaching provision. We have also added new Music and French subjects to offer a broader and more balanced and relevant curriculum for our students. We will be offering Cross Curricular Programmes which will allow students to partake in extra sports, academic studies and creative activities throughout the year. Along with our curriculum changes we will be introducing a new House system. This will reinforce our core values and vision for our students. There will be competitions, sporting activities and numerous opportunities for awards and certificates. Students will have the opportunity to really involve themselves in all aspects of BBS life.

Coupled with our improvement plans will be our never changing high expectations for our students. At Belvedere British School we expect all students to thrive, excel and meet their goals both academically and socially. For our students to progress, achieve and gain the best experience out of their time in school they will need to fully engage with Belvedere British School ethos and values. We insist that all students enthusiastically try their best as effort is vitally important virtue in school and in life.

Uniform:

Students have to wear their full school uniform every day (a separate information pack has been emailed to parents). Wearing the correct Belvedere British School uniform demonstrates the students' acceptance of our community and its values and they are clearly part of the BBS family. Uniform compliance will be a priority along with behaviour and academic attainment this year.

Attendance and Punctuality:

For students to achieve and excel within Belvedere British School they need to be in school and on time every day. Tardiness is not a virtue and it is not accepted in school. We require all students to be in school no later than 7.30am each day. Students will be marked as late after 7.35am. At Belvedere British School we are constantly preparing, guiding and training students not only for academic excellence but also for life. Punctuality is important. Attendance has to be over 95% as per ADEK regulations. WE encourage students to obtain between 98% and 100% attendance. Again this is a vital life skill for students.

Resistance:

Students who choose to make the wrong choices this year will be guided and supported to meet our expectations. For those small minority of students who consistently make the wrong choices, either behaviourally or lack of correct uniform, they are clearly showing they refuse to be part of the Belvedere British School ethos and community. For those students we will advise and help parents to find an alternative school so their children can continue their educational journey.

Final thought:

I wish all our students a wonderful, exciting and engaging new academic year at Belvedere British School and hope to see many more parents become part of our community as well.

Kind regards

**Mr Tony McSheffrey
Vice Principal and Head of Secondary**



Letter from the Head of Primary

Welcome - From the Head of Primary

There is nothing more pleasing than the smiles and sounds of children being back in school. We want school to be the best part of your child's day and a place where children feel happy and engaged, and where parents feel welcome and involved. We are anticipating a great year with high expectations for all! I would like to welcome back all our returning students and parents and offer a very warm welcome to our new families.

As many of you know from our parent orientations, My name is Mrs Leanne Woodward. I am honored to join the BBS family as the Head of Primary. I feel extremely privileged to work with such a dedicated staff, wonderful students and supportive families. I am looking forward to sharing this wonderful journey with you and your children for the academic year 2018-19.

Meeting the Teacher

Your children have settled really well with their class teachers and have been making new friends with the students in their class. I look forward seeing you on our '**Meet the teacher evening**' on **12th September 4-6pm** where it will also be the perfect opportunity to get to know your child's teacher.

Attendance & Punctuality

It has been wonderful to see so many of our students arrive on time. Thank you to all the parents who ensure this happens daily. It is important that your child arrives by 7:25 daily ready for registration which begins at 7:30am. Missing out on registration can unsettle children and make them feel at a disadvantage from other students. Please give them the best chance to succeed.

New Policies & Procedures

We would like 100% parental satisfaction and to ensure that we are on track for this you will see many new policies, procedures and experiences. These will all be shared with you throughout the year however, one of the most exciting changes is the updated Healthy Eating Policy. We want to ensure that your children have a nutritious and balanced diet so that we can give your children the best opportunity to succeed in school and in life. By keeping healthy your children will be more likely to attend school regularly. Please ensure that there are no fizzy drinks, fast foods or confectionary in your child's lunch box.

From Sunday onwards we will have a new pick-up procedure. **All parents should enter through the reception area.** Clear signage will direct you to your child's pick-up location. Please arrive promptly at 2:30pm to collect your children. Doors will open to parents at 2:25.

As a parent you are expected to assist us in safeguarding your children. Please ensure that you have your parent ID ready and visible. If you do not have a parent ID please proceed to reception where you will be able to request one. You will need a passport sized photograph for each person who will be collecting the child. **Please note that If a pass is not worn, we have the right to hold back your child until we can confirm that the person is authorised to collect your child.**

Exciting Opportunities

CCPs

I am very excited to announce that we have updated our CCP program offering our students a variety of activities to take part in, throughout the year. Details of the program will be shared with you in due course.

Parental Participation

We have an exciting parental involvement program coming soon. There will be an opportunity to learn lots of new things about our school, our curriculum and our lessons. You will also meet many like minded parents and supportive teachers to assist you and your families throughout the year. Within the next 2 weeks you will receive a questionnaire to complete. Please give as much information as possible so that a detailed schedule can be prepared which incorporates any suggestions you may have for parental participation. We are always looking for parent trainers and volunteers. If you feel that you have any particular strengths or skills to get involved with school life here at Belvedere then please contact me.

Communication

Your class teacher will be your first point of contact. They will send you regular updates on what your child will be doing during the term.

I wish you and your families a wonderful weekend and look forward to meeting you all very soon.

Mrs Leanne Woodward
Head of Primary



BELVEDERE
British School

Pastoral Message

Hello Everyone,

I hope you and your children had a wonderful summer vacation and great first week in school. Through our pastoral program this year, our aim is to build a positive community in BBS where students will find that they are supported not only by their class teachers during lessons but also by a cohesive staff team that puts the child at the center of all we do.

We have introduced a new house system throughout the school from FS2 to year 13 and we hope that it will be a driving force behind our revised and encouraging reward system. We have high expectations in terms of effort, commitment, behaviour, uniform and appearance but all of this within a caring and supportive environment. Our School Council leadership pathways will be a key feature in BBS to encourage a sense of responsibility in students.

Mrs Anam Zulfiqar

Assistant Principal Pastoral

*Welcome
Back!*

Attendance Letter

Attendance Matters



BELVEDERE
British School

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-

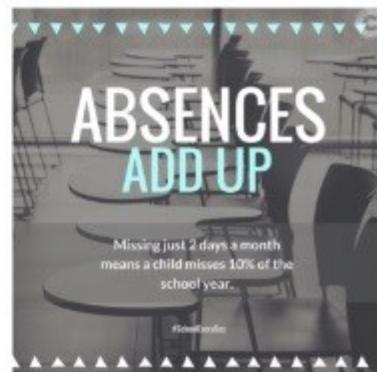
- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 100% attendance for a full half term● 100% attendance for a full term● 100% attendance for a full year | <ul style="list-style-type: none">= Bronze Attendance Award= Bronze Punctuality Award= Silver Attendance Award= Silver Punctuality Award= Gold 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.

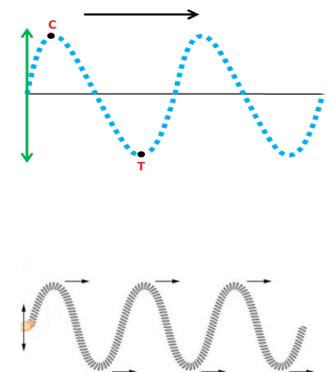


News from Science Department



BELVEDERE
British School

The 10B1 boys demonstrating the difference between longitudinal and transverse waves.



Mr Pádraig Guiney

Important

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 engagement in school life, meeting our expectations and striving to accomplish their goals. Meeting our expectations encompasses wearing the correct school uniform which publicly 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 by Sunday 9th September, 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 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

Mr Tony

Vice Principal

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



CHARCOAL GREY BERMUDA



NAVY BLUE V-NECK SWEATER



PALE BLUE POLO T-SHIRT



NAVY BLUE BLAZER



NAVY BASEBALL CAP



Year 1- Year 3



CHARCOAL GREY BERMUDA



NAVY BLUE V-NECK SWEATER



PALE BLUE SHIRT



NAVY BLUE BLAZER



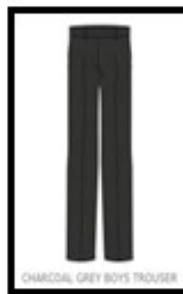
NAVY BASEBALL CAP



CLIP ON TIE



Year 4- Year 13



CHARCOAL GREY BOYS TROUSER



NAVY BLUE V-NECK SWEATER



PALE BLUE SHIRT



NAVY BLUE BLAZER



NAVY BASEBALL CAP



NORMAL TIE



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



Important

ATTENTION!



BELVEDERE
British School

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

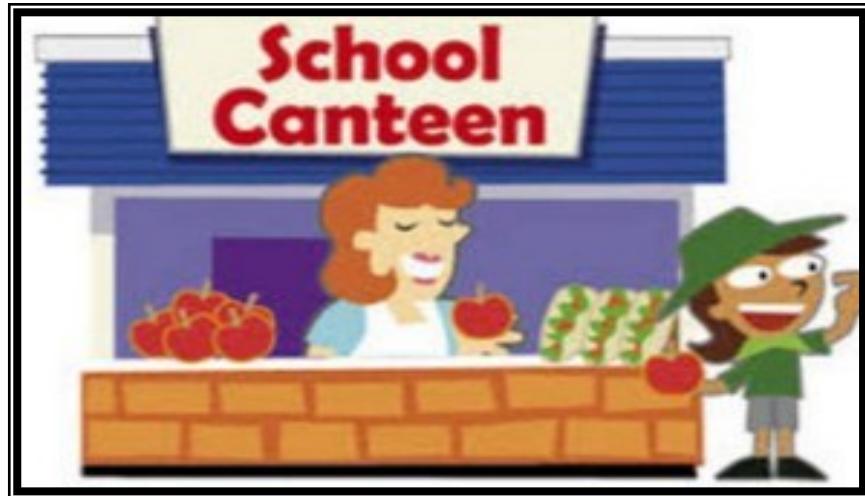
ASSEMBLY

7:55

Period 1

Important

ATTENTION!



Canteen Newsletter

Kindly bring and/or send your children packed snack and lunch as the School Canteen is NOT YET AVAILABLE. Please bear with us and wait for further announcement.

Important

ATTENTION!

**13 Sept 2018
School Close**

**Happy Islamic
New Year!
Al Hijri**