

DIRECTOR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

November 7th, 2021



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21-22 Issue 2/5

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Message from the Director

END OF
QUARTER

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Dear BIS Community,

We have had a great start to our school year and a very busy first quarter at BIS! It has been fantastic and I am really proud of how our students continue to work, the standards they uphold in terms of their conduct, the respect they show to each other and towards the staff members. The resilience that they continue to display in their commitment to being the best that they can be is amazing to see in action. I am pleased to say we have settled back into the normal school routine very well.

As we work through the current school year, we will continue to adapt and make any and all necessary changes in order to ensure the safety of our students and community. We will continue to collect information, monitor development, and follow the latest guidelines from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education. We emphasize continuous improvement as we strive toward our mission to focus on intellectual and individual growth for all students every day. Thank you for your continued support and looking forward to our next second quarter!

In Partnership,
Dr. Zak Palsha

Calendar SY 22-23

The 2022-2023 Calendar is now available. The school year calendar information provides parents with important dates, such as the first day for students for all school levels, PD Days, Holidays, report card distribution and parent-teacher conferences. Parents can download a PDF version or view it from our website online. Click [here](#) to view the calendar.

Zero Cases of COVID at BIS

Since the school year began, BIS has reported zero positive cases of COVID-19 among its students and staff. The figures are compiled weekly by the school nurses at each school levels and posted on the website for transparency. **Reaching zero cases over the first quarter is a significant and encouraging milestone.** It's the result of months of hard work and diligence from our students, teachers and staff in following health and safety guidelines, wearing masks and keeping a physical distance when possible. It's also a measure of how effective vaccines are in preventing the spread of COVID-19. Our COVID Dashboard provides COVID-19 community transmission levels based on indicators calculated using one week of data. Please click [here](#) to view the COVID Dashboard.

Upcoming CIS Accreditation Virtual



In May 2020, BIS was granted "Candidacy for Accreditation" which started the self-study process, the last step of the accreditation journey. During this stage, BIS commenced in a process of understanding and reflection following the blueprint of the school improvement plan. The final step is upon us, BIS will host CIS virtually November 20 – 26 for their team visit. CIS will be meeting with staff, students, parents, senior leaders, other member of the BIS community and the FAWSEC Board of Directors. Furthermore, they will visit classes, recesses and breaks. After the visit, CIS will prepare a final report that will be shared in early 2022. The report will indicate if we are accredited, or not.



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Parent-Teacher Conferences

BIS will be hosting our first round of Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 9 & 10. You will be able to sign up with your child's class teacher via PTCFast. You will have the opportunity to learn about his/her academic, social and emotional progress during your conference time. Please view the sign up schedule and find a convenient time to meet with your child's teacher. You need to reserve your spot by using [PTCFast](#) no later than **Monday, November 8 at 10:00 am**. The timings and dates for both school levels are mentioned in the below "Date to Remember" chart.

Click [here](#) to view the PTCFast guide in English.

Click [here](#) to view the PTCFast guide in Arabic.

Note: Students will have Zoom classes during these days and will be dismissed early.



Parent-Teacher Conferences
November 9 & 10



ANNOUNCEMENT

MyMedBot Application

We would like to thank our families who continue to complete MyMedBot app for their child(ren) each morning prior to school arrival. This app is to help families, faculty and staff self-screen for COVID-19 every morning and have the results go directly to our health team. It helps our school nurses to easily screen for COVID-19 symptoms, and helps us to continue to have zero COVID-19 cases in the BIS community. If you have any questions about MyMedBot, please contact school nurses Felsy.roberts@bis.edu.kw or heba.abouharb@bis.edu.kw.



After-School Activities

BIS is proud to re-introduce the After-School Activities Program. The program supports Elementary, Middle and High School students by providing them opportunities to explore their interests through a range of after-school activities. We have collected information from our survey that we have sent last week. This information will allow us to schedule after-school programming in a way that best meets with the needs and interests of BIS families. After-school clubs registration will start soon. First Session will be starting on. We will be offering more than 15 different clubs to choose from. More details will be posted on our [website](#) soon. Please contact Mr. Ali Williamson, Athletics and Activities Coordinator ali.williamson@bis.edu.kw for more information.

Overall Attendance for 1st Quarter

Attendance continued to remain a high priority for BIS very proud of the commitment. BIS students' attendance for the 1st quarter was **94.6 %** for the whole school.



Dates to Remember

November 8: Progress Report Sent Home and published on the PowerSchool @ 12 pm.

November 9: KG/ES P-T Conferences 12:20 - 2:55 pm & 4:00 - 6:55 pm via Zoom. MS/HS P-T Zoom Team Conferences 12:30 - 2:55 pm (Invitation will be sent to some parents) & from 4:00 - 7:35 pm via Zoom.

November 10: KG/ES P-T Conferences from 12:20 - 2:55 pm on campus. MS/HS P-T Conferences from 12:30 - 2:55 pm on campus.

November 9, 10 & 11: Remote classes via Zoom Early Release, KG 10:55 am, MS/HS 11:40 am & ES 11:45 am.

November 13: PTA Spooky Night Event from 4-6 pm at [Qortuba Public Park](#).

November 15: Deadline to return envelope of progress reports to school.

November 16: Professional Development Day for Staff; Remote classes via Zoom & Early Release for Students, KG/ES 11:45 am, MS/HS 11:50 am. All Staff dismissal at 4:00 pm.

Mission Statement: Al-Bayan International School personalizes learning to achieve intellectual and individual growth of all students, empowering them to impact their community.