



DIRECTOR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

January 30th, 2022



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21-22 Issue 3/5

Striving for accuracy ● Thinking Flexibly ● Persisting ● Respect ● Empathy ● Self-Discipline

Message from the Director

Dear BIS Community,

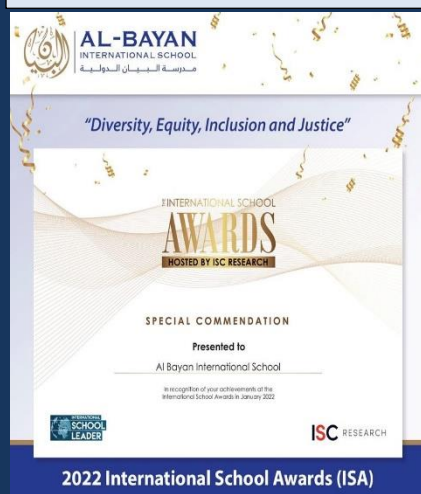
I hope this finds you doing well and continuing to stay safe and healthy. I understand the stress that many of you are feeling as you try to keep your children safe during this most recent surge of COVID-19, I want you to know that their health and wellbeing remains a top priority. Research has also shown that an important factor for the pandemic is to get children vaccinated. Please click [here](#) to register your children aged 5 and above.

Thank you to all families for following BIS, MOH & MOE health safety protocols and sharing information about student absences with by completing MyMedBot application. Working together, we reduce the risk for all of our families, students, and staff. We look forward to our ongoing partnership with you in keeping our school community safe.

In Partnership,
Dr. Zak Palsha

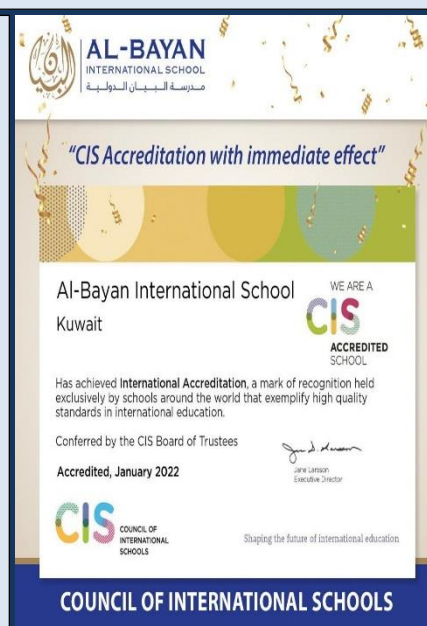
International School Award - Highly Commended Certificate

Earlier this year, BIS submitted an application for the 2022 International School Awards (ISA) category of "Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice" outlining our work with special needs and inclusion students. ISA received 261 nominations from 48 countries. Twelve school winners were chosen from 45 shortlisted schools, and three schools were singled out for special mention. We were notified this week that we were one of these three schools singled out. We have received a Highly Commended certificate from the judging panel because of the exceptional work that we are doing through our initiatives. BIS was recognized during the ISA awards ceremony held last week, and International School Magazine is also planning to feature our school and our initiatives in the International School Leader Magazine. Please click [here](#) to view the video and the certificate.



BIS Achieved CIS Accreditation

I'm honored to announce that Al-Bayan International School has earned the Council of International Schools (CIS) accreditation. In November 2021, a team of six evaluators assessed the school by speaking to all stakeholders, including board members of the school, staff, parents, alumni and support staff. The school was evaluated under 8 domains, including governance, curriculum, teaching methodology and student well-being. The final award of CIS accreditation shows that the school has achieved high standards of professional performance in international education and has a commitment to continued improvement. A number of staff, students, parents and PTA were involved in the process, which examined every aspect of BIS- from how we live our principles in practice through our classes and curriculum, to our enrichment and environmental management. CIS highlighted the special culture of BIS. While gaining CIS accreditation is a powerful endorsement of our approach, the real benefits lie in the support we will gain as part of a global community of the world's best international schools. Please click [here](#) to view the accreditation page on the BIS website.





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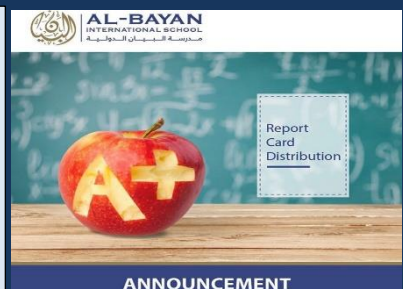
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Cases of COVID at BIS

BIS is committed to providing accurate, timely and transparent information with our community regarding COVID-19 cases. Positive cases will appear on the Dashboard for 10 days from the day they are reported. Information regarding individuals with COVID-19 symptoms, close contacts with someone who is COVID-19 positive, or individuals who have tested positive for the COVID-19, is sensitive confidential information. Names will not be released. This dashboard provides daily updates on the total number of active confirmed COVID-19 cases identified among staff and students. All active cases are isolated while monitoring symptoms and awaiting MOH certificate and therefore do not pose any ongoing threat of spread to others attending schools. BIS's top priority is keeping everyone healthy and safe at school. We have implemented layered safety measures in our school aligned with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education. Please click [here](#) to view up-to-date COVID Dashboard.

Report Cards Sent Home

Please take the time to go over your child's report card with him/her. KG/ES students received their report cards on January 26th, 2022 and MS/HS report cards will go home with students on Tuesday, February 1st, 2022. We are halfway through the school year, so now is the time for us to work together to get our students where they need to be to ensure they move on to the next grade level at the end of the year! Please return envelope of report cards to school no later than Tuesday, February 8, 2022.



MS & HS Semester Exams

Students in BIS Middle & High School completed their semester exams and ended the semester on January 26, 2022. School administrators said they were pleased with how engaged students were and are looking forward to a great second semester.

Consideration to move to Online Learning

The BIS health and safety team continue daily to monitor staff and students absences and COVID cases. At this time, BIS is not declaring thresholds for students or staff or any other factors that would defiantly move the school to online learning. If we reach 60% of classes being reverted to quarantine and online education then we may close the school level (KG/ES) or (MS/HS) for a brief period in order to do a refresh while we get students and staff members back. In the event that temporary online learning is the best option for a school community, we will give students, staff and families at the school as much advance notice as possible.

Yearbook 21-22

Please note that the 2020-2021 Memories Book was completely sold out. In order to meet the increased demand, we will be pre-selling our 2021-2022 Yearbooks. The yearbook is a great memento for students to have as it documents all of the major events that take place at BIS each year. Students love to look through the book and see pictures of themselves, their teachers, and their friends! In order to avoid disappointment, please order your child's copy in advance. The price of the 2021-2022 Yearbook is KD 20. If you would like to purchase the 2021-2022 Yearbook, please complete the following information and return the [letter](#) by Thursday, February 3, 2022 to your child's homeroom/classroom.

Dates to Remember

February 1: MS/HS Report Cards Sent Home and published on the PowerSchool @ 12 pm.

February 8: Last day to return the report cards envelope to school.

February 15: Professional Development Day for Staff; Remote classes via Zoom & Early Release for Students, KG: 10:55 am, ES: 11:45 am, MS/HS: 11:40 am. All Staff dismissal at 4:00 pm.

February 25 & 26: National & Liberation Days.

February 27: Tentative holiday.

March 1: Israa & Miraj holiday (tentative).