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ISSUE 14 Friday 11th December

Dear Parents and visitors to our website,

Following this week's Advisory Board information was given to me that what is required in the newsletter is factual information about the development of the school. Therefore this week we are focussing on a major aspect of the 2015/16 school development plan, the move from national curriculum levelling to assessment for learning <http://goo.gl/M9iWZy>. After 3 months of the school's management team digesting the implications of this on staff, students and parents we now feel in the position to present it to our teachers for implementation next year. You may ask 'what is assessment for learning?'; well here is my view.

Assessment is conducted to inform practice. Assessment is the ongoing process of:

- Establishing clear, measurable expected outcomes of student learning
- Ensuring that students have sufficient opportunities to achieve those outcomes
- Systematically gathering, analysing, and interpreting evidence to determine how well student learning matches our

outcomes/expectations

- Using the resulting information to understand and improve student learning

What is testing? Testing is systematically gathering and analysing evidence of achievement of student learning outcomes – it is one part of assessment.

Evaluation is different from Assessment. Evaluation is using assessment information to make a judgment on such things as:

1. Have students achieved the learning goals set for them
2. The relative strengths and weaknesses of our teaching/learning strategies
3. What changes in our goals and teaching/learning strategies might be appropriate

What is the role of a grade in assessment. Grades are often based on more than just what the students have learned as measured by tests, projects, presentations etc. Grades may be impacted by students' effort, attitude, behaviour or participation. Grades may also be impacted by course rules that lower grades for being late or absent from class or handing in late work. These may all be appropriate classroom management tools but they illustrate how grades may not reflect what a student has learned – as defined in the courses learning outcomes.

Ultimately grade standards are often inconsistent, do the tests clearly match the content taught, the level of thinking taught and the skills taught in the class? Are the test questions precise enough and consistent enough with what we taught to be an accurate measure of the learning? Do different teachers teaching the same course agree on what the standards of A or B work should be? Does a teacher have grading standards defined

precisely or are they vague "This feels like a B standard to me" Grades can't tell us about students' strengths and weaknesses. A grade of "B" in organic chemistry tells that the student has probably learned a great deal of the information, but we don't know what she/he has or has not mastered.

Grades fail to clearly tell us about large learning:

1. Critical thinking skills
2. Problem solving abilities
3. Communication skills/oral/written/listening
4. Social skills
5. Emotional management skills

This said do grades have a place in assessment? Yes. "They can be useful evidence of students' learning if they are based on direct evidence of students' learning (tests, papers, projects etc.) that are truly linked to major learning goals and clearly delineated, consistent standards through test blueprints or rubrics" (Suskie, 2004)

What are the benefits of assessment to students?

- Clearly defined learning outcomes help students focus their time and energy
- Grades become a motivator
- Feedback helps students to know their strengths and weaknesses
- Assessment information can document what they have learned.

At the time of writing this I am happy to announce the official opening of our new all-weather sports ground.

Have a good weekend,



Best regards,
Wayne Billington
Head of School



CONTACT DETAILS:

British International School Wrocław
al. Akacjowa 10-12, 53-134 Wrocław, Poland
School office tel: +48 71 796 68 61 fax: +48 71 796 68 62
email: wroclaw@bisc.krakow.pl, head@bisc.wroclaw.pl

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				11 Primary School Assembly 8.35 a.m. Secondary School Assembly 10.30a.m. Secondary School Charity Concert at the Social Care Centre 11.30a.m.	12	13
14 Primary Morning Briefing 8.15a.m. Foundation Christmas Concert Foundation Unit 2.30p.m.	15 Secondary Morning Briefing 8.15a.m. Library Primary Christmas Concert – Y1-Y3 1.30p.m. Centre for Culture at Powstańców Śląskich 190	16 Foundation Round Table 8.30a.m. dining room Primary Christmas Concert – Y4-Y6 1.30p.m. Centre for Culture at Powstańców Śląskich 190	17	18 Whole school assembly 8.35 a.m. Half Day School closes at 12.05 12.30p.m. Staff party	19	20
21 Christmas break	22 Christmas break	23 Christmas break	24 Christmas break	25 Christmas break School closed	26	27
28 Christmas break	29 Christmas break	30 Christmas break	31 Christmas break	1 School closed	2	3

REMINDERS FOR PARENTS



Please take care when parking around the school.

Avoid blocking entrances to neighbours' houses and driveways.

DO NOT PARK ON THE ZEBRA CROSSINGS!

1. Mr Hae Sung Lee, our Korean Coordinator is available:

Monday 8:00-8:30 / 10:10-10:30 / 11:20-13:40

Tuesday 8:00-8:30 / 10:10-10:30 / 11:20-13:50

Wednesday 8:00-8:30 / 10:10-13:50

Thursday 8:00-8:30 / 10:10-12:10 / 15:00-15:30

Friday 13:20-15:30

Contact details:

Hae Sung Lee - haesung.lee@bisc.wroclaw.pl

Hye Seung Lee - hyeseung.lee@bisc.wroclaw.pl

2. School doctor is available for Parents and Staff on Thursdays from 10.00a.m. till 12.05p.m.

(G8 room, big villa)

3. We would like to remind all parents that they should label their children's BISC uniforms, as sometimes the clothing items are left behind in the playground. A name label makes the identification process much faster and easier :

4. Charity Concert

Friday 11th December 11:30 a.m. 'Friendly House' Foundation

On Friday the Secondary School is going to visit „Przyjazny Dom” (Friendly House) Foundation, located in Wrocław in Psie Pole district, and present our Christmas Concert to the residents of the House.

The foundation works with intellectually disabled adults, providing them housing, daily care and opportunities to work.

Our students will have a chance to meet the residents and have some insight into the highlights and the challenges of life of the disabled people.



Fundacja Przyjazny Dom
im. Stanisława Jabłonki

Extra Curricular Activities 2015/2016

ECA	TEACHER	AGE GROUP	WHERE	WHEN
English for Parents :) Intermediate group	Ewa Gołąbek	Parents :)	S2 room big villa	Mondays 2.00p.m. – 3.25p.m.
Short animated movie Club	Sławomir Czerwiński	Secondary	S3 room big villa	Tuesdays 1.00p.m. – 1.40p.m.
Polish for Parents :) Intermediate group	Hanna Savel	Parents :)	S3 room big villa	Tuesdays 1.50p.m. – 3.25p.m.
English language support	Joanna Schier	Primary	Year 6 Jaguars room small villa	Tuesdays 3.35p.m. – 4.15p.m.
Primary Orchestra	Maciej Posłuszny	Y4 – Y6	G11 room big villa	Tuesdays 3.35p.m. – 4.15p.m.
Discussion Club	Jennifer Jones	Y2 – Y3	Year 3 Foxes room small villa	Tuesdays 3.35p.m. – 4.15p.m.
Polish for Beginners	Anna Łoboziak	Y1-Y2	Year 2 Butterflies room Small villa	Tuesdays 3.45p.m. – 4.45p.m.
Kendo Club	Takaharu Uesugi	Y1 upwards	Dębowa Gym Dębowa 9b	Tuesdays 3.35p.m. – 4.45p.m.
Basketball Club (Boys and Girls)	Marcin Kwasiuk	Y6 – Y13	SSP72 ul. Trwała 17-19	Tuesdays 4.00p.m. - 5.20p.m.
Swimming	Marcin Kwasiuk	Y1 upwards Intermediate & Advanced	SSP72 ul. Trwała 17-19	Tuesdays 5.20p.m. – 6.05p.m.
Maths Club	Anna Witańska	Primary	Year 4 Shobills room small villa	Wednesdays 3.35p.m. – 4.15p.m.
Homework Club	Alexandra Turner	Primary	Year 3 Otters room small villa	Wednesdays 3.35p.m. – 4.15p.m.
Polish for Parents :) Beginners	Hanna Savel	Parents :)	S1 room big villa	Wednesdays 1.50p.m. – 3.25p.m.
Football Club	Marcin Kwasiuk	Y1 – Y9	SSP72 ul. Trwała 17-19 (all weather Sport's pitch outside of the school)	Wednesdays 4.00p.m. – 5.30p.m.
Chess Club	Alex Sitkowiecki and Bogdan Piątkowski	Secondary	S1 room big villa	Thursdays 1.15p.m. – 1.35p.m.
SingStar Club	Jakub Stefaniszyn	Secondary	G6 room big villa	Thursdays 1.15p.m. – 1.40p.m.
English for Parents :) Pre Intermediate	Iwona Sokołowska	Parents :)	G10 room big villa	Thursdays 2.00p.m. – 3.25p.m.
Maths Homework Club	Justyna Połowska	Secondary	F3 room big villa	Thursdays 3.40p.m. – 4.25p.m.
Maths Kangaroo Club	Justyna Zając	Secondary	F2 room big villa	Thursdays 3.40p.m. – 4.25p.m.
Swimming	Karolina Kałużka	Y1 upwards Beginners	SSP72 ul. Trwała 17-19	Thursdays 5.20p.m. – 6.05p.m.
Musical Performance Club	Jakub Stefaniszyn	Secondary	G11 room big villa	Fridays 3.30p.m. – 4.40p.m.
Basketball Club	Marcin Kwasiuk	Y1- Y5	SSP72 ul. Trwała 17-19	Fridays 4.00p.m. – 5.20p.m.
Swimming	Marcin Kwasiuk	Y1 upwards Intermediate & Advanced	SSP72 ul. Trwała 17-19	Fridays 5.20p.m. – 6.05p.m.

News from Head of Primary



This week the Christmas atmosphere was definitely present at school. On Monday we had a special, white-bearded visitor in a red coat! It turns out that the BISC pupils have been very good and hard-working and that is why Santa himself stopped by, giving out presents to everybody. Quite a few classes decorated their rooms, adding to the Christmas feeling.

On Wednesday my class, Year 4 Shoebills, had their Cake Sale. They decided to add the earned money to their charity pool (we need to collect PLN1000 to continue with the scholarship for our Afghani girl) which amounted to PLN 580. Next Thursday (BISC "Black" Thursday) everyone is invited to our yet another charity sale (please see the posters for details).

During the week we heard lots of singing and performing in the secondary school who were preparing for their Thursday show. We hope that our three concerts will be as enjoyable as theirs. To find out about the concert arrangements, please go to our new website:

<http://www.bisc.wroclaw.pl/news/christmas-concerts-2015>

On Friday we gathered for a special assembly, during which the Foundation children showed us some parts of their planned performance. It was great :)

Another fantastic and long-awaited news was the opening of the football field! Hurray on behalf of all the football fans in our school.

These were our Stars this week:

Foundation Bees - Paolo
Foundation Turtles - Deniz
Year 1 Rabbits – Nicolas
Year 2 Butterflies - Charlie
Year 3 Otters – Min Gyu
Year 3 Foxes - Thomas
Year 4 Shoebills – Chanjoong and Kazuho
Year 5 Kangaroos - Jihyun
Year 5 Ravens - Sri
Year 6 Jaguars - Nada

Anna Witańska
Head of Primary

News from Head of Secondary



This week is probably one of the busiest for secondary so far this term. Students have been rehearsing for the Christmas concert all week to prepare for Thursday night's performance. Both boys and girls basketball teams having been working hard to prepare for their

tournaments and we even had a visit from Santa earlier this week too!

The Christmas concert was well received by everyone and the students really enjoyed showing off their incredible talents. I am always pleasantly surprised at the various talents that our students possess and the amount of courage and determination that they have to be able to stand in front of an audience and perform.

I would also like to take a moment to also thank our hardworking PTA who decorated our hall so well with Christmas decorations and offered delicious coffee at our refreshment table during the concert's interval.

On Friday, we will run through our concert a second time as a charity event for a local community center called the "Przyjazny Dom" (Friendly House) Foundation. Not only will it lift the spirits of those that live and work there, but it will give our students a chance to use their Polish language skills and to give something back to a very welcoming community that we live in.

Answers to last week's trivia questions: 1) Joule 2) CHRYSLER BUILDING New York City 3) 6 hours 54 minutes 55 seconds 4) Rings 5) Madrid

Enjoy your weekend,

Joe Peck
Head of Secondary

We are offering 3 different courses to students in Key Stage 4 – due to the range of our students. Some have only arrived at our school recently and the first target is passing iGCSE English as a Second Language. After this we suggest sitting FCE Cambridge Exam and trying to get B2 or even C1 level of English.

ESL Students: Writing to inform.

Natural Disaster Earthquake

This year, I heard from some news on TV that an earthquake was taking place in a very small and poor country in Asia. The earthquake has brought a lot of damage but also caused more than 8,600 deaths, nearly 20,000 wounded and incalculable destruction. I'm talking about Nepal, precisely Kathmandu where the 25 April 2015 earthquake has occurred.

The risk of a large earthquake was well known beforehand. In 2013, in an interview with seismologist Vinod Kumar Gaur, "The Hindu" quoted him as saying, "Calculations show that there is sufficient accumulated energy in the main Frontal Thrust now to produce a magnitude 8 earthquake. I cannot say when. It may not happen tomorrow, but it could possibly happen sometime this century, or wait longer to produce a much larger one. This earthquake is also known as the Gorka earthquake. It occurred at 11:56, with a magnitude of 7.8 or 8.1 and a maximum Mercalli Intensity of IX (violent). Its epicentre was east of the district of Lamjung, and its hypocentre was at a depth of approximately 8.2 km (5.1 min.).

So it was the worst natural disaster to strike Nepal since the 1934 Nepal-Bihar earthquake.

Martina LaSpada

Tsunamis usually occur in Japan. They always bring serious damage and require money for reconstruction. A Tsunami occurs when an earthquake starts to occur and from the ocean a flood happens. Moreover, the Tsunami is a combination of flood and earthquake so the countries in which Tsunami occur get more damage than other natural disasters.

Actually, I did not know how big the damage is. Tsunami influences a country for many years. One day, I saw in a Korean movie that a Tsunami occurred in Korea and it shocked me. Before studying Tsunami, I thought just a flood occurs in the city and people go on the roof. I couldn't think that the ground was split by the earthquake and many people died.

NoEun Kwon

Usually earthquakes occur in places which are close to a plate boundary. Therefore, countries, which are nearby plate boundaries, are damaged by the earthquakes. In Japan, lots of earthquakes have occurred, because Japan is on a plate boundary. In addition, there are also lots of volcanos.

If two plates move away from each other or move towards each other, both earthquakes and volcanos can occur in the same area. Under the crust, there is the mantle and lava comes out from there. Moreover, magma is made by the friction of the crust and comes out upwards. The oceanic crust is forced underneath another crust. Thus, an earthquake occurred at sea. When it happened, it jolted the seabed upwards. Then, it created huge waves. That's why a Tsunami was also created by an earthquake.

JeongMin

One of the hardest components of any English language exam is the formal writing task, often in the form of a letter. Year 10 and 11 have been looking at writing letters of complaint but with a festive twist! We hope you enjoy reading about the unfortunate circumstances giving cause to complain and the accompanying replies.

Festive greetings,
Graham Lewis

45 King Street
London W5 3DF
United Kingdom

Evulate Department Store
12 Yuletide Avenue London W1 5NX
United Kingdom

4th of December 2015

To whom it may concern:

Re: Difficulties with purchasing a Christmas tree

Last weekend I visited your store to buy a Christmas tree. Unfortunately, I was extremely disappointed with the quality of the tree and the service provided to me by your staff.

When I looked around, I could only find Christmas trees tied in pairs. Single people may not be able to afford to have two Christmas trees. I could see your intention of disposing of leftover trees quickly as I scanned the state of the merchandise on display in your store.

I had no other choice, therefore I purchased your trees. However, while one of your staff was passing the trees to me, he dropped them. As a result, I asked the manager to refund my money or to exchange the product. Unfortunately, they refused to grant my request.

Accordingly, I strongly ask you to refund the total cost that I paid for the trees as they are damaged such that I cannot display them in my home.

Yours faithfully,

Sookjoo Young



Evulate Department Store

Evulate Department Store

12 Yuletide Avenue

London W1 5NX

United Kingdom

45 King Street

London W5 3DF

United Kingdom

5th of December 2015

Dear Ms. Young

RE: Your recent visit to our department store

Thank you for your visit to Evulate Department Store. We always appreciate receiving our customer's comments, in order to provide a higher quality of products and services.

About the issue that the trees were all set up in pairs: they were sold in pairs in order to provide products at a lower price. Furthermore, our major customers are families or couples, who try to feel the mood of Christmas, and to increase their satisfaction, we decided to sell trees as a pair.

Our manager made a horrific mistake, so we instructed him not to make this mistake again, but he showed me the CCTV and we found other events worth considering. According to your letter, you said our manager made the mistake, but our security camera revealed that you shouted and yelled although the manager's attitude was extremely polite. And so, the Christmas tree was damaged by your fault.

Therefore we cannot refund the money you paid as the cost for the tree. But we can send you a brand new tree and high quality Christmas ornaments.

Yours sincerely,



Grace Marcia Ruslek
General Manager
Evulate Department Store

59 Oxford Street
London WC2 S44
England

Santa's Workshop
M65 North Pole

26th of December 2015

Dear Mr. S. Claus,

Re: Unexpected service from Santa's workshop

As yesterday was Christmas, I was waiting for a present to be under my tree and sweets in my stocking. Unfortunately, I was truly disappointed and upset about the Christmas spirit ruined due to the following disappointments.

Without further ado, there was no present under my Christmas tree. I have been very good throughout the whole year, and was expecting a fascinating present in return. Sadly, all my efforts became fruitless in a mere night. Moreover, I have lost my Christmas spirit and find it increasingly arduous to spend time with my family.

Although I was disappointed, I was trying to persuade myself that you had had a very busy year. So I was looking forward to the sweets in my stocking, which were the least things to be offered. I thought you would have filled my stocking with candy, but it was a shame that instead all it was filled with was emptiness and disappointment.

I want a proper present given to me in apology for my hurt feelings and ruined Christmas spirit. As my present, I would like a brand new laptop (a complete set with headphones and mouse).

Yours sincerely,



William K. Johns



Santa's workshop & Logistics

Santa's Workshop & Logistics Inc.
M65 North Pole

59 Oxford Street
London WC2 S44
England

26th of December 2015

Dear Mr. Johns,

Re: Your concerns regarding presents at Christmas

Thank you for letting me know about your recent experience of Christmas. I always appreciate receiving reviews. Unfortunately, you were not scheduled to receive any presents this year due to several worrying events in the past few months.

Based on what you have done throughout this year, I cannot give you presents. First of all, you bullied your best friend just because his name was unusual. As a result of your behavior, he was deeply hurt and thought of changing his name.

Second of all, you stole money from your mother's wallet secretly and bought yourself an expensive toy. However, you did not feel any remorse for your action. Therefore, you do not have any right to demand Christmas presents.

Though if you behave well next year, I will give you the laptop you want. I will always keep an eye on you.

With festive greetings,

Santa Claus

Santa Claus
CEO Santa's Workshop & Logistics Inc.

Bake-A-Cake or Savoury Snack Dates:

Please Note: Due to the expected Ski Camp, Bake-A-Cake or Savoury Day for Years 10&11 is changed to a different day.

Year 4 Shoebills	December 9, 2015
Year 5 Ravens	April 27, 2016
Year 5 Kangaroos	May 11, 2016
Year 6 Jaguars	February 10, 2016
Year 7	March 2, 2016
Year 8	March 16, 2016
Year 9	April 13, 2016
Year 10 & 11	January 20, 2016
Year 12 & 13	January 27, 2016



PTA announcements:

Charity Christmas Wishes

PTA are still selling the Charity Christmas Wishes on Wednesday and Friday mornings in the lunch room at the time when we all bring children to school. They will be available at all school Christmas concerts, and the last chance to buy a wish will be on Wednesday, December 16 on Christmas concerts for Primary Y4-6. 100% of this money will go to our local charity family.

Our Charity Family:

We are pleased to finally disclose the receiving family of our Charity Fundraiser income. The receiver is going to be Mr. Marcin's (our sport teacher's) family. Mr. Marcin's son Pawel (4 years old now) was born with a very rare syndrome called Cri du chat syndrome.

This syndrome is a group of symptoms that result from missing a piece of chromosome number 5. No specific treatment is available for this syndrome. Children born with this genetic condition require ongoing support from a team made up of the parents, therapists, and medical and educational professionals to help the child achieve his maximum potential. With early and consistent educational intervention, as well as physical and language therapy, children with cri du chat syndrome are capable of reaching their fullest potential and can lead full and meaningful lives.

The family has to cope with day to day care for the child and take care of the child's therapy which is very costly and complicated due to its rare occurrence in population. As the syndrome is very rare, doctors and therapists often have no knowledge and certainly experience how to help. However, appropriate therapy can help to achieve a significant improvement in child's condition and substantially improve the life quality for the child and his family. Therefore the income of the PTA Charity Christmas Wish initiative will be designated for paying the therapy for Mr. Marcin's son Pawciu.

Please support this initiative by donating minimum 5PLN to purchase the tree decoration in your House colour of Cygnus, Lupus, Pegasus or Phoenix. Write your wish on the decoration and hang it on the school Christmas tree. Let's try to make a Christmas Wish come true for a family so close to our school and let's use this opportunity to show our appreciation for Mr. Marcin's effort and time devoted to our children.

Thank you again for your support of the BISC PTA initiatives.



Lunch Menu December 2015

Dear Parents,

Below please find a few details about our lunch ordering system:

1. Lunches for the upcoming week can be ordered in the secretary's office (small villa) from Monday till Thursday.
2. You can choose between the polish, Italian and vegetarian menu.
3. In case of child's absence, please inform school's office on the same day by phone (71 79 66 861) or e-mail (wroclaw@bisc.krakow.pl) before 9a.m. Depending on your request, order will be cancelled or moved for the next week.
4. The orders are accepted together with the payment only.
5. Menu for the following month will be posted on the information boards in both villas and also in our weekly newsletter.
6. The cost for one lunch is 12PLN.

Date	POLISH MENU		ITALIAN MENU	VEGETARIAN MENU
14.12.2015	Cabbage soup with carrot and potatoes	Hungary goulash with vegetables, buckwheat groats, salad	Spaghetti Carbonara, bread, salad	Buckwheat porridge with vegetable sauce and chickpeas
15.12.2015	Ukrainian borsch	Brown rice baked with apples and cinnamon	Gnocchi with cheese sauce, bread, salad	Brown rice baked with apples and cinnamon
16.12.2015	Italian soup Minestrone	Meatballs with marinara sauce, buckwheat groats, salads	Italian soup Minestrone, omelet with ham, bread, salad	Dumplings with vegetable sauce
17.12.2015	Vegetable soup with buckwheat groats	Chicken leg, potatoes, salads	Chicken fillet, potatoes, bread, salad	Letcho with potatoes
18.12.2015	Half day			

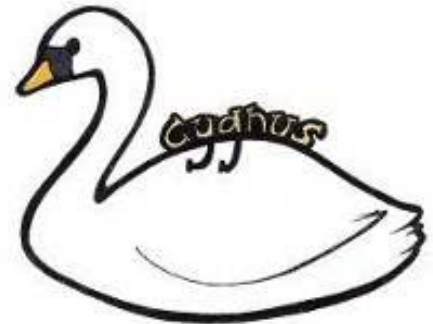
***juice and dessert to each menu**

39

(Weekly Winner)



31



30



AROUND BISC WROCŁAW



A brief introduction to parents at BISC Wrocław