



Term 1

Tuesday September 9th — Thursday December 12th 2019

Open Day

Saturday 9th November saw our Open Day for prospective parents. The weather allowed us to show off the school at it's very best. Our pupil guides were a credit to themselves, BIS and their parents. Thank you to all who made it such a positive day. Attendance was high and certainly greater than any other Open Day that I have witnessed at BIS. I am delighted that so many new parents were able to see how special our school is.

Sports Day

A huge well done to the pupils, parents and staff who organised, supported and participated in our Sports Day. Competition was fierce but friendly with **Jade house** eventually victorious. Topaz took 2nd place, Sapphire came 3rd and 4th place was awarded to Ruby.

In the parents' events, Mrs Faith Mbagwu and Mr Lawrence Ebose crossed the line first in their respective races. I am, as yet, unable to confirm the rumours that places in the Nigerian Olympic team are on the cards.

Following Sports Day, the overall House competition results are as follows: 140 points = Sapphire; 210 points = Topaz; 225 points = Ruby; 280 points = Jade.

A special mention must also go to our ROTARACT group who raised ₦170,000 to help eradicate polio by the selling of delicious home-made cakes at the event.

The next house event will be: Under 17 football for boys and girls on the 2nd of December.

Instagram

The official BIS Instagram account is now live. Please do follow us. I hope that this will provide an additional way in which parents can stay abreast of life at BIS and for school to share details of past and upcoming events.

Please note that our Instagram account is public facing and children and parents who follow BIS are advised to check that their privacy settings ensure that they are making safe use of social media.

We are keen to celebrate the achievements of our pupils within our Instagram page. However, our current image consent form does not explicitly cover social media posts. A new image/video consent form will be sent out in due course. Until we have express consent **NO IMAGE** in which your child/children can be readily identified will be posted on any BIS social media platform.

<https://www.instagram.com/bisnigeria/>

Safer use of Social Media

The decision to allow a child access to social media accounts is one that I know all parents consider carefully. While there are inherent risks in its use there are, undoubtedly, many reasons why parents will allow their children to have social media accounts. Below is a link to current UK advice on this matter.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/>

Years 7-9 Examinations

Our younger pupils will take examinations from **26th to 29th of November**. These examinations are used to measure progress across the first term of the academic year. In addition, they allow pupils to gain experience in preparing for and taking formal tests.

Globally older students taking public examinations find themselves under increasing levels of stress. Many will sacrifice sleep, regular meals and exercise in a quest to improve grades. As adults, we are all aware that such study methods are counterproductive and detrimental to our wellbeing. A key message that we can jointly impress upon our young people is that it is the quality not the quantity of revision that is most effective and that they are more productive learners when they are well rested and relaxed. If we can impart such a message in Years 7-9, we will be going some way towards helping them manage the pressures of later life; of public examinations, university study and professional careers.

Japanese animated film event

A group of BIS students attended a recent showing of Japanese animated films. My thanks to the ICT and Art department staff who made this trip possible.

AISEN Debate

I am delighted to announce that our team were placed 3rd in the annual AISEN debate competition. Well done to all students involved.

Boarding News

Our annual boarding formal dinner will take place on the evening of 8th December. Further details will be provided to students by their House Parents.

Upcoming Calendar Events

Saturday 16 November:	End of Year School Production Rehearsal Continues
Monday 18 November:	Options Assembly
Thursday 21 November:	Options Evening (3pm—4pm)
Saturday 23 November:	Entrance Exams
Tuesday 26 – Friday 29:	Exams for Years 7-9 (Internal)
Saturday 30 November:	End of Year School Production Rehearsal Continues
Saturday 7 December:	End of Year School Production Rehearsal Continues (Dress & Tech)
Sunday 8 December:	Boarding Dinner (Formal) - 5pm
Monday 9 December:	End of Year School Production Rehearsal Continues (Whole Day)
Tuesday 10 December:	Pre-drama production (whole Day) Drama production for Primary Schools (1pm—2.35pm)
Wednesday 11 December:	Drama Production (6.30pm—8.30pm)
Saturday 30 November:	End of Year School Production Rehearsal Continues
Thursday 12 December:	Mufti Day
Friday 13 December:	Parents' Teachers' Conference, 8am – 12pm

Meeting with the Principal

I am available to meet with any parent **each day of the week**. An appointment system is run to avoid parents needlessly waiting if my diary is full as well as to ensure that sufficient time is set aside to discuss issues fully and without interruption. Please contact the Principal's PA on **0908 701 4833** to book an appointment.

I do appreciate that it may be more convenient, particularly for shorter meetings, to meet having dropped off your child in the morning. With this in mind 8.15-9.15 each day has been set aside for this very purpose. **No appointment is necessary.**

The relationship between school and parent is crucial to both the happiness and academic development of each child in our care. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any issue that you would wish to discuss.