



# BIS e-Bulletin

Friday 25th October 2019

I would like to wish all pupils and staff at BIS the very best for the up coming half term. It has been a busy time at school and I hope that everyone returns refreshed and ready to begin again on Monday November 4<sup>th</sup>.

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## Half Term

Half Term began at 2.35pm pm on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October. Pupils will return to school by 8am Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Boarding pupils may return to boarding during the afternoon on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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## Reports

Interim reports have been issued to each parent. These reports contain effort and academic grades. Every child receives effort grades rated from 1-5 with 1 indicating the very best effort. While student will, of course, have varying academic ability levels, all pupils are capable of and are expected to achieve the best possible effort grades.

Continual assessment marks indicate the level of understanding that a pupil has demonstrated in their classwork. This maybe in homework, contributions to discussion, presentations and class assignments. The attainment grade indicates the grade achieved in the most recent formal assessment. A drop between the continual assessment grade and the attainment grade often indicates that a pupil may have encountered problems in revision, question interpretation or timing in an examination but are more secure in their knowledge of the subject. For older pupils you will see that there is a target grade and a progress marker. The target grade is the grade that Durham University suggest is the most likely grade achievable by the student based on testing completed at the beginning of Year 10/12. Pupils must not view this as a predicted grade but the minimum expected grade upon which they will then build. The progress marker indicates whether the student has met their target grade. A marker of 1 shows that they have exceeded their target grade and -1 is awarded if they are currently failing to reach that grade.

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## KPMG debate finalists

I am delighted to announce that two of our students have reached the final of the KPMG debating competition. Well done Anna Akwukwuma and Chimezuo Okere. We look forward to hearing how you progress.

# Dundee University Moot competition

More debating success. This time I must congratulate our Sixth Form team for making the finals of the Dundee University Moot competition. Many weeks of preparation resulted in an excellent performance. We undoubtedly have some budding lawyers in our midst.

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## Medical Forms

Thank you to the parents who submitted medical forms to the registrar following my earlier reminder. There are still several students who are in school without medical information having been shared with our medical team. Can I ask that the submission of these forms is a priority for families who have not yet done so?

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## Annual Charity Run

Our annual charity run was postponed from Friday of last week due to heavy rain and took place on Wednesday of this week. Over 300 students participated in a mix of run and swim/run events raising money for research into treatment for cancer in children. C-Don have a public event raising money for the same cause on November 17<sup>th</sup> on VI. Further details are available from their website.

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## Uniform reminder

I have been fortunate enough to have received several compliments from visitors to the school about how well turned out our pupils are. Thank you for your support in this regard. After every holiday a few pupils forget that the same rule on hair length and neatness that was in place at the start of the holiday will also be in place on their return! I would be grateful if you can dissuade your son or daughter from adopting a hair style over the holiday break that will need to be addressed upon their return. We wish to warmly welcome our pupils back and for them settle quickly into their studies. I am always disappointed when our first contact with a returning pupil is, instead, focused on uniform infringements.

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## Dog News

I am delighted to announce that BIS has a dog! More accurately I have taken on a new pup. Hamish looks forward to meeting as many pupils as he can over the coming terms. More dog news will undoubtedly follow.....

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## And finally

I wish you and your family a very pleasant half term holiday and thank you for all your efforts in supporting the school.

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