



THE
BRITISH SCHOOL
IN TOKYO

The Lion – 8th January 2021

School
news

Secondary

Primary

PTA

Community

MESSAGE FROM PAUL TOUGH – PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Staff, Students, and Friends of BST,

Welcome back and "Blwyddyn Newydd Dda" (Happy New Year in Welsh).

Although there is an understandable air of nervousness associated with the rising COVID-19 numbers in Tokyo, it has been a positive first week of term with much energy and enthusiasm across the campuses.

As you know, we have deemed it important to continue with on-campus learning, but we are mindful of the wider situation and stand ready if necessary to switch to a remote learning environment quickly. We have introduced a series of enhanced virus mitigation measures and made clear our expectations regarding community responsibility. Next week, COVID briefings will be emailed every Wednesday, and these will be separate from The Lion. If you have not yet read today's update, it can be accessed ([HERE](#)).

The BST Learner Profile Attributes						
						
A THINKER	AMBITIOUS	PRINCIPLED	INQUISITIVE	CONFIDENT	DETERMINED	CREATIVE
I improve my knowledge and skills	I take responsibility for how I learn	I try to be the best version of myself	I search for answers	I express my ideas	I am brave	I play, create and adapt

The week started at pace with professional training for all BST staff on Monday, January 4, with students returning to school the following day. During the staff-training day, colleagues had the opportunity to begin working on the school's new Learner Profile and Teaching Framework. I am delighted with both schemas as they clarify the school's approach to learning and our intentions relating to student outcomes. My colleagues Caroline McCallum (Secondary Deputy Head) and Tom Kean (School Development Leader) will be running a series of parent forums with me over the coming months on the BST Learner Profile ([LINK TO LEARNER PROFILE IMAGES](#)).

Dates and a registration form for the forums will be in next week's Lion and we look forward to seeing as many parents in attendance as possible.



Another of my colleagues in the Senior Leadership Team, Ben Loran (Director of Operations), is currently working with our Communications and Data teams on a new approach to external and internal communications. Work on this project is in its advance stages, and we are hopeful of moving to the implementation stage later this school year. Before implementation, we would like to form a group of parents from across the school to provide a sounding board for the plans and to road test aspects of the approach. Parents who are willing to join the group can email their interests direct to Ben at bloran@bst.ac.jp.

School Advisory Committee Meeting

Monday 25th January 2021

On a similar theme, the next [School Advisory Committee](#) (SAC) meeting takes place **on January 25**. The last meeting of 2020 was a lively affair with lots of discussion on aspects of teaching and learning. Minutes of the meeting can be accessed [HERE](#). If you have any items for the next meeting, please submit to the Committee using the following email address schooladvisory@bst.ac.jp. In addition to the pandemic's standing item, we will also discuss this year's public examinations in light of the UK's news about A-Levels and GCSEs.

Finally, I wanted to make you aware that we are in the midst of teacher recruitment for the next school year. We are currently aiming to fill six positions in total (5 secondary and 1 primary role). We have already received more than three hundred and fifty international applications, and I am looking forward with the Heads of School to conducting this year's process online.

If you have any questions about any of the topics in today's newsletter or would like to arrange a one to one meeting, please let me know.

[Paul Tough](#)

Principal

USEFUL LINKS

Learner Profiles

<https://tinyurl.com/BSTLearnerProfile>

BST EMAIL - COVID UPDATE

<https://tinyurl.com/COVIDUPDATE8thJan2021>

JAPANESE TRANSLATION - <https://tinyurl.com/JPCovidUpdate8thJan2021>

SAC Meeting Minutes - Mon 30th Nov 2020

<https://tinyurl.com/SACMins30thNov2020>

Dear Secondary Parents and Students,

I hope that this finds you all safe and well and that you have a good winter break. It was lovely to see all the students coming into school looking refreshed and ready to learn. There has certainly been a purposeful atmosphere around the school.

In assembly, at the start of the week, we reflected again on all the good things that took place last term and looked forward to the term ahead. Importantly though, I also reiterated the very important guidelines about life around the school; this was followed up with a detailed written message to students so that the expectations are very clear. I would encourage you to discuss these with your children at home.

I again centered the message around responsibility. We have a responsibility to ourselves and each other to act in as safe a manner as we can. I particularly noted to the students that:

"...it is important that we act responsibly when we are not in school in the evenings and the weekends. That way we can keep the school as safe as possible and also help the city and country as a whole to work its way through this challenging situation."

On one particular point - we will continue to monitor students' temperatures twice a day, but can I ask that temperatures are also checked before students leave home in the morning so as to avoid students travelling into campus if they have a fever.

Next week there will be a virtual Year 8 subject-based parents' evening and also Year 11s will receive a full report. Our Art students in Year 13 will have their 'sustained focus' activity and (the Year 11s had theirs this week). We will also have virtual house assemblies, which will be a nice way for the tutor groups and house members to connect.

[James Thomas](#)

Head of Secondary



Year 13 Art Pieces Showcased at TUJ

Year 13s start their sustained focus in school next week. We are grateful to be able to set up students ambitious final pieces (with huge amounts of building work by Mr Knill) in Temple University's professional gallery space in order for students to present their final outcomes. Here are bespoke structures designed by Katherine Franken and Runa Komada.

<https://www.bst.ac.jp/useful-information/school-calendar>
https://twitter.com/BST_Sport

Tuesday, 12th January
 Sustained Focus Art Y13 Day 1

Wednesday 13th January
 2:10 pm – 3:45 pm ~~Advanced Musician Rehearsals and Recital in Room 310~~ – **cancelled**
 Sustained Focus Art Y13 Day 2

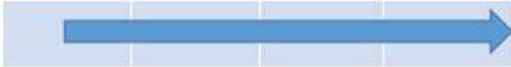
Thursday 14th January
 Year 8 Subject Parents' Evening

Friday 15th January
 Y11 Full Reports Published

Construction on the 246 bridge

国道246号太子堂歩道橋改修工事のお知らせ

Construction Schedule:

Dec2020	Jan2021	Feb2021	Mar2021
			

Crosswalks on 246:



Bridge and sidewalk:

Sidewalk
will be
wider with
more space



※ 工事は、上の絵画と下の絵画の両方実施します

Construction on the 246 bridge will last until the end of March 2021.
 When completed, the sidewalk next to the stairway to bridge will be wider with more space.

We apologise for the inconvenience caused.

F BISIA

ESTABLISHED IN 1988

Federation of British International Schools in Asia

Enriching teaching, learning, and the student experience through collaboration and support

What is FOBISIA?

- FOBISIA started as a small group of headteachers working in SEA over 30 years ago.
- We are now a diverse and inclusive community of 79 Member Schools and growing.
- We connect teachers to share best practice and access leading educational thinkers.
- We bring students together for enrichment activities across a range of learning areas.
- We represent an important educational link between Asia and the United Kingdom.
- Our reach extends from Mongolia to Indonesia, and Kazakhstan to Japan.

UPCOMING Student Events

- + Virtual Swimming Championships
- + Online Short Story Competition
- + In-country Varsity Basketball Invitational
- + Online Art Competition
- + Primary Maths Challenge

Student Event HIGHLIGHTS

- + Virtual Film & Animation Festival
- + Online Maths and Science Competitions
- + Online Design & Technology Competition
- + In-country Gymnastics Invitational
- + Inaugural Race4Good Challenge

Surviving the Pandemic

Schools are experiencing many challenges, such as mobility restrictions, isolation, financial hardship, and exam cancellations. FOBISIA Member Schools have all:

- Demonstrated remarkable compassion and resilience in the face of a global pandemic;
- Successfully transitioned from classrooms to online learning within weeks;
- Collaborated on their responses to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students; and
- Maintained teacher motivation and welfare by sharing their experiences during the pandemic.



Race4Good with Linda Cruse



Online Maths Competition



Virtual Photography Festival



Virtual Film & Animation Festival

DID YOU KNOW?



1,968,789 questions were answered by 2,665 students from 31 Member Schools in the Online Science Competition

www.fobisia.org



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LIBRARY NEWS! NOT TO BE MISSED!

LISA THOMPSON, Sakura Nominated Author, LOCK DOWN POD CASTS from the UK
 Lisa Thompson is a really popular author in Britain (www.lisathompsonauthor.com) for Years 4 - 8/9. Her latest book, *The Graveyard Riddle* was published yesterday by Scholastic UK and sequel to *The Goldfish Boy*, her books have frequently been chosen as Books of the Month by Waterstones and she is nominated for *Owen and the Soldier* for the Sakura Medal this year. *Owen and the Soldier* is also available as an e-book on our e-platform. Please e-mail me if you still do not have an account rsteven@bst.ac.jp.

During the lockdown in the UK, she has decided to restart her very popular free lockdown podcasts every Tuesday and Thursday at 19:30 Japanese time. She has done three already which have been brilliant. She gives great books reviews of her books and other authors' books, tips on writing, how to become a good reader and a whole wealth of information about reading and writing. I have loved all three that I have seen. Her Insta Live talks can be viewed on Instagram [lisathompsonwrites](https://www.instagram.com/lisathompsonwrites). You can also follow her on Twitter [@lthompsonwrites](https://twitter.com/lthompsonwrites).

Over the next few weeks she will be talking about:

Tuesday, 12th January, 19:30 Japanese Time

Interview with **Emma Carroll** (<https://emmacarrollauthor.wordpress.com/>) described as 'The Queen of Historical Children's Fiction'. *The Somerset Tsunami* is maybe her best known book. Amongst other things they will talk about how Emma Carroll writes and all her amazing research for each book.

Thursday, 14th January, 19:30 Japanese Time

Interview with multi award winning **Onjali Q. Raúf** winner of last year's Sakura Chapter Book Award with *The Boy at the Back of the Classroom*. She is an incredibly popular author and in demand for presentations all over the country.

Tuesday, 19th January, 19:30 Japanese Time

Interview with Lisa Thompson's editor **Lauren Fortune** about the job, books behind the scenes, how she manages to read so many books both for work and in her freetime and her book reviews

Thursday, 21st January 19:30 Japanese Time

Interview with **Nick Osler**, script writer, who works closely with Mark Hackney to write countless TV and film scripts. He will be talking about his job and how he goes about writing scripts for amongst others *Dangermouse*, *Thomas the Tank Engine*, *Peter Rabbit*, *The Moomins* for both CBBC and Sky.

Happy Reading!

Richie Steven

rsteven@bst.ac.jp

Follow us on Twitter [@BST_PriLibrary](https://twitter.com/BST_PriLibrary)

Dear Primary Parents,

WELCOME BACK & WELCOME NEW JOINERS

Welcome back and Happy New Year to everyone. I hope you all had a safe, relaxing and wonderful winter break. It has been lovely hearing about the activities and adventures the children have had during the Christmas break.

We are delighted to have the children back in school and I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new families who have joined BST Primary this term. We have 13 new students join us at Shibuya and 11 new students join Showa. Please do reach out to us should you have any questions at all.



ASSEMBLY

We had our first whole Primary School assembly this week run by Mrs Loran and Mr Wilcox. It was a real treat to have both Showa and Shibuya all watching the assembly online. The assembly focused on setting goals and learning that with perseverance and support we can all have the potential to reach our goals. The children created some lovely "OK" pictures afterwards. This was based on the idea that it is okay to be "OK" at something and give new things a go.



Year 2 Tokyo Tokyo Paintings

COVID-19 UPDATE

You will have read the [email from Mr Tough](#) regarding the updates to the COVID-19 situation in Tokyo. We have made a few changes in the Primary School. We are now asking children to wear masks outside at playtime as well as when they play on the roof at Shibuya. We are being extra vigilant regarding cleaning before and after lunch as well as ensuring we are taking temperatures twice a day. Can I ask that temperatures are also checked before students leave home in the morning so as to avoid students travelling into campus if they have a fever. We have restricted the games the students can play at break times that involve any contact. Our priority is the well-being of our community and everyone is working together to ensure we are following all the health and safety guidelines.

All before and after school activities have been cancelled for a month, this also includes lunchtime activities. This will likely cause more congestion at pick-up, especially at our Shibuya Campus, so can I ask parents to please leave as soon as you have collected your child(ren) from school.

I hope you all have a wonderful and quiet weekend.

Best wishes and stay safe,

[Fiona Read](#)

Head of Primary



Early Years Newsletter

<https://www.bst.ac.jp/our-community/latest-news/early-years-newsletter/>

Year 1 Newsletter

<https://www.bst.ac.jp/our-community/latest-news/year-1-newsletter/>

Year 2 Newsletter

<https://www.bst.ac.jp/our-community/latest-news/year-2-newsletter/>

Year 3 Newsletter

<https://www.bst.ac.jp/our-community/latest-news/year-3-newsletter/>

Year 4 Newsletter

<https://www.bst.ac.jp/our-community/latest-news/year-4-newsletter/>

Year 5 Newsletter

<https://www.bst.ac.jp/our-community/latest-news/year-5-newsletter/>

Year 6 Newsletter

<https://www.bst.ac.jp/our-community/latest-news/year-6-newsletter/>

PTA UPCOMING EVENTS

<https://www.bst.ac.jp/our-community/pta>

EVENTS POSTPONED FOR ONE MONTH

POSTPONED

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SALES

Tuesday 5th January, 8:30am - 9:45am
Sizes 110/120/130 (Winter Uniform)

Tuesday 12th January, 8:30am - 9:45am
Nursery & Reception (Winter Uniform)

Tuesday 19th January, 8:30am - 9:45am
Sizes 140+ (Winter Uniform)

Tuesday 2nd March, 8:30am - 9:45am
Sizes 110/120/130 (Summer Uniform)

Tuesday 9th March, 8:30am - 9:45am
Sizes 140+ (Summer Uniform)

Tuesday 16th March, 8:30am - 9:45am
Nursery & Reception (Summer Uniform)

BOOK SALES

Tuesday 26th January, 8:30am - 9:45am

Tuesday 23rd March, 8:30am - 9:45am

Donations will be accepted between 18th - 22nd January

POSTPONED

SKI SALES

Tuesday 2nd February, 8:30am - 9:45am

Donations will be accepted between 25th - 29th January

All Sales are in the PTA Room, near Shibuya Campus

SCHOOL UNIFORM PROVIDER

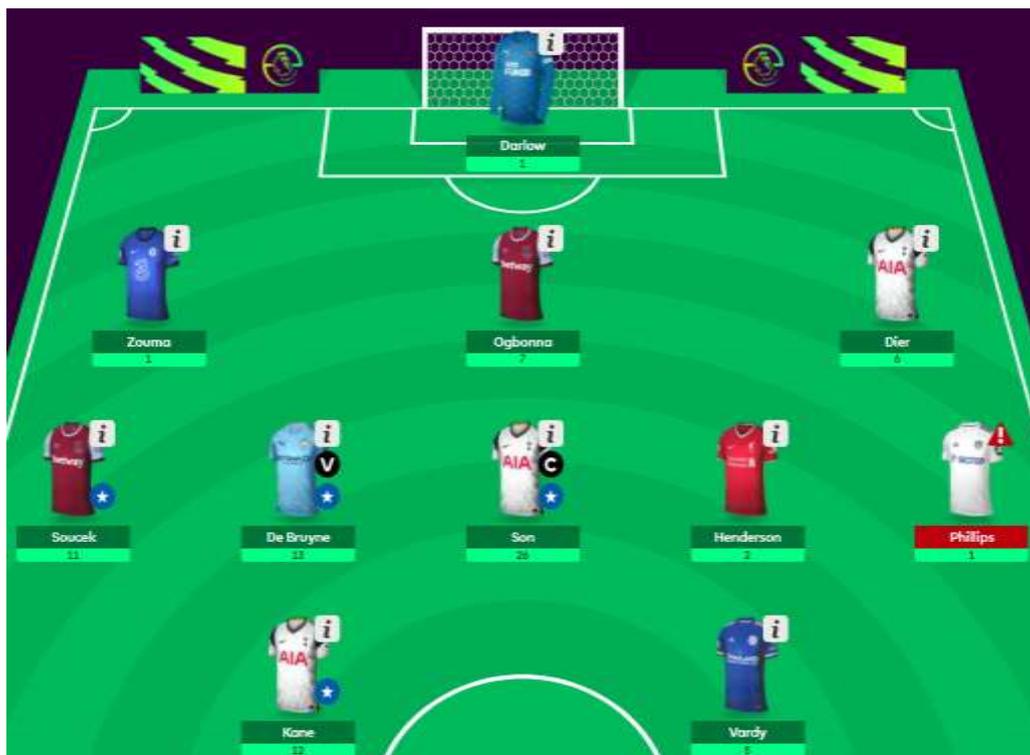
LANDS' END SCHOOL

40% OFF

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

January 8 - 15, 2021
CODE: RENEW PIN: 7319

Uniforms parents trust & students love



<https://fantasy.premierleague.com/>
League code: mzal93

Fantasy Football Game Week 17

It could be said that a lot can change in 6 weeks, the number of gameweeks since my last report. This is particularly true for Leon Way's team 'Show me the Mane', who is the Christmas holiday's biggest improver, moving up 27 places. He is closely followed by Teddy Bielby's team 'Daddy Mitro 11' who also successfully rode the wave of festive game cancellations and rose 26 places.

Of course, every action has an equal and opposite reaction, and Andrew Saunders' 'Team of the week' clearly ate one too many mince pies and dropped down 21 places in the rankings. Still above me though. And of course, every action and its equal and opposite reaction probably have a midpoint somewhere, and Druv Shah's team are in the same position as they were when we broke up for the holidays. 'Why bother?', one might say.

With the second wildcard arriving just in time for the bumper gameweek in two weeks, will anyone be able to knock Mr Norton from his lofty perch? Or will he remain there for the rest of the season, only to drop down on his own just before the end?

Congratulations to Kester Watters' team 'Yegoin Toulouse', who won the 'Team of the week' this time out with 85 points.

Mr Pye