



THE
BRITISH SCHOOL
IN TOKYO

The Lion – 11th September 2020

School
news

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PTA

Community

MESSAGE FROM PAUL TOUGH – PRINCIPAL

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

It has been a lovely week across both campuses, and I have been impressed with the range of learning taking place. Historical fiction has featured prominently, and I am delighted to make you aware that Zoya Subramanian (currently in Year 7) was one of the winners in the prestigious **Historical Association Fictional Story Writing Competition**. Zoya's story "[The Independence Diary](#)" (submitted when in Year 6) was selected from over 1000 entries globally. The competition judges noted that Zoya's "*very moving story about Indian Independence that gives a very personal angle to a great historical event.*" I know you will want to join me in congratulating Zoya on her outstanding achievement.



PTA & SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)

This week [The PTA Committee](#) met for the first time, and the first round of Board of Trustees subcommittee meetings started. The PTA and Trustees work tirelessly in support of the school, and I am very grateful for their commitment in time, energy and expertise. Later in the month, the first meeting of the [School Advisory Committee \(SAC\)](#) will take place with parent and staff representatives meeting with me monthly. I am looking forward to working with the Committee again this year as it continues to have the remit of discussing the school's educational provision. I am delighted to make you aware that the SAC membership for 2020-2021 remains the same as last year - Mrs Sonia Jackson Henrich, Mrs Marisa Gelencser, Mr David Wilkinson, Mr Nathaniel Rowe, Mrs Donella Nemoto, Mr Richard Paterson and Mr Christopher Parsons. Proposed agenda items to be discussed or questions to be raised at the meetings can be sent to the Committee at schooladvisory@bst.ac.jp

ONLINE FORUMS

In last week's newsletter, I made you aware that I will be hosting, with my colleagues, a series of forums this term on the school's new Strategic Plan (soon to be published), our new framework for Teaching and Learning and the revised Mission and Vision. Due to the restrictions placed on the school due to COVID, these sessions will be via Zoom and will take place on the dates and times below.

Mon 12th Oct 9am-10:30am (Mission and Vision / Strategic Plan)

Wed 28th Oct 6pm-7:30pm (Mission and Vision / Strategic Plan)

Thurs 29th Oct 9am-10:30am (Mission and Vision / Strategic Plan)

If you would like to attend one of the (repeat) sessions and receive a Zoom link, please sign up here. <https://tinyurl.com/MissionVisionStrategicPlan>

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OPEN EVENING

Additionally, the Board of Trustees will be hosting an **online** Open Evening on October 15 between 6:30pm and 8:30pm with the annual community survey sent to parents next week. If you would like to attend the Board of Trustees Open Evening and receive a Zoom link, please sign up here. <https://tinyurl.com/TrusteeOpenEvening>

High expectations and the pursuit of excellence are fundamental to the school's Strategic Plan. We are committed to ensuring that we draw upon the best of British and international education for the benefit of all our students. As such, our strategic intent is bold, ambitious and highly achievable. It is to ensure BST transitions from being one of the best international schools in Japan to being one of the best schools in the world. This will be achieved through concentrating upon four strategic priorities: learning, identity, community and infrastructure. A series of focus areas and commitments relate to each strategic priority, and I will be publishing these to the community before half term and in advance of the parent forums.

The development of high-quality teaching and learning, coupled with curriculum design, will also be of significant importance over the next three years. Indeed, schools are much more than a collection of buildings, facilities and resources. The best schools worldwide prioritise learning and encourage creativity and innovation. Our aim, therefore, is to create more opportunities for BST learners to take more ownership of their learning, to be challenged in their education, for character strengths to be developed and for the curriculum to be organised through big ideas and concepts. As part of this plan, I am delighted to make you aware that the school is in partnership with Bronwyn MacLeod formerly of the Geric Centre of the University of New South Wales. Bronwyn will be working throughout the year with initially 16 teachers from Primary and Secondary to develop the school's approach to challenging students at BST in their learning. I look forward to updating you on this in due course and to evaluating the impact for students of this development area. In the meantime, if you have any questions about this or any other area mentioned in today's newsletter, please let me know.

[Paul Tough](#)
Principal



Dear Secondary Parents and Students,

I hope that you have had a good week. Although of course many of our routines have had to be different this term, for the most part all of the staff and students seem very settled and the summer break seems a long time ago. Mr Grey`s whole school Zoom assembly this week talked about the importance of `being good` and how we can support each other; it is good to know that message is getting through!

SHOWA CANTEEN & KIWI KITCHEN

I am pleased to say that from Monday 14th September the Showa University Canteen have agreed to run a special simple service for BST Year 10-13 students and staff. We will review this on an ongoing basis especially in light of the reopening of the university later this month/term. Likewise, Kiwi Kitchen delivery will start again from 28th following some clear safety protocols.

BRING YOUR OWN LAPTOP PROGRAMME

The Bring Your Own Laptop programme appears to have started well and the roll out continues next week with Years 7-9 from Wednesday. A reminder if you have any questions then please do approach [Mr Crummie](#).

The phased reintroduction of our extracurricular programme is underway with various musical ensembles starting, individual lessons with our peripatetic music staff via Zoom during the school day, Sports trials practices beginning next week, and various other activities starting later in the term.

Year 7-9 parents should look out for a separate email message from Mrs McCallum about some logistical matters specific to that phase.

With best wishes for the weekend,

[James Thomas](#)
Head of Secondary



BST Concerto Competition

Thursday 8th October 2020
4PM - 6PM

The annual BST Concerto Competition will be taking place on Thursday 8th October between 4pm - 6pm in the Showa Music Room.

Any BST student currently playing at a Grade 7+ (or equivalent level) is welcome to audition for the opportunity to perform a concerto with the school orchestra at the end of the academic year.

Our guest adjudicator this year is Kunito Nishitani : <https://nkunito.com>

ニューヨーク大学大学院修了 (M.M.特別奨学金含む)
ポートランド州立大学卒業 (B.M. 4年連続奨学金授与)
日米各地で講演や公開レッスンを開催。
複数のオーケストラ団体で音楽監督を務める。
これ迄に、コンクール優秀指導者賞4度受賞。
CDアルバム6枚リリース。音楽メソッド著書6冊出版。
等 公式サイト <https://nkunito.com>



Please email Ms Danmeri (ldanmeri@bst.ac.jp)
by **Friday 25th September** if you are interested in auditioning.

BST Fiji 2021



Operation Wallacea was founded in 1995 and has conducted crucial research for conservation of biological species and ecosystems around the world.

Summer 2021, our senior school students will visit Fiji. .

For more details about the trip or Operation Wallacea, please visit their website at <https://bstfiji2021.wixsite.com/bstfiji2021/about>

Leading up to their expedition to Fiji in the summer of 2021, they would love to reach out to the wider BST community to give monthly updates about our fundraising, volunteering and conservation activities.

Dear Primary Parents,

We are at the end of a busy week 2 and the natural rhythm of school life is starting to beat steadily as the children are settling into their routines, something I am so happy to be able to see. I have thoroughly enjoyed popping into classes and seeing them collaborating and enjoying their learning.

Shibuya Assembly this week was on resilience and Mrs Loran read the story of The Snail and the Whale. The story is about a snail who longs to see the world and hitches a lift on a whale's tail. Together they go on an amazing journey, past icebergs and volcanoes, sharks and penguins, and the snail feels very small in the vastness of the world. However, when the whale is beached in a bay, it's the tiny snail who saves the day. The story illustrated how resilience is built by having the courage to try something new and to keep on trying even when things appear challenging. By staying positive about what it is you want to do and by knowing that you are trying your best will help build your resilience. It supports the development of a growth mindset and it is an important part in the acquisition of social and emotional skills and well-being.



Mr Wilcox's assembly theme this week was on kindness. He told the children a story of his days at a boarding school and the kindness that one boy showed to him. He then spoke about our school rules and how teachers trust the students to make the right decisions. He also discussed what would be the rules the students would like to see at school and they were: ***be kind, work hard (at anything that makes you happy) and be your best self.*** Following this theme of kindness we caught a few children in the act...

Caught in the Act this week: Rodrigo, Shukei and Ella displaying random acts of kindness this week! We always appreciate acts of kindness and we will be watching closely to catch more of our students helping, supporting and caring for others!

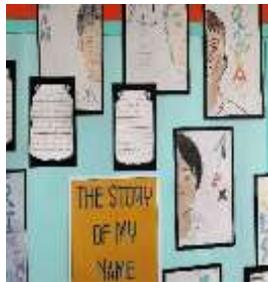


We have been having heaps of fun in EYFS and becoming familiar with their new routines. Nursery had their first PE lesson today with Mr Tseng and really enjoyed being active.

Year 1s have been busy investigating the skeletal system and learning all about how our body, joints and muscles move.



In Showa all year groups have been exploring identity through maths and character strengths assessments (Y6), Self-portraits (Y5) or exploring the origin of their names (Y4) inspired by the story The Name Jar. Y4 have also been looking at descriptive writing using the book How to Live Forever by Colin Thompson.



So as you can see we have all been busy learning in Primary this week and having lots of fun at the same time! As we know from all the research by Daniel Goldman (a world-renowned expert on emotional intelligence) **Happy, calm children learn best!**

Next week we will be having our first **Parent Information Evening** and I know all the staff are looking forward to meeting you, albeit it virtually. However, we are hoping to conduct the majority of the Parent Teacher Conferences in October in person.

NEW PARENTS The Primary Senior Leadership Team will be presenting to all new parents on **Thursday 17th September at 5pm**. Please use this zoom link to join the meeting:

<https://tinyurl.com/NewParentPrimaryPIE>

Meeting ID: 880 4638 5390

Passcode: tck2ge

We are very much looking forward to meeting you.

With the weather being so unpredictable, we are keeping a close eye on the temperatures and adapting play accordingly. I am feeling grateful for the slightly cooler days recently! I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend and please remember the school photographers will be in school on 21st September at Shibuya and 22/23rd September at Showa. Primary ECAs and Club information will be sent out to parents next week as most clubs start on the week beginning Monday 21st September.

[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/>

Primary Parent Information Evening

Thursday 17th September 2020
6pm - 7pm

Online

Details on how to join will follow from Class Teachers.



Primary Parent Information Evening (PIE)

9月17日(木)のPIEは**ZOOM**での
開催となります

日時：9月17日 木曜日
6:00 -7:00PM

参加情報詳細はクラス担任よりご案内いたします



REMINDER OF BST SAFETY PROTOCOLS

A reminder about ongoing BST safety protocols

- All parents should be checking their child/ren's temperature twice a day and keeping a record in case they get Covid-19
- At the same time parents should check for other symptoms as well
- Students should not come to school if they exhibit any symptoms, including but not limited to fever, persistent sore throat or cough, muscle aches, diarrhoea, vomiting, loss of taste/smell or persistent runny nose/congestion
- All students must come to school in a mask and have a spare mask in a zip lock bag in their school bag

BST Health & Safety

KIWI KITCHEN SHOWA

**KIWI KITCHEN WILL RESUME DELIVERY LUNCH SERVICE
AT SHOWA FOR YEARS 4-13 FROM 28TH SEPT 2020**



Welcome to the new Kiwi Kitchen school lunch ordering system

<https://edu.kiwikitchen.com/>

COVID-19 Updated Procedures

In addition to our usual high standards of hygiene and food safety, Kiwi Kitchen has implemented the following procedures in response to the coronavirus pandemic:

- All staff temperatures are recorded daily, and any staff showing a high temperature or other key symptoms will be sent home immediately.
- Any staff who have been in recent contact with, or live with people who have been in recent contact with, at-risk groups or to high-risk areas will not be permitted to work
- All staff, including our delivery staff, wear masks while working. Masks are changed regularly if wet or damaged.
- All staff, including our delivery staff, wear disposable gloves while handling food, food containers, or cash. Gloves are changed regularly throughout the day.
- All staff must thoroughly wash hands every 30 minutes and after handling cash. Additionally, our kitchen staff already maintain thorough hand washing throughout the day due to standard food preparation guidelines.
- At times when hand washing is not practical, staff must use hand sanitizer.
- In addition to our usual daily sanitizing of insulated bags & boxes, all delivery vehicles are sanitized after each shift.

available in
Japanese



日本語をご希望ですか？

学校生活、行事におけるご不明点、
ご相談等、日本語をご希望の場合は
日本語にて対応させていただきます。
お気軽にお問合せください。

comms@bst.ac.jp

The Communications Team now has a Japanese speaker on hand to help.

Please do not hesitate to contact us - comms@bst.ac.jp



JOB VACANCY

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A NEW SECRETARY FOR THE PTA

INVOLVES

Sending out meeting announcements, agendas, supporting documents

Attending monthly PTA meetings & generally being an enthusiastic & supportive community member

Managing & maintaining the PTA shared Google Drive; keeping information relevant & up to date

Managing & updating the supporting documents & guidelines of the PTA.

If you are interested in the position – please email pta@bst.ac.jp

COMMUNITY EVENTS



BST Fantasy Football

Looking to be disappointed on a weekly basis this year? Sometimes even twice a week? Look no further than BST Fantasy football! Open to staff, students and parents (including past students & parents)

<https://fantasy.premierleague.com/>

League code: mzal93

The first week of scoring is **Saturday 12th September 2020**, so if you wish to take part you should get your team ready by then.

--> Tip: Make sure your best players are in your starting 11 and not sitting on the bench!
Any questions – Email Mr Pye <mpye@bst.ac.jp>