



PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



No 4 – 2023/2024

The British School of Lomé

3RD November

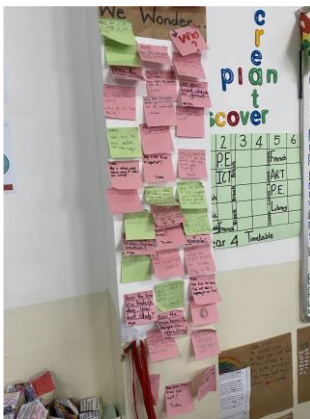
UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ Diwali
- ❖ Armistice or Remembrance Day 11th November
- ❖ Primary Production
- ❖ End of Term 1 Reports go out Tuesday 12th December
- ❖ Parent Teacher Meetings-Thursdays 14th December
- ❖ End of Term 1 Friday 15th December



Dear parents, guardians and carers,

Every week there are so many significant events happening in our school such as amazing assemblies, swimming, interactive and engaging lessons to name a few. I get the privilege of going around and observing teachers in their classrooms and I have seen so many amazing and interesting lessons that really make you think and displays that show that the children have really thought deeply and critically about a subject. Our teachers spend a lot of time preparing and planning their lessons and it's a joy to see the results when you go around the school.



The Primary Student Council have been meeting to discuss how their time at school can be improved and they have come up with some very good ideas. However, they have also found out that it's not just about coming up with ideas; it's also about how to put those ideas into practice, which is often much more of a problem.

They are learning that we need to find ways to solve problems and we are all here to help with that.

Have a lovely weekend everyone,
Kind regards,

Mr Gareth Jones

Head of Primary



Year 3

Year 3 enjoy utilising the school gardens for their outdoor learning activities. This week they took a walk around the school gardens as part of their Five Senses unit on Smell. They managed to find their favourite scent amongst the flowers and plants.

As part of their Topic unit on The Brain, they learnt about the importance of protecting your brain. Our very own Frida gave us a demonstration on how to wear a bicycle helmet properly and how to ride safely and responsibly on the road. Thank you Frida!



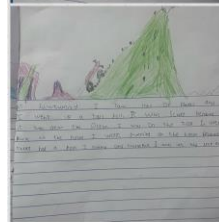
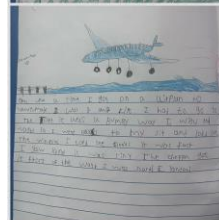
Year 1

Our Year 1 students are diving into the world of shapes using hands-on manipulatives. They are having a blast by discovering squares, circles, rectangles and triangles in a fun and interactive way. They are also staying engaged by discussing their shape adventures at home.



Year 2

'Reading is like breathing in, and writing is like breathing out'. A word is a small magic, a spell that can unlock the world. Reading aloud to your children is a gift that will last a lifetime. Never give up on a child who is struggling to read.'



Students have been reading and listening to various types of stories, and writing stories. Reading builds strong writers, and we are working to make our writing more interesting for readers. We paired with a partner to read our narratives using a checklist to see how well we are doing.

Year 5

In Year 5, we have been carrying out scientific investigations looking at the amount of friction created on a range of surfaces. It was great to see the scientific vocabulary used when investigating the different distances the car travelled over each surface. Pupils collated the results then worked out the average distance to ensure results were accurate and reliable.



Nursery & Crèche

In Nursery and Crèche, we have begun our new topic '3 is a Magic Number'. We have been learning the story about the 'Three little Pigs'. The children have enjoyed role-playing the story, making their houses and investigating different materials.



History of Togo

The first shot fired by the British army during the First World War was not on the Western Front but in the tiny West African country of Togo, then called Togoland. It took place on 7 August 1914, three days after Britain declared war on Germany. Responding to shots fired by the German-led police force, Lance Corporal Alhaji Grunshi of the Gold Coast Regiment fired back. He went on to serve in the British Army in two further campaigns in Africa – Kamerun and East Africa – rising to the rank of Company Sergeant Major, and survived the War. Ref. <https://awayfromthewesternfront.org/campaigns/africa/togoland/>



Fabulous French

In Year 3 French Higher Level group with Ms Bertaud, students are:

- 1) Completing a transformation from affirmative to negative sentence.
- 2) Completing the tree with the mind maps in French, about them.



Uniform Correct Shoes (Gentle Reminder)



A general guideline for uniform shoes. Please check the PE kit for PE/Sports trainers

In Flanders Fields By John McCrae

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow,
In Flanders fields.*

A Message from the Head of School

Dear parents, guardians and students,

Canadian educator Lori Gard highlighted caring as the most important thing a teacher can do for her or his pupils. *“At the end of the day,” Ms Gard writes, “most students won’t remember what amazing lesson plans teachers have created. They won’t remember how organised their bulletin boards are. How straight and neat are the desk rows. But they will remember their teachers. Their kindness. Their empathy. Their care and concern. They will remember that their teacher took the time to listen. They stopped to ask them how they were. How they really were.”*

It is an inspirational message - one that most of us can agree with. However, what is even more inspirational is that there is actual scientific proof that caring does make a difference. Researchers at the University of Edinburgh have found that the more a teacher cares about her/his pupils, the more respect she/he will receive from them.

At our school, we believe that all children have the right to be treated with the same care and dignity, as we would expect outside of school. It is our aim to help our children to achieve their dreams. Not only this, we also tell our children to remember to take care of their parents when they are old and cannot take care of themselves the way they took care of them.

Have a restful weekend.

Mr Akif Naqvi
Head of School

WHO IS RIBOUEM AIME ROGER?

We have recruited a very talented music teacher with international school music teaching experience. Until his immigration process is completed, we are blessed to have Mr Ribouem as a cover teacher who has been associated with BSL for over 20 years and is known to many parents and alumni. You can click on our website <https://www.bsl.tg/> play button and listen to his music and what he has been teaching our students.

Did you know Mr Ribouem is a very famous Togolese musician in the music and jazz community in Togo and also offers after-school music clubs?

His daughter is also a musician and helps our students.

You can see his website profile by clicking the above links:

<https://www.afrisson.com/ribouem-13420/>

<https://tg.linkedin.com/in/aime-roger-ribouem-8bb02a6b>

https://www.facebook.com/aimeroger.ribouem/?locale=fr_FR



Trainings at BSL...



CPD - First Aid, Fire Safety and Safety Procedures

At The British School of Lomé, we take the health and safety of our students and staff very seriously. All our staff have gone through **Safeguarding and Child protection training**. It gives us pleasure to announce that recently all our staff have also gone through practical hands-on training on **First Aid, Fire Safety and Safety Procedures**.



HOW TO USE EXTINGUISHER



Poppy Appeal 2023

At 11 o'clock in the morning of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, the First World War -known at the time as the Great War or the War to end all wars- came to an end. The poppy is the enduring symbol of remembrance of the First World War. It is strongly linked with Armistice Day (11 November), but the poppy's origin as a popular symbol of remembrance lies in the landscapes of the First World War.

Poppies were a common sight, especially on the Western Front. They flourished in the soil churned up by the fighting and shelling. The flower provided Canadian doctor **John McCrae** with inspiration for his poem 'In Flanders Fields', which he wrote whilst serving in Ypres in 1915. The poppy continues to be sold worldwide to raise money and to remember those who lost their lives in the First World War and in subsequent conflicts.

Poppies will be on sale all next week for 1000 cfa or you can donate more. The money will be shared between The Royal British Legion and soldiers families in Togo.





Lomé, 30th October 2023

Dear parents,

As you know, our role as parents in the school and educational life of our children is essential and crucial. To this end, our school BSL needs more than ever the involvement of all of us because we share a same and common interest which is the continuous advancement of the education of our children, the improvement of school facilities and the strengthening of learning conditions.

It is for this purpose that we invite each parent to respond to this call for applications for the renewal of the members of the board of the Association of Parents for a 2-year mandate.

The opening of applications will concern the following ten (10) positions: 1 PRESIDENT, 1 VICE-PRESIDENT, 1 SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT, 1 SECRETARY, 1 ASSISTANT SECRETARY, 1 TREASURER, 1 ASSISTANT TREASURER and 3 MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

In order to establish the said new committee, we invite all parents interested and willing to sit on the Committee of the Parents' Association **to submit their application (a brief presentation of yourself and your motivation to join the committee) by sending an email to the Committee at the following email address :**

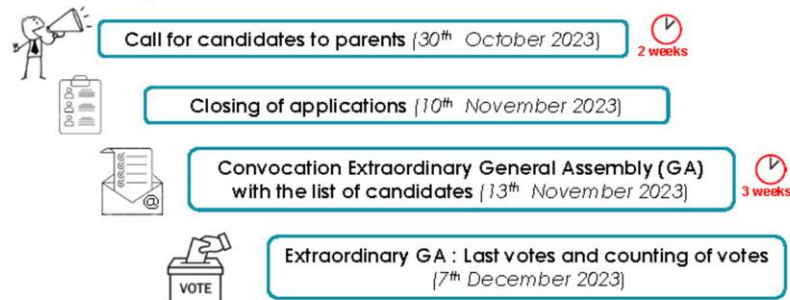
apebsl.togo@gmail.com

The closing date for sending applications is: **Friday, November 10, 2023.**

We strongly encourage parents from different sections (nursery, primary and secondary) to come forward so that we have a representative committee that can address the concerns of all school sections.

All applications will be published in a press release in November ahead of the official election scheduled during our Extraordinary General Assembly planned for **Thursday 7th December 2023**. Candidates will have the opportunity to introduce themselves to the other parents before the vote by ballot box

Kindly take note of the Chronogram of Events below:



We would like to leave you with the following words *"if you want to go fast, go alone – But if you want to go far, go with others"*. Teamwork, solidarity, togetherness, alignment, and cohesion of all parents should be our guiding principles and motivation for actions going forward because a **strong team is a winning team**.

We sincerely hope that these words will resonate in each of you and will touch each of your hearts so that **you do what you believe is good – right and fitting for your children, for all our children, for the entire school community.**

Sincerely,

The Parents Association Management Committee (PAMC)

PA-BSL (Continued)



Lomé, 30 octobre 2023

Chers Parents,

Comme vous le savez, notre rôle de parent dans la vie scolaire et éducative de nos enfants est primordial et crucial. A cet effet, notre école BSL a plus que jamais besoin de notre implication à tous car nous partageons un seul et même intérêt à savoir l'avancement continu de l'éducation de nos enfants, l'amélioration des installations scolaires et le renforcement des conditions d'apprentissage.

C'est dans ce but que nous invitons chaque parent à répondre à cet appel à candidatures pour le renouvellement des membres du bureau de l'Association des Parents d'élèves pour un mandat de 2 ans.

L'ouverture des candidatures concernera les dix postes suivants : 1 PRÉSIDENT, 1 VICE-PRÉSIDENT, 1 DEUXIEME VICE-PRESIDENT, 1 SECRETAIRE, 1 SECRETAIRE ADJOINT, 1 TRÉSORIER, 1 TRÉSORIER ADJOINT et 3 MEMBRES DU COMITÉ.

En vue de constituer ledit nouveau bureau, nous invitons tous les parents intéressés et disposés à siéger au Comité de Direction de l'Association des Parents à **transmettre leur candidature (une brève présentation de vous-même et de votre motivation à rejoindre le comité) en envoyant un mail au bureau de l'Association à l'adresse mail suivante :**

apebsl.togo@gmail.com

La date de clôture d'envoi des candidatures est fixée au : **Vendredi 10 Novembre 2023.**

Nous encourageons vivement les parents des différentes sections (maternelle, primaire et secondaire) à se présenter afin d'avoir un bureau représentatif pouvant répondre aux préoccupations de toutes les sections.

Toutes les candidatures seront publiées dans un communiqué courant novembre en prélude à l'élection officielle prévue lors de notre Assemblée Générale **du Jeudi 7 décembre 2023**. Les candidats auront l'opportunité de se présenter aux autres parents avant le vote qui se fera par urne.

Merci de prendre note du Chronogramme des événements :



Nous aimerions vous quitter avec les mots suivants : « **Si vous voulez aller vite, partez seul - Mais si vous voulez aller loin, partez avec les autres** ». Le travail d'équipe, la solidarité, l'unité, l'alignement et la cohésion de tous les parents devraient être nos principes directeurs et notre motivation pour les actions à venir, **car une équipe forte est une équipe gagnante.**

Nous espérons sincèrement que ces paroles résonneront en chacun de vous et toucheront chacun de vos cœurs **afin que vous fassiez ce que vous croyez être bon/bien - juste et approprié pour vos enfants, pour tous nos enfants, pour toute la communauté scolaire.**

Cordialement,

Le Comité de gestion de l'Association des parents (PAMC)