



17-05-24

# The British School of Lomé

## Secondary Newsletter



### Head of School Message

## Happy Year 13 Graduation Day and Prom and a Well-deserved Rest!

A huge congratulation to our Year 13 IBDP students who have just completed their final exams! You have put in countless hours of hard work and dedication, and we are immensely proud of your perseverance. Take a deep breath relax, and know that you have given it your all.

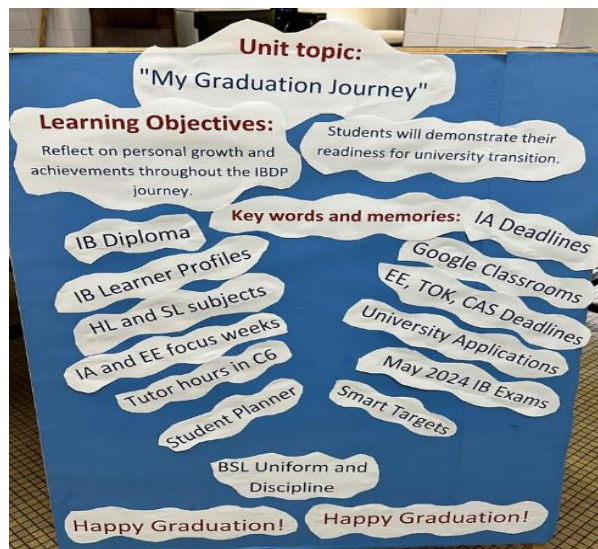
I also extend my heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated staff members who tirelessly supported these students and ensured the smooth running of the exams. Your commitment to their success is truly admirable.

I also want to extend my warmest wishes for a truly happy graduation day and prom this Saturday! We know you have worked incredibly hard, and this celebration is well deserved. Our extra effort in organising this year's events reflects the deep love and care we have for all our BSL students.

Now, for our Year 13 graduates, exciting possibilities lie ahead. We wish you the very best in all your future endeavours. We are here for you, and for all our students, every step of the way, to ensure you feel supported.

Akif Naqvi

Head of School





## WISHING YOU A BLESSED WHIT MONDAY TO THOSE WHO OBSERVE THIS DAY.

Please be advised that the school will be closed on Monday, May 20th, in observance of Whit Monday, a public holiday in Togo. Normal operations will resume on Tuesday, May 21st.

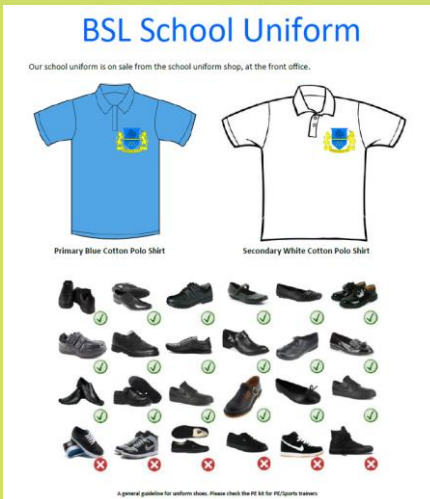
This closure excludes Year 11 IGCSE students taking exams. Please refer to the exam timetables previously sent and ensure you arrive at the school premises at least one hour before your exam begins. We wish you all a safe and enjoyable day!

### BSL PRIDE ON DISPLAY! FILMING & UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS NEXT WEEK

As part of our school development plan, our marketing team will be conducting filming and photography of various aspects of BSL next week. We kindly request that all students show their BSL pride by wearing their full and correct school uniform, as outlined in the BSL uniform policy <https://www.bsl.tg/school-policies>. This includes the correct shoes and ensures button-down shirts are tucked in. For girls, we recommend neat hairstyles such as ponytails, braids or buns. Plain navy blue headbands and hair clips are acceptable. Students who wear a navy blue or black scarf for religious purposes may do so. Please refer to the uniform policy for more guidance.

We understand that some parents have requested time until summer break to purchase the next correct pair of shoes. In the meantime, please ensure your child wears shoes that are as close as possible to the regulations outlined in the uniform policy.

Thank you for your cooperation!



### La fierté BSL à l'honneur ! Tournage et exigences en matière d'uniforme la semaine prochaine

Dans le cadre du plan de développement de l'école, notre équipe marketing procédera à un tournage vidéo et photographie sur les divers aspects du BSL la semaine prochaine. Nous demandons à tous les élèves de montrer leur fierté en portant l'uniforme complet et correct de l'école, comme indiqué dans la politique d'uniforme de BSL <https://www.bsl.tg/school-policies>.

Les élèves doivent porter les chaussures adéquates et s'assurer que leurs chemises boutonnées sont enfilées dans le pantalon. Pour les filles, nous recommandons des coiffures soignées telles que des queues de cheval, des tresses ou des chignons. Les bandeaux et pinces à cheveux bleu marine sont acceptés. Les élèves qui portent un foulard bleu marine ou noir à des fins religieuses peuvent le conserver. Veuillez vous référer à la politique en matière d'uniforme pour plus d'informations.

Nous comprenons que certains parents aient demandé un délai jusqu'aux vacances d'été pour acheter la prochaine paire de chaussures correcte. Dans l'intervalle, veuillez vous assurer que votre enfant porte des chaussures aussi proches que possible des règles énoncées dans la politique en matière d'uniforme.

Nous vous remercions de votre coopération !

## Head of Secondary Message

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, and Staff,

We hope this message finds you well and trust that you are using this time to gear up for the upcoming exam week (beginning Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May). As we move towards the end of the academic year, we have a plethora of exciting events and updates to share with you. From celebrating the achievements of our Year 13 students to welcoming back a distinguished alumnus, there has been a lot happening at BSL and some great things to look forward to as well.

We are excited to announce that our Graduation Ceremony for the Year 13 students will take place on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May. This year, we have the honour of being joined by a special guest to mark this significant milestone. I hope by the time that you read this article, the proverbial 'cat will be out of the bag' and you will have been honoured by the presence of our esteemed guest. This event is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our students and to wish them well as they head towards university and their future endeavours. Wherever they go, I am sure that they will return to Togo and have a positive impact on the progress of this beloved nation.

On that note, I need to remind you that our end of your exams and **GL Assessments are scheduled to take place from the 27<sup>th</sup> of May**. The latter will be used to assess our students from Year 1 to Year 9 and will play a crucial role in understanding our students' academic progress. The assessments are a 'Progress Test' in English, mathematics and science. The assessments will not replace our end of year exams, but supplement them. The 'Progress Tests' will enhance so many facets of our teaching and learning. They will produce data and reports that will:

- Allow us to tailor our teaching methods to meet individual student needs
- Provide us with the necessary data to determine our students' academic level in comparison to other international students
- Outline an effective action plan to ensure that further progress is made

We encourage all of our community members to pay close attention to this cutting edge and groundbreaking initiative and be present for our **Coffee morning and GL Assessment Workshop on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM**. Please RSVP by sending an email to [contact@bsl.tg](mailto:contact@bsl.tg).

The GL Assessments will be an integral part of BSL's present and future; however, we have also had a brilliant opportunity to look fondly at our past and use this as inspiration. This week we hosted Mr Umar Baba Ahmed, one of our esteemed alumnus who attended BSL between 1999 and 2005. He spoke during assembly, sharing his journey since graduating from BSL, and offering invaluable advice to our current students. As we continue to progress and prepare our students for the changing world, it is equally important to celebrate our roots.

At BSL, community is at the heart of all that we do. We are proud to announce that our Language Institute team has been hard at work preparing an enriched curriculum for the next academic year. This new curriculum aims to enhance our language offerings, ensuring that our adult learners have access to high-quality language education that will serve them well in their professions.



The highlights do not stop there! We are pleased to announce another new initiative. The Wellbeing and Learning Support department has had the necessary time to strengthen their practice and in this newsletter, you will see a visual representation of the service that will be provided to students throughout the school. This intervention programme is designed to provide additional support to students who may need it, ensuring they have the resources and assistance required to succeed academically and personally.

To enhance **your** wellbeing, mark your calendars for a delightful musical performance at Le Patio on June 12th. Our talented students have been rehearsing diligently and are excited to showcase their musical talents. This event promises to be a wonderful evening of music and community spirit. I want to use this opportunity to thank Mr Seid and the talented musicians we have at BSL.

For the first time, BSL will be conducting French assessments, highlighting our commitment to multilingual education. These assessments will provide valuable insights into our students' proficiency in French and help us enhance our French language programme. The benefits of these assessments are manifold, from improving language skills to opening doors to new cultural experiences. Despite being 'The British School', French proficiency is crucial to us and we foresee continuous growth in this area. Hopefully, I can improve my own French too, ***Si Dieu le veut!***

As some of you have already noticed, our boarding house is undergoing some exciting updates to enhance the living experience for our students. These improvements will provide a comfortable and supportive environment that feels like a home away from home. We look forward to sharing more details and pictures of the upgraded facilities soon.

Finally, we are excited to announce the upcoming ASEP and Summer School, which will offer a range of activities for students to enjoy during the summer break. These clubs are a great way for students to explore new interests, develop skills, and make lasting memories. Our focus on togetherness is as important as ever and we are committed to collaborating with our parents and wider community.

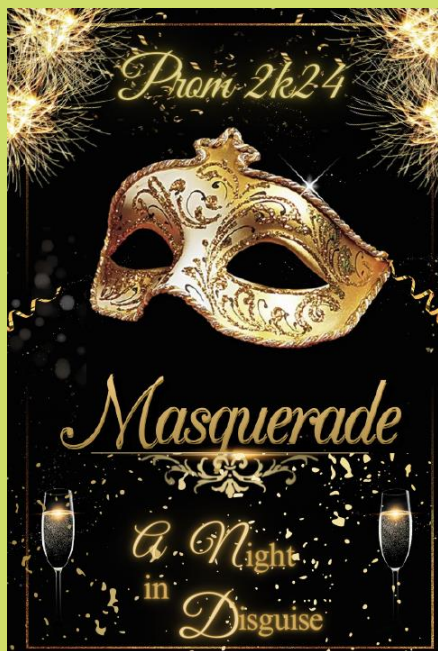
Thank you for your continued support and involvement in the BSL community. We are proud of our students and the vibrant, supportive environment we all create together. If you have any questions or need further information about any of the events or updates mentioned, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Warm regards,

Mr Anthony Jackson

Acting Head of Secondary

## IBDP Graduation 2024 & PROM



We are pleased to inform you that our senior class, Year 13, will have a befitting and well-deserved Graduation Ceremony and Prom on Saturday. They have been working very hard, and we wish them all the success in their exams and their lives beyond. We thank the parents and family members who have made sacrifices for their children to be educated at BSL.

We are also thankful to our students and staff who are organizing this memorable event for them.

BSL has been their school and will always remain so. They will forever hold a special place in our hearts.



This exciting bat-and-ball game pits two teams of eleven players against each other on a field with wickets (those are the three upright posts!). The bowler throws the ball towards the batsman from one end of the pitch, and the batsman tries to defend the wickets with their bat.

Cricket is a fantastic sport for children of all ages. It provides opportunities to:

- **Build friendships:** Teamwork is essential in cricket, fostering camaraderie and sportsmanship among players.
- **Develop new skills:** From hand-eye coordination and batting techniques to bowling accuracy and fielding agility, cricket offers a well-rounded skillset to learn.
- **Master fundamental movement:** Running, jumping, throwing, and catching are all key components of the game, helping children develop their physical literacy.

## PE Department News

### Cricket in Full swing at BSL



**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

**Harmonic Harmony**

**at Le Patio!**



## **Harmonic Harmony at Le Patio!**

Join us for a delightful musical evening featuring a talented group of BSL students and staff!

- **Date:** Friday, May 24th
- **Time:** 7:30 PM
- **Location:** Le Patio Hotel and Restaurant
- **Admission:** Free (you only pay for any meals or drinks you purchase from the restaurant)

Unwind after your busy week and enjoy an evening filled with beautiful music. This performance is more than just entertainment; it's an opportunity for our students to build confidence, hone their skills and share their passion for music with the community.

**Come witness their musical magic, celebrate their achievements and experience a truly refreshing evening!**

---FRENCH---

## **HARMONIE AU RESTAURANT LE PATIO !**

Rejoignez-nous pour une délicieuse soirée musicale mettant en vedette un groupe talentueux d'étudiants et de membres du personnel de BSL!

- **Date :** Vendredi 24 mai
- **Heure :** 19h30
- **Lieu :** Restaurant Le Patio
- **Entrée gratuite** (vous ne payez que les repas ou boissons que vous consommez au restaurant)

Détendez-vous après une semaine bien remplie et profitez d'une soirée de belle musique. Ce spectacle est plus qu'un simple divertissement, c'est l'occasion pour nos élèves de renforcer leur confiance, d'affiner leurs compétences et de partager leur passion pour la musique avec la population.

**Venez assister à leur magie musicale, célébrer leurs réussites et vivre une soirée vraiment rafraîchissante!**





 Progress Test in English

 Progress Test in Maths

 Progress Test in Science

 **Rapid**

 New Group Reading Test

**CAT4**

**PASS**

**SATURDAY, MAY 25TH**

**PARENTS' WORKSHOP**

**and MEETING WITH HEAD OF SCHOOL**

## PARENTS' WORKSHOP AND HEAD OF SCHOOL COFFEE MORNING

We'd like to invite you to two exciting events focused on enhancing your child's educational experience at BSL:

1. **GL Assessments Workshop:** As part of our ongoing commitment to excellence, BSL is introducing yearly UK/international standardised assessments from Reception to Year 9, to enhance the overall standards of education leading to the IGCSE and IB programmes. This initiative will provide valuable insights into your child's progress and ensure their preparedness for future academic challenges.
2. **Head of School Coffee Morning:** Join the Head of School and leadership team for a casual coffee morning! This is a great opportunity to: Learn more about the GL assessments. Discover new developments, including the establishment of the Wellbeing & Learning Support Department, MFL department, Boarding House, Summer School and upcoming staff additions. Hear about the Language Institute and other exciting plans for next year. Most importantly, share your feedback on all the developments and changes you've noticed this year. Your input is crucial as we plan for the future of BSL.

**Please join us:**

- **Date:** Saturday, May 25th
- **Time:** 11:00 AM

**RSVP:** We would be grateful if you could confirm your participation in the above event by calling the school office on **+228 2226 4606** or sending an email to [contact@bsl.tg](mailto:contact@bsl.tg). Please let us know how many people will be attending with you. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Parents : Atelier sur les évaluations GL et Café-rencontre avec le directeur de l'école**

Nous sommes ravis de vous inviter à deux événements intéressants qui visent à améliorer l'expérience éducative de votre enfant à l'école BSL:

1. **Atelier sur les évaluations GL:** Dans le cadre de notre engagement continu envers l'excellence, l'école BSL introduit des évaluations standardisées britanniques/internationales annuelles de la petite section à la 3ème, afin d'améliorer les standards d'éducation menant aux programmes IGCSE et IB. Cette initiative fournira des informations précieuses sur les progrès de votre enfant et garantira sa préparation aux futurs défis académiques.

2. **Café-rencontre avec le directeur de l'école :** Rejoignez le directeur de l'école et son équipe dirigeante pour un café-rencontre informel ! C'est une excellente occasion de :

En savoir plus sur les évaluations GL.

Découvrir les nouveautés, notamment la création du département de bien-être et de soutien scolaire, du département des langues vivantes étrangères (MFL), de l'internat, de l'école d'été et les prochains recrutements de personnel.

Entendre parler de l'Institut des langues et d'autres projets passionnants pour l'année prochaine.

Plus important encore, partagez vos commentaires sur tous les développements et changements que vous avez remarqués cette année. Votre contribution est essentielle pour planifier l'avenir de l'école BSL.

**Venez nous rejoindre !**

**Date :** Samedi 25 mai

**Heure :** 11h00

**RSVP :** Nous vous serions reconnaissants de confirmer votre participation à l'événement ci-dessus en appelant le bureau de l'école au +228 2226 4606 ou en envoyant un courriel à [contact@bsl.tg](mailto:contact@bsl.tg). Veuillez nous indiquer le nombre de personnes qui vous accompagneront.

**Nous sommes impatients de vous y voir !**



## BSL SUMMER SCHOOL: AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME-

### Calling all Activity Organisers!

We're excited to announce a robust summer programme for our students, offering a healthy balance of learning and engaging activities. Summer school helps students stay active, prevent academic slide, and build valuable skills like confidence, independence, time management, and social connections. **We also welcome proposals for adult activities** using our facilities.

**Share Your Skills:** As we finalise the schedule, we'd love to hear from parents, family members, alumni and friends who are interested in sharing their talents with our students or community members.

**Possible Activities:** Cooking, dance & music, debate, chess, arts & crafts, rock climbing, IT, robotics & coding, yoga, exercise, canoeing, elocution & etiquette, gardening & farming, Zumba, vocational skills (plumbing, construction, electrical, computer maintenance, woodworking), gym, first aid, languages (German, French, Spanish, Mandarin, Hindi, Arabic), and booster homework classes, etc.

#### Tell us about your offering:

- **Days & Time:** Availability for your activity.
- **Fees:** Your proposed fee per participant.
- **Age Group:** Whether your activity is suitable for infants, juniors, secondary students, or adults.

**Express Your Interest:** Please contact us as soon as possible:

**Phone:** +228 2226 4606

**Email:** [contact@bsl.tg](mailto:contact@bsl.tg)

### École d'été BSL : Programme d'enrichissement parascolaire

#### Appel à tous les organisateurs d'activités !

Nous sommes ravis d'annoncer un programme d'été solide pour nos élèves, offrant un équilibre sain entre apprentissage et activités attrayantes. L'école d'été aide les élèves à rester actifs, à prévenir le décrochage scolaire et à développer des compétences précieuses telles que la confiance en soi, l'indépendance, la gestion du temps et les liens sociaux. Nous acceptons également les propositions d'activités pour adultes dans nos installations.

#### Partagez vos compétences !

Alors que nous finalisons le programme, nous aimerions avoir des nouvelles des parents, des membres de la famille, des anciens élèves et des amis qui souhaitent partager leurs talents avec nos élèves.

**Activités possibles :** Cuisine, danse et musique, débats, échecs, arts plastiques et artisanat, escalade, informatique, robotique et codage, yoga, exercice physique, canoë, élocution et étiquette, jardinage et agriculture, Zumba, compétences professionnelles (plomberie, construction, électricité, maintenance informatique, menuiserie), gymnase, premiers secours, langues (allemand, français, espagnol, mandarin, hindi, arabe) et cours de rattrapage.

#### Parlez-nous de votre offre :

- **Jours et horaires :** Disponibilité pour votre activité.
- **Frais :** Vos frais proposés par participant.
- **Groupe d'âge :** Si votre activité convient aux nourrissons, aux juniors, aux élèves du secondaire ou aux adultes.

Exprimez votre intérêt : Veuillez nous contacter dès que possible :

**Téléphone :** +228 2226 4606

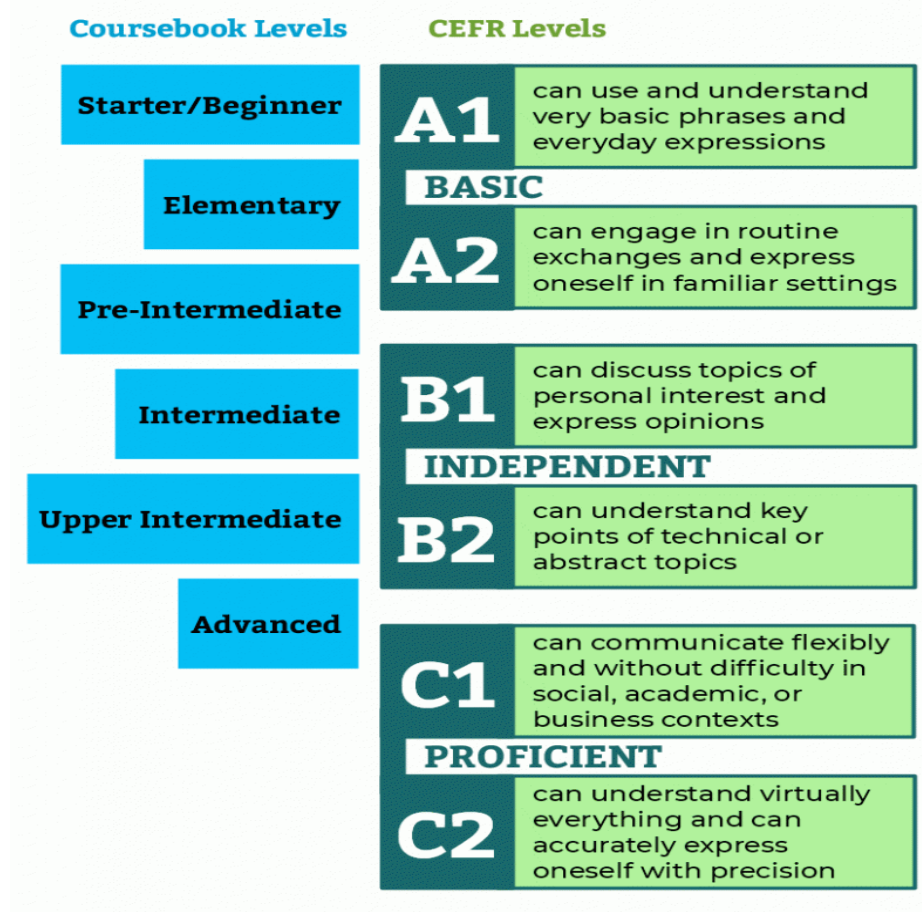
**Courriel :** [contact@bsl.tg](mailto:contact@bsl.tg)





The British School of Lomé is enlarging its language learning offer.

As we make preparations for the opening of the language institute, we would like to share information about the different levels of our English teaching and other programmes with you.



The BSL Language institute will cater to all language levels, from beginner to advanced, fostering cultural understanding and global communication.

We are in the process of planning to offer other languages, including French, Spanish, and Mandarin, taught by native speakers. More details will be provided soon.

If you are interested in partnership and collaboration, we value your contribution. Please contact Mr David at [david,nyamikou@bsl.tg](mailto:david,nyamikou@bsl.tg)



**"One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way." - Frank Smith**

**2063 Gender Goals: ImpactHER, African Union sign MoU on African women empowerment**



ImpactHER, Africa's foremost not-for-profit organization with a mandate for empowering African female entrepreneurs by bridging the gender business financing gap so as to help them realise their full economic potential has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the African Union for gender equality and women's economic empowerment in realization of the Union's 2063 Gender Goals.

The MoU outlines a collaborative framework between ImpactHER and the African Union, focusing on strategic initiatives to empower women entrepreneurs across the continent. This partnership aims to address key challenges faced by African women in business, including access to finance, market linkages and skill development, aligning with the aspirations of Agenda 2063 for a prosperous and gender-equal Africa.

Efe Ukala, Founder, ImpactHER, while expressing enthusiasm about the partnership said: "This is more than a collaboration; it's a commitment to the women of Africa. Together with the African Union, we are poised to make significant strides in breaking down barriers that have long hindered women entrepreneurs from reaching their full potential. The partnership will kick-off with a series of joint programs and initiatives aimed at providing African women entrepreneurs with the tools, resources, and support they need to thrive. These initiatives will include targeted training programs, access to finance workshops, and networking events designed to connect women entrepreneurs with potential investors and markets".

## BSL Alumni achievements

During the MOU signing ceremony, His Excellency, Albert Muchanga, Commissioner for Trade and Industry at the African Union, underscored the importance of this partnership. “Africa is on the rise and its women are the key agents that will drive the next level strategic growth phase. This is why we are passionate that for us to achieve our 2063 agenda, we must tap into the enormous resources that our women possess. African female entrepreneurs are at the heart of this MOU that we have signed. The AU wants to make sure that they are carried along and to achieve this, we will be working with ImpactHER due to its verifiable track record of success African female business owners. We at the African Union are certain that the story of the African women will change with the partnership”, he expressed.

ImpactHER is an impact-driven organization that focuses on bridging the \$42 billion financing gap for women-owned small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Africa. ImpactHER has directly trained and supported over 130,000 African women entrepreneurs, on a pro bono basis, in 53 African countries. The organization helps African women business owners access institutional capital, scale their businesses, tackle operational challenges, access new markets through technology, and become investor-ready providing them with the digital skills they need to succeed.

<https://investmenttimesonline.com/2024/05/07/2063-gender-goals-impacter-african-union-sign-mou-on-african-women-empowerment/>

## PE Department News

The Early Years classes having an exciting time with Hula Hoops during their PE lesson this week, showcasing very good movement coordination, timing and rhythm. These qualities are foundational skills which lead to excellent sporting movement and playing skill development.







## Enriching Lives through CAS

Last week Wednesday, the Year 12 CAS Service group organised a pottery session for the Vivenda School for the hearing impaired. The pupils from Vivenda and the IB learners all took part in learning how to knead, mould and transform clay into shapes and objects. The participants made lovely and beautifully designed huts and a teacup.

Next week they will be trying their hands at how to make a sandwich.

The CAS Team.

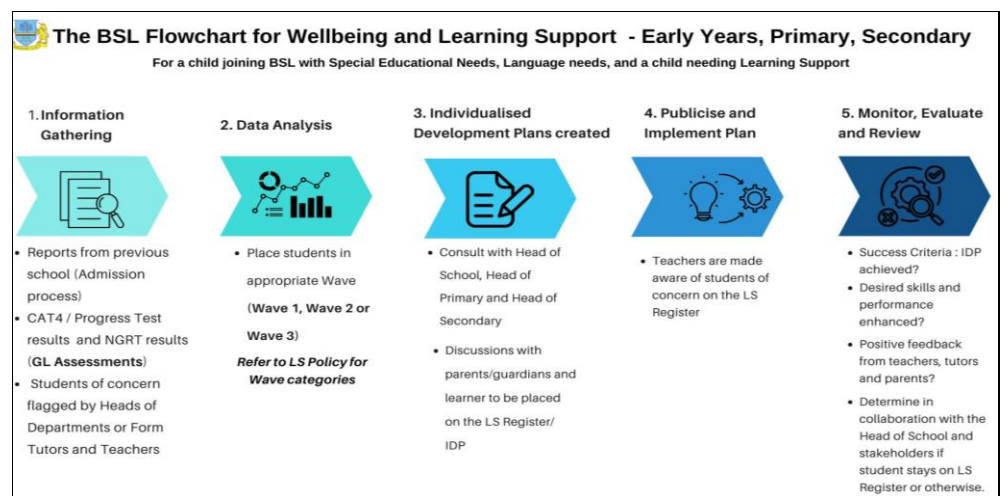


## Wellbeing and Learning Support Department

Our newly established Wellbeing and Learning Support Department is already in full swing, providing both in-classroom and out-of-classroom support for our students.

As we continue to develop and expand the department, we are making plans for the coming year. Please find below an overview of the support we will be offering in English language, Special Educational Needs (SEN), as well as emotional and counseling services.

Our aim is to take a holistic approach in supporting our students.



Kindly book an appointment with me to discuss these matters and plan for the upcoming year:

[wellbeingLS@bsl.tg](mailto:wellbeingLS@bsl.tg)

**Mrs Akosua Adigbo**

Head, Wellbeing and Learning Support Department

PGCE (MFL) UK, B.A (Hons) Social Sciences

## LEADER IN ME –

### An Interview with Zoe Amara NKPA (Year 12) and Patrice POTISON (Year 11).



Zoe is appreciated for her leadership and she embraces her responsibilities.  
Patrice is appreciated for his competence and he inspires others.

**What is your favourite thing to do after school or on weekends?**

Zoe: *I like to read a lot of mystery stories and fantasy books.*

Patrice: *Play basketball.*

**Do you have any hobbies or activities that you really enjoy?**

Zoe: *I write short stories occasionally.*

Patrice: *Playing basketball.*

**What's the best thing about school for you?**

Zoe: *I guess it's the people I get to spend my day with.*

Patrice: *Being able to learn things that I didn't know before coming to school.*

**Can you tell me about something cool or interesting you've learned recently?**

Zoe: *I learned about fungi that inhibit the growth of bacteria.*

Patrice: *How to play a new song on the piano.*

**If you could have any superpower, what would it be and why?**

Zoe: *Super speed because I have a problem with time management.*

Patrice: *The ability to teleport so that I would never run late.*

**What's something special you love doing with your family?**

Zoe: *Going to Church.*

Patrice: *Bible study.*

**What do you want to be when you grow up, and why?**

Zoe: *A lawyer because I've always had a strong sense of justice and I'd like to help people.*

Patrice: *I'm not sure, but something to do with business so that I can provide a service to the community.*

**Can you tell me something you really want to learn how to do?**

Zoe: *Play an instrument such as the bass guitar.*

Patrice: *Coding.*

**What's your favourite book or story and why do you like it?**

Zoe: *The Penelopiad because I'm really into Greek mythology.*

Patrice: *I like Purple Hibiscus because it shows the reality of multiple African households.*

**Do you have a favourite animal or a favourite place to visit?**

Zoe: *Dogs. Definitely Ghana, where I was born.*

Patrice: *A gorilla. The beach.*

**How do you think we can help people who might be sad or upset?**

Zoe: *Asking them how they are and checking up on them.*

Patrice: *Having specialists to talk to that they can be comfortable with.*

**Is there something that was difficult for you at first and then became easy with practice?**

Zoe: *Mathematics in Years 9 and 10.*

Patrice: *Learning how to ride a bike.*

**What's something you'd like to get better at?**

Zoe: *Cooking.*

Patrice: *Mathematics.*

**If you could have any animal as a pet, even if it's imaginary, what would it be?**

Zoe: *A dragon.*

Patrice: *A unicorn.*

**What is your favourite food?**

Zoe: *Fried yams.*

Patrice: *Pasta.*