

Dear Parents

I trust you are all well and enjoying the spring break and looking forward to celebrating Eid al-Fitr with your families. Term 2 has been another busy time at the British Academy School Marrakech. During the term we saw the introduction and establishment of the following student leadership initiative- Kindness Ambassadors, with representatives from years 2 to year 10.

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The Kindness Ambassadors now meet regularly with Mrs Compton, Deputy Head Pastoral to raise awareness of concerns and work on solutions further promoting a positive and kind learning environment at the BASM. This initiative compliments our student council leadership group, providing a student voice and opportunity to present ideas to develop areas of the school promoting collaboration and mutual respect. We also saw the launch to the BASM Houses, the purpose of our house system is to create a vertical and horizontal community within the school from EYFS to Secondary which involves both students and staff promoting a clear sense of belonging amongst all. The house system also promotes the development of additional student leadership opportunities through team leadership with healthy interactions between the houses. We held our first house competitions, a football competition involving students and staff and an Art and Design competition- designing a logo for their house. Our current houses are Grey, Yellow, White, and Red, once the logos are announced each house will then have a clear visual representative of who they are, with all houses reflecting on the British Values and the Culture of Morocco in their designs, we look forward to revealing the winning logos and take pride in the knowledge that our students are truly developing into citizens of the world! Voting for the logo designs took place during the last week of term, a truly democratic process, with votes being counted and turned into points for each house team. All to be revealed in term 3! Students also participated in a number of initiatives and events celebrated around the globe and in the UK these included, International Day of Happiness, International Women's Day, Pi Day, St Patricks and British Science week. During the Science Fair it was wonderful to see parents join in and support our students as they continued their exploration of Physics, Chemistry and Biology, we are still waiting for the BASM rocket to return back to earth! We continue to support charities across Marrakech and this Ramadan we donated 3000 MAD to support the local community in its preparation for the forth coming Eid al-Fitr. We will continue to raise funds and promote community support within our student body through non-uniform days and events taking place during Term 3, further details to follow on our return to school.





Furthermore, consistent attendance helps students in developing a strong work ethic and allows for the seamless integration into the school community. It also provides opportunities for students to collaborate with their peers and engage in classroom discussions, which further enhances their learning experience. I would like to stress the importance of regular attendance and active engagement in your child's education. We ask your support to ensure your children are in attendance and to minimise absences, limiting holidays to dates which coincide with school holidays. Please try wherever possible to arrange medical or dentist appointments outside of school hours to limited disruptions to learning. In addition, we also request all students to wear their full BASM school uniform to school this supports us to maintain consistency and promote a keen sense of belonging at the BASM. If your child has misplaced elements of their uniform, please check at reception in the lost property as we have many items waiting to be claimed. Please can you also ensure all items of uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name this will assist in returning items should they be left in school. As a reminder our uniform at BASM consists of the following:

EYFS and Primary

- White polo shirt
- Maroon jumper or cardigan with the school logo
- Dark grey or black skirt or trousers
- Socks or tights- plain grey or black
- Footwear- Black

Secondary

- School blazer with the school logo
- White shirt or blouse, not polo shirt
- School tie
- Dark grey or black skirt or trousers
- Socks or tights- plain grey or black
- Footwear- Black

Attendance Expectations

As you are aware we have set high expectations for all our students, encouraging active participation in lessons and enrichment activities. We also expect students to attend school fully throughout the year and as a school we have set a target of 96% attendance for students and research shows that poor attendance can lead to learning gaps. We have been tracking attendance and had seen an improvement below 84% at the start of the year to reaching 93.4% in February, however with seasonal flu and viruses we ended the term last week with attendance of only 64% this was a disappointing end to the term. Regular attendance plays a significant role in the academic success of students. Missing even a few days of school can have a notable impact on academic progress. Students who are frequently absent from school tend to miss important lessons and therefore may struggle to keep up with the pace of the syllabus. Regular attendance, on the other hand, ensures that students get a thorough understanding of the topics being taught and are able to stay on track with their studies.



We do have several items of uniform available should you need to purchase replacements; these are available from reception and the uniform shop.

As a reminder for PE, we currently do not have a specific BASM PE Kit, however we do request that students wear, plain coloured items as indicated below:

PE

- Plain white t-shirt
- Black or grey joggers
- Plain dark coloured sweatshirt
- Appropriate footwear, trainers.

We thank you for supporting your child, taking pride in wearing their uniform and being part of a supportive community. In preparations for the start of term 3 please check your child/children have the necessary equipment to prepare them for lessons. Being prepared for lessons is as important as attendance and participation, please can you ensure you child/children are fully equipped for lessons by bringing to school a pencil case with the following items:

- Pens: Blue, Black, Green - Glue stick
- Pencils - Ruler
- Eraser - Colouring pencils
- Sharpener - Highlighters

Additional subject exercise books are also available to purchase from the school office should your child need a replacement. As we head towards warmer weather, please be reminded to send your child to school with a refillable water bottle and sun hat.



Teaching and Learning- Reporting

Term 3 reports are ready for collection from our administration team. We will be inviting you to discuss your child's progress throughout the term, the details of these events will be confirmed on return to school after the spring break. Ongoing teacher assessments take place throughout the term and measure student's individual progress. Towards the end of each term students will also take summative assessments, this combined with the teachers' assessments are reported in the end of term report.

Enriching our provision at the BASM is one of our key objectives, Extra Curricula Activities, ECAs, play an important role in enhancing students learning experiences and we are proud to offer a variety of ECAs to students in years 2 to 10. We offer a range of clubs including Art, Music, Crafting, Science, and Sports such as Football and Basketball. Building on the ECA sports clubs we hope to create a BASM Football team for Primary and Secondary to promote leadership skills and the opportunity participate in school competitions with teams across the region. Students will have the opportunity to sign up for Term 3, ECAs during the week of 24 th - 28 th April, parents you will need to confirm their place, a member of our administration team will be in touch to confirm, ECAs will run Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:15pm- 4pm, all students to be collected promptly at the end of the ECAs. Additional activities supporting the enrichment of students learning will also take place this term involving several field trips, further details will be sent out during week of 24 th April. Gentle reminder- end of day dismissal, unless your child/children are participating in an ECA student should be collected promptly at 3:15pm. If you do have an emergency which delays you collecting child/children please inform our administration team by calling the following number as soon as possible, Call: 05243-44433. The safety and welfare of your child/children is our priority and if students are persistently collected late from school, we will arrange to meet with individual families to discuss the cause and find a way to work with the family to support.

Events/Activities

Some Key dates for your diary:

- Sports days, heats - 8 th -12 May- Students to wear t-shirt in their house colour, (Red, Grey, Yellow or White).
- Meeting with Chair to Advisory board and SLT: 9 th May, 9am-10am
- Careers week 15th - 19th May

Key dates for your diary

Date/Time	Event	Notes
1st May	Labour Day	Public holiday, school closed
3rd May	Book Look- Reception & Year 1	Parents to be invited to visit classes 8:30- 9:30am
4th May	Book Look- Year 2 & Year 3	Parents to be invited to visit classes 8:30- 9:30am
5th May	Book Look Year 4, 5, 6	Parents to be invited to visit classes 8:30- 9:30am
2nd -8th May	UK- King Charles coronation planning- Class tree planting	Students gain understanding of historic event. Tree planting by each class
8th -12th May	House Sports Days	Students to wear House colour T-shirt, (Yellow, White, Grey or Red) additional information to be sent out week commencing 24 th April.
Tuesday 9th (9-10am)	Meeting- Chair of Advisory Board	Parents invited to meet with Mr Nigel Taylor and the SLT, Discussion area- School Strategic Plan
15th - 19th May	Careers Week	Various events and activities including Careers fair on Thursday 18th
Saturday 20th May	BASM Open Day	11am- 3pm- prospective new students
23rd - 29th May	Diabetes Prevention Week 2023	Raising awareness- Activities throughout the week.
26th May	Last day half term 3A	School ends @ 3:15pm
29th May - 2nd June	Half Term Break	Students return Monday 5 June @ 8am
5th June	First day Term 3B	Students return at 8am
6th June	Coffee and conversation	Coffee with the Head and SLT
12- 18th June	Diabetes awareness week	Raising awareness- Activities throughout the week.
Wednesday 21st June	National Writing Day	Developing creativity in writing!
Saturday 24th June	BASM Open Day- TBC	11am- 3pm- prospective new students
7 July 2023	Last Day Term	End of Academic year- School ends @ 12:00

We thank you for your continued support as we work together to ensure your child is actively engaged in their learning, is safe, happy and is provided with opportunities to develop as an individual and achieve their goals.

Kind regards

Nicola Bussetil
Head of School