

BORDEAUX INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER / BULLETIN D'INFORMATION - N° 4 - MAR 2009
2nd Term 2008 – 2009

ACCREDITATION

The Council of International Schools has now granted BIS candidate status for re-accreditation. This will start with a long process of Self-study and document writing. The conclusion will be an inspection in 2010. Your contribution to the process is essential and we will come back to you soon on this matter.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

As mentioned in the last newsletter, BIS is organising a whole day for Secondary teachers to work on curriculum writing and on teaching in a Second Language (with the contribution of a visiting expert in languages). This will take place on **Friday 27th March** (not on the 20th as planned beforehand – due to availability of our consultant) **when there will be no classes for Middle School and Secondary students**. Home work will be given to students, corresponding to the Friday.

RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION 2009/2010

We thank you for letting us know your intentions for next year well in advance, thus allowing us to prepare next year well. It is a characteristic of Bordeaux International School, like all International Schools, that we have students from many different circumstances. Some are here to further and complete their education after moving to France: some are here to continue their education in an international school after attending international schools in other countries, and some are here for a limited time of just one or two years, due to family commitments and other considerations. Of necessity this means that the make-up of the school has to be a variable factor and each year it is typical that between 40-50% of our students leave the school. Indeed the average length of stay of students in the secondary section of the school is between two and three years. While this may have a temporary unsettling effect (since notice to leave has to be given very early) it is also a strength of the school in that the influx of new students from many nationalities adds to the life and variety of the school and the make up of each class changes year by year.

It is important to stress that for those students who will be leaving us for next year, there still remains five months of this school year. Time when it is essential for students to maximise their learning and achievement to equip them to transfer successfully to their new school. Part of the philosophy of BIS is not only to equip students to successfully pass examinations, but also to enable them to prosper from their time here and to transfer smoothly to their new learning environment.

OPEN DAY

Will take place on **Tuesday 17th March** : the occasion for prospective parents and visitors to see the school in operation. Do not hesitate to spread the word around you.

SOLIDARITY

The 'Conseil Municipal des Enfants de Bordeaux' are organising a collection of clothes and shoes for children aged up to 3 years (clean and in good condition). BIS has offered to help in this collection. A box will be placed in the entrance hall for this purpose.

DATES TO NOTE

- **Fri 13th March** : Carnival
- **Tue 17th March** : Open Day - for prospective parents
- **Mon, 23rd March at 9.00** : Early Learning - meeting for Blue Group Parents (Morning)
- **Thu, 26th March at 14.00** : Primary/Early Learning – Full Day: Parents review of individual books and exhibitions of work with their own child on.
- **Fri, 27th March** : Distribution of reports
- **Fri, 27th March** : Secondary and Middle School – no class – professional development day
- **Tue, 31 March at 16.00** : Primary/Early Learning - Full Day - parents meeting
- **Thu, 2nd April** : Proposed school outing to Château de Roquetaillade (details to follow)
- **Fri, 3rd April at 14.00** : Secondary and Middle school - parents meeting - reports