

SCHOOL SURVEY

We have just received the report for the survey conducted by Endicott Research Center on BIS whole community. It is available to parents from the PTA page on our web site (www.bordeaux-school.com password : ptabis). There will be a working committee on the report with a PTA representative on Thursday, 26 November at 8.45 to analyze it (please ring Christine Cussac if you wish to participate). There are many very interesting – and some unexpected - findings and much scope for improvement, although the perception of the school seems positive overall. We will report to you fairly soon. However, it appears that many of you are not quite sure of the Philosophy and Objectives of the school. They are published on our web site, on the cover of our brochure, in the booklet for parents, and posted in the hall of the school. Please find it below:

The overall philosophy of Bordeaux International school is to provide access to freedom, responsibility and autonomy for each student whatever his or her personality, social and cultural background.

The aims of the School

A – To help students reach **their full potential** by encouraging them to think creatively, reason critically, express themselves confidently and become independent learners.

B – To equip students with a level of fluency in **at least two languages**, to encourage interaction with pupils of different nationalities and thus promote an appreciation of diverse cultures.

C – To enable pupils to reach a level of **academic achievement** which prepares them for international further education and ultimately a global career.

D – To develop pupils' self respect and encourage them to become inspired, balanced and responsible **global citizens**.

INTERACTIVE WHITE BOARD (IWB)

According to the French Institut National de la Recherche Pédagogique "teachers who have benefited from an IWB will no longer wish to teach without one ; such are the positive effects on the learning and motivation of pupils. Primary school children have quickly adapted to this new tool and have shown themselves to be more motivated, enthusiastic and more concentrated on their work. They are now less passive in their learning. Similarly, for older children ..." ([Read the article on the NRP web site](#))

All the teachers at BIS would like to join me in renewing our thanks to the PTA for having enabled us to benefit from such a wonderful tool and would like you to note that we would like to have an IWB in each classroom!!! A new project for our school ?

ACCREDITATION (1) - 3RD TRAINING DAY

We are continuing with our work on the writing and evaluating of our teaching documents and programmes at BIS (this constitutes the major task in the process). However, a few absences due to illness have resulted in a delay in our schedule. As the report needs to be finished by the end of February, we are proposing to spend Monday 4th January on Accreditation, **so the second term will start on Tuesday 5th January 2010.**

ACCREDITATION (2) - TRAINING TRIP

Two of our colleagues, Kelly Brennan (Primary) and Luci Fawcett (Secondary) who are in charge of curriculum development at BIS, went to the International British School of Antwerp at the end of October to observe their good practices. They came back with a multitude of ideas which will make our task much easier.

ACCREDITATION (3)

The parents of the PTA have kindly accepted to participate in the work of reading and evaluation of certain documents. Because of the delay in our schedule, their help will not be needed before December.

PTA

Each class has its own representative (2 "bi-lingual" parents and 2 pupils) to whom you can address any queries or requests. You are also warmly invited to take part in our monthly meetings (see dates below) which enable the organisation of the activities which help so much to enrich our school life. You can consult the list of parent representatives on the PTA page of our web site (password : ptabis)

PROJECTS AND FIELD TRIPS

Secondary: ski trip from 22-26th March 2010 : deposits to be made by Monday, 23 November.
Primary: field trip to France or abroad: opinion pole of parents being done.

CALENDAR

There are lots of outings, visits and activities planned for the whole school between now and Christmas. Remember to consult the BIS website : www.bordeaux-school.com or http://www.my.calendars.net/bis_agenda.

Each section will be informed via the usual means (ex liaison book, email, letter). However, here are some important dates to note:

- Monday 7th December: 4.15 PTA meeting to prepare Christmas buffet
- Tuesday 8th December: 4.30: Primary and Nursery report meetings between parents and teachers.
Presence obligatory.
- Friday 11th December 2.00pm Secondary and Middle School report meeting between parents and teachers.
Presence obligatory.
- Tuesday 15th December: Christmas Concert – 18.00 - 20.00 (Salle de la Glacière – Mérignac)
- Friday 18th December last day of school : Christmas holidays.
- Tuesday 5th January: beginning of second term for all.

Christine Cussac
Director
19.11.09