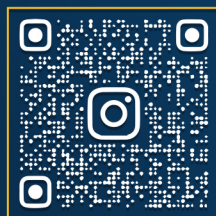




BRIGHTS Echo



brightsintschool

+90552 322 27 40

info@brightsint.school

► 1st - Edition



Wohooo!!! Our first News Letter is finally here.

Dear Parents,

In a blink of an eye, we are in 2023 already and students have been in Brights International School for a whole 3 months. The adaptation period is officially over. We are very proud of where we are now. Our students are well adjusted to the daily routine. The whole system is flowing more easily.

Spirit week :

This was one of the most exciting events that our Preschool Department held. Each day featured a specific theme designed to bring out joyful spirits and engagement opportunities for our Little BRIGHTS Students all week long. You can go ahead and check all our preschoolers rocking the themes on our Instagram page. (Don't forget to like and share)



Costume Day:

**“Why fit in when you were born to stand out?”
– Dr. Seuss.**

Dressing up in costumes is an important type of play that every child needs to experience. Children seek it out naturally. Today your kids will play as pirates, tomorrow they are superheroes, the next day lords and ladies at a tea party.

The costumes they use reinforce the scenarios so that these rituals have profound positive effects on their development.

Our Preschoolers stood out with their daring and bold costumes. They made Costume Day a day that is hard to forget!



Welcome to BRIGHTS Echo!

Welcome to BRIGHTS International School Monthly Newsletter! Here, we will highlight and important events and news, showcase our students' creativity, and much more....

We are your window into BRIGHTS! We wish all our readers a pleasant reading! Stay tuned!

The Newsletter Team

Earthquake Drill:

In alignment with the government's efforts through AFAD Organization to be well prepared for any emergencies resulting from earthquakes, we are preparing our students by raising awareness and doing regular practices. We are glad to say that we have executed a successful evacuation drill from grades 1 to 12. The safety of our students is our top priority at BRIGHTS International School. Stay Safe! Drop, Cover, and Hold On!

Fire Drill:

Practice makes perfect! For that reason, we have conducted a fire drill at BRIGHTS this week to rehearse the evacuation plan for the safety of our students and staff. Practice reduces panic, injuries, and damages. Stay Safe, Be Well!





Teacher's Day:

Every day is Teacher's Day at BRIGHTS Preschool. On November the 24th our preschoolers celebrated their beloved teachers in the cutest way possible, where they distributed adorable cards made with love to them. Thank you, Preschoolers!

Emergency Drill:

As you may have known by now, BRIGHTS Preschool has been conducting various safety drills throughout the school year. Additionally, we have developed plans to become better prepared to respond to other emergencies.

During December, we have conducted various emergency drills to help prepare our students and staff. We also started practicing for a fire and an earthquake drill, as is customary. Part of the earthquake drill included leaving the school and going to our alternate site.

The children were well prepared by watching videos, reading and following important signs, and working on several age-appropriate worksheets.



World Cup @BRIGHTS!:

In cooperation with the Activity Department and Grade 12 Seniors, we were delighted to host the BIGGEST FIFA World Cup gathering to watch the BIG Game at BRIGHTS International School!

The FIFA World cup 2022 brought us many good memories and united the world together. To make this unforgettable event even more fascinating, our dear parents, teachers, and students gathered around the big screen to watch this eventful final! What a day! Magnífico, Argentino!



Students' Creativity Corner

We were both screaming at each other, the thunderstorm outside drowning out the noises. My brother left the room, slamming the door shut behind him. Bringing up the loss of a close relative has always been one of his weakest points. I promised myself I wouldn't cry, but a single teardrop escaped and descended my face. It ran down one cheek, followed by another. As much as I wanted it all to cease and vanish: it didn't. How can one help another when one isn't in control to help oneself? The disgusting nature of human selfishness attempted to devour me internally. However, shame and guilt rose upon me, followed by agonizing cries of sorrow. As I shifted my once-blank stare of emptiness across the room, I couldn't help but notice the minuscule fractures in the corner of the window: a ray through the cracks. The fire planet blazed in, glossing over my once teary eyes. Its syrupy warmth pulls me in and engulfs my face in its embrace. The rush of scarlet on my face faded into a rosy hue, and my sniffles became long, deep breaths of fresh air. Ethereal orange light painted over the dark corners of the room, and there I was; serenity in my mind, tranquility in my soul. I heard the doorknob click open, the sound of heavy breathing and footsteps followed through. He slowly approached where I was seated, and sat next to me. As much as I was angry at him, I wrapped my arms around my little brother and pulled him into a hug. The minute he hugged me back, I let out a sigh of relief; knowing that my brother forgave me was the best feeling in the world.



The End

Short Story Written by: Sama Farhat



Parent Conference meeting:

“Together everyone achieves more”, connecting home with school makes us a great community of learner. BRIGHTS preschool held the end of quarter parent conference meeting on the 24th and the 25th of November. It was a great opportunity to connect with the parents and discuss the children’s progress at school.

Picasso and Cubism :

We at BRIGHTS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, have introduced "Cubism and Picasso to our preschoolers, where they learned about geometrical shapes, and colors in the funniest way possible. Cubism is a style of art, which aims to show all of the possible viewpoints of a person, or an object all at once. It is called Cubism, because the items represented in the artworks look like they are made out of cubes and other geometrical shapes.



Personal Space Awareness :

Most people refer to the space one needs to have between themselves and someone else- to feel more comfortable- as their “space bubble.” It is accepted to have a smaller “space bubble” with family and close friends than we have with acquaintances, strangers, and authority figures. We distributed worksheets, showed videos and performed plays to help them understand more about personal space, private areas, and what procedures they can do if someone invades their space.

Interview:

Interview with Ms. Layal Haddad

Our Grade 10 Students had a lovely and heartwarming interview with the Head of Students Affairs, Ms. Layal Haddad.

Interviewers: Tima Ghaddar, Kaline Khalid, and Faisal Hamada

Tima: For our first question, we would like to ask you about your work experience here at Brights International School.

Ms. Layal: "I've been here since 2019, and I started as a receptionist. It was a shock to me honestly because I came from a different work background, as I had my own company, but what I cared about was being with my daughters, then I was gradually being promoted from one position to another, and now as you know I'm the head of students' affairs."

Kaline: What was your major in college?

Miss Layal: "I have a Master degree in Geography."

Faisal: In your opinion, what makes Brights stand out compared to other schools?

Ms. Layal: "I first came to Istanbul to check for schools for my girls; I looked around and decided to choose Brights because what impressed me was the big value of this school, which was the human resources, the people inside. The inside of this school is a big family, from your own experience, you can tell how we care about you as if you were our own. So, that's a huge difference between what you can find here and what you can find outside. It's not the only special thing about Brights, but to me, it's the most important one. Again, as a mother, I do care about education, but I care more about my kids being in a safe environment, and that's why I joined here."

Tima: Our next question is going to be about your daily routine and what you do daily to prepare for work every day.

Ms. Layal: "So the routine is just like any normal routine. But whenever I come to school, I turn on my computer, and the phone on, then I answer all the missed calls, and I follow up with students, teachers, and coordinators. I have this notebook, too; it's the 10th one now from the beginning of this school year. I always have lots and lots of notes to write and follow up with."

Kaline: What do you like to do after school to relax?



Interview:

Ms. Layal: “Faint! Hahahaha. I like to spend some time with my kids, go out, do whatever they’d like to do.”

Faisal: “Do you have any advice for time management?”

Ms. Layal: “Set your goals! Talking from a personal experience, I have two phones, my work phone and my personal one, so usually during the night, I prepare my to-do list and send it from one phone to another for reminders. The next morning, I begin writing down my to-do list because visual memory is very strong. A to-do list is essential; I do one for everything, including shopping and other daily activities, as it helps me stay organized and manage my time effectively.”

Kaline: What’s one piece of advice you would give to teenagers that you wish someone had told you when you were our age?

Ms. Layal: “Never give up and never get demotivated because, at this age, you will have a lot of thoughts like I can’t do this anymore, etc... but you have to keep fighting as you have just started your life journey. Never get demotivated and always keep standing up again, this is what keeps you strong.”

Tima: “Do you have any advice for college preparation?”

Ms. Layal: “Study, study, study! Don’t waste any time, in this small period you have now, make the best of it, so you can have the luxury of resting and doing your hobbies, etc., but right now is the time to focus, and all the efforts will pay off later.”

Faisal: “How about advice regarding motivation?”

Miss Layal: “Sit alone by yourself and try to imagine yourself in the future 5 or 6 years ahead and ask yourself where you would be. Do you see yourself living in your parents’ house? Or do you want to make a name for yourself, as a doctor, an engineer, or an artist? And you know we can’t all be doctors and engineers... we need artists, physicians, etc., in the end, we need everything!”

Interviewers: Thank you, Ms. Layal for the wonderful interview. We really enjoyed talking to you and learned so much from you.

Ms. Layal: Thank you for your visit, and please come back; my office is always open for you anytime for anything.



Garage Sale:

The grade 7 class has been busy preparing for their Garage Sale. And guess what- they had a BLAST and extra CASH! The students had great fun as their Garage Sale was a huge success. When learning is applied to our daily life, that's when we learn, understand, and grow. Learning about 'percentage change' fully PAID OFF!

Radiate Love For All Mankind Through Kindness, Love, and Acceptance!

“And we have not sent you, [O Muhammad], except as a mercy to the worlds.”
Quran 21:107

On this special occasion, the birth anniversary of the best of mankind Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), one of the teachings of love from Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is to spread kindness, love, and acceptance to one another. We have jubilantly celebrated the birth of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in our School with our beloved students.



Winter Wonderland :

Winter at BRIGHTS School is always fun. Our preschoolers enjoyed the Winter Wonderland Day. As the temperatures started to drop outside, our BRIGHTS little ones had fun with winter activities that were educationally designed and entertaining.



Introducing Gymnastics:

Did you know that gymnastics helps children develop physical skills like body control, coordination and strength? We at Brights International School have introduced Gymnastics for our preschoolers to allow them to experience self-confidence through creativity, performance, and help them lay a strong foundation for other sports that they might express interest in. Students are learning how to listen, follow directions, and even take turns, they are learning how to respect one another, work as a team, and celebrate other peer's victories, not simply their own. Gymnastics provides an opportunity for children to acquire not just physical skills, but social and emotional skills that will be a compass for their future.



BRIGHTS Echo

Ted Talks:



Communication is essential for learning and sharing ideas. We have TED Talks at our school to share ideas and to gain a better knowledge of the world around us. Respect and overuse of technology were the main topics of our Ted Talk. We wanted to approach the students and have a heart-to-heart conversation to address these issues and make sure they are heading towards the right path.

Fly Zone Trip:



FlyZone! is the word that evokes happiness in the hearts of our grades 5 & 6 students! What a fun and exciting day it was! They have jumped, backflipped, and sprang up high! Wishing all students more happiness and more fun days to come...

Star of the Week:



Honoring students' accomplishments is an incredible approach to supporting their growth and development. Students will always remember these rewarding encounters.

We are not only celebrating their academic achievements only but also their efforts, good habits, and overall improvement.

Celebrations help students stay on track and be motivated. For all these amazing reasons, we celebrate our students on a weekly basis to encourage, motivate, and inspire better performances and achievements. Congrats to all Brights Stars! And Stars to be!

The Avrasya Center and Dr. Caroline Academy Trip:



Our philosophy here at BRIGHTS is to equip our students with the tools they need to succeed; thus, we had a special arrangement done for our Grades 11 & 12.

The Avrasya Center and Dr. Caroline Academy welcomed our students for a career counseling visit. Our seniors got the chance to speak with experts about the medical field in general and physiotherapy, orthopedy, speech therapy, and special education in particular. Learning about career options and majors is always an enlightening experience.

Medipol University Trip:

The transition from high school to college is a major one. Therefore, in order to ensure a smooth transition into university life, we have organized an educational trip to Medipol Üniversitesi for Grades 10-11-12 students.

The students got a chance to explore most of the different majors and courses offered at Medipol while exploring the campus, labs, and venues of the University. College and career readiness are our prime concerns at BRIGHTS International School. Indeed, it was an eye-opening experience for our high schoolers.

This is the responses we got from one of the seniors “Fayez Bayado” about the trip: “The school trip to Medipol University was inspiring. I know it may sound cliché, but seriously, the campus was out of this world. The variety of majors they have and the support we received from the members who were conducting the presentation was phenomenal.”



Tips & Advices:

- Help improve your child's independence by encouraging them to carry their bags and put them away.
- Get them into a daily routine so they have a glimpse of how their day may look.
- Ensure they are eating HEALTHY BREAKFAST each day.

Tips from our Nurse:

- Parol is one of the most commonly used “over-the-counter” medicine. But often it is not used in the correct dosage, which may be less effective or dangerous sometimes.

- Correct Dosage:

- For pain relief is: $\frac{1}{2}$ the child's weight.

- For fever is: $\frac{1}{2} + 1$ ml

If the given dosage is MORE than $\frac{1}{2} + 1$ the child's weight, it will result in TOXICITY!

Show & Tell:

These early language experiences help build effective communication and listening skills that are essential for a young child's learning. It also encourages emotional development in a child, as he or she shares their interests, home lives, and joys and struggles with peers.

This month we were so proud of

Aasiyah Siddiq, Arabella Adewuyi, Areen Ammar, Henos Girmay, Lana Hamdar, Edna Girmay, Alyan Dakheel, Aires Talha, Chidiebere Joel Christian & Isabella Iyere for showing us their favorite toys and telling us more about them.

Pajama Day:

How often do you wake up and have no desire to get dressed for school? Why not unwind and feel comfortable at school for a day?! The students had a wonderful and comfortable day, where everyone showed up with their jammies! More extra-curricular are awaiting you in the second term! Stay Tuned!

Fun Facts about Pajamas:

Q. Where does the word pajama come from?

A. The word pajama or pyjama comes to English by way of Persia. The word is derived from a garment known as a leg garment (pāy meaning leg and jāmā meaning garment). It found its way into the Hindi language, where it was later adopted by British colonists during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Q. Is there a world record for wearing pajamas?

A. Yes! According to Guinness World Records, the largest gathering of people wearing pajamas took place in Shantou, China where 1,879 people from the Guangdong Hongxing Industrial Co. wore their pajamas on October 9, 2015. One of the requirements was that they wear a one-piece pajama. The previous record took place in Milton Keynes, UK where 752 residents wore their one-piece pajamas on November 5, 2013.

*Source: nationaldaycalendar.com



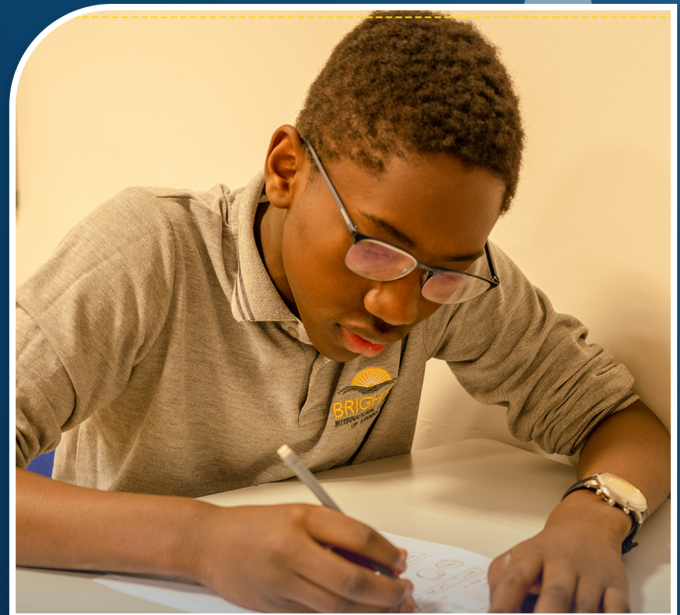
Parent- Teacher Meeting:



We cordially held our first Parent-Teacher meeting for our dear students of grades 1 to 12 at BRIGHTS Campus. The parent-teacher meeting is an integral part of a student's life as it sheds light on their academic progress and interaction with their teachers and friends. We look forward to more future partnerships with our dear parents and guardians.

The Mid-Year Exams:

The Mid-Year Exams have officially started at BRIGHTS! The best way to succeed in your exams is to have a positive mindset, believe that you can do it, and be prepared! Keep believing in yourself, and you will surely achieve all your goals. Best of luck!



Cultural Diversity Day

It's Cultural Fiesta Time at BRIGHTS International School!

Cultural Diversity Day was joyfully celebrated with our elementary schoolers.

By definition, diversity means the practice or quality of including or involving people from a range of different social and ethnic backgrounds as well as welcoming various ideas, beliefs, and perspectives.

The foremost advantage of hosting this Cultural Diversity Day is to be able to compassionately understand our differences and respect them.

"The world has only one border. It is called humanity."



TRIVIA & FUN:

1. How long is an Olympic swimming pool (in meters)?
2. What countries made up the original Axis powers in World War II?
3. What is "cynophobia"?
4. What punctuation mark ends an imperative sentence?
5. Which country consumes the most chocolate per capita?
6. What is the most consumed manufactured drink in the world?
7. Which is the only edible food that never goes bad?
8. Who was the first female driver to score points in a Grand Prix?

SUDOKU Lovers!

SUDOKU

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		9		5		7		
9	5						1	6
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		1		4		2		
	7		2		6		5	
		5	1		7	9		

Answers

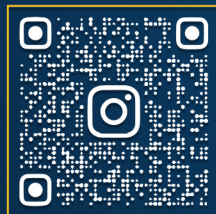
1. 50 meters
2. Germany, Italy, and Japan
3. Fear of dogs
4. A period or an exclamation mark
5. Switzerland
6. Tea
7. Honey
8. Lella Lombardi (1975 Spanish Grand Prix)



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BRIGHT
FUTURE BEGINS



+90552 322 27 40

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info@brightsint.school

