

BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR NEWSLETTER



BFS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2017 EDITION

www.busanforeignschool.org



BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL
Embracing Diversity, Striving for Excellence



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BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL

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BFS:

A Strong Community



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Dear Parents,

When a student climbs the steps to BFS and prepares to walk through our front door, we want them to have one thought: ***"I belong here!"*** The Chuseok holiday is an opportune time to celebrate what makes BFS great - the warmth of our community and the strength of our academic success. This year, we are fortunate to welcome over 50 new students and teachers into our Shark Family.

A Word from the Principal

Iain Macfarlane

Whether someone joined us this year, or ten years ago, we are always looking to improve their experience. To that end we have introduced Responsive Classroom to BFS. It is an approach to help students feel emotionally, socially and academically successful. It guides us in ensuring that every child in our school feels like they belong. Since 1981, Responsive Classroom has grown to include top schools in the US and internationally. It has grown because it works. Independent research, including six major college studies, shows adopting Responsive Classroom results in higher academic achievement, improved school climate, and higher-quality instruction.

The foundation of Responsive Classroom is the Morning Meeting. This is the time of the day when we welcome students into our purposeful

learning community. In Early Childhood through Grade 5, students take part in a Morning Meeting every single day. In Middle and High School, students use their advisory time to strengthen their social ties to improve their academic success. When a student first walks through their classroom door they know they belong.

BFS embraces diversity and strives for excellence. We understand that teaching social-emotional skills, modelling expected behavior, facilitating social interaction, and partnering with families are all important to student successes. I hope that you have a wonderful holiday. We look forward to seeing all our students return safe on October 10th. When they walk through our doors every morning they know that they belong and that they will succeed.

Please join us for our next PTSO meeting on Friday, October 13th at 11:30 AM where we will share with you more information about Responsive Classroom and what it means for your child.

Iain Macfarlane
BFS principal

Teacher Development: Next Generation Science Standards



This past weekend I had the pleasure of being in the company of keynote speaker and well know spokesman for the NGSS platform Paul Anderson. The workshop was hands on and inspirational from the word “go”. Our small group of science teachers from all backgrounds and corners of the globe were pushed well beyond our comfort zones and conventional scientific instruction methods to create lessons and demonstrations that will inspire young minds.

The takeaway of the weekend was this:

The goal of science education is not merely to teach age old scientific concepts to the next generation but to equip the next generation with skills of Inquiry, Investigation and Explanation that they may be able to create new scientific concepts.

As a teacher I consider myself a lifelong learner and this past conference taught me a lot and I am excited to put it into practice. Of all the science curricula I have been exposed to the NGSS is by far the most focused on student understanding and mastery.

By Scott Cressey (MS Science Teacher) about the Next Generation Science Standards Professional Development he attended in Kuala Lumpur

How Do We Celebrate Halloween at BFS?

BFS traditionally uses the American Halloween as an opportunity to bring the school community together.

- Students are invited to come dressed up in age appropriate costumes on Oct. 31st.
- The PTSO organises a Trick or Treat for ELC and ELE at the school, which includes parents holding Trick or Treat stations (come to the next PTSO meeting on October 13th to sign up and for more information!)
- Middle School Student Council hosts a “scary” movie night
- High School Student Council typically organizes a Haunted House (TBD)

Looking forward to it? Please consider donating candy to the BFS PTSO. The PTSO will use the candy for all the above mentioned activities.

HALLOWEEN CANDY DONATION
Halloween is fast approaching!

We need many candy donations for all of the children who will trick or treat at the school, and for the different activities Middle and High school students will organize (haunted house, movie night, etc.)

For those interested in donating candy or party favors, please deliver them to the Main Office or send them to the school with your child by Tuesday, October 24th. Thanks!

Many thanks for your spook-tacular support!

The BFS PTSO

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Engaging and Exciting Pep Rally!

After the fourth week of school, the teachers and students worked together to have a good relationship, encourage the student body, and help support the high school volleyball teams through a pep rally.

Yushin Cho (11), a volleyball player, said that

"The pep rally was SOOO much fun and I loved playing against the teachers and cheering."

Chris White (11) is a new member of BFS and on the volleyball team. Regarding his first pep rally, he relayed that it was a unique experience to see teachers and students interacting through sports outside of the classroom.

Rachel Jung (9), agreed;

"The Pep Rally was amazing. I enjoyed watching the students playing against the teachers."



Anika Cho (10), is a member of the high school student council, and helped arrange this pep rally. She is also a player and felt that the event was a success.

"BFS is a very diverse community that has wide ranges of age, nationality, and personality. However, one event that can bring the whole community together is the pep rally. In addition, pep rally makes everyone feel that they belong to a community and creates an identity for BFS. One thing I liked about pep rally was being able to see the whole student body cheering for their peers and teachers."



Measuring by the countless smiles and cheers, this event was another success!

By the Yearbook Class Students

2017-18 BFS Spirit Tee Winner



We have a winner:

Congratulations **David Park (G8)** for winning this year's Spirit Shirt competition. We liked the simplicity of the design, and the fact that you were able to recall BFS and our school mascot, Sharky, in a way never done before.

Selecting the winner this year was very difficult: participation has never been so high and there were many quality designs. Most of all we are grateful for the enthusiasm shown by all students.

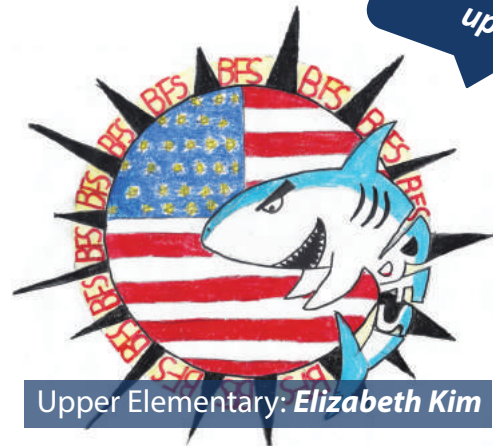
We will be displaying all submissions at our school lobby for the next couple of weeks.

BFS's Got Talent!

Special mentions to all runner ups:



Lower Elementary: **Yuanqiang Wang**



Upper Elementary: **Elizabeth Kim**



Middle School: **Jiwon (Chloe) Jang**



High School: **Arina Khan**



Teacher: **Mr. Lee**

Reading Buddies: what is it all about?

Every month, our elementary students in grades PK3 to Grade 5 partner with another class for Reading Buddies. Pairs or small groups of older and younger students read books aloud to each other, improving their reading, speaking, and vocabulary skills. Together, students of all ages develop a love of reading.

An important benefit of the Reading Buddies program is the sense of school community that is created among students in different grades. Older students serve as role models for their younger peers, and friendships are created. Our Reading Buddies program is an important part of elementary learning and school community at BFS.

A few times a year, we extend the Reading Buddies program to also include middle and high school students as well as parents.

Ask your child about their Reading Buddy!



K5 Author's Celebration



On Monday, September 25, K5 students proudly presented their stories to their parents.

Warming up started with a cute dance.

Once comfortable, each of the students came, one by one, to the stage.

They read their stories and shown the story illustrations.

Then they moves on to the Author stations where they answered their parent, teacher and peer questions.

Perfect way to start the week!

Elementary SOM for August



K-3 : Max
K-4: Blake
K-5: Michelle
1st grade: Lucy & Charmaine
2nd Grade: Dominic & Rosa
3rd Grade: Grace & Ruby
4th grade: Deshaun
5th grade: Jaden & Makaylin

Congratulations to the winners of the ***“BFS Shark Student of the Month – Socially Conscious: Be Caring!”***

Newly Remodeled Early Childhood

Come in and visit our newly remodeled Early Childhood Centre at BFS! It has been a busy summer here at Busan Foreign School. We have completely redesigned and renovated our early childhood classrooms. Our new classrooms have a very natural feel with lots of area and space for our students to explore.



They are purpose built learning environments. These classrooms are the perfect place for our children to engage, explore and extend their learning. In addition to parents and teachers, they are the “Third Teacher”. Inspired by the work of Reggio Emilia, our new learning spaces promote learning and growth. They emphasise BFS’ commitment to providing the best possible education to all of our students.

Our teachers are always looking to create the best learning environment. They spent their summer vacation improving their practice at Columbia University, Chicago Institute of Music and the National Association of Reggio Emilia of America. We are proud of the work that they have done.

We heartily invite you to come and see our new learning space and to meet the teachers and students who make BFS such a wonderful place to learn and grow.



Accolades, Awards and Achievements

Min Jeong is Right on Target!

During last month's Seoul Grand Prix Air Pistol Competition, our own grade 11 student Min Jeong earned 1st place in the girls' middle and high school air pistol division. Min said, "Although I've only pursued this new hobby for about year, I've really become addicted to it! I look forward to more success in future competitions!"

Waxing Poetic

Sunny Kim in grade 11 won Honorable Mention for her poem entitled Unity in the 2017 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Her writing was recognized among 330,000 submitted works — way to go Sunny!

Lee & Lee, Esquire

Harrison Lee and Bini Lee have been active members of Korean-Yale Mock Trial Association for the past year and recently qualified for San Francisco Mock Trial Tournament and New York Empire World Championships. The brother and sister duo will be participating in the San Francisco Mock Trial in October, which is the second largest Mock Trial event in the US.

University Visits

The university visit season is well underway. We were visited by the Linden College Fair, the oldest group college tour in the US. It was an opportunity for BFS high school students to meet with 12 university representatives to learn about the application process and more.

We also had University of California, Davis, Indiana University, University of Oregon, and Portland State University hold an information session with our high school students about finding the best "fit" college for each student, not necessarily the "best" college by ranking.

Other visits have been from Imperial College London, University of Binghamton, Temple University Japan, and Roger Williams University. Future visits from University of British Columbia and others are pending.

Please keep an eye on the University Visit Calendar on the website for the most up to date information.



College Application Bootcamps are Being Held During Senior English

The first quarter of Senior English is exclusively dedicated to working on college applications.

Once a week Mr. Saunders, Ms. Boyle and Ms. Leland work in a workshop model with all students providing individual guidance for all seniors as they work on college applications. An important and unique part of the BFS college counseling service.

Not a bad ratio for college counseling services 16 students to 3 experts!

AP Scholars



The BFS 2017 AP exam season saw our highest level of student participation and most AP exams taken in BFS

history. We have 44 students take 83 different exams. — roughly half the high school. We also saw our most successful results — with 17 BFS students named AP Scholars. With our increased AP offerings to include 12 classes this success should only continue to grow.

Each year the AP Program recognizes high school students who have demonstrated outstanding college-level achievement through their performance on AP Exams. The AP Scholar Awards are international academic distinctions that students may cite among their credentials on college applications and resumes. There are several different types of awards as describe below.

To learn more about the AP Scholar Awards please visit the following.

<https://apscore.collegeboard.org/scores/ap-awards/ap-scholar-awards/>

AP International Diploma Award

The highest distinction is the AP International Diploma Award. The AP International Diploma (APID) is a globally recognized certificate awarded to students who display exceptional achievement across a variety of disciplines. The APID certifies outstanding academic excellence with a global perspective.

Lilly Suchyta (Class of 2017)

AP Scholar with Distinction

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

Ahn, Jaewon Class of 2017
Cho, Junwoo Class of 2017
Fox, Sean Class of 2017
Ito, Haruhiko Class of 2017
Kang, Elisha Class of 2017
Lee, Jihong Class of 2018
Lee, Samuel Class of 2017
Oh, Chaeree Class of 2017
Park, Jee Hyun Class of 2018
Son, Den Khi Class of 2017
Suchyta, Lillian Class of 2017

AP Scholar with Honor

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Jeong, Min Class of 2019
Lee, Cindy Class of 2018
Nicholas, Jayna Class of 2017

AP Scholar

Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

Hong, Noah Class of 2017
Kim, Joshua Class of 2018
Myakonkova, Alexandra Class of 2017

Last Shout-Out to the Class of 2017



One final shout-out to the class of 2017.

Here is the list of matriculated schools for last year's graduating class.

- Haru Ito, Brown University, US
- Ricky Ahn, University of California, Berkeley, US
- Elisha Kang, Boston College
- Diana Son, University of Rochester, US
- Jayna Nicholas, Cal Poly Tech, US
- Lilly Suchyta, The King's College (NYC), US
- Chaeree Oh, Holyoke College, US
- Tina Wang, Yonsei University, KO
- Ellan Park, Boston University, US
- Danny Cho, Waseda University, JA
- Alexa Myankonkova, SUNY Korea
- Ann Kim, University of Victoria, CA
- Daniel Kim, Purdue University, US
- Vitaly Khan, Dongseo University, KO
- Cathleen Tegnander, Community College in Texas, US
- Sally Bang, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, CH
- Chanyoung Choi, Brigham Young University, US
- Maria Dovodovich, Hult International Business School, US
- Sean Fox, University of Wisconsin, US
- Noah Hong, University of Washington, US
- Nahee King, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, SG
- Sam Lee, University of Washington
- Dongha Lim, University of California, Davis, US
- Philip Park, Washington State University, US
- Elina Yun, Dongseo University, KO
- Daniel Lee, Texas A&M University, US
- Dima Li, University of Oregon, US

BFS Activity Fair Helps Clubs Get Off to a Great Start

Busan Foreign School middle and high school students previewed nearly 20 BFS clubs at the third annual BFS Activities Fair. Again this year, the fair was a combination of both student-led and teacher-led activity tables.

New student Nathaniel Hong-Mitchell (9) experienced his first activity fair and said, "The club fair was a good example to show individual club's activity and purpose. I saw many students having interest in each club." Phoebe Lien (11) came to BFS last year but this was also her first activity fair. She said, "The activity fair was really interesting. It was good to see all of the clubs at BFS."

Danil Sviridov (10) said that the fair was similar to past years but he is excited about the possibility of a BFS skiing or snowboarding club. Seojun Park (9) stated, "Clubs are an essential (part of BFS). There are a lot of clubs to join and i will join most of them."

Vice Principal, Mrs. Harvey feels that BFS clubs are valuable because they allow students to make connections with the interests that they have in different subjects, get to know other students including those who are not in their grade.

BFS encourages all students to participate in after school activities. These clubs and activities expand options for students to make new friends and learn skills that are not taught in class such as leadership, sports, and special skills.



Article written by the BFS Yearbook Team

SKAC 1st Cross Country Meet of the 2017-18 SY

BFS had a great day of cross country running! We all ran extremely hard and finished strong. Congratulations to all of our BFS Sharks!



Here are some selected results:

ES Boys: Jeremiah 4th place

Theo 8th place

ES Girls: Angie 2nd place

Joy 4th place

Lillian 7th place

MS Boys: Misha 4th place

George Ian 5th place

Hyunjun 11th place

MS Girls: Gaetane 7th place

Briana 8th place

HS Boys: Yuri 9th place

HS Girls: Nastya 2nd place

Jihong 4th place

HS Volleybal – SKAC Divisional Results

The high school boys volleyball team had an outstanding showing at the Southern Korean Activities Conference (SKAC) Divisional HS volleyball tournament held at Daegu International School. This team of 18 players all had a winning attitude and represented BFS proudly. The men swept the first two matches against BIFS & GIFS. The boys played hard and executed game plans and worked together as a team. Our third match was against HIS was a tough battle between two highly-skilled teams. The boys battled hard but were unable to overcome this closely-skilled match. Coach Fox and Coach Dickinson are very proud of all the players and their invaluable contribution to making BFS a strong contender in the SKAC conference.

The girls also displayed sportsmanship and attitude. They lost their first two matches but did not give up and won the third one. They are working hard and will be redder when they finish round robin and head to bracketed play and single elimination.



Elementary SKAC Futsal Divisional at HIS

The boys played their hearts out on Wednesday at the SKAC Elementary Futsal tournament. Maximum effort was put forth by every player as we learn to come together as a team. It was a great day despite some tough losses but we took a lot away and we displayed excellent sportsmanship. We showed a lot of talent and mention should be given to Jun and Alexander who scored goals. We can be proud of our sharks and how they represented BFS. We look forward to the next tournament.



Our BFS **ES girls** futsal teams played very well at the SKAC Divisional tournament held at Handong International School on Wednesday, September 13th. All of the girls really improved their understanding of the game. They played with outstanding situational awareness and great teamwork.

By Coach Cressey and Coach Galles



Our girls **A-team** went undefeated by winning all three of their matches: (*Amber, Sophie, Angie, Mishel, Kalila, Lilly, Lucianna*): Angie scored 8 goals and Lilly scored 2

Our girls **B-team** went 1-1-1: (*Ana Maria, Jamie, Jaelle, Eunhoo, Hadassah, Joy, Hanna*): Hadassah scored all 5 goals for the BFS girls B-team.



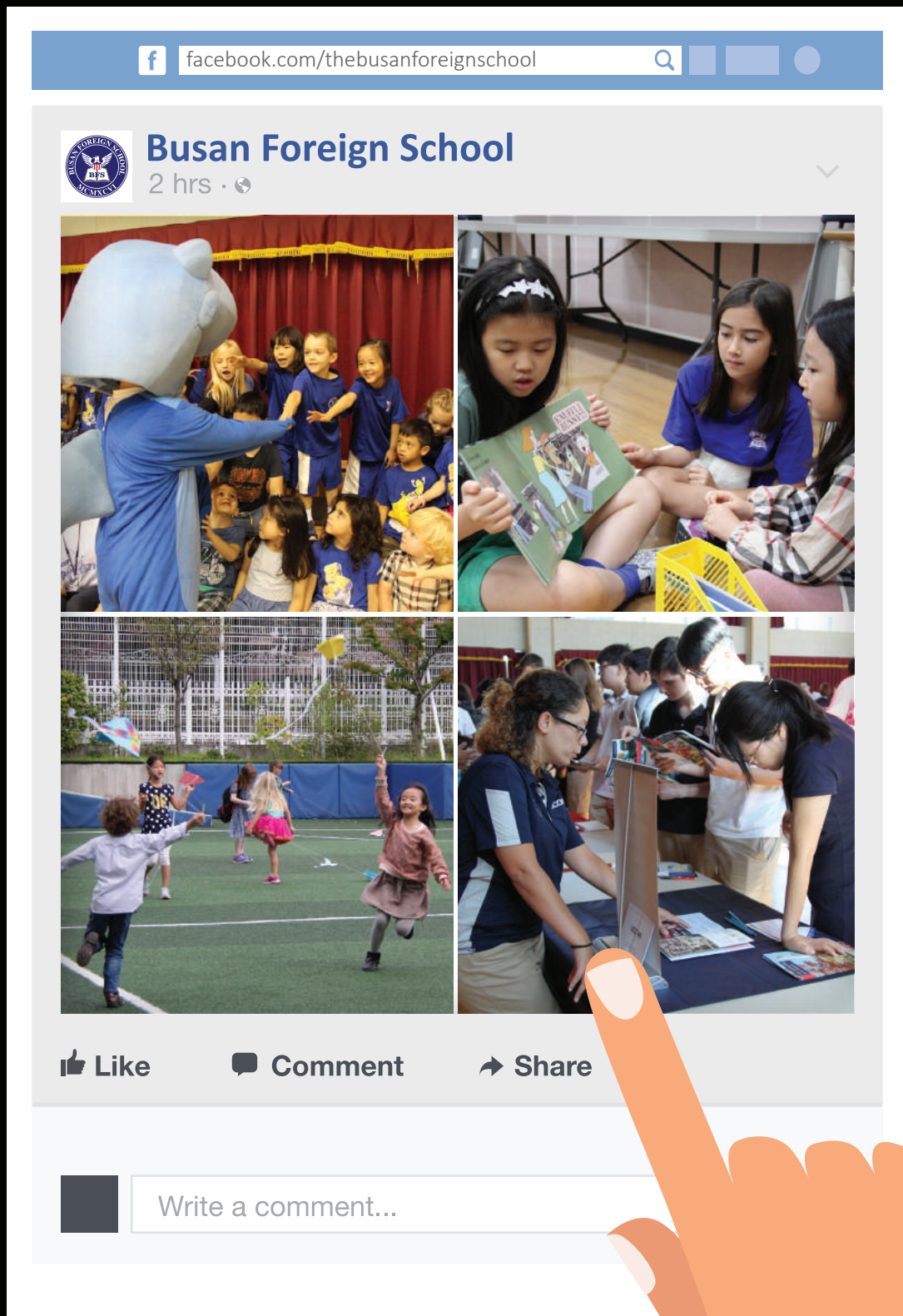
PTSO Needs Your Help!

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Images of the Month





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