

BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR NEWSLETTER



BFS NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2017 EDITION

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BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL
Embracing Diversity, Striving for Excellence



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BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL

Embracing Diversity, Striving for Excellence

HAPPY WINTER HOLIDAYS



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A Word from the Principal Iain Macfarlane

Dear Parents,

With the holiday season approaching I am grateful for the opportunity to lead this amazing community. Education is the promise of a better future. Everyday, our faculty and students work together to fulfill this promise. We are Socially Conscious, Hardworking, Articulate, Respectful and Knowledgeable. Reading the news these days it seems that many focus on the worst in peoples' natures. At BFS, we focus the energy of our community on the best we have to offer.

The winter holiday is the perfect time to reflect on what we have accomplished. In the arts, athletics and academics we are achieving. With the High School Girl's recent championship in basketball, we now have a total of 5 major SKAC championships over the last year! Our recent winter concerts at every school level demonstrate an arts program that is vibrant and captivating. Our results in MAP and PSAT reflect academic achievements that rival the best schools in Asia.

Socially, our students and faculty are giving back to our local community. Dr. Kim donated the proceeds from her Winter Concert to the Childhood Cancer Foundation. The Middle School Student Council coordinated with the Busan Women's International Association to collect socks for our local soup kitchen in Haeundae. At every event our students comport themselves with the best qualities. Whether at the International Climate Conference, the BIWA Christmas Bazaar, or any SKAC event our students project pride in themselves and respect for others.

I hope that you and your family have a restful time this winter holiday. I hope you rejuvenate the relationships that are more important now than ever. When we see you again on January 9th, know that 2018 is going to be our best year ever! Our community will continue to fulfill the promise of a meaningful education.

December 15th, 2017

*Iain Macfarlane
BFS Principal*

BFS is Invited to Participate to the IBS Conference on Climate Change and Human Migration

On Monday November 27th, our students from the environmental class attended the IBS Conference on Climate Change and Human Migration.

The main goal of this conference was to discuss aspects of climate-induced human migration and to determine how climate predictions can help assess and mitigate impacts of climate-driven human displacement. The conference was organized by the Institute for Basic Science (IBS), the IBS Center for Climate Physics, the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Seoul, the APEC Climate Center, and Pusan National University. It brought together in one room and one location many global leaders on the topics discussed. These speakers joined the conference from countries like the USA, the UK, and Germany to name a few.

Our students tremendously benefited from the opportunity. They will be able to use the information from their notes and cite it for the research papers that they have been writing on world Environmental Problems/Solutions. The information from the speakers will be useable for virtually all of the students in their projects and presentations.

Pusan National University, who invited our school to attend, mentioned how impressed they were by the active participation of our students. All an all a win-win situation and we are certainly grateful for the opportunity.

Below are some of the quotes from our students on the opportunity to participate in such an event:

During this conference, I felt like a grown up. This conference/presentation was far different than the normal high school lecture. I felt like a college student. A lot of authoritative and highly educated people attended to this conference, which was quite scary for me. I tried my best to stay humble and respectful, in order to avoid embarrassing myself and avoid hurting school reputation (I was representing BFS). In addition, the lecture itself was a bit challenging for me. It was hard for me to keep up with speakers and what they talked about. Additionally, I loved the food they served for us. Delicious...

Recently, the BFS HS science classes had an amazing opportunity to visit the IBS Conference on the Climate Change. More than 20 students participated and had an a chance to talk to the world experts in the wide spectrum of scientific fields, regarding the climatic threat that the global community is facing today. The BFS community is grateful to the Pusan National University and the IBS for organizing and giving an opportunity to the Busan Foreign School science department a chance to attend this conference.

This Climate Change Conference was an amazing opportunity to learn about environmental science from world experts. We learned about their studies and researches and their analysis of their findings. Climate change affects humans in many ways. It affects our health, change in the environment such as rise of sea level or droughts, and it largely affects migration and culture. To the conference speakers, I would say that the speakers were all well-prepared and analytical about their studies. Their presentation slides supported what the speaker was saying and was easy to understand. The graphs and data tables were helpful for better understanding and graphics were well-presented. To my friends, I would say that this was a great chance to learn about science. It also was a great chance to learn how to give effective presentations.

To attend this IBS conference was a pleasure of mine because I have learned many things about climate change, more than before. I never thought that climate change would be linked to human migration. Being at the conference helped open my perspective on many things. I would like to thank the conference speakers for delivering a very insightful speech, and the organizers who invited us. I am also very proud of my classmates because they asked a lot of great questions.

I really enjoyed being at this conference as I was informed by the various aspects of climate change that I have not learned before. It felt as if I was introduced to the real world surrounded by professional people who are passionate about their research. The conference has inspired me to learn more about the sciences and to help contribute to the community like the presenters at the conference. I would like to tell them that their research is fascinating, especially Dr. Stocker's analysis of the air and CO₂ concentration findings from ice cores in Antarctica. I would like to tell my friends to attend a conference as it will illuminate them about various subjects at a higher level of instruction.

During this conference, I was able to experience a whole new world in my life. Moreover, I was able to see and annotate how other higher class scientists and people conferenced and presented their ideas and informations. I felt as if I was a scientist, writing notes about the climate change and human migration. It was a huge experience for me to go into a huge, unbelievable conference where thousands of smart people gather up and share their thoughts and datas. However, I was worried if I was hurting the school's image due to my limited skills but gave me confidences towards my goals and dreams. Also, I was having difficulties with several presentations but I was able to understand towards the end of this conferences. I really wanted to attend the other several conferences because it was very fascinating and I was able to learn more than I though I could. In addition, the food was amazing which made a perfect field trip in 2017. Thank you Mrs. Branch and Mr. Duwe for taking us to the wonderful conference in my life. I hope to have further field trips like this. Thank you!

By attending the conference, I learned how to think scientifically and analytically because of the questions that were asked by other professionals. The questions they asked were so critical and thoughtful. Moreover, by attending the conference, I felt like I am really part of this conference to solve the problem: climate change. Lastly, I learned to wear formally when attending the conference to show respect. To the conference speaker, I was so amazed and surprised by how intellectual they were and how knowledgeable they were with this part. To my friends, I really recommend you to attend the conference by any chance because it is really helpful.



KORCOS 2017

On November 18th, I had an amazing opportunity to both present at and attend the 32nd Korea Council of Overseas Schools (KORCOS) International Education Conference at the stunning Chadwick International School (CIS) campus in Incheon. In her opening remarks, the CIS Head of School, Shelly Luke Wille, challenged us to approach the day with Passion and Purpose in order to inspire our students through meaningful work. Her fiery words energized and encouraged me to kick off the day as one of the first presenters.

My presentation focused on using consistent student feedback and continual samples of student work to create a collaborative and meaningful class culture and to design relevant assessments. This practice stems from the understanding that, when asked the right questions in the right way, students can articulately communicate their social-emotional and academic needs. In my experience, giving students the opportunity to voice their opinions and reflect on their learning periodically, results in students being able to do the following: **• look at their work & work habits critically • identify their strengths and stretches • establish realistic goals to facilitate personal growth • and peer critique with depth & clarity.** It also improves the quality of the work students produce and increases student investment in their learning. If you wish to understand the process of Feedback Looping more fully, please visit the Professional Growth and Development 2016 and Beyond page on my website or visit me in room 203 at Busan Foreign School.



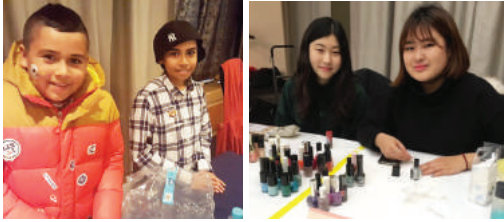
Upon concluding my presentation, I had the tremendous honor of learning from numerous other educators. Some of my favorites included, ELL Strategies in Readers and Writers Workshop presented by Eric Rosenthal and Elaine Costiera. The array of differentiated strategies that they presented inspired me to implement a modified Readers and Writers Workshop in the Spanish 2-3 levels at BFS. My reasoning being that, specifically in the 2nd and 3rd years of language acquisition, students, although labeled as level 2 or 3 for credit purposes, are actually each on their own journey. Each student comes to the table with strengths and faces unique challenges when reading, writing, comprehending, and conversing. Often the diverse needs of the students at these stages can be challenging to support. Readers and Writers Workshop will give me the ability to do just that.

As an almost perfect bridge, I then attended Jon Nordmeyer's workshop entitled Asset-Based Teaching: Using WIDA to Discover What Your Learners Can Do. He encouraged us to uncover the strengths and explore the rich backgrounds of our students in order to focus on what they CAN DO in our classrooms and through language.

To conclude the day, John Zola, showed us the power of Scored Discussions and Grading Student Talk. I highly recommend his resources which can be found on <http://johnzola.com/JohnZola.com/Welcome.html>. John is the breed of educator that inspires Passionate Purpose for all People. If you have questions or would like to share resources or understand my experience more fully, please email me at ssanchez@bfs.or.kr, visit my website at <https://sarahsanchezarmstrong.weebly.com/>, or come and speak to me in person. My door is always open so to speak.

by Sarah Sánchez Armstrong (BFS HS Spanish Teacher)

Impressions of the 2017 BIWA Bazaar



One of the expected school-wide learning results of Busan Foreign School is socially conscious: “be caring!”. Yes, we do want our students to grow into caring individuals aware of other’s needs and of what they can do to help.

An example of this is our participation at the BIWA Charity Bazaar. Three of our school groups (National Honor Society, MS Volunteer Club, Parent Teacher Support Organization) volunteered at the kids corner and in so contributed to the BIWA cause who donates all their bazaar proceeds to different charity actions improving the quality of life of those in need in Busan.

Our 5th graders also performed and sang without accompanying music wonderfully.

Setting up the activities, encouraging children to participate, taking care of BIWA’s youngest guests, and cleaning up afterwards was not a small task.

We are proud of our sharks and our teachers who also give their time and lead by example.

2017 Orchestra Charity Fundraising Concert

On Friday, December 8th, 2017, the BFS Play for Charity Concert occurred. They played SIX songs from the romantic period and the early twenty centuries.

For 2 years, the orchestra has been given the opportunity to take part in the Korean Association for Children with Leukemia and Cancer donation relay campaign. Through raffle selling and donations, we have raised a grand total of...

9,673,200 WON!

WOW! Great job sharks!

By Cindy Lee (Orchestra Student)



November Student of the Month

We celebrated *"Respectful: be responsible for yourself and others"* at the November elementary student of the month assembly. We also looked into what respect looks like at recess.



NOVEMBER SOM

Respectful: be responsible for yourself and others

K3: William & Janie

K4: Taelyn

K5: Catalina & Elsie

1st Grade: Chihiro & George

2nd Grade: Lauren & Sasha

3rd Grade: Sophia & Theodore

4th Grade: Jaelle

5th Grade: Kevin & Lillan

Elementary Winter Concert

On Friday December 1st BFS elementary students performed at the annual Elementary Winter Concert for their families and friends.

Students demonstrated their musicianship through a variety of vocal performances, instrumental pieces, movement improvisations, and dances. It was a memorable and magical night for all.

The concert also raised 335,000 won for the charity Children with Leukemia. Go Sharks!



Early Childhood Winter Concert



The Early Childhood concert took place on December 11th for our PreK3 and K4 students.

Families and friends witnessed firsthand how students learn and experience music. The concert opened with some simple echo songs such as the “Hello Song” and “Wise Old Owl”. Echo songs are critical for language acquisition and pitch recognition. Some brave students even volunteered to sing alone for everyone else to echo! Students also showed their listening skills by moving, singing, or performing actions in sequences to songs such as “Charlie Over the Ocean”, “Holiday Cheer”, and “Hey Betty Martin”.

The concert concluded with the students favorite holiday sing along “Jingle Bells”.

It was a fantastic opportunity for students to share what they learned in an intimate environment. Having a positive experience is essential for a child’s first performance and they performed wonderfully.

By Mr. Chapa (ELC and ELE Music Teacher)

Elementary Learning Fair

December 11th



Pajama Movie Party

December 15th



Reader's Theatre in the Upper Elementary

On Wednesday, December 6th, the fourth grade class had a Readers Theater performance in the auditorium. They had been working on 3 plays for 6 library classes. We had 11 family members attend and students were excited to show off their speaking skills. The 3 plays were: The Bear's Picnic, The Shopping that Mum Bought and I am. The performance was filmed for any individuals interested in watching.

On Friday, December 8th the third grade class also had a Readers Theater performance. Students had been working on 4 plays for 8 library classes. We had a new student join the class so we added the final play after we began the unit. We had 9 family members attend and even the first grade class was able to watch! Thank you Mr. Chapa! The four plays were: The Fabulous Zoo Tour, The Lizards of Oz, Show and Tell and The True Story of the Three Little Pigs. The performance was also filmed for anybody interested in watching. Both classes did beautifully and all spoke clearly and with expression. I had a student sick on their performance day and her understudy did a wonderful job changing her voice to be like what the student was going to sound like. Students who are new to BFS and are learning English did a fantastic job. Mrs. So helped out our ESL learners with learning their lines and they all did a wonderful job! Thank you Mrs. So!

Thank you parents and teachers for the support in allowing the students to have this opportunity to perform!

ABOUT READER'S THEATRE

Readers Theater is defined as a style of theater in which the actors do not memorize their lines. Actors use only vocal expression to help the audience understand the story rather than visual storytelling. (Credit: Wikipedia – https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reader%27s_theatre)

I decided to put together a Readers Theater performance because students become inspired to get into character and are internally motivated to read out loud clearly with expression. Readers Theater helps students learn how to read a script and it improves their listening skills.

Ms. Amy Wesen (Librarian)



Second Grade Writing Celebrations

December 15th



MS Sock Drive

On December 6th, Ms. Peggy White, a member of the BIWA (a Busan International Women's Association) came in to see the Middle School Student Council.

She came to talk about the BIWA Sock Drive that we were holding, and how collecting something as little as socks can really make a difference for the elderly that needed these pairs of socks.

As a follow up, on December 8th, the Russian Consul and his wife visited BFS, and donated a few pairs of socks for the last day of our BIWA and BFS Sock Drive.

The president of the Middle School Council, Chiyeon Lee, explained the reason for the donation drive.

We were so honored to have them visit, and donate to our cause.

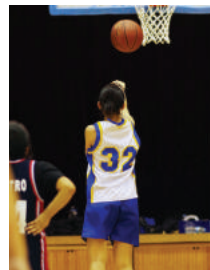
As thanks, we gave them a little gift and letter, to show our gratitude.

The MS sock drive collected a total of 827 socks.

Written by Charlyze Santos (MS Student Council)



HS SKAC Basketball Season End: Another Great Victory for Our Lady Sharks.



On Saturday, December 9, 2017 Busan Foreign School hosted the Southern Korean Activities Conference HS Girls Basketball Finals. In the Lady Shark's first game of the morning they faced the Busan International Foreign School (BIFS) Bears. The Bears started the game with a full court press and really pressured our girls, making it very difficult to advance the ball up the court. BFS struggled to break the pressure and were dominated by BIFS, losing by a score of 6-25! BFS had 32 turnovers in the game and with that many turnovers it is easy to see how BIFS pulled away to win by 19 points. For the game, our BFS Lady Sharks made just 3 shots out of 12 attempts for a total of 6 points, while the Bears made 12 shots out of 21 shooting attempts. Although we lost this game we were confident that we could earn a rematch against BIFS in the Final if we could win our next two games.

In the second game of the day the Lady Sharks faced Handong International School (HIS). Our girls played much better and outscored HIS 29-8 for the win. The Sharks made 13 field goals and 1 three point shot out of a total of 44 attempts (29 points), while holding HIS to just 3 for 27 shooting the basketball and two free throws to round out their scoring at 8 points.

In their third game of the day our Lady Sharks faced the Daegu International School (DIS) Jets. In this game we continued our hot shooting by making 9 out of 18 shots in the first half, including 5 three pointers by Daniella; propelling the Sharks out in front at halftime by a score of 23-5. DIS made just 1 shot out of 5 shooting attempts to go along with 3 free throws prior to halftime. In the second half the Jets made 3 baskets and a free throw to round out their scoring at 12 points, while BFS scored 2 baskets in the second half to finish out their scoring for a final result of BFS 27 – DIS 12.

Having won the previous two games our girls had now earned their rematch with BIFS in the SKAC HS Girls Basketball Championship Game. Knowing we would face tremendous pressure, we knew ball control and ball security was going to be the difference in the game. The game started similar to the first round game whereby BIFS pressured and scored early, hitting the first two baskets of the game before the Sharks broke the ice and hit their first field goal to make the score 2-4 about midway through the first half. After more tough defense on both sides Daniella hit a 3 point shot to give the Sharks their first lead of the game at 5-4. BFS picked up another basket and a free throw, and BIFS also scored a basket to close out the halftime score at 8 to 6 in favor of the BFS Lady Sharks.

In the second half Jihong scored an early bucket to push the lead in favor of BFS to 10-6. BIFS hit a free throw, then another basket to close the gap to 10-9 with 11 minutes remaining in the championship game. It was at this point in the game that our Lady Sharks showed their true grit and determination, with three successive baskets to push the Shark's ahead to 16-9. BIFS answered with a bucket to cut the lead to 16-11, then Daniella lifted a high-soft-floater from around 22' that hit nothing but the bottom of the net "SWISH", another 3 point basket that pushed BFS out in front for good at 19-11 with roughly 5 minutes to play. In the end the BFS Lady Sharks would simply not be denied the championship trophy; closing out the game to win by a final score of 23 – 16!!

Finals Scores:

BFS 6 – 25 BIFS

BFS 29 – 8 HIS

BFS 27 – 12 DIS

Championship Game:

BFS 23 – 16 BIFS

For the Finals Tournament:

Lady Sharks: 36/104 (8 three pointers),
5/21 free throws,
Total points – 85 points (21 ppg.)

Opponents: 25/105 (0 three pointers),
11/29 free throws,
Total points – 61 points (15 ppg.)

For the Season:

Lady Sharks: 59/206 (9 three pointers),
134 points (20 ppg.)

Opponents: 39/149 (0 three pointers),
87 points (12 ppg.)

But... What about the boys?



The boys basketball team journeyed to the BIFS Bear Cave for the final competition of the SKAC season. Fate would have it that the BFS Sharks' first game was against the Jets of Daegu. The Sharks' defense was ferocious, holding DIS to only 15 points! The offense was slow to get the engine running though, and the final score was 8 to 15 in favor of the Jets. In their second game of the day, the Sharks were face to face with HIS, who would go on to win the championship. The BFS Sharks proved in the first half that they can be a force to be reckoned with! Going into halftime, BFS was only 6 points behind the future champs. Maintaining a physical and tenacious defense proved to be too much for BFS in the end, and the final score was 13 to 38. In their final game of the season, the Sharks were physically superior to their opponent, KFS. They left it all on the court, racking up seven charges taken on defense! KFS made some big three point baskets in the closing minutes and ended up winning 25 to 40.

The BFS boys team has so much potential, and they have their eyes set on the SKAC championship. The team will continue to practice and work hard to improve in preparation for the KISAC tournament in Jeju.

Elementary Volleyball 1st Divisional Meet

On December 12th, our Elementary Volleyball team travelled to Geoje for their first divisional. They played with heart and were very successful! **They were great ambassadors for BFS! Go Sharks!**



Images of the Month

 facebook.com/thebusanforeignschool

 **Busan Foreign School**
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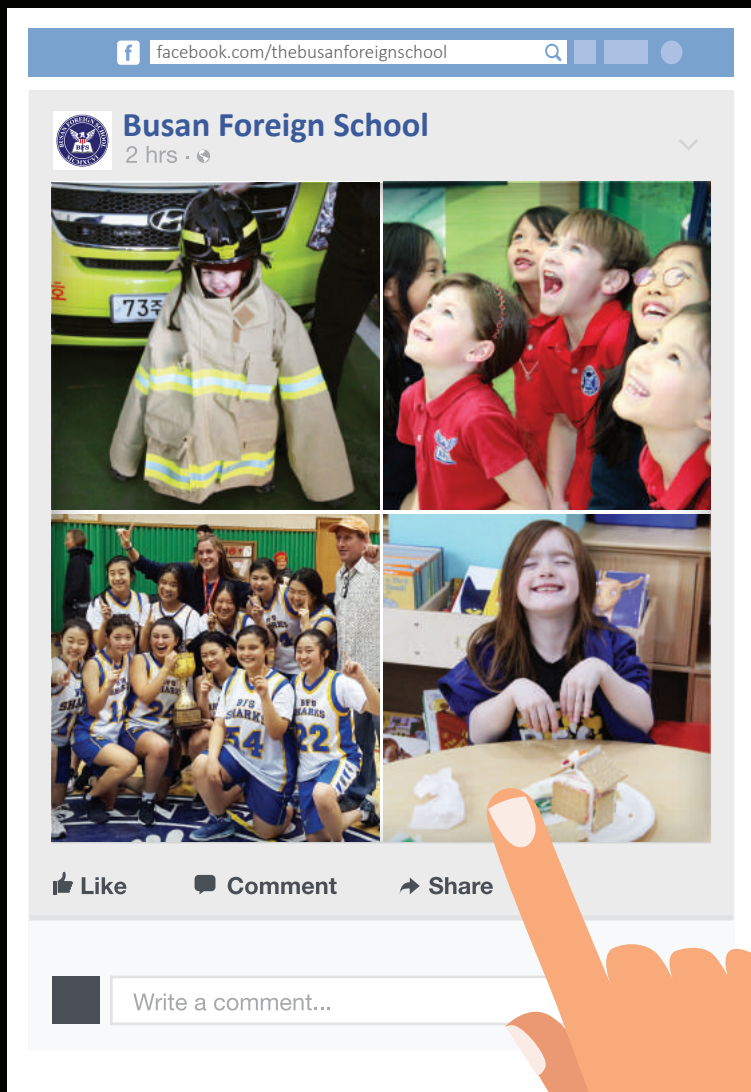




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Images of the Month





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