

BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR NEWSLETTER



BFS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2021 EDITION

www.busanforeignschool.org



BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL
Embracing Diversity. Striving for Excellence



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BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL

Embracing Diversity, Striving for Excellence

**Growing
Together**



BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL | OCTOBER 2021 EDITION

Word from the Principals

Lauren Harvey & Carl Brenneman

October was a fantastic month at BFS! Looking back it's a little hard to believe how much we were able to accomplish in one month. We certainly could not have provided such an outstanding month of learning and activities without parent support and the energy and dedication of our staff.

This month students completed the NWEA MAP tests. We will use these results as one data point to help students who might be struggling with reading or math, and we look forward to sharing the Spring 2022 results when we can celebrate the growth that students make during the year. MAP is just one of the data points we use at BFS to help chart individual student growth. The ES teachers regularly check reading levels in order to help students choose challenging books and materials. The HS and 8th grade students also took the PSAT in October. This helps us track their college readiness. At BFS we are proud to be able to support all learners to make progress in reading and math.

In addition to assessments, October was a great month of fun community building. The high school students kicked things off with

their spirit day when classes worked together to solve problems, answer trivia, play floor hockey, capture the flag, and grow closer as a group. Founders Day came mid-month and Sharks of all sizes played games, ran relays, and cheered until they were hoarse as the teachers played students on the volleyball court. We are thankful for the collaborative efforts that made Founder's Day a success. We also want to thank our parents for their support of Halloween activities.

We reached the end of the first quarter and report cards came home in digital form for the first time. This also marked the first time that parents could choose to attend a conference through Zoom or in person, and we hope that the results of the post-conference surveys will help us determine if this is an option we'd like to continue into the future.

As we continue into quarter 2, we look forward to the continued learning and growth of our students in a safe, caring, and supportive environment.

*Ms. Lauren Harvey
Elementary Principal*

*Mr. Carl Brenneman
Upper School Principal*

Busan Foreign School 25th Anniversary

On Friday, October 15th the students had a great afternoon celebrating BFS' 25th birthday. Everyone had a fantastic time, and it was great to see the whole BFS community together and celebrating.





2021-22SY BFS Halloween

A visual sneak peak into Halloween of BFS this year. As we publish this Newsletter on Halloween day we have no time but to let the images speak for themselves.



Fire Drill at BFS

Fire drill at BFS on Monday, October 25th. We got all students out in the field, calmly and orderly in a little bit above 3 minutes. Way to go Sharks! BFS performs fire drills two to three times per year.



Alliance Française de Busan Visits BFS

On Monday, October 25th, Ms. González from the Alliance Française de Busan, came to school and introduced France and French culture to our Model UN and French Club students. It was a very lively presentation and covered aspects of geography, arts, and local customs. Thank you so much Ms. González for making us more French savvy.



Korean Calligraphy Competition for Foreigners

This year marked the 575th anniversary of King Sejong's creation and distribution of the Hunminjeongeum (훈민정음) or "Genuine Sound of Teaching People". Hangeul is a unique and scientific writing system and in order to promote its understanding, the commemorating council organized a "Hangeul writing competition for foreigners". They also wanted to help promote friendship between Korea and foreign countries. We are proud two of our Korean class students received an "honorable mention": Aubrey (Gr.3) and Milena (Gr.8). Well done sharks!



BFS Founder's Day Poetry Contest

Congratulations Natalie, Bobby, and Yuanqiang for being recognized during Founder's day poetry contest. Excellent job reading your poems Bobby and Natalie! And a big thanks to everyone for your participation.

SHARK by Bobby (Grade 5)



I am a student in BFS.
Every year, I seem to grow,
learning faster and faster,
thanks to BFS along my journey,
and with all the support.
I remember the years when I struggled to learn and communicate,
like a baby shark not knowing a thing,
But now that I think about it,
I wonder if it was just the process
that makes me the great person I am today.
I will grow as a shark as the years pass
and one day, I'll see myself as a brave and proud shark.
I am a student in BFS,
a shark seeking more knowledge.

Busan Foreign School 2021-22 SY Founder's Day Poetry Contest
Elementary Winner



Stepping Stones by Natalie (Grade 12)



Step Step Step
Because to me,
BFS is a path
It is not a perfect path
It is rocky and rough at times
But it leads to me the future
While I enjoy the view
Of the stones
Around
My feet
Here And there
I find one I like
And I put it
In
My
Pocket
And some I throw away
Plink Plink
Just a few steps to go
Am I ready?
Has the path prepared me?
I guess we will find out
Step Step Step
I look up
The path nears its end
If I reach out
Will I touch it?
Just a few more steps
But
Is there even another side?
Another path I can take?
I turn around to go back but
The path behind me
Is missing
I remember what it looked like
And though I step away
I'm also taking it with me

Busan Foreign School 2021-22 SY
Founder's Day Poetry Contest
Upper School Winner



Life in BFS by Yuanqiang (Grade 5)

Life in BFS was fun, joy and more.
New friends, new teacher.
Love not hate.
Sadness might happen but it's okay.
Friends are all around us
And we are all together.
Stronger together!
We are sharks.
We are strong.

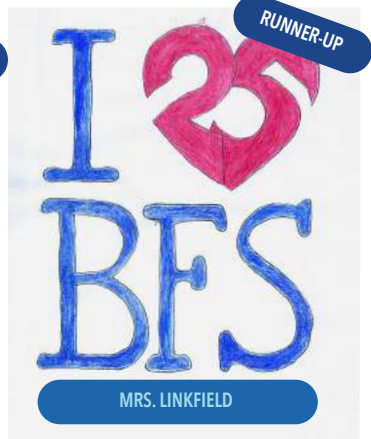
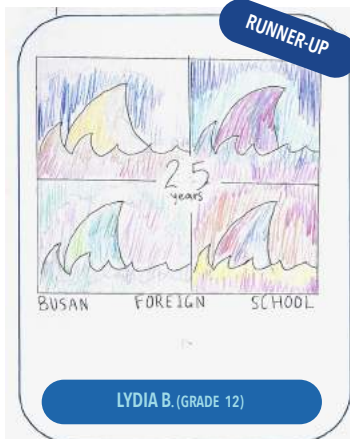
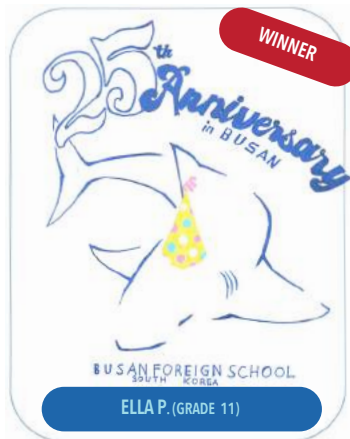
School is fun.
Lunch is yummy.
Teacher teaches
And kids learn.
Laugh and laugh.
Joy and fun.
Friendship are always together
And we are too!

Busan Foreign School 2021-22 SY Founder's Day Poetry Contest
Elementary Runner Up



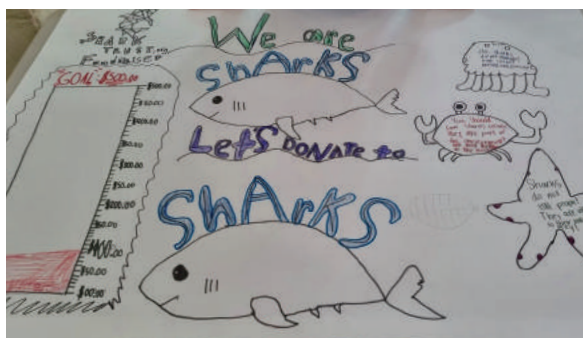

2021-2022SY BFS Spirit T-Shirts Contest

Congratulations to all runner ups for this year's Spirit tee contest: Ms. Linkfield (parent), Ms. L (staff), Eleanor (lower elementary), Jeen (upper elementary), Cedric (MS), Lydia (HS), and Ella (grand winner). We were delighted by everyone's participation. The tees really look great!



Save the Sharks!

Sibling power at BFS! Elsie and Mason teamed up to raise money for the Shark Trust (<https://www.sharktrust.org>). They were standing at the lobby before school starts for two weeks to save the sharks. SHARKS pride!



Friday Foyer

Visit our BFS Youtube channel for the 2021-22SY Friday Foyer concerts. <https://bit.ly/3vq7Mr9>



Meet Our Alumni: Rachael Kim | Class of 2011



MEET OUR ALUMNI!



Rachael Kim

BFS Class of 2011

- Freelancer in the entertainment industry, Model.
- Royal Holloway University of London, Bachelor of Arts in Media Arts, 2015

What are you up to now? (talk about your job, life, etc)

I've been working as a model/ actress in Korea since graduating. I've always had a passion for being on stage which led me to what I do. I've been in various dramas, movies, fashion shows, plays and musicals. Most recently I performed in the musical We Will Rock You before we closed due to Covid-19. Since then I have taken a step back from performing and gone into teaching. I am currently teaching English Musical helping people with English and performing. As much as I enjoy teaching right now I plan on going back into performing next year.

Do you have any passion projects?

My passion project nowadays is training candidates for beauty pageants and teaching model-walking to senior models. Through my background in modeling and having been a judge in several beauty pageants I'm glad I can pass on my knowledge to them. It is also very satisfying when they get good results such as Miss Korea and Mrs Universe. Helping the candidates and senior models also helps me to realize that I still have the passion for modeling and acting.

What was the biggest challenge you faced in College?

My biggest challenge was balancing my course work and my society activities. Since my first year in university I was in Cheerleading, Dance, and Fashion societies. I had practice/ rehearsals every day for each society and had to get my course work done. It was hard to manage both things especially during competition seasons but managed to make it work. Time management was essential. Even though it was hard having a busy lifestyle it helped me to stay on top of everything.

What advice do you have for BFS students as they go off to university/college?

Don't be afraid of trying new things, meeting new people. University is a chance to meet people from all over the world with different backgrounds. Be adventurous, outrageous and spontaneous. It is a stage in life to find yourself, your passion and just to explore. The experiences you gain will stay with you throughout life so experience as many things as you can.

What memory of BFS comes to mind?

I have so many memories of BFS but my favourite has to be living in Wellbeach. I lived in the building with some of my best friends so we would gather at one person's house to eat, do homework, and just hang out. And of course most of our teachers lived there too so it was always "nice" bumping into them. But out of all the Wellbeach memories my favourite was when we had to make a documentary for our Media class so I made one about life at Wellbeach.





Early Childhood and Elementary Counselor's Corner

This month, Early Childhood students began learning how to identify their feelings. Kindergarten through 3rd Grade students started the Second Step Bullying Prevention Unit where they learned how to recognize and report bullying. Next, they will learn how to refuse bullying and how to support others when they see bullying happen. 4th and 5th Grade students will receive these lessons in the coming months. All Elementary students practiced being assertive when expressing their wants and needs and discussed respecting similarities and differences.



One way that you can support your child in developing these skills is by logging into the Second Step website and accessing the "Home Links." Please contact me at rcastillo@bfs.or.kr if you would like help accessing the website!

Ms. Austin Castillo

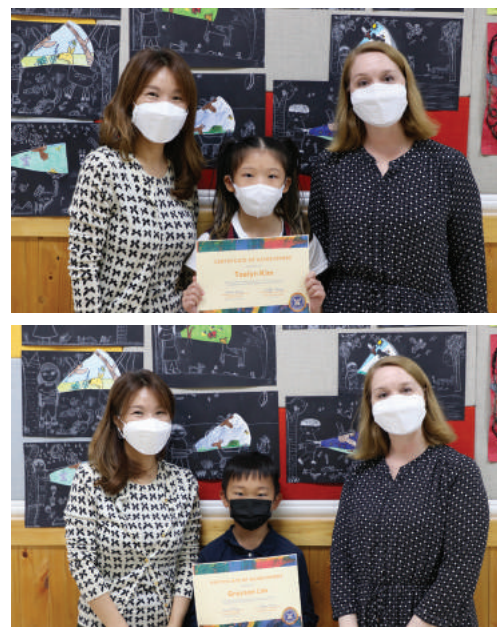
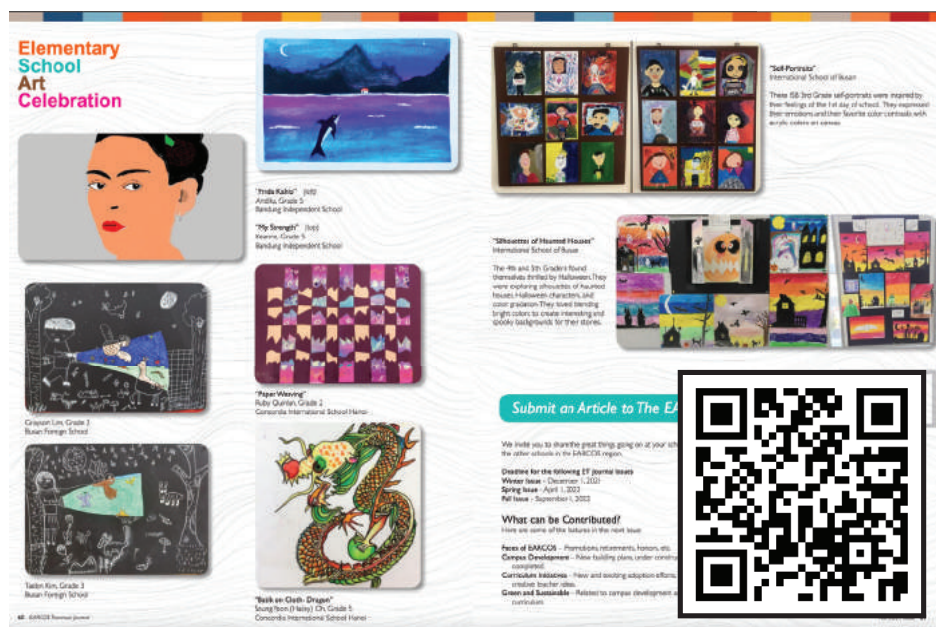
Reading Buddies Program at BFS

Every month, our students 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.



BFS Students Art Works in EARCOS Journal

Did you know BFS is a member of the East Asia Regional Council of Overseas Schools or EARCOS? Earcos provides our school leaders and teachers fantastic personal development and networking opportunities that directly benefit your children. At this Fall Earcos tri-annual journal, two of our lower elementary students art work was also published. What a fantastic achievement for Taelyn K. (Gr.3) and Grayson L. (Gr.2) and their teacher! Check page 60! (<https://issuu.com/earcosorg/docs/et-sept-2021/62>)



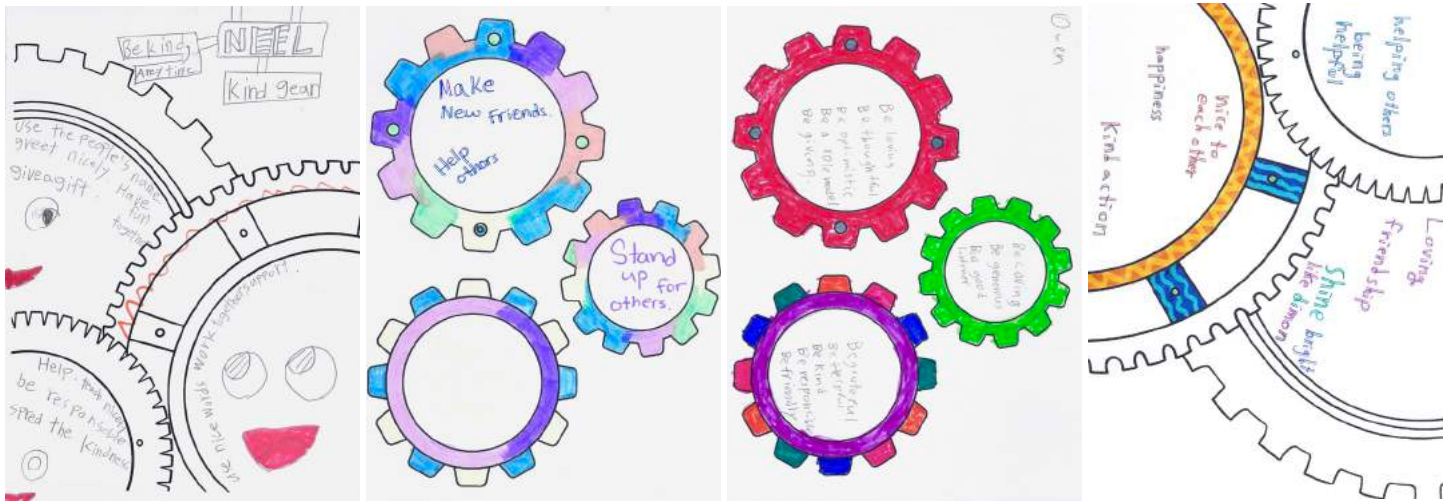
Anchored 4 Life

The Anchored 4 Life club is well underway and already spreading kindness through BFS. The five elementary team leaders (Megan, Hannah, Sunha, Angie, and Sophie) hosted a bake sale at BFS. All benefits they made will be donated to Afghan refugees that have been evacuated to Korea. As you may know, over 300 people have been evacuated from Afghanistan to Korea, and 46% of the refugees are children under 10 years old including 100 babies and toddlers. (source: https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2021/08/120_314615.html) BFS Sharks are Kind!



Be Kind

BFS' Counselor, Ms. Austin-Castillo, spent a lot of time with upper elementary students during September and October. She read the book *Be Kind* by Pat Zietlow Miller to help generate ideas about different ways that we can contribute to a positive environment (e.g., helping, teaching something, standing up for someone, giving, paying attention, saying something nice, just being there for someone). Then she encouraged students to discuss how doing small things can contribute to something big on a larger scale. At the end, students wrote ideas and decorated images of gears to signify that our actions come together for a greater overall impact. We could all learn one or two things from that!



Second Step Bullying Prevention Lesson

Our school counselor has started giving the Second Step Bullying Prevention unit lessons at the elementary. In the Bullying Prevention lessons, students learned how to report bullying. Students discussed the difference between tattling and reporting bullying. They talked about who they can report bullying to and practiced what to say so that they can feel more confident reporting bullying when it really happens. Parents should have received their home activities packs and although not mandatory we encourage them to use them. Our librarian has also put on display some books that will further encourage our young learners' thinking. Let's make a difference!



Early Childhood Transportation Unit

During the month of October, PK3 and K4 have been engaged at exploring the world of transportation. After examining a variety of images and videos of cities, students were especially curious about the different forms of transportation that move, and the architectural design of a city. The students had discussions about spaces in the city that allow for all forms of transportation. They came up with a list including: roads, railways, bridges, oceans, and buildings. Students designed and created their own town/city with roads. Students noticed that they needed to add some forms of transportation to their town/city and spent the next week inquiring into the design and structure of cars. They constructed cars that they could use in their created city. After completing their town/city, students had the opportunity to visit the fire station and see a fire truck up close! This experience led students to create their own fire truck, one in which they could fit inside! With the help of Ms. Smyth's exacto knife and some books on fire trucks from Ms. Gleb, the students designed and decorated their own fire truck. We are very excited to see where else this transportation unit will take us!



Grade 1 Mystery Reader

Every Monday Grade 1 students are challenged to guess the Monday Mystery Reader. Staff sign up in advance and share 3 facts with the class. After each fact is read students guess who the mystery reader is for the day. After reading the third fact students do a drumroll as the Mystery Reader is revealed. The mystery reader then reads a story to the class and students have an opportunity to ask questions at the end. The Mystery Reader also provides some of his or her reading tips and advice. The Monday Mystery Reader program is an effort to promote literacy and get students excited to read as well as build community within BFS.



Grade 2 Being Socially Conscious

The second graders have been making visual postcards and giving them a detailed title. They are proud of their work! They would like to use their work and serve a greater cause and are putting them for sale. They will be having them professionally printed. 240,000 krw from the sales will be donated to the Afghan refugees currently in South Korea.



RAINBOW CARDS		
HALLOWEEN CARDS		
CHRISTMAS CARDS		
COLUMN 1 TOTAL: _____	COLUMN 2 TOTAL: _____	COLUMN 3 TOTAL: _____

HEART CARDS		
SUMIKKO CARDS		
ANIMAL CARDS		BIRTHDAY CARD
COLUMN 4 TOTAL: _____	COLUMN 5 TOTAL: _____	COLUMN 6 TOTAL: _____

Elementary SLO Assembly Hosted by Grade 4

Thank you Grade 4 for hosting September Elementary SLO Assembly and celebrating our hardworking students. The BFS monthly elementary assemblies provide a safe space for our students to get used to speaking in public and those listening to show respect for others' work. Good job everyone!



Grade 5 Decimal Math Olympics

To wrap up the fifth-grade math unit on decimals the fifth-graders competed in the first annual "Decimal Math Olympics". Students took their times from the events and worked on math skills practiced during quarter one. They compared times, wrote times in word and expanded form, and multiplied and estimated.

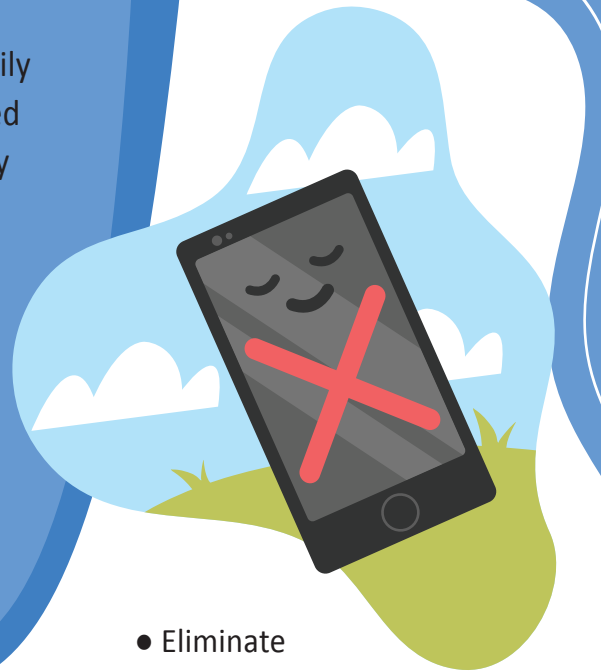




Middle School & High School Counselor's Corner

Media should work for you and work with your family values and parenting style. When media is used thoughtfully and appropriately, it can enhance daily life. But when used inappropriately or without thought, media can displace many important activities such as face-to-face interaction, family-time, outdoor-play, exercise, unplugged downtime & sleep. Here are some tips for making the most of your media exposure:

- Assess how certain apps make you feel.
- Eliminate unnecessary platforms that don't bring you joy.
- Consider how much time you are spending with your phone relative to other activities.
- Remember: Parents modeling healthy relationships with their phones is the most influential part of family digital well-being.



- Eliminate phones from tables at mealtime and bedrooms overnight. (You might need to buy an alarm clock).
- Try screen-free Saturday mornings or a daily "no-power" hour, and use that for family time instead.
- Challenge each other to a one-day phone fast. The first person to lose does everyone's dishes for a week.

Ms. Austin Castillo



Middle School STUCO Members for 2021-2022SY



Congratulations to the MS STUCO members for 2021-2022:

Co-presidents: Joy Cho (G8)
Eunhoo Park (G8)
Secretary: Skylar Furuya (G8)
Treasurer: Ruby Chung (G7)
Class Reps: Alex Park (G8)
Jun Jang (G7)
Ruby Chung (Proxy for G6 for Semester 1)

Middle School Assembly

It was nice seeing the Middle Schoolers come together for their quarterly assembly and reflect about what being Socially Conscious at BFS, Korea, and the World means. After all, we are all part of larger communities, and in order to leave our marks we need to know them.



Middle School Makerspace

Our middle school students in makerspace have been working on a fun project the past few weeks. They were challenged to design a marble run that is fun and attractive with some criteria and constraints for our elementary students. We've invited 2nd and 4th grade students to test the marble runs and vote for their favorite or the best one.



Middle School Science Lunar Lander Drops

The grade 6 science class designed and tested Lunar Landers for their Astronomy and Space Science unit. The goal was to have two astronauts (marshmallows) land safely in their cockpit (a red cup) when dropped from the gym floor balcony. Students studied design and modeling, collected and analyzed data, and observed cause/effect/mechanism for their landings.



Middle School Book Club

It was nice seeing our grades 6 and 7 having some meaningful discussions and sharing their thoughts about the books they are reading at last week's "Book Club" session.



Chloe (Grade 6) Wins IDS Championship

Congratulations Chloe for becoming a champion at the IDS International Debating Championship organised by Kyunghee University.
(<https://www.idschampionship.com/>)

Thank you for representing us so well!



2021-22SY National Honor Society Induction

On Monday, October 25th, we hosted the NHS induction ceremony. Membership to the BFS chapter of the official NHS is not easy, students have to meet minimum academic criteria and demonstrate and commit to the four pillars of the NHS: scholarship, service, leadership and character. Congratulations *Albert, Anna, Hyunjun, Ella Youseung, Ahmad, Val and Bella*.



High School Fun Spirit Day

High School Spirit Day was a great success! The HS Student Council has worked extremely hard to ensure that this day is a meaningful and purposeful day for each and every member of the HS community. We are very proud of you :)



High School Student of the Quarter 1



Socially Conscious	Chad
Hardworking	Bella, Michelle & Sam
Articulate	Albert
Respectful	Beau, Inah & Andrew
Knowledgeable	Jasmin & Val

Congratulations to the student of the quarter HS SHARK award winners who were recognized on Wednesday, October 20th, during high school morning assembly.



Grade 9 Spoken Words Performance

Grade 9 students performed their spoken words poem during October. They drafted several poems, then chose which ones to revise and include in a final poetry anthology they analyzed. One of the poems in the anthology is their spoken word poem. They have done an awesome job!



AP Psychology: Sensation and Perception

In AP Psychology, we've been studying sensation and perception. We tested how our taste and sense of smell are related today with Skittles. Participants tasted Skittles blindfolded and guessed colors, and then again while blindfolded and with their nose plugged.



Sharin's (Grade 12) Solo Exhibition "Greed"

During October 11 to October 17th, our 12th grader Sharin had her solo exhibition at the Ovid Art Gallery. Sharin explained how she has spent many years putting together the portfolio, and months coming with a theme and selecting the pieces to be exposed. She chose the theme "Greed" as she believes we are all subject to it, in one form or other, and hopes her art will make us reflect on the effects it has on our society and others. She recommends young artists to explore different types of arts as it is only by experiencing it that you will understand which one you love best.

SHARIN KIM
exhibition
greed
욕심

2021.10.11 - 10.17
OVID ART GALLERY Opening Reception 2021.10.11(MON)
6:00 pm
LOCATION : OVID ART GALLERY
(10th F) 172, Gijanghaean-ro, Gijang-eup, Gijang-gun, Busan,
Republic of Korea
부산 기장군 기장읍 기장해안로 172 10층(파리데스 하이랜드 오비드 아트 갤러리)



High School Volleyball Tournament

High School Boys Volleyball Team

On Saturday 23rd, the BFS boys volleyball team hosted ISB and TCIS in a three-team tournament. The BFS A Team started pool play with a match against the Bears, their cross city rivals. BFS swept ISB in three consecutive sets with the same score of 25-14 each time. The BFS boys were strong on offense averaging 4 aces per set, but their defensive play led by libero Sam Yang was the highlight of the match, pulling out a 97.5% serve receive rate against ISB. The Sharks would carry their momentum into their second round robin game with TCIS and win the first set 25-19, showcasing an 85% hitting percentage lead by Otis L. and Nikita L. However, as the match went on, the TCIS Dragons found their feet and ended up winning the next three sets, causing a rematch in the final later in the afternoon. In the final, TCIS went on to capture the day in three straight sets, but not without a valiant effort from the Sharks, who improved their play as the day went on by both literally and figuratively backing each other up on the floor. In conjunction with some big blocks by Alex L., BFS kept themselves neck and neck in each of those sets. The boys move on from Saturday's learning experience as an inspired team who look to improve in future competitions.

The BFS Boys B Team had a strong performance on their home court this weekend. They split in round robin play, winning against ISB (25-23, 25-19, 25-23) and losing against TCIS (18-25, 15-25, 18-25). The Sharks swam together, led by Grade 11s and 12s Chad Yang, Adnrew Lee, Eduard Li and setters Caleb Kim and Brian Choi. The boys made it to the big court for an exciting final, in which they took the first two games (26-24, 29-27) but couldn't close it out as TCIS won the last 3 sets in a best of 5 match, leaving the Sharks hungry for their next competition.



High School Girls Volleyball Team

The TCIS Dragons from the north invaded Busan on Saturday, bringing a tenacious defense and determined offense to the court at ISB against your Sharks. The Lady Sharks won all their games against host ISB. Against the Dragons they were 1-2-1 in pool play, earning the tie when time was called in the 4th game. The Sharks and Dragons met in the A finals and although TCIS prevailed 3-0, the Sharks scored 22 points in two of the games.

As a team, BFS learned a lot about team defense, the importance of serve-serve, and how to communicate. Kudos go to Lydia who served 18 points with 6 aces on 93% serving for the day. Angie with 23 points and 6 aces on 86% serving. Mickey whose 7 point run was the most consecutive points and whose strong outside hitting improved throughout the day. Inah added 13 points off serves and Lucy had 100% serving on the day. Overall the Lady Sharks A team served 85%.

It was a close game for the B team against both ISB and TCIS, with only 2 points away from going to the finals. The girls played as a team this weekend. They communicated as a team, stayed on their toes and did their very best to get to every ball. Many girls learned to become more aggressive as a player and became much more confident in their passes and hits. We grew as a team this past weekend and I am very proud of the girls for giving 100%!

Cross Country Meet at ISB



I Run and Run by Bobby Li (Grade 5)

"GO!"

I run and run but pacing myself.

I run on the red streets.

I run and run.

I go down the white rocky stairs.

I run and run.

I come where there's a river.

I wish I could run like a river.

*The river flows and flows at a steady pace,
and never stops.*

I run and run.

*There are rocks on the river,
like an obstacle to block the flow.*

But the flowing never stops.

*There are colorful flowers standing proud as
if to cheer us on and saying 'You can do it!'*

*I get tired, my leg feeling that
it's freezing, and my feet aching.*

I stop, but I know I shouldn't.

*I start sweating, like rain dripping
everywhere. But I won't stop.*

With no moment to spare, I keep running.

*It feels like it's going to take me another
million minutes to get to the finish line.*

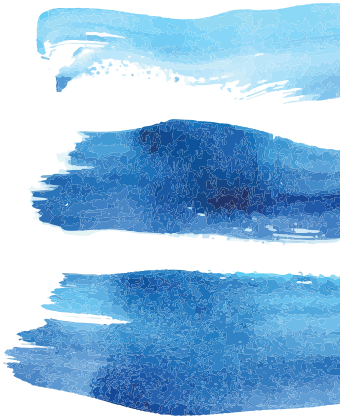
But I run and run.

*And there I saw the finish line was
excitedly waiting for me.*

*My footsteps were heavy
but my heart was light.*

Hello, finish line!

IMAGES OF THE MONTH



IMAGES OF THE MONTH





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