

BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR NEWSLETTER



BFS NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022 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

**Together
We Are
Stronger!**



BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL | APRIL 2022 EDITION

Word from the Principals

Lauren Harvey & Carl Brenneman

The BFS community has come together in the past month to shake off some of the cobwebs of social distancing, and begin to remember what it is like to be back fully in-person. One of our first activities together was the Elementary Egg Hunt sponsored by our PTSO who we want to thank for coordinating the eggs filled with candy. To the students who hopped around our field to find them, they seemed to magically appear. We also know that our friends from the U.S. Navy base in Jinhae provided volunteers to help make this happen. They also furnished dessert for our students in honor of the National Day of the Military Child.

As Covid cases have declined, and as Korea has relaxed some social distancing guidelines we have been able to take part in athletic exchanges once again. Our high school futsal teams traveled to ISB where the girls team earned first place and the boys came in second place. Parents were allowed to be in attendance, and it was a great chance for our students to be reminded that they are not the only young people going to international schools in the southern part of Korea. More events are coming up in May, so keep an eye out for updated communications.

Our high school teachers and students have been preparing for the AP tests that began on May 2 and will be held through May 13. These culminating exams are important for students and represent the tremendous amount

of work that has gone into their preparation. Elementary students took the MAP tests in April, and our upper-division students will take them after the AP tests in May. Our students are hardworking Sharks!

Our entire school has come together to raise awareness and financial support for refugees who have experienced the terrors of being displaced from their homes. We are proud of our socially conscious students who have undertaken fundraising efforts through classroom presentations and walk-a-thon in Grade 5, through various clubs, through HS and MS Student Council, and through the generous support of our parent community. This initiative supports our students in becoming responsible, contributing citizens in a rapidly changing world. We plan to announce the results of this fundraising event at a June 2 assembly.

In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, we want to thank the PTSO for making us feel special during the first week of May. Knowing that we count on your support and that you appreciate our efforts to educate your children has brightened our days.

*Ms. Lauren Harvey
Elementary Principal*



*Mr. Carl Brenneman
Upper School Principal*



Purple Up Day for Children of Military

April 15th was the Purple Up Day for children of soldiers. BFS proudly educates many children of the military. We appreciate their resilience and are thankful for their contribution to our caring community. We also thank the Jinhae command for sending soldiers and treats to help us with the Elementary Egg Hunt. You made this occasion even more special!



Busan Metropolitan City Office of Education Visits BFS

Navigating through the pandemic has been facilitated by the strong guidelines issued by the Busan Metropolitan City Office of Education. We are grateful for this collaboration, and the visit of Mr. Kim Seok-Joon, governor of this ministry. We hope you enjoyed finding out more about our school!



PTSO Teacher & Staff Appreciation Breakfast

PTSO treated BFS staff during the first week of May! To commemorate teacher appreciation week, and since all staff at BFS contribute to our unique caring environment, parents have been preparing breakfast and treats for all. The best way to start the day is feeling appreciated. Thank you BFS families!





Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Austin-Castillo

As we approach the end of the school year, many students have transition on their minds. For students at an international school, this end-of-year transition nearly always means more than a move to a new grade; it means saying goodbye. Saying frequent goodbyes can fatigue children and make them reluctant to welcome new friendships. Whether your child is a “stayer” or a “leaver,” it is important to talk with them about how to say their goodbyes to ensure that they can feel safe and connected to their communities.

1. Offer comfort in addition to encouragement; allow your child to talk about their worries and what they will miss in addition to what they look forward to in the coming year.
2. Help your child reflect on their growth and learning from the past year. What is their favorite memory? What are they proud of? What are they still working on?
3. Explore Third Culture Kid (TCK literature (e.g., Valerie Besanceney's books). Stories about the TCK experience will give them characters and situations they can identify with.

4. Help your child build a “RAFT”:

Reconciliation: Help your child forgive and be forgiven for any conflicts they've encountered in the last year. It is important to make relationship repairs in order to let go of any hurt they might be holding onto.

Affirmation: Help your child express to others that they care and appreciate them.

This may include talking, writing a letter, taking a picture together, giving a gift, taking an outing together.

Farewell: If your child is a “leaver,” plan time for saying goodbye to people, but also to possessions and special places they are leaving behind.

Think destination: If your child is a “leaver,” help them learn more about their new home, school, and neighborhood. Assist them in determining what goals they have for the next year and what they need to know or do to reach those goals.

farewell to BFS



RECONCILIATION

Repairing relationships

Blank white box for reconciliation notes.

AFFIRMATION

Who do you appreciate?



FAREWELL

What will you miss?

Blank white box for farewell notes.

THINK DESTINATION

Where are you going?



**Build your RAFT.
Leaving well helps us transition.**

Model Credit: Dr. Dave Pollock

PTSO Spring Egg Hunt

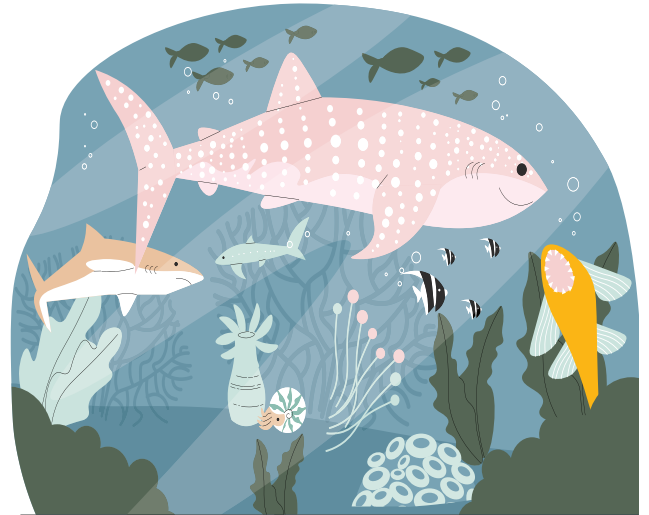
The BFS annual egg hunt came back in full swing this year at BFS! Our young learners ran through our field to hunt for chocolate filled eggs as fast as they could and then enjoyed playing games hosted by our Jinhae base U.S. military.



Early Childhood Exploring the Aquarium



The Early Childhood classes had an amazing time exploring the Seaside Aquarium. They inquired into different kinds of sea-life, asked questions, and made connections to the inquiry unit on the Marine Biome. They had a lot of fun!



Elementary SLO Assembly Hosted by K4: Active Communicator

On May 4th, K4 ran the Elementary School Sharky Assembly. They presented on what it is to be an Active Communicator. They also talked about how they advocate for a greener future. They shared with the school how they care for plants and animals, how they compost, and how they recycle and reuse materials for a more sustainable environment. We are all very proud of our K4 students and for all they do for a green sustainable future.



Scan here
to watch K4
presenting
what it means
to be an active
communicator!



Grade 1 & Grade 4 Combined Morning Meeting

On April 25th, Grade 4 and Grade 1 Sharks had a mixed-up morning meeting. First, they greeted each other and then shared what they would like to be if they could have one superhero power. The most popular superhero power was talking to the animals! :) Lastly, they did a fun activity called mouse trap. What a FUNday Monday!



Grade 3 Math Lesson

Grade 3 students got to sweeten their math lessons as they counted, sorted, weighted, and estimated using jelly beans! Learning is fun and interesting at BFS.



Grade 4 Wax Museum

During the past month, Grade 4 students chose a historical figure, conducted research, wrote a biographical report, and created posters and poems about their chosen person. Finally, on wax museum day, students dressed up as depictions of their figures and told others about their persons.



Grade 5 Shadows Grade 6

Our 5th grade sharks are getting ready for moving on to middle school! On May 3rd, the Grade 5 students went to Ms. Cottier's room for a Grade 6 shadow activity. Fifth grade students asked some questions that they were curious about 6th grade life. Then Grade 5 students were paired with a Grade 6 student and they went through the building to see the Grade 6 student's daily schedule.



Grade 5 Being Socially Conscious

Great job Grade 5 for walk-a-thon of over 4,395 minutes and counting toward their \$2,000 USD fundraising goal. Make sure to check all the other activities being offered at the school complementing the Grade 5 walkathon. We love how NHS, MS Stuco and HS Stuco have partnered to raise enough funds to make a difference.



Transitioning to Middle School and High School

As we approach the end of the school year we know some of our students might be anxious about transitioning to MS, or HS. Our transition presentations will help them feel more comfortable and get excited about what is to come!



BFS Middle School Band Participates in KIMEA

Three BFS middle school band students participated in the KIMEA Middle School Honor Band last Thursday, April 7: Joy, Eunhoo, and Christy.

The Honor Band rehearsal and performance took place in Daejeon at Taejon Christian International School. The KIMEA MS Honor Band consisted of 50 students from eight international schools throughout Korea. What a fantastic day and opportunity to play outdoors!



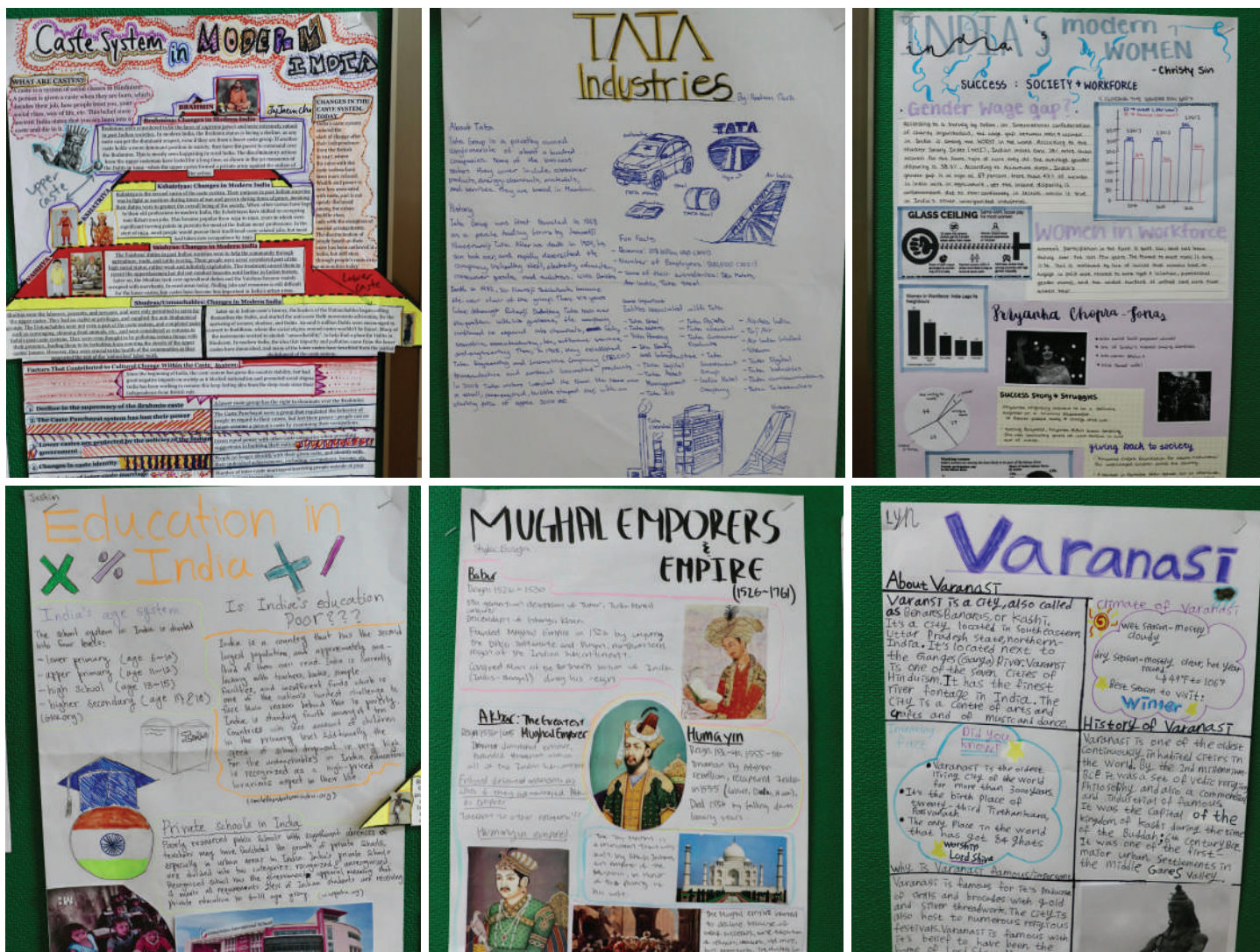
Grade 8 Geography Class

8th Grade Geography is studying the East Asia. In Ancient China, they would select leaders based on a written civil service exam. Part of the exam involved poetry and calligraphy, as a way of assessing character. So the 8th Graders were given such an exam. They had 1 class period to either a) write a poem, b) do a drawing, or c) do a piece of calligraphy, that showed who they are - what they are like as a person. In the hall across from Room 301 you can see the results.



Grade 8 Social Studies Class

The BFS social studies 8th grade class has been looking at India. I spent some time reading their research and learned more than one thing. Check out their work! from geography to culture, religion and industry: what an amazing country India is!



BFS Band Rooftop Concerts

Dr. Grant, our Band Director, is a great at finding unique opportunities for our students to perform leveraging from BFS' unique spaces. Scan the QR code to listen to their performances!



SCAN HERE
TO WATCH
BEGINNER
BAND'S
PERFORMANCE



SCAN HERE
TO WATCH
INTERMEDIATE
BAND'S
PERFORMANCE



SCAN HERE
TO WATCH
ADVANCED
BAND'S
PERFORMANCE

Middle School SLO Assembly: Active Communicator

On May 4th, Middle school hosted their assemblies focusing on the "Active Communicator" SLO. It was great seeing middle schoolers reflecting what not only a good communicator is, but an active one. Way to go Sharks!



Geometry Class "We Wear the Mask"

Mr. Phillips's Geometry students applied their knowledge and understanding of creating similar shapes using dilation along with their imagination to develop a sketch of a mask worn to a masquerade ball. Students also learned about Paul Laurence Dunbar's "We Wear The Mask". The author discusses potential reasoning behind metaphorically wearing a mask: to prevent the world from seeing the true state of our emotional and/or mental well-being.



National Poem in Your Pocket Day

Grade 9 and 10 celebrated National Poem in Your Pocket day (US, April 29) by reading poetry that speaks to Them! Students identified powerful lines of poems they found and decorated BFS with them. They also made bookmarks for one another with powerful poetic lines. Sharing the power of language!



BFS Entrepreneurship Club

The Entrepreneurship Club recently donated 500,000 Korean Won to support refugees. They earned this money from selling pet(dog and cat) treats during school lunch time and photographs in golf courses. The members of the clubs who participated in the activities were Brian(11), Chloe(10), Jeannie(10), Sharin(12), Samuel(11), Euijin(11), Andrew(11), and Caleb(11). They believe that even this little money can support people in need so that they will keep doing their business to earn money and all their proceeds will be donated for good causes. Any HS students of Busan Foreign School are welcome to join the club.



Palette's 4th Dance Concert: The Film Festival

This April's Palette concert figured an increased number of dancers and acts, and revolved around the theme "Film Festival". A 100% student production, it was fun seeing characters such as Indiana Jones, The Man, and Bruce Lee come to life. A special thanks to Ewon Vanya Kim as she graduates this year and hands over her Dance Club leadership responsibilities to Yujin Tatar.



Class of 2022 University Acceptances

A very talented group that has earned over 2 Million USD in Merit-Based Scholarships and will be traveling the world to places like Spain, Italy, the UK, Canada, France, the US, and Korea. Students earned spots in 17 top 50 schools in the US. Here's the list!



Bishops University, UK
Boston University
California College of Art
Carleton University, CA
Case Western University
College of Wooster
Cornell University
De Montfort University, UK
Drexel University
Duke University
Emory University
ESCP Business School
Fordham University
Georgia Tech University
IE University, Spain
Illinois Institute of Technology
Indiana University

Johns Hopkins University
Michigan State University
New York University (NYU)
Purdue University
Rhode Island School of Design (RISD)
Rice University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rose-Hulman Institute
Rutgers University
School of Visual Art (SVA)
The American University of Rome, Italy
The New School
The Pratt Institute
UC, Berkeley
UC, Irvine
UC, San Diego
UC, Santa Cruz

University of Alabama
University of Detroit Mercy
University of Florida
University of Illinois,
Urbana Champaign (UIUC)
University of Leicester, UK
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Rochester
University of Texas, Arlington
University of Texas, Austin
University of the Pacific
University of Toronto, CA
Virginia Tech
Washington State University
Worcester Polytech University
York University, CA

High School Makerspace

In our high school Makerspace class, students completed a long sewing unit. In this unit, students learned to sew different types of stitches, such as running, back, cross, whip, along with sewing buttons. They also learned to make patterns for their design and to use the sewing machine. Their final project was to use the engineering design process to create an item of their choice. Some students chose to create an apron, laptop/ipad case, hand bag, or a skirt!

Students also had to make sure some criteria were followed such as:

- Include a hand sewn the pocket using the whip stitch
- Include at least one hand sewn button/bead/accessory
- Include name or initials
- Include a design of their choice

Students enjoyed making their designs and was proud of their final work! Great work :)



Middle School Basketball Tournament



On Saturday, April 30th our MS basketball Girls A-team played 3 games, winning all 3. In the first game against DIS the Sharks played outstanding defense limiting their opponent to just 6 points while scoring 21 points. In the second game against HIS the girls continued their strong team chemistry with great passing, teamwork, and defense to lead them to a 30-3 victory. In the final game against ISB, the Sharks led 18-8 at halftime and outscored the Bears 13-5 in the second half resulting in a Shark's win 31-13.

The Sharks were led by Amber, Sophie, Grace, Skylar, Eunhoo, Joy, Maria, and Milena. Everyone scored points on the day, with the top scorers Amber and Sophie leading the way.

We look forward to playing the SKAC Finals Tournament on Friday, May 13th. Our BFS Sharks girls team will play at BFS, while the boys tournament will take place at ISB. Parents and other spectators are finally able to attend SKAC events to cheer on the players.

High School Boys Futsal Tournament

After a two-year hiatus, the BFS boys varsity futsal team was finally able to take the field this past Saturday. It was a long day with five games in five hours!

In round-robin play BFS played spirited games against both ISB and HIS and came away with a solid win against DIS. This record placed them as the third place seed in championship play. The boys found themselves in the most exciting scenario of the day - tied 2-2 with HIS in a five minute over-time "golden goal" situation. Junior Nikita Lysenko rose to the occasion and blasted a close range shot past the HIS goalie to send the BFS team on their way to the championship game!

Outstanding goal-keeping by senior Danil Galkin and leadership by seniors Chiyeon Lee and Hyunjun Park kept the game close, but unfortunately the team "just ran out of gas" as one of the BFS players commented. A great time was had by all and it just felt good to go out on the pitch and play futsal again!



High School Girls Futsal Tournament

On April 23rd, the high school girls futsal team geared up for their first SKAC tournament in over two years.

The girls team started their morning with round robin play and a hard fought 1-2 loss to DIS. Despite the loss, the girls used this game as an adjustment period to get back to their natural, high level form. They would end up winning in a commanding fashion in their next two round robin games against ISB1 and ISB2 with scores of 3-0 and 10-1, respectively.

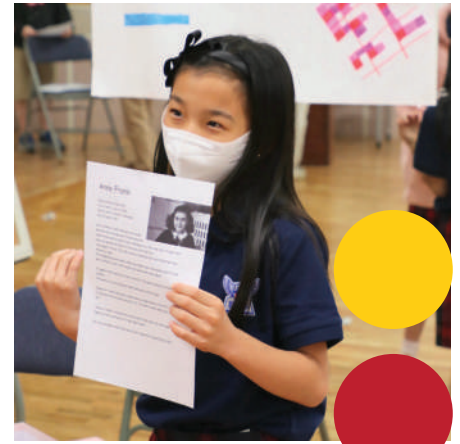
In the knockout stage, the Sharks would meet DIS once again in the semifinal game. Sophie Galles put on a ferocious press, challenging DIS's most skilled players to stifle their offense. The BFS offense played a well-structured and fluid system, which allowed for flawless transitional play to create scoring chances after big defensive stops. BFS passed DIS with a score of 4-1 to meet ISB1 in the championship. In the championship, the Sharks would continue their smooth swimming with a number of goals scored, ultimately taking home the trophy as your 2022 SKAC champions with a final score of 8-1.

This day was an exemplary whole-team effort. Every single player was able to take the field and make an impact in some way throughout the tournament. Most notably, Amber Slootweg worked a stellar back end, both controlling the offense and winning a stunning amount of her defensive challenges to control play and keep the ball moving north. Goalkeeper Jasmin Slootweg made crucial big time saves to keep momentum moving in BFS's favor. Angie Galles and Gaëtane Slootweg as well as the younger players on the squad: Sophie Galles, Grace Oh, and Mina Chung, all contributed to the offense, scoring goals on fast breaks and off rebounds solidifying their 1st place finish.

Coaches Barnes and Lee are extremely proud of this group in their growth within the game and support of one another. The team now looks ahead to continue their success in the Busan 7s tournament in May.



IMAGES OF THE MONTH





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