

BFS NEWSLETTER

MARCH & APRIL 2023 EDITION

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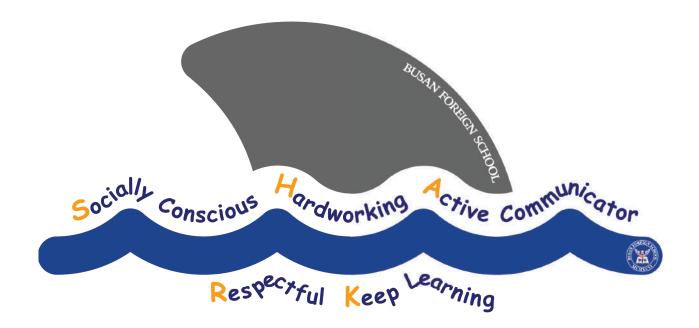




BFS NEWSLETTER

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Word from the Principals

Lauren Harvey & Carl Brenneman

The basketball backboards in the BFS gym are covered with the fingerprints of high school students who have been striving to jump high enough to touch them, ever since they first were able to touch the net in middle school. Growing up, many of us had door lintels, or ceilings, that seemed just out of reach, until that magical day when we jumped as high as we could, and touched it for the first time.

We all need measurements of progress through life, whether those are measurements of physical achievements or they illustrate how we have grown intellectually or emotionally.

At BFS, we are privileged to watch learners of all ages reaching for their potential in academics, the arts, and as athletes. Sometimes those achievements are measured against others, as they were when we hosted the SKAC elementary basketball tournament, or in the high school futsal matches and middle school basketball games.

In art, music, band, and choir, students have been developing in preparation for upcoming concerts and showcases. In these artistic and athletic challenges, the BFS teachers and coaches encourage students to strive for excellence as measured by individual growth.

Other times, growth is measured against an external standard. Our HS students are preparing to demonstrate their learning on the AP exams during

the first week of May. At this time, their months of preparation will be distilled into a few hours when they will respond to the written prompts or submit the portfolios of their work. All of our students in grades 2-10 have taken the MAP tests, which records a snapshot of their growth, taken that day.

Throughout the academic year, BFS teachers create rubrics so that students can receive feedback on their academic growth and performance. Coaches set standards for student athletes to earn playing time and increased levels of responsibility. It is exciting to prepare students for the next stages of learning and growth.

In our gym, there are fewer fingerprints on the basketball rims. As we strive for excellence, there are always levels yet to achieve, and we hope to help all our students achieve the individual milestones they have set for themselves.

We look forward to seeing how students continue to learn and grow in May with the remaining athletic events, elementary music concert and art showcase, and the middle and high school band and choir concert.

Ms. Lauren Harvey



Mr. Carl Brenneman Upper School Principal



March "I Love Reading Month" Shelfies

During March I Love Reading Month, students and teachers celebrated the joy of reading by taking selfies with their favorite books. I Love Reading Month selfie challenge was a fun and effective way to encourage students and teachers to embrace the joy of reading and celebrate the power of books in our lives.



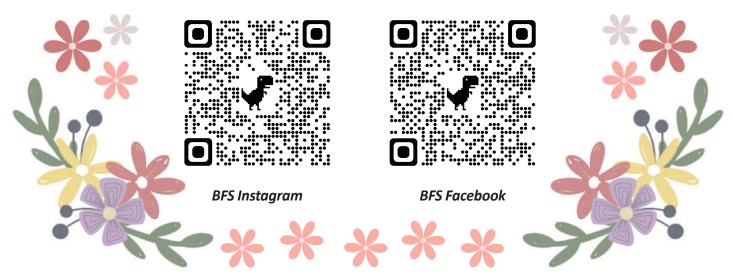


March Women's History Month

We appreciate Ms. Platt's support of the Grade 4 class to research and write the Women's History Month posts. This project helped them to be Active Communicators who advocate for themselves and others.



Read the full project on our Instagram or Facebook!



National Foreign Languages Week

March 6-10 is National Foreign Languages Week. BFS recognizes the importance of multilingualism and intercultural understanding as part of our mission to develop students as contributing global citizens. We are proud to offer a comprehensive K-12 language program in Korean, Spanish, and English language learning (ELL). These programs help students to develop language skills and to gain an understanding and appreciation of various cultures.



Morehead State University in Kentucky Students Visit

In March, BFS hosted a group from the Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Special Education at Morehead State University in Kentucky for a special visit. MSU students (@moreheadstate) who are preparing to be teachers observed classrooms with their professor, Dr. MeeRyoung Shon, a Busan native, and academic advisor Ms. Risa Boyd. This opportunity for collaboration helps future teachers gain insights and also gives our BFS teachers a chance to share their teaching practices.



CPR Training

In April, BFS hosted instructor DaeYoung (Peter) Kang from Lifesaving Society Korea who provided a CPR training to BFS faculty and staff. As a result, we are better prepared to respond to a medical emergency.



Purple Up Day

April 13 was Purple Up Day! Faculty and students wore purple to show support for U.S. military students which make up approximately one-third of our school. Our partners from the U.S. Navy Base at Jinhae provided ice cream for students to celebrate at lunch. We appreciate their continued support for military families during their deployment.



Meet Our Alumni: Michael Jung | Class of 2006



MEET OUR ALUMNI!



Michael Jung BFS Class of 2006

- Harvard Law School, Juris Doctor, 2018
- University of Michigan, Bachelor of Business Administration, 2009

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

I am a human rights lawyer specializing in children's rights and child protection, particularly in the field of justice for and with children. My work also broadly encompasses access to justice, rule of law, international law, and engagement with human rights mechanisms, and I also work on the rights of other marginalized groups on top of children, including that of women, persons with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ communities, refugees, and ethnic minorities, among others. I've spent the past few years in Southeast Asia, primarily in Cambodia, Thailand, and Myanmar, with projects also in Vietnam, the Philippines, Timor-Leste, and others. Because I work at the sub-national, national, regional, and international levels, my work is diverse and dynamic, and it certainly keeps me busy.

Do you have any passion projects?

Where do I begin? My passion is my work in its entirety. This isn't always healthy, but given the amount of violence, exploitation, risks, and slew of challenges that children face in today's world, it's difficult to turn off the switch and call it a day. At the same time, it's hard to continue this line of work without passion for both the technical area as well as towards children. All of my projects are meant to support people in some form, whether structurally or individually, and I approach my work with the ultimate goal of helping children to feel and actually be safe, to grow up in a welcoming and nurturing environment, and to be empowered as rights-holders to be agents of change. A smile on a child's face is enough for me to keep going.

What was the biggest challenge you faced in College?

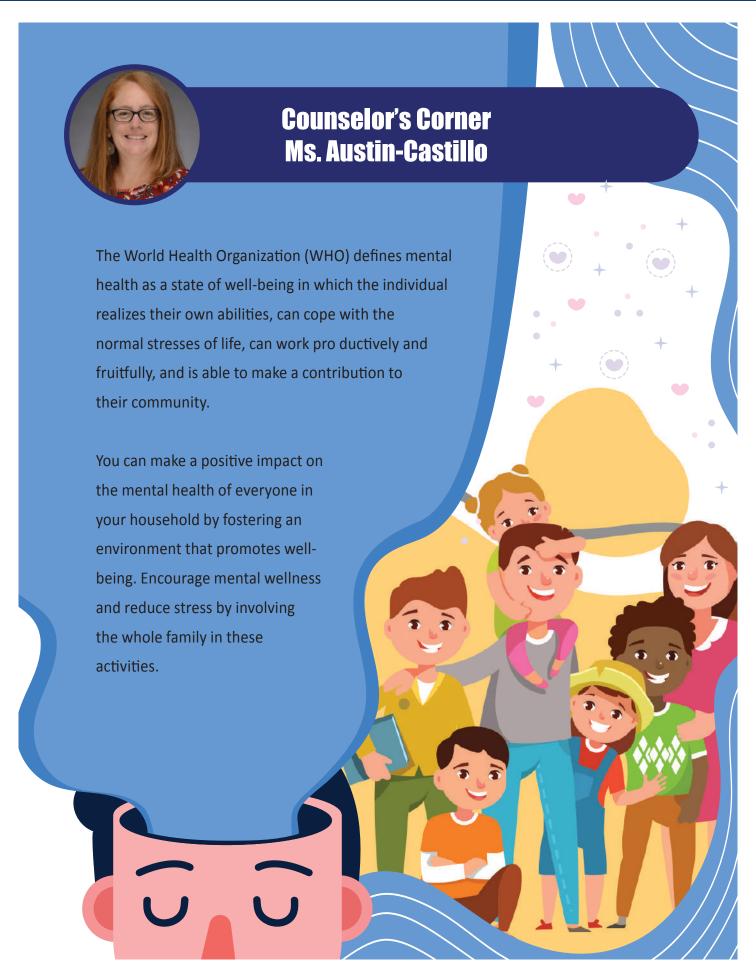
In hindsight, I don't think I faced any major challenges in college. But a challenge I did face both in college and in law school was how to manage my time effectively to maximize the experience and partake in everything I was interested in. Given the size of the institutions I attended, there were opportunities in so many different sectors and directions that caught my attention. I took full credit loads of courses and was involved in a large number of extracurricular and work activities, including clubs, legal clinics, community service, academic communities, part-time jobs, event planning, group discussions, and on and on. This meant less time to casually hang out with friends or to go on a trip for leisure, but I am satisfied with the busy life I had in college.

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

Please treat college as a place to comfortably explore various fields and practices, rather than as a step that will completely decide your fate for the rest of your life. I think of trial and error, curiosity, and the willingness to be adventurous as key traits of college life. It's also a place where you can be creative in your approach to designing the experience you desire, combining both the opportunities within and outside of your institution. You may already have a good idea of your likes, dislikes, and what you do well, but please do not limit yourself just yet. Personally speaking, I never once considered entering the legal profession until I was in my mid-20s. It wasn't until several years after graduating from college that I felt the need to study law, and though what I do now is not related to what I did in college, the substantive knowledge and practical skills I gained as a college student still benefit me today. As you plan for college life in preparation for what you expect to do right after, I hope you can also feel comfortable about the possibility of pursuing multiple career paths throughout your lifetime.

What memory of BFS comes to mind?

I joined BFS when I was one of just a few students attending the school, and I spent a significant part of my childhood with the school. That entire time was a memorable experience, and it was a joy to engage with all the friends and teachers from various backgrounds who came and went over the years. I find it hard to visualize how I would have become who I am today without the positive growth fostered by my times at BFS. A specific experience that comes to mind is the community engagement we had conducted with a custodial facility for children, and thinking back, I believe this was the impetus for the work I do today in children's rights.



As a parent/caregiver, I can commit to:

- Communicating and sharing about highs and lows in my life
- Making sure I have healthy food choices
- Exercising _____ times a week
- Sleeping ____ hours per night
- Limiting screen time to _____ hours per day
- Practicing activities to release stress.
 For example meditation or a hobby.
- Setting a limit on screen time to _____ hours per day
- Sharing with my family what I do to take care of my mental health

As a child and member of the family, I can commit to:

- Communicating and sharing about highs and lows in my life
- Exercising _____ times per week by doing: _____
- · Eating healthy foods
- Trying new healthy foods
- Practicing activities to release stress.
- Sleeping ____ hours per night

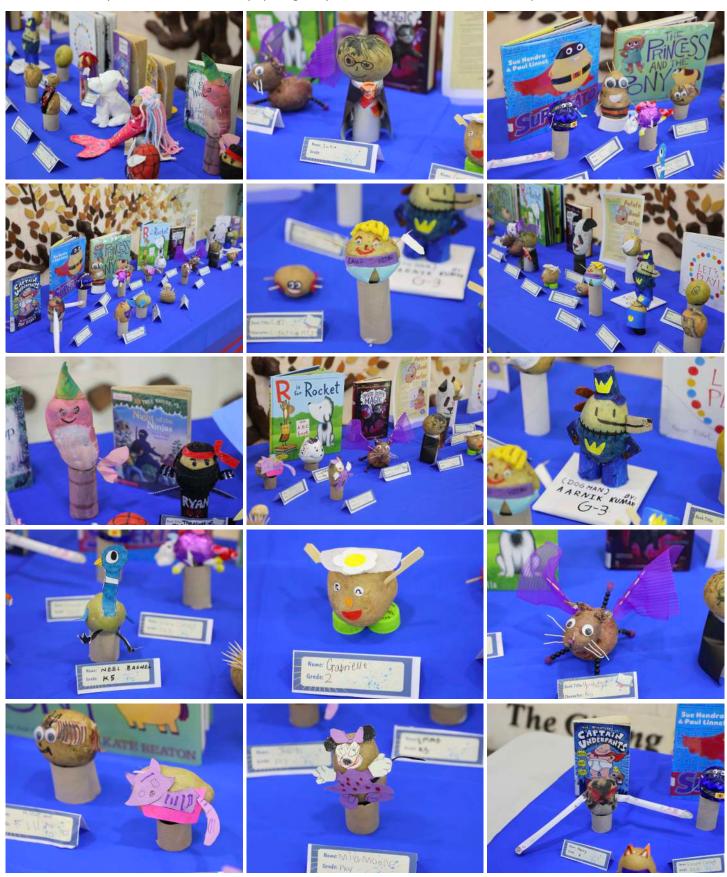
As a family, we can commit to supporting our mental health by:

- Creating a space/time to share how we are feeling
- Finding time _____ times per week to connect and update each other on what is happening on each other's lives
- Eating healthy foods _____ times per week. (This can include things like packing healthy lunches)
- Eating ____ meals together during the week. (This can include cooking together)
- Exercising regularly.
 Activities:
- Taking a walk together
- Setting a limit on screen time to _____ hours per day
- Reading together
- Sleeping ____ hours per night
- Using tools to de-stress

Source: Erika's Lighthouse www.erikaslighthouse.org

Potato Book Characters

As part of our We Love Reading month celebration, Early Childhood and Elementary Sharks made potatoes based on characters in their favorite books. They showcased their creativity by using many different materials to transform their potatoes into book characters



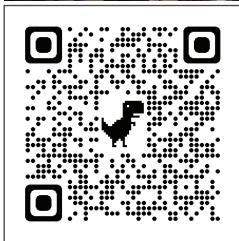
Elementary SHARK Assembly "Active Communicator" Hosted by K4

In April, K4 ran the SLO assembly on being an Active Communicator. They explained how they communicate using different languages and how they advocate for living things. They did an excellent job at explaining what the SLO "Active Communicator" means to them.













<--- Scan here to see how K4 Sharks can be Active Communicators!

K4 Beach Clean Up in Honor of Earth Day

In honor of Earth Day (April 22nd), K4 went to Songjeong Beach on Thursday, April 20th, to help clean up the trash on the beach. Students wanted to help make the beach a nicer place and to help improve the coastal and ocean ecosystems for all marine life.













K4 Inquiry Unit Into Minibeasts

In March, K4 students learned about the life of worms. Students had a chance to explore three Minibeast centers. The first center students explored worms through observing, touching, and discussing. They looked at how they move, their size, and also looked for tiny hairs and ridges along the the bodies of our worms. Students also had a chance to visit the caterpillar of the horned beetle, and observe which caterpillars were eating more and which ones were more active. Students sketched the caterpillars they could see. The caterpillar "Hot Wheels," (named by the students), was the one who was the most active and visible today. At the third station, students had a chance to cut strips of newspaper to get ready to build our worm farm. Students have been learning about how worms can help our vegetable plants in our vegetable garden this year, and have started to design our class worm farm. Since the start of our inquiry unit into Minibeasts, students in K4 have already developed a strong understanding of the interconnectedness of plants, animals, and Minibeasts.



Grade 1 & 2 Field Trip to Science Museum

Grades 1 and 2 took a field trip to the Busan National Science Museum! For Science this Quarter, Grade 1 is learning about patterns such as: moon phases, tides, the sun in the sky, night and day, as well as a few others.

Grade 2 students are learning to describe and classify different kinds of materials by their observable properties. They have been investigating different materials and how they can make objects more useful depending on their purpose.

This trip to the science museum and video in the planetarium allowed students to learn more about their units and many other interesting topics. Grade 1 and 2 Sharks were Respectful, and they did a wonderful job representing BFS.



Grade 3 Market

In Third Grade Social Studies, students learn about the basics of business and the market, as well as essential life skills like financial literacy and entrepreneurship. As part of their project, students turned their own mini-business and decided to donate their profits to a local animal shelter. Through this hands-on experience, they not only develop practical skills but also learn the importance of giving back to their community and caring for animals in need.



PTSO Egg Hunt

Spring is in the air! Today PTSO hosted the annual Egg Hunt for Early Childhood and Elementary students. We appreciate our PTSO volunteers and Sailors from the U.S. Navy Base in Jinhae for their dedication to prepare and hide over 1,000 eggs for students. The sun was shining, and students were surrounded by blooming flowers around the field as they raced to find the eggs filled with candy, stickers, and other small treats. Thank you to all the families that donated materials for this event.



KIMEA Elementary Choral Festival

On Saturday, March 18th, BFS students from 4th and 5th grade displayed the hardworking qualities of BFS sharks by participating in the 2023 KIMEA Elementary Choral Festival. Students from Cheongna Dalton, Dwight School, Yongsan International School, and Busan Foreign School came together for a full day of singing, rehearsing, and great fun! The concert in the evening was a spectacular display of musicianship, friendship, and community. BFS could not be prouder of the great work that took place at the festival.



Band and Choir Presentation

On Tuesday March 21st, 5th grade students listened to a band and choir presentation from Ms. Pochon and Ms. Harris. High School Band and Choir students performed and displayed short excerpts and songs to exemplify the different instruments and voices of choir and band. Today, 5th grade students attended a Middle School and High School band and choir class, in order to feel what it would be like to join the band or choir in their 6th grade year. The smiles and excitement on each face was infectious! We are very excited to see that our music program will be growing even more with the addition of many new students.









Grade 5 Human Development Lesson

Ms. Harvey presented a Human Development lesson to Grade 5 focused on factors that may affect the development of a person's personal identity including biological sex, gender, nationality, religion, family, and social class. In honor of International Women's Day, Grade 5 Sharks committed to having positive self-esteem, self-acceptance, a gender equal mindset, and to embracing equity by challenging stereotypes, discrimination, and bias.



Elementary SHARK Assembly "Hardworking" Hosted by Grade 5

Grade 5's SLO was 'Hardworking'. Hardworking means doing our best inside and outside the class. It can be studying for an assessment, practicing for a futsal match, practicing a new language, and so much more. We are all hardworking learners everyday!













<--- Scan here to see Grade 5's Hardworking examples!

Middle School SHARK Assembly Hosted by Grade 6

The 6th grade class created an interactive assembly following the SLO hardworking for the entire middle school to participate in. The students planned a greeting, created a video of memories, created a skit showing hardworking, and an activity where every middle schooler had to work hard to escape the gym.



















MS STUCO Turkiye Earthquake Fundraiser

The Middle School Council's fundraising event for Turkiye earthquake relief kicked off with their "Go Bananas" theme, and we had a blast seeing students enjoying the events throughout the week. Their commitment to fundraising for Turkiye earthquake relief was very inspiring.











"Go bananas" Monday 1,000 NAW

"Juice do it" Tuesday 2,000 NAW

"Gimme a break" Wednesday 2,000 NAW

"That's the way you slice it" Thursday

"Anything is popsicle" Friday 2,000 NAW





Middle School Drama Class Improv Showcase

Middle school drama class presented an Improv Showcase for Grade 2. We could see that students built confidence, creativity, active listening, focus, and teamwork through Improv.



Middle School Poetry Slam

In March, Grade 6 shared the poetry that they have been writing in class. Here are some pictures of the class sharing their poems in a poetry slam form.



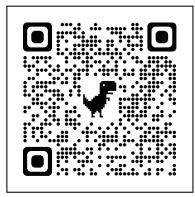
Middle School Computer Science Class

Throughout the third quarter, Middle School Computer Science students have been working through a physical computing unit called Jumpstart Python where they have been learning how to program Micro:Bit devices with the Python programming language. As they round out the unit, students are synthesizing earlier lesson concepts into real-world applications. In March, students learned how to attach a thermistor (temperature sensor) to their Micro:Bit to read and convert analog data to a digital farenheit temperature using the slope-intercept formula to calibrate their temperature readings. Additionally, they learned how to send that data to another Micro:Bit device through wireless communication protocols and simple message encryption through the use of channels and addresses. Students worked in pairs to go test their newly programmed thermometers in various places around the school.



Grade 6 Science Class

As part of their investigation into the Science concepts of heat and temperature, Grade 6 students used their bodies to represent particles in different phases of matter. They modeled phase changes and observed what happens to volume, density, and pressure, and explored some ways that energy can be transferred.









<--- Scan here to see Grade 6's Science Class Activity!

Day of Silence

On April 18, about 25% of our high school students chose to participate in Day of Silence, where they took "a vow of silence to protest the harmful effects of harassment and discrimination of LGBTQ+ people in schools." Students went through the school day without speaking, and they ended the day with a Breaking the Silence Rally" (glsen.org) This event was student-led by the GSA Club.



High School Late Night Hosted by "For Girls Club"

"For Girls Club" hosted a High School Late Night event Friday, April 7th evening as a fundraiser. Some of the activities for students were: Just Dance, board games, video games, karaoke, and a movie. It was a night filled with a lot of fun!



High School Students of the Quarter 3



Koko F. **Socially Conscious** (Grade 10) Grace C. Hardworking (Grade 11) Claire Z. **Active Communicator** (Grade 10) Chloe C. Respectful (Grade 10) Youseung K. **Keep Learning** (Grade 11)

Congratulations to the student of the quarter HS SHARK award winners who were recognized on Wednesday, April 19th, during high school morning assembly.



Class of 2023 University Acceptances

This year's graduating class earned over USD 500,000 in merit-based scholarships, five acceptances in the top 20 US universities, 13 acceptances in the US top 50 colleges and universities. The class of 2023 gained acceptances to schools in Korea, France, Spain, the US, and Canada. Here's a list of the successes for the class of 2023. Way to go, kids!

39 Acceptances

33 Different Universities

US | CANADA | FRANCE | SPAIN | KOREA

5 Top-20-tier

US Universities

13 Top-50-tier

US Universities

More than

\$500,000

merit based scholorships

- Cornell University
- Northwestern University
- New York University (NYU) Johns Hopkins University
- · Emory University
- · Purdue University
- Penn State (4)
- Eckerd College
- University of Illinois (UIUC) University of Wisconsin, Madison
- SUNY Stonybrook University of British Columbia
- Fordham University
- DePaul University
- . School of Visual Art (SVA) **Hult International Business School**
- Ohio State University
- University of Arizona
- University of Georgia • University of Colorado (2)
- . University of Toronto
- Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
- University of California, Riverside . University of California, Santa Cruz
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Irvine (2)
- . University of California, San Diego (2) University of California, Santa Barbara
- University of South Carolina
- . Parsons School of Design
- Case Western Reserve University Rhode Island School of Design (RISD)
- George Washington University





BFS Values Presentation by Mr. Brenneman

Mr. Brenneman spoke with the HS students about the current issues they might be carrying around with them, how those issues might impact their wellness, and ways that BFS can support them to adopt the values of our school SLOs inside and outside of school.











Transition to Middle School & High School

Springtime means it's time to think about course registration at BFS. It's an exciting time of anticipation. Current 5th and 8th-grade parents and students met with Mr. Brenneman and teachers to help explain the process and help prepare parents for the changes coming for their child.











Elementary SKAC Basketball Tournament



On Thursday, April 20th our ES basketball teams participated in the SKAC ES Divisional Tournament hosted by BFS. It was a great day of basketball for all of the teams that participated in the tournament and this was evident by the excitement, enthusiasm, and sportsmanship displayed by the teams involved. In all, there were 5 schools and 22 teams competing at 5 different levels. On the day our BFS Shark hoopsters played a total of 20 games, winning 13 of them and losing 7. Below are the results for BFS teams.



BFS ELEMENTARY GIRLS

W	BFS-1	20	-	10	ISB-1
W	BFS-1	24	-	2	DIS-1
W	BFS-1	24	-	0	HIS-1
W	BFS-1	7	-	5	AIS-1
W	BFS-2	10	-	6	DIS-2
W	BFS-2	14	-	4	AIS-2
L	BFS-2	10	-	11	BFS-3
W	BFS-3	20	-	10	AIS-2
W	BFS-3	16	-	6	DIS-2
W	BFS-3	11	-	10	BFS-2



BFS ELEMENTARY BOYS

BFS-1	2	-	24	ISB-1
BFS-1	3	-	16	AIS-1
BFS-1	5	-	25	HIS-1
BFS-1	3	-	25	DIS-1
BFS-2	20	-	12	ISB-2
BFS-2	22	-	7	DIS-2
BFS-2	24	-	11	HIS-2
BFS-3	6	-	4	DIS-4
BFS-3	8	-	14	DIS-3
BFS-3	6	-	13	AIS-2
	BFS-1 BFS-1 BFS-2 BFS-2 BFS-2 BFS-3 BFS-3	BFS-1 3 BFS-1 5 BFS-1 3 BFS-2 20 BFS-2 22 BFS-2 24 BFS-3 6 BFS-3 8	BFS-1 3 - BFS-1 5 - BFS-1 3 - BFS-2 20 - BFS-2 22 - BFS-2 24 - BFS-3 6 - BFS-3 8 -	BFS-1 3 - 16 BFS-1 5 - 25 BFS-1 3 - 25 BFS-2 20 - 12 BFS-2 22 - 7 BFS-2 24 - 11 BFS-3 6 - 4 BFS-3 8 - 14





Elementary SKAC Basketball Tournament



On Saturday, April 22nd our BFS Sharks MS basketball teams traveled to Pohang to play in the SKAC MS Basketball Divisional Tournament hosted by HIS. This was a great learning experience for all of our players as they strive to continue improving their basketball skills, teamwork, and communication skills on the court. In all, our Sharks played 13 games, winning 9 of the games and losing 4.Below are the results of each of our team's games.

BFS MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

W	BFS-A	44	-	7	DIS-A
W	BFS-A	36	-	10	HIS-A
W	BFS-A	18	-	13	DIS-A
W	BFS-B	23	-	5	HIS-E
W	BFS-B	19	-	1	DIS-E
W	BFS-B	9	-	5	DIS-E
W	BFS-B	25	-	16	HIS-E

BFS MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS

L	BFS-A	20	-	39	DIS-A
W	BFS-A	38	-	8	HIS-B
W	BFS-A	22	-	18	HIS-A
L	BFS-B	15	-	16	HIS-B
L	BFS-B	4	-	25	KFS-B
L	BFS-B	11	-	40	DIS-B







High School SKAC Basketball Finals









Girls Varsity

On Friday, March 17th, 2023 BFS hosted the Southern Korean Activities Conference HS girls basketball Finals tournament. Both of our girls teams won the championship in their division. Our varsity girls first played Fayston Prep and won by a score of 39-20. Then they faced DIS and held on to win a tough battle by a score of 23-16. In the championship game the Sharks led 22-7 at halftime and built the lead up to 31-7 in the second half before ISB made a late run to close the gap a bit. The final score in the championship games was 33-19 in favor of BFS.

On the season, the BFS girls varsity team won 12 games against just 1 loss en route to winning both the KISAC Championship and the SKAC Championship. Their only loss of the season was in pool play against NLCS in Jeju (22-26) during the KISAC tournament. However, the Sharks were able to avenge their lone loss of the season with a victory over NLCS in the championship game of the KISAC tournament by outsourcing NLCS 16-5 in the fourth quarter on their way to a 32-25 win!

On the season, the BFS varsity girls outscored their opponents by a total of 381 points to 207 points (32-18 avg). On average the Sharks were 14 for 51 shooting per game while their opponents were just 6 for 26 per game, a testament to BFS' outstanding team defense. The girls averaged 15 steals per game!

Season Point Totals

Angie	166	Skyler	14
Sophie	90	Koko	9
Maria	36	Grace	7
Kelila	30	Joy	4
Milena	21		

Girls Junior Varsity

The BFS junior varsity girls basketball also had a very successful season. In March, the JV girls took home 2nd place in the KISAC tournament in Jeju. The girls built a 10 point lead in the championship game but unfortunately the ball didn't drop for them and they went cold in the second half, eventually losing their lead and the championship game by a score of 16-11.

In the SKAC Finals the BFS JV girls won both of their games, securing the championship game by a score of 22-6 over FPS. On the season the JV girls with a record of 7 wins and 1 loss.

Season Point Totals

Касу	60	Nika	16
Mika	36	Seah	8
Christy	26	Danica	6
Maddy	24	Ruby	2
Liz	20	Miru	2
Mina	18	Tanvi	2

BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL | SPORTS







Boys Varsity

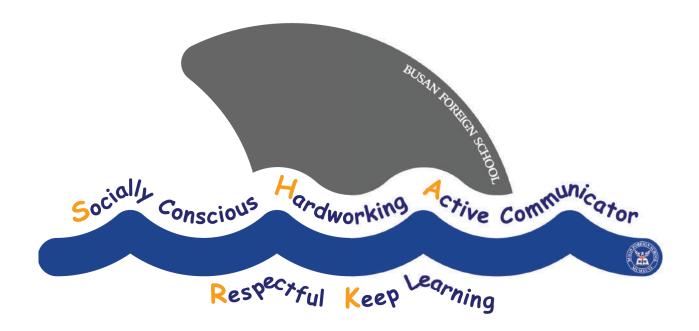
The HS Boys Varsity Basketball team showed great potential this season, finishing in 4th place in the competitive SKAC league. At the SKAC Divisional games at GIFS, the team demonstrated their ability to disrupt opponents with their full-court diamond press, earning a hard-fought win and narrowly missing out on two other victories. Although the team faced some challenges at the SKAC Finals at ISB, struggling to find their shooting rhythm and secure rebounds, they never lost their fighting spirit and finished the season with some truly unforgettable moments. Despite some setbacks, the team made significant progress and can be proud of what they accomplished this season.

Boys Junior Varsity

The HS Boys Junior Varsity Basketball team finished the SKAC season at fourth place out of six teams. In the final tournament, they won their first game 23-12 against GIFS, however they had a difficult time in their second game, losing 3-36 against KFS. They finished the day in a tight and thrilling game against DIS, where they lost 13-15. It has been a long journey, but they have improved immensely throughout the season.









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