

## British International School Istanbul

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Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

### End of Term Letter from the School Leadership Team

We have reached the end of the Autumn Term and are now just over one-third of the way through the school year. Looking back on it, this has been an exciting time to be part of the BISI Community. There have been many changes over the term and we think that the school has taken on a whole new look and that there is a whole new feel about the place.

Our aim this year is to make the Middle Leadership Team of the school a more cohesive decision making body which will drive change within the school. We feel that this process is now well underway and that the training the MLT went through early in November has given them a sense of purpose and identity and that they will grow into their new roles as the year progresses. So far this has only affected the Secondary Middle Leaders, but from January the Primary Middle Leaders will be coming on board and we will have a whole school team working on whole school issues.

At the same time the Parent-Teacher Association has grown and is working with the leadership team of the school to take a more active role in the school than ever before. Not only are they following the traditional role of PTA's of organizing social events for the children but they are now becoming more active in roles such as Curriculum, Communication and Campus, for each of which there is now a PTA Sub-Committee representing parental interests.

The Student Council is very active in both Primary and Secondary and with the help of the PTA they both recently organised very successful Halloween parties and have many plans to give students lots to look forward to in 2011. Through the students continued efforts we support both local and overseas charities.

Alongside all this change, in the Secondary school, staff are looking at changing the way your children are educated – we have special weeks devoted to certain subjects, there are more school trips than ever before going to more exotic places – Amsterdam, Paris, Berlin and London spring immediately to mind. These complement the trips that have been more traditional like the ski trip and the MUN trips to various schools in the City and beyond. There have also been more trips to the theatre and to various art exhibitions in Istanbul. Added to all this we have more activities than ever before and have tasted success in the Istanbul Schools Football League with both boys and girls teams.

All-in-all we have had a wonderful first term to this Academic Year and there is much more to come. We will find out about our COBIS Accreditation in February and we will start the process of CIS Accreditation at the same time. With the whole school involved in that, we think it is fair to say that BISI is really going places and we are proud to be part of the team!

With 2011 just around the corner and all the excitement that the new year will bring it only remains for us to say thank you to you all for the part you have played in the schools success this year, and to wish you the compliments of the festive season along with a happy, healthy, peaceful and prosperous 2011.

Yours faithfully,

Richard I'Anson

Amanda Ilhan

William Bradley

Helen Kiran