

The Board of Governors

Zekeriyaköy Mahallesi, Kilyos Caddesi No: 227/1,2 Sarıyer-İstanbul

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Dear community member,

We are approaching the end of the fourth week of remote classes and also the end of the spring term. Our teachers and our students continue to work hard at their teaching and learning and we are told that most classes are keeping up with the curriculum. This is a tribute to the amount of hard work being done by everyone, not least our parents for whom, we are aware, this situation brings considerably more work to do.

Last week we had a community wide vote on possible changes to the holiday pattern for the rest of the current academic year and we are very pleased to report that a large number of the community took part. The four patterns put forward each had their supporters and their detractors but this democratic process did produce a clear choice favoured by the majority. The community as a whole have accepted the result of the vote and the changes will take place starting on Thursday of this week. Instead of the two week spring break that was due to start on Friday, we will have a long weekend, Thursday to Monday inclusive and then continue with the remote lessons from next Tuesday. The remainder of the spring break has been moved to the end of the term with a planned finish on the 17th of June. Hopefully, by that time the world's borders will once again be open and people will be able to go on holiday.

At present, the government plan for schools is a return on Monday 4 May, we are sure that you are hoping that this does turn out to be the case and that we can bring a little more normality back into our lives. I am sure the government will decide on that in the next two weeks and let us know.

The school continues to function with a skeleton staff in school and most people working from home. In the last week we have had several prospective parents meet with the Directors of School to discuss places for their children at all levels of the school for the new academic year. So, despite much of the world being on enforced or advisory lockdown, life is going on and people are making plans for the future. This is true for BISI as much as for anyone else, the Board of Governors are meeting weekly with the Senior Leadership Team of the school to deal with any issues arising at the present time and to make plans for the future. The SLT are continuing with ongoing recruitment with prospective teachers from all sectors of the school currently being interviewed using Skype or FaceTime.



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We would like to thank all our BISI community for their continued support and understanding during these difficult times. Please stay home, be safe. This too shall pass. We hope all of our community are safe and well and we send our very best wishes to you.

Alexandra Sezen and Ünsal Abuşoğlu
Permanent Members of the Board of Governors

