



## Newsletter No.1: 27th August 2010

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome back to school after what I hope has been an excellent summer break for you and your family. The children are clearly delighted to be back with their friends, old and new, and have settled well into their new classes.

### Welcome

We have sixty new children in school, reflecting a continuing rise in our school roll, and I would like to extend a particular welcome to all families who are joining us for the first time this term. We hope that you and your children have an enjoyable, stimulating and rewarding time at the British International Primary School.

With increasing numbers we have also increased staffing, both actual and in terms of children/staff ratios and we are delighted to welcome our new colleagues, Janice Adams in Year 1, Susannah Ross in Year 3 and Emma Harris in Years 5/6, Teaching Assistants Karen Ahrens, Caroline Cheetham, Todd Ferguson, Troy La-Crette, Ingrid Montague and Keelyn White. I am sure you will join me in wishing them all a happy and productive time with BIPSS.

### New Parent Meeting

All **NEW** parents are invited to a meeting with the Principal over coffee after drop-off (8.45 a.m.) on **Friday 3rd September**. This meeting will cover a number of areas of school organisation and education and also provided an opportunity, informally, to ask any questions arising from parents' first couple of weeks at the school. The meeting will be held in the Dining Room.

Any parents who joined BIPSS in the middle of the last academic year are also very welcome to join in with the group.



### Car Park

A huge 'thanks and well done' to all of you who have been using the new sports field car park and then walking up to school at the start and/or end of the day. As a result, the road outside school is noticeably quieter and safer for our children.

### Team Organisation

In order to facilitate communication and enhance the development of teaching and learning BIPSS has a team system in operation. Teams are organised as follows:

**Team 1/Lower School:**  
Nursery, Reception and Year 1  
led by Ms. Sheryl Lucas

**Team 2/Middle School:**  
Years 2 & 3 led by Mr. Andrew Kinsella

**Team 3/Upper School:**  
Years 4, 5 & 6 led by Mr. Stuart Harris

Team leaders are released on one day each week in order to carry out their roles. On this day their classes are taught by Mrs. Nessa Linnarsson, a long-standing BIPSS member of staff.

### Drop Off Zone

This area, marked with a yellow kerb, is intended to enable parents to drop-off children in the mornings and ease traffic congestion. Children being dropped off between 8.30-8.45 a.m. will be met and escorted through the school gate by a member of staff. Please pull in close to the kerb when dropping off children.

The drop-off zone plays an important role in easing the morning school run and I ask for your co-operation to help us make this work. Full details of parking areas in the region of the school are included with this week's newsletter. If you have any questions in the meantime, please ask a member of staff.

**Please note that the part of Östra Valhallavägen above the yellow line is a NO PARKING ZONE**





## Newsletter No.31: 4th June 2010

### Extra Curricular Activities

Accompanying this letter you should receive notification of our extra curricular programme for this term. It is important, if you are interested in your child participating in the programme, that you respond by Wednesday of next week.

NB: Each activity has a limit on the number who can take part

### Information Package/Year Planner

The 'Additional Information Package' for this current school year will be issued next week along with the school year planner for 2010/2011. These should replace those issued last year as part of the school brochure folder.

### House System

For new families starting school, you will find your child's house colour in the information package for parents, which will be issued with next week's newsletter. For the purpose of purchasing T-shirts (see below) Susan Brayshaw will be able to inform you of your child's house colour at the time of purchase.

### School Sweatshirts

The school sweatshirts and T-shirts will be on sale in the dining room on Tuesday and Wednesday next week between 8.45 a.m. - 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. The cost of sweatshirts is SEK180 each and the cost of House T-shirts is SEK60 each. **It would be appreciated if you could bring the correct money with you.**

All children are expected to wear the navy blue school sweatshirt with the school logo when they go on educational excursions and to wear their school P.E. T-shirt in the relevant house colours for their gym lessons.

### Swimming

The key aim of the swimming programme is to ensure that all children have the opportunity to establish and improve basic swimming skills and strokes. Children in each year group will follow a course of skills development leading to an award. In designing our programme, the school has also taken into consideration the balance of time allocated to all learning areas of the curriculum during the course of the year.

Each class in Years 2-6 inclusive will swim once a week during either this or next term. Years 4D, 4R, 5 and 6 will have their swimming lessons this term, Years 2AL, 2NL, 2Y, 3K and 3R during the Spring term.

Swimming lessons will take place in the afternoons. Children will travel to the pool, directly from school, by public transport and be collected by parents from the pool at approximately 3.00 p.m.

Swimming lessons this term will start during the week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> September. Timetable as follows:

Tuesdays - Year 4D  
Wednesdays - Year 5  
Thursdays - Year 4R  
Fridays - Year 6



Please note that swimming is an integral part of the school's curriculum and **all children in Year 2-6 must participate unless prevented by illness.**

### Use of School Climbing Apparatus

I would like to remind you that the school rules clearly state that 'playing on school apparatus or playing in the playground without **teacher** supervision is strictly forbidden'.

This is an essential safety regulation and I would be very grateful if all parents will help ensure that this rule is kept by keeping your children away from the playground area at the beginning and end of school.





## Newsletter No.31: 4th June 2010

### Wet Weather Clothes

The twice-daily playtimes for children are a vital part of their school day, enabling children to relax, develop social and physical skills and to be outside in the fresh air. Please note that children will play outside in all but the most extreme weather and it is vital, given the Swedish climate, that children have wet weather clothes (clearly name-tagged) in school permanently from the start. Please contact your class parent representative for advice on buying suitable wet weather clothes.

### PTA Coffee

Many thanks to the PTA for supplying coffee for parents on the first day of term and for hosting a very successful new families get-together before the start of term and to the parents who supported community events during the summer break.

### Election of a new PTA Committee

The election of the new PTA Committee for 2010/11 takes place at the PTA AGM which this year will be at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

Like many international schools, BIPSS has a fairly mobile population, which means that each year the PTA committee welcomes many new members and office holders, ensuring an active PTA which is able to run social and fund-raising events for the benefit of children and our community as a whole.

You do not need to have any particular experience, just enthusiasm and ideas and the type of organisational skills which come with running a household. Being an officer is also a great way to integrate and make friends.

Information about all the PTA committee positions and nomination forms will be posted on the PTA noticeboard in the main corridor. If you would like any further information about specific roles, speak to your class mum or one of the outgoing officers or come along to the **PTA meeting after drop-off in the dining hall on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September.**

If you wish to be kept up-to-date about activities via minutes of meetings and e-mail, you can also become an Ordinary Member of the committee by ticking the box at the bottom of the nomination form. Please note that all parents and carers of pupils at the school are automatically members of the Parents and Teachers Association, even if they are not involved in the committee itself and everyone is welcome to attend any PTA meeting at any time.

### PTA Events and Activities

The welcome picnic, due to be held this Sunday, has been cancelled due to the weather forecast for the weekend being wet and cloudy.

**Walking group** will be meeting next Tuesday, 31st August at the front gate of the school after drop off for a walk in Altorp forest, approx 1- 1½ hours.

**Squash group** will be meeting next Thursday, 2nd September 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at Täby Racket Center, Flyghamnsvägen 16. All levels welcome.

**Badminton group** will be meeting next Friday, 3rd September 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. at Täby Racket Center, Flyghamnsvägen 16. All levels welcome.

If you would like to come along to the squash or badminton groups please email [rachelprebble@gmail.com](mailto:rachelprebble@gmail.com) (so we know how many courts to book).

All of us at school are really looking forward to this new academic year and the opportunity to build on the many strengths the school has.

In partnership with you, I am sure that the new school year 2010/2011 will be a very successful and enjoyable one.

Yours sincerely,

*Jane Crowley*

Principal