



Friday 4 December 2020

Dear Parents,

RE: Academic Update

From an academic standpoint, we are close to completing Term 1 and many good things are taking place in both schools. This week I was fortunate to be at Brookes Saint Petersburg and take part in the many interactive boards throughout the school (I voted for Sri Lanka as our next Brookes School). I was able to watch a Year 7 Art lesson in which these talented students completed their paintings based on the work of Van Gogh and back at Brookes Moscow I was able to watch our dedicated Year 12 students in their Maths Higher Level class. There are many great things going on in both of our schools.



Year 11 Students

Last week we sent out a survey to all of our Year 11 students regarding what classes they would like to take in the DP for Year 12/13. The purpose of this is to see what classes are of interest to our students and help us to decide what classes to offer. In the IB World, this is called *student agency*, where we allow students to be part of the decision-making process when it comes to their learning. IB World Schools have this luxury and I encourage you to talk to your Year 11 student about the options.

Council of International Schools (CIS)

This week we had visitors from the Council of International Schools as we have entered into a two-year process to become authorized by this worldwide organization. CIS is at the forefront of school authorisation and child safety for most international schools around the world. How is this different from IB authorization? IB is the curriculum we follow and get evaluated on, whereas CIS looks at the whole school; curriculum, leadership, safety, child protection and a host of other things. Thanks to all of the parents and students who took part in the process this week.



I Need Help With...

Sometimes over the course of the year, parents might feel overwhelmed with the number of systems and platforms we use on a regular basis throughout our school. Below is a list of staff that can help you out if you are having issues with one of these. Don't forget, your homeroom teacher is always a good source of information as well.

ManageBac Moscow - Rick Lewis rlewis@moscow.brookes.org

ManageBac Saint Petersburg - Paul Ackers packers@saintpetersburg.brookes.org

IXL Maths Moscow - Rick Lewis rlewis@moscow.brookes.org

IXL Maths Saint Petersburg - Paul Ackers packers@saintpetersburg.org

SeeSaw - Jared Belworthy jbelworthy@moscow.brookes.org

BridgeU (Both Schools) - osquires@moscow.brookes.org

DP questions (Both Schools) - Rick Lewis rlewis@moscow.brookes.org

MYP questions (Both Schools) - Camille Le Prou cleprou@moscow.brookes.org

PYP questions (Both Schools) - Paul Ackers packers@saintpetersburg.brookes.org

Early Years questions (Both Schools) - Jared Belworthy jbelworthy@moscow.brookes.org

Academic Highlights

- Brookes Moscow was one of five IB World Schools featured in the IB Community blog this week. The article focused on how we have dealt with COVID-19 restrictions in our school this year.
- The MYP Personal Project has been moved back because we will be on Distance Learning during the week it was scheduled. A new date will be sent out shortly.
- Thanks to the over 40 parents that joined our iBrookes session for the PYP last week.



- Dr Oliver Squires has started working with students from both campuses in terms of university preparation. As mentioned in my last letter, we use a platform known as BridgeU that allows students to research universities and select their preferences.
- Many of our students are giving back during the Holiday season, through our CAS and Service and Action Programme. Students are volunteering at dog shelters, collected goods for the less fortunate and visiting children hospice's to try and help during these trying times. Education at Brookes goes beyond the classroom.

Best Regards,

Rick Lewis

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