

insites

The British Section **Magazine**

Lycée International
St Germain-en-Laye
& Partner Schools

September
2011

N° 102



On your marks for the year ahead

(with results round-up for OIB and IGCSE - page 6)



Editorial team: James Cathcart, Annie Divaret, Madeleine Hepworth, Yasmin Hollis, Ian Macleod, Debbie Macklin, Hilary Moser.

NEXT ISSUE NOVEMBER 2011

Visit the
British Section website
www.britishsection.fr



A warm welcome back to all families, and special greetings to those joining us for their first rentrée. In this supplement to the British Section's triannual magazine, *Insites*, we celebrate the success of pupils who took public examinations last summer as well as provide some general information for families to help launch the home-school partnership that underpins our pupils', and your children's, success.

I should like to take this opportunity to welcome our five new members of staff: in Primary, Catherine Flanagan and Alexandra McNichol; and in Secondary, Tom Smith (English) and Jonathan Taylor and Kirsten Black (History). You will also find existing members of staff taking on new roles this year: Margaret Slaiding will take over responsibility for pastoral care at the *Lycée International*, and Claire Allen and Michael Eccles will provide anchorage at the *Collège Les Hauts Grillettes* and the *Collège Pierre et Marie Curie*, respectively. In addition, Xana Jones and Matthew Tomlinson have been appointed to the post of Second-in-department where they will assist Subject Leaders in promoting and securing high quality teaching and improved standards of

learning and achievement across all sites. Finally, this year's team of specialist university entrance advisors will include Sally Naylor (co-ordinator), Matthew Tomlinson, Tom Smith and Jonathan Taylor.

This year is the 60th anniversary of the *Lycée International* and hence both an opportunity and occasion to develop more whole-school initiatives. In addition, we aim to involve staff, parents and pupils in producing a British Section development plan that will establish our priorities in the short, mid and long term future. In the meantime, we will be continuing our efforts to clarify and further develop essential policies and procedures relating to the organisation of the Section and, most importantly, pupil learning and support. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the British Section Information Morning on Saturday 10th September and at the British Section Sports day and Welcome BBQ the following week, Saturday 17th September.

Bonne rentrée à toutes et à tous !

James Cathcart
Director of the British Section
jcathcart@lycee-international.net

Mission of the British Section, The Lycée International, St Germain-en-Laye, and Partner Schools

The British Section aims to inspire an understanding of British culture and educational values through teaching, pastoral care and extra-curricular activities. In partnership with the French host schools and the parents, we are dedicated to contributing our specific programme and philosophy to the bilingual and bicultural schooling of pupils of all ages.

The British Section seeks to support and maximise the development of individual potential, to encourage co-operative effort, and to set high standards in academic work, behaviour and social relations.

The British Section sets out to offer its distinctive education to children from English-speaking and bilingual family backgrounds, and to those who have learned English as a second or foreign language and who are committed to developing it at mother-tongue level.

Principles

- **Open-mindedness:** developing understanding and respect for other people and other cultures; building on the enhanced opportunities offered by the bicultural education and international environment of the school.
- **Integration:** accepting and appreciating the framework provided by the French education system for the programme offered by the British Section; committing to both French and English language subjects, and actively participating in developing a deeper understanding of both cultures.
- **Authenticity:** ensuring the capability and competence to offer a British Section

programme, which reflects current British educational theory and practice (through teacher recruitment, training and critical review).

- **Ambition:** seeking to develop individual potential; striving for excellence.
- **Co-operation:** encouraging mutual support between pupils, between pupils and teachers, and between teachers and parents.

Teaching methods

- Focusing on the needs and **potential of each pupil.**
- Believing that ongoing progress is **possible for all.**
- Setting **rigorous, clear standards.**
- Emphasizing **critical thinking and independent research.**

- A focus on **analysis and reflection.**
- Encouraging pupils to **express, exchange and debate opinions.**

Educational goals

- Building a **purposeful and supportive relationship** between teacher and pupil.
- Encouraging pupils to **think for themselves.**
- Creating conditions in which students **gain in self-esteem** while maintaining a **sense of humility.**
- Developing a sense of **team spirit**, at class, section and whole school levels.
- **Helping each pupil** to realise their academic potential and to value their achievements.

Teachers, Teaching Pairs & Tutors 2011/12 (See overleaf for Staff Organisation Chart)

Primary Department			
Lycée site		Jehan Alain	
Mat 1	J Johnstone		
Mat 2	B Bentley		
Mat 3	S Le Gousse	S Le Gousse	B Bentley
Lycée site		Félix Eboué	
11°/CP	J Johnstone	B Bentley	K Thorley
10°/CE1	K Connors	C Flanagan	A McNichol
9°/CE2	J Johnstone	K Thorley	C Flanagan
8°/CM1	A McNichol	K Thorley	C Flanagan
7°/CM2	A Divaret	J Hadley	A McNichol

Secondary Department (Tutors indicated in bold)				
T°	M Eccles / J Taylor	S Naylor / D Jackson	M Slaiding/M Tomlinson	N Baker / C Allen
1°	C Lewis / C Allen	T Smith / K Black	X Jones / D Jackson	N Baker / M Tomlinson
2°	X Jones / M Tomlinson	N Baker / D Jackson	X Jones / J Taylor	T Smith / K Black
Lycée		Haut Grillettes	PMC 1	PMC 2
3°	M Slaiding / M Tomlinson	C Lewis / C Allen	M Eccles / D Jackson	S Naylor / K Black
4°	S Naylor / J Taylor	C Allen / J Taylor	T Smith / K Black	M Eccles / M Tomlinson
5°	C Lewis / K Black	X Jones / J Taylor	T Smith / K Black	S Naylor / M Tomlinson
6°	M Slaiding / J Taylor	C Allen / J Taylor	M Slaiding / K Black	M Eccles / T Smith

Projected British Section Trips 2011/2012

Year group(s)	Destination	Dates	Max. estimated cost
3ème	London - English and Culture	16 - 19 Nov 2011	400€
5ème	Castles Trip - History	26 - 28 Jan 2012	300€
2nde Accueil	London - English and Culture	08 - 10 Feb 2012	350€
2nde	WWI Battlefields Trip - History	29 March 2012	60€
Tle	OIB Revision Weekend	31 March - 01 April 2012	100€

All trips are planned to accommodate the **whole year group** (all sites) or class.

Cover photo by Mathieu Polak: Claire Sladden (front left) the Cambridge Inspector for OIB History Geography who presented this year's Tle students with their OIB diplomas, with James Cathcart and the British Section's class of 2011.

Parents of collège pupils are reminded that **Beauville Arts** is offering to run two performing arts camps exclusively for British Section pupils (6ème - 3ème) during the *Toussaint* and Spring holidays. Please contact **Claire Mallalieu** at Beauville Arts (claire@beauvillearts.com) for more information.

Primary

As in previous years, the Primary teaching team is exploring opportunities for pupils to participate in visits which will support and extend the programmes of study. More information will be circulated when these have been finalised.

The British Section in context

The British Section operates within a network of French state schools, centred on the *Lycée International* in St Germain-en-Laye. The resulting partnerships offer a challenging educational opportunity for pupils, from age 3-18, to become not only bilingual but also bicultural, in an international environment.

The British Section is the largest of 12 national teaching sections that provide access to this specific educational system. All national sections and all age groups are present at the main *Lycée International* site; some national sections also operate in the network's partner schools at *maternelle* (nursery), *primaire* (primary) and *collège* (age 11-15) levels.

British Section staff teach in five different French schools*.

At primary level only, some pupils who are enrolled in other local French schools are authorised to attend national section classes at the *Lycée International* for two half-days a week.

All pupils who continue through to the *lycée* level (age 16-18), attend the main *Lycée International* site.

The British Section generally receives more applications than it has places available. Selective entry tests at all age levels determine whether each pupil has the qualities and aptitudes to meet the

challenge of an integrated academic curriculum, applying national standards in two languages.

The curriculum leads towards a special bilingual version of the French Baccalaureate, the *Option Internationale du Baccalaureat (OIB)*, a recognised and respected qualification for university entrance in the UK, France and elsewhere.

Each national section is responsible for teaching the language, literature and history of its country through its own language and educational philosophy, accounting for about a quarter of school time. To this end, all British Section teaching staff are British, with relevant UK university degrees and UK teaching qualifications.

However, the defining feature of students in each national section is not nationality, but rather linguistic standard - English, in the case of the British Section, which includes many French students and where more than twenty nationalities are represented.

One-year language induction programmes are offered at certain levels, for students who need to reach a working standard in either English or French in order to follow the curriculum.

When not in their national section classes, students are integrated into French classes in the

host school, where French teachers teach them the French standard curriculum.

The British Section is governed by the British Section Parents Association (BSPA) whose main role is to recruit and remunerate staff. The British Section is fee-paying, unlike some national sections where teachers are seconded from the education authorities of their home countries.

* *St Germain-en-Laye: Lycée International, Collège des Hauts Grillettes*

Le Pecq: Ecole Maternelle Jehan Alain, Ecole Primaire Félix Eboué, Collège Pierre et Marie Curie

This Mission Statement and related documents (Principles, Teaching Methods, Educational Goals, The British Section in Context) are the result of extensive consultation during the 2008-9 academic year within the British Section community of teachers, parents and pupils. They were formally adopted by the British Section Senior Management Team and the Governing Body of the British Section Parents Association in September 2009.

Staff organisation chart 2011/2012

■ History/Geography
■ English

Secondary

Primary



NICHOLAS BAKER
Deputy Director
Subject Leader, English



DAVID JACKSON
Deputy Director
Subject Leader, History/Geography



JAMES CATHCART
Director



ANNIE DIVARET-HEPBURN
Deputy Director, Head of Primary



XANA JONES
2nd in Department,
Seconde Accueil



MICHAEL ECCLES
Site Coordinator,
Pierre et Marie Curie



MARGARET SLAIDING
Coordinator of Pastoral Care,
6ème - Seconde, LI site



SALLY NAYLOR
Coordinator
University Entrance



MATTHEW TOMLINSON
2nd in Department,
University Applications
Supervisor



CLAIRE ALLEN
Site Coordinator,
Haut Grillets



JILL JOHNSTONE
Assistant Head of Primary,
Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1



CLARE LEWIS
Senior Drama



TOM SMITH
University Applications
Supervisor



JULIE MARKS
OIB Geography



JONATHAN TAYLOR
University Applications
Supervisor



KIRSTEN BLACK



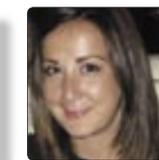
KAREN THORLEY



BARBARA BENTLEY



SUZY LE GOUSSE



ALEXANDRA McNICHOL



CATHERINE FLANAGAN



JANET HADLEY



KATE CONNORS

Administrative staff

Librarians



EVELYNE BERGER
Bursar



MARIE LAURE MCHUGO
Assistant Finance



SARAH GREGOIRE
Admissions Officer



CATHERINE SAGNE
OIB,
PMC Admissions



SANDRINE HURST
IT Manager



HELEN LECHANOINE
Reception / Bilingual
Administrative Assistant



HILARY MOSER
Senior Librarian Lycée Site
Visiting Speakers



CATHERINE VIRONDA
Collège les Hauts Grillets



ANNE STEADMAN
Collège Pierre et Marie Curie/Primary

The Section's academic programme leads to IGCSE examinations at age 16, followed by a two-year preparation for the International Option of the French Baccalaureate, or OIB. This diploma, run jointly by the French Government and University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) and designed specifically for our bicultural students, was largely developed at St-Germain-en-Laye and has attracted very favourable notices (notably from British universities) since its introduction in 1985.

UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

The OIB results have enabled our students to secure places in a range of universities in the UK and in *Classes Préparatoires* and Universities in France. Up to date details will be published shortly on the website (see Student Destinations, under University Entrance on the Home Page).

KEY DATES FOR THE RENTREE!

Don't miss out! Stay in touch! Keep abreast of what is going on!

- Parent Information Meetings for all year groups, Saturday 10th September 2011
- Check Into France Programme
- Governing Body meeting dates
- Holiday dates

All dates and times can be found on the calendar on the British Section Website.



In anticipation of the 2011 OIB ceremony in July: final touches are made to the Agora stage; students and staff speaking at the British Section OIB dinner.

OIB Results

If last year's OIB results were 'the best ever' (Philip Shaw-Latimer in last year's rentrée supplement), this year's results are truly remarkable! All of our 67 candidates achieved a *mention* (an award of merit) and almost half (44.78%) achieved the highest award, *mention très bien*. To give you an idea of just how impressive these results are, less than half (48.6 %) of all candidates of the *baccalauréat général* obtained a *mention* last year and a minority 6.9% were awarded a *mention très bien*.

The British Section was also represented at the awards ceremony of the highly prestigious *Concours Général*, a national examination created in 1744 to identify the best students in France: Raphaël Lorgéré won the 5th prize for English and Wenda Zhou won the first and third prizes in Physics-Chemistry and Mathematics, respectively. Eighteen students also received the *Sprachdiplom*, an award testifying to university matriculation-level German.

Year	Candidates	Passes	Average	Très bien	Bien	Assez bien	Passable
2010	70	70	14.89	19	34	14	3
2011	67	67	15.38	30	21	16	0

IGCSE Results

We congratulate all our *Seconde* students on this year's excellent IGCSE results. They were once again in line with those achieved by British Section students in recent years – as a glance at the website, where the results of the previous five years are given, will confirm. In UK schools, examination candidates are given time off school to revise; our students, on the other hand, have to meet the challenge of sitting examination papers while continuing their normal schoolwork (in a different language!) at the same time. The grades for the three subjects taught by the Section are given below. Please note that the English Literature figures

include the results of the 14 *Accueil* students, who sat the examination after only one year following the school's international curriculum – an impressive achievement! Eight students also prepared IGCSE Mathematics after school with a private teacher. Their results were 6 A* and 2 A.

On behalf of the students and parents, my thanks go to all members of staff, both teaching and non-teaching, for their commitment and dedication to learning throughout the year.

James Cathcart

2011 IGCSE Results - Figures in percentages

IGCSE	A*	A	B	C	D	A* - A	A* - C
English language	18	45	29	8	0	63	100
English literature	4	38	42	12	3	42	96
History	58	29	8	5	0	87	100
Mathematics	75	25	0	0	0	100	100

Don't miss this great day out for the family...



BRITISH SECTION SPORTS DAY AND WELCOME BBQ

WHEN? 12 noon Saturday 17th September 2011

WHERE? Sports Complex, Blvd de la Libération, Le Pecq

HOW MUCH? Only 4 euros per head. This includes apéritif, BBQ lunch AND entry to sports events. Children under 3 free!

If you haven't already done so, please complete and return the form (already sent to all families by post and email) to Jean-Charles Bernard

PRE-BOOKING NOT POSSIBLE? Tickets will be available on the day, 5 euros per head!

Please let us know if you can help on the day by contacting Jean-Charles Bernard at jean-charles.bernard@sgcib.com

The PTG Needs you!

The British Section **Parent Teacher Group** organises many extra-curricular events for your children every year.

It coordinates:

- SOCIAL and CULTURAL activities such as author visits
- SPORTS activities (including football, cricket and netball).
- It organises and supports FUNDRAISING activities (Quiz Night, Operation Ladybird...)
- and works together with your CONTACT PARENTS and PRIMARY and SECONDARY FORUM representatives.

You can find out more about us and how you can help on the BS website:

www.britishsection.fr > community > PTG

If you would like to contribute to the efforts of this dynamic team, please tell us via the enclosed Volunteer Form - we would love to hear from you. Or contact Nicola Bullough at ptg@lycee-international.net, or your CONTACT PARENT (lists can be found in the new Parent's Area of the VLE, to be introduced at the information morning on 10th September).

We look forward to working with you!

Don't miss the AGM!

YOUR Association needs YOU!

If you care about the British Section, you should care about the British Section Parents Association (BSPA) which represents ALL families in the section and is responsible for key decisions affecting staff, pupils and parents.

The Annual General Meeting (Conseil Générale) will be held on Wednesday 19th October 2011 at 8.15pm in the Amphitheatre of the Chateau d'Hennemont on the Lycée International site.

Come along and -

- Find out what it does for you
- Meet and vote for your representatives (the governors)
- Hear directly from the Director of the section, James Cathcart, the BSPA President, Chris Lajtha, and the BSPA Treasurer, Philip Mead, about the plans and priorities which explain the present and shape the future of YOUR section.

All parents of pupils in the British Section are automatically members of the British Section Parents Association (BSPA). The BSPA operates through an elected Governing Body of parents and co-opted independent governors. Governors serve for two years and may be re-elected. Elections take place at the AGM, and new candidates are encouraged to stand. For further details of the role of the Governing Body, please take a look at the website (under "Our School" on the home page).

'ROMEO AND JULIET'

- some places still available! -

There is still time to sign up for 'Romeo and Juliet' on the **Beauville Arts Performing Arts Camp** for British Section *collège* students (all sites) which takes place during the *Toussaint* holidays on Sunday 23rd – 29th October. Please return registration forms and payment directly to Beauville Arts by 23rd September 2011. Log onto the new Parents' Area of the VLE (to be introduced at the information meeting on 10th September) to download an information sheet and the registration and medical forms, or contact **Claire Mallalieu** at: claire@beauvillearts.com or +33 (0)5 53 87 72 18 for more information.

In pictures...



A FITTING HONOUR

Philip Shaw-Latimer, who retired after 30 years as director of the British Section in October 2010, received the OBE from Her Majesty, the Queen, at Buckingham Palace earlier this year. Philip was honoured for his services to International Education in France. In a letter of thanks to Chris Lajtha, President of the BSPA, following his nomination, Philip wrote:

"Aside from my own personal satisfaction, this is an award which must be seen as shared with all the students, staff and parents of the British Section stretching back over the years. I have been fortunate in working with gifted and supportive people in all three areas."

"I am sure you will share my view that the award is an invitation and an incentive to continue defending two values with which St Germain has come to be closely identified: creating a genuine educational partnership between the French and British cultures and traditions; and providing leadership and support to international sections and colleagues across the country."

The Lycée International WELCOME PROGRAM
CHECK IN TO FRANCE

NEW TO FRANCE ?

Monday 12th & 19th September 2011
 9h-16h
 Amphithéâtre du Château

Do you need help:
 > Understanding the school?
 > To ease your daily life?
 > Did you miss last year's program? Join us this year...

IT'S FREE AND IT'S IN ENGLISH

Buffet lunch available on campus 10 €
 Parents with children can bring a lunch and picnic on the lawn
 (Only for Lycée International and Partner schools' parents)

Reserve your place NOW on
www.checkin2france.com (space is limited)



Lycée en Fête - 7ème secondhand book sale, raising money for schools in Mumbai. The sale raised 230.50 euros.



Fête de la Musique at the Lycée - British Section represented by the 9ème choir led by Dilys Barré

A good time was had by all when Group 2 6ème students (now 5ème) visited London before the summer where they went to the Sir John Soane's Museum (left) and to the musical 'The Lion King'.



The Summer Show - 'Below left, Mean Guys' ready for a shoot out, below right, Two witches cooking up a spell in 'Witch Academy'



**DO YOU LIKE SINGING?
 OR CAN YOU PLAY THE PIANO?**

Come and join the choir Lux Perpetua made up of parents, teachers and students who meet on a Friday night from 20.30 till 22h in houses in the St Germain area to prepare works from composers such as Fauré, Mozart, Whitacre, Brahms and Cherubini which we perform locally and in Paris. It is also a good social night out as we always have a drink and a chat at the end of the evening. We are looking for sopranos, tenors and basses. If you would like to come for audition please contact -

Claire Lewis - c.e.lewis@hotmail.com

We are also looking for a rehearsal pianist. If you are interested also contact Claire.

PLEASE NOTE
 NEW BS WEBSITE ADDRESS:
www.britishsection.fr