

Mission Statement

The Banjul American Embassy School is an international community providing a high quality, accredited American-Style education for students. In partnership with our community, we empower students to become enthusiastic, creative, lifelong learners who value integrity, cultural diversity and global responsibility.

New Director: Caleb Steindam will arrive on Monday night March 7, 2016. He will be at school from Tuesday through Friday. We have scheduled time for him to meet with everyone from the student, council, teachers, PTO, Board and parents. I will be having lots of meetings with Caleb in order to insure a smooth succession. We will have a short “meet and greet” so all parents have the opportunity to meet Caleb. The time will be Friday Morning at 8:00 March 11th. There will be a very brief assembly to introduce Caleb and then he will be available to speak with individuals

Annie: “The sun will come out tomorrow”.... How many of you have children singing that again and again.... All of this is in preparation for the musical, “**Annie**”. The musical will be presented on Thursday, March 24th at 6:00 pm at Ocean Bay. Following the musical there will be a dinner for students and parents. Tickets will go on sale the first week of March and will be sold until Monday March 21st. There will be NO Tickets sold at the door. Tickets for the buffet will be d350 for children under twelve and d700 for students over 12 and adults. Tax included. Drinks will be sold separately. Tickets will be sold in the office beginning March 1st. After a wonderful evening of music enjoy a chance to socialize with the BAES community of learners. There is no charge for the musical just the dinner. We certainly hope that many of you will stay to celebrate with the cast.

Reading Month: Although reading month is coming to a close, we continue to encourage all parents and students to read, read – the following is taken from early moments (<https://www.earlymoments.com/Promoting-Literacy-and-a-Love-of-Reading/Why-Reading-to-Children-is-Important/>):

We all know reading to our kids is a good thing—but are you familiar with the specific advantages your toddler or preschool-age child can receive by being exposed to the merits of reading? Below are some benefits that highlight the importance of reading to your child between the ages of two and five.

1. A stronger relationship with you. As your child grows older, he'll be on the move—playing, running, and constantly exploring his environment. Snuggling up with a book lets the two of you slow down and recaptures that sweet, cuddly time you enjoyed when he was a baby. Instead of being seen as a chore or a task, reading will become a nurturing activity that will bring the two of you closer together.
2. Academic excellence. One of the primary benefits of reading to toddlers and preschoolers is a higher aptitude for learning in general. Numerous studies have shown that students who are exposed to reading before preschool are more likely to do well in all facets of formal education. After all, if a student struggles to put together words and sentences, how can he be expected to grasp the math, science, and social concepts he'll be presented with when he begins elementary school?
3. Basic speech skills. Throughout toddlerhood and preschool, your child is learning critical language and enunciation skills. By listening to you read One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish, your child is reinforcing the basic sounds that form language. “Pretend reading”—when a toddler pages through a book with squeals and



jabbers of delight—is a very important pre-literacy activity. As a preschooler, your child will likely begin sounding out words on his own.

4. The basics of how to read a book. Children aren't born with an innate knowledge that text is read from left to right, or that the words on a page are separate from the images. Essential pre-reading skills like these are among the major benefits of early reading.
5. Better communication skills. When you spend time reading to toddlers, they'll be much more likely to express themselves and relate to others in a healthy way. By witnessing the interactions between the characters in the books you read, as well as the contact with you during story time, your child is gaining valuable communication skills.
6. Mastery of language. Early reading for toddlers has been linked to a better grasp of the fundamentals of language as they approach school age.
7. More logical thinking skills. Another illustration of the importance of reading to children is their ability to grasp abstract concepts, apply logic in various scenarios, recognize cause and effect, and utilize good judgment. As your toddler or preschooler begins to relate the scenarios in books to what's happening in his own world, he'll become more excited about the stories you share.
8. Acclimation to new experiences. As your child approaches a major developmental milestone or a potentially stressful experience, sharing a relevant story is a great way to help ease the transition. For instance, if your little one is nervous about starting preschool, reading a story dealing with this topic shows her that her anxiety is normal.
9. Enhanced concentration and discipline. Toddlers may initially squirm and become distracted during story time, but eventually they'll learn to stay put for the duration of the book. Along with reading comprehension comes a stronger self-discipline, longer attention span, and better memory retention, all of which will serve your child well when she enters school.
10. The knowledge that reading is fun! Early reading for toddlers helps them view books as an indulgence, not a chore. Kids who are exposed to reading are much more likely to choose books over video games, television, and other forms of entertainment as they grow older.

Books have the power to benefit toddlers and preschoolers in a myriad of ways. As a parent, reading to your child is one of the most important things you can do to prepare him with a foundation for academic excellence.

Sandviks enriching young minds

[Click Here to Join One of Our Book Clubs](#) ➔

<https://www.earlymoments.com/>

Tuition: Please understand if you are late paying your second trimester tuition you will be charged 10%. Also students whose second trimester tuition has not been paid will not receive a second trimester report card until tuition has been paid.

❖ What's Happening At BAES February 29th-March 4th

Monday, February 29th – No after school activities with the exception of ANNIE

Wednesday, March 2 – School Finishes at 12:00 PD for Teachers.

Thursday, March 3 – Last Thursday After School with the exception of ANNIE

Have a great weekend!

Sharon



Lots Happening at BAES- Please put these dates on your calendar. Please note that a few days such as French Assembly and Math/Science day have changed since the original was made.

Important Dates

February	What is happening at BAES?
February 26 th	Board meeting 2:00
February 29 th	No after school activities with the exception of <i>ANNIE</i>
March	What is Happening at BAES?
March 2 nd	School Finishes at 12:00 PD for Teachers
March 3 rd	Last Thursday After School with the exception of ANNIE
March 18 th	MS Assembly 8:00am
March 18 th	Board 2:00pm
March 24 th	French Assembly 8:00am School finishes at 12:00
March 24 th	"Annie" 6:00 Ocean Bay
March 25 th -April 3 rd	Spring Break
April	What is happening at BAES?
April 4 th	School resumes at 8:00am
April 22 nd	Pre-K Assembly
April 22 nd	Math/Science Day
April 22 nd	Board 2:00pm
April 23-April 30 th	MSA Visiting Team is here for the Team Visit
May	What is Happening at BAES?
May 3 rd	PD noon dismissal
May 1-20	MAP Testing
May 16 th —20 th	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 20 th	PE Assembly
May 25 th -29 th	Long Weekend May 25 th is Africa Liberation Day
May 30-June 2 nd	Writing Prompts
June	What is Happening at BAES?
June 8 th	Moving Up Day Grade 5
June 9 th	Moving Up Project Presentations Grade 5
June 15 th	Student-Led Conference Students come only when they have their conference with their parents/guardians
June 17 th	Board meeting 2:00pm
June 21 st	Field Day
June 22 nd	Graduation and Leaving Ceremony. School Finishes for the year directly after the ceremony
June 22 nd	After Graduation and Leaving Ceremony Summer Holidays begin.