Editor’s Note

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the April/May 2014 issue of Connect!
The annual O and A' levels, primary and middle school and annual Early Years Heads’ meetings were held at the Pearl Continental Hotel Lahore on 10th, 21st and 22nd April 2014 respectively.

A soft skills training on communication and skills was held for BSS Head Office employees in line with the TNA conducted earlier. In order to foster a culture of excellent service standards, we have piloted a customer service training for the School Heads in Karachi and have received overwhelming feedback from the participants of the training. Similar trainings shall be held across BSS to ensure commitment to high quality customer service.

This issue includes an upclose and personal interview with Ms Tabinda Mazhar (Training Manager-Central Region) as well as an interesting quiz and article. We hope that you shall find this issue to be an interesting read.

We appreciate receiving feedback from you and welcome all suggestions; please feel free to send them to us at the HR mailbox at:

komal.sheraz@beaconhouse.edu.pk

Happy Reading!

Rizvana Ikram.
Head of Human Resources
New Appointments

Welcome to BSS!

The following people have recently joined us:

At the Head Office

Mr Sohail Ahmed Khan
As Manager Curriculum-Music

In the Northern Region

Ms Kauser Jehan
As Curriculum Coordinator, SGO III
We congratulate the following people on their professional achievements:

In the Southern Region

Mr Rehan Wajih Hassan
Career Advisor, PECHS Campus,
has been promoted to Deputy Regional Career Advisor.

In the Northern Region

Ms Bushra Shahram Ali
Senior Mistress Incharge, Beaconhouse Jinnabad Branch Abbottabad
has been promoted to Headmistress.

Ms Aisha Nasim
Senior Mistress Incharge, Beaconhouse Abbotabad Branch ,has been promoted to Headmistress.
Beaconhouse. practical demonstrations of teaching methodologies to physical education teachers of Darlington (Assistant Director Sports) and Mr Tariq Sidhu (Manager Sports) also gave is a highly qualified PE teacher from Australia led many of the sessions. Mr Ian practical sessions to Beaconhouse physical education teachers. Mr Neil Evans who physical education teachers from Pakistan, Australia and the UK gave theoretical and methodology of teaching physical education to students. An experienced team of techniques by being involved in an intensive course where there was an emphasis on the month of April, the same group of teachers continued to develop their teaching taught the latest coaching techniques by coaches of the respective Federations. In involved in netball, rugby union and football. During this course the teachers were and Lahore undertook three weekends of intensive training in coaching methods. During January / February sixty physical education teachers from Karachi, Islamabad teachers at BSS Professional Development for Physical Education Scorecard, Drs. Robert Kaplan and David Norton. Distinctions, the only certification program endorsed by the creators of the Balanced who is a member of the Kaplan & Norton Balanced Scorecard Certified Premium Regional Office South, Karachi. The training was conducted by Ms Rahila Narejo, training on customer service for school heads was held on 28th April 2014 at the Commitment to high quality service is essential to achieving service orientation. A Customer Service training in the Southern Region today training. The course consisted of various strategies, group discussions and 2001 was the facilitator and employees from various departments participated in the course. An emphasis on customer service, skills training on Communication & Interpersonal Skills was held on 25th April Training on Communication & Interpersonal Skills with Zachary Chase was invited to share the key note speech on strategic leadership for Digital technology in Early Childhood Education. The Chairperson Mrs Nasreen Mahmud Kasuri in her speech urged the school heads The ETAC initiative will be rolled out across the board in the next three years; and the needs shall be interlinked with project based learning and inquiry based learning; shared by the Chief Executive Mr Kasim Kasuri. In his speech he also mentioned that Educational needs students in our schools. The topic of introducing foreign language curriculum. She also stressed that we need to look for ways to support for the special review project based learning and further strategize in implementing PBL into BSS curriculum guidelines. Mrs Nasreen Mahmud Kasuri asked the school heads to middle schools. Therefore, this year, a lot was accomplished in regards to support for middle schools. At the last year’s heads meeting, all the participants highlighted the much needed additional support for middle schools. This year a task force was commissioned to focus on the needs of middle school students. The participants were encouraged to share feedback, share the progress made on the English, Urdu, and Islamic curriculum development. Ms Farzana Nazarali stressed the value this school heads, to work jointly based learning and better strategies in implementing PBL into BSS curriculum. The team consisted of various strategies, group discussions and activities to enhance the learning process. Customer Service training in the Southern Region Convenient in high quality services is essential in achieving service orientation. A two-day training on Customer Service was held at the Regional Office South, Karachi. The training was conducted by Mr. Rehman Nandy, which included various strategies to improve customer service. The training was attended by the instructors of the Blended Learning, Mr. Rehman Nandy and David Basden. Professional Development for Physical Education teachers at BSS During a joint session, Beaconhouse’s physical education teachers from Karachi, Islamabad, and Lahore undertook three weekends of intensive training in coaching methods. The training was conducted by Mr. Iain Evans, who is a highly qualified PE teacher from Australia led many of the sessions. Mr. Iain Evans, along with Mr. Neil Evans, shared practical demonstrations of teaching methodologies to physical education teachers of Darlington (Assistant Director Sports) and Mr. Tariq Sidhu (Manager Sports) also gave a highly qualified PE teacher from Australia led many of the sessions. Mr. Iain Evans, along with Mr. Neil Evans, shared practical demonstrations of teaching methodologies to physical education teachers of Darlington (Assistant Director Sports) and Mr. Tariq Sidhu (Manager Sports) also gave. The council’s main goal was to focus on customer service, skills training on Communication & Interpersonal Skills with Zachary Chase was invited to share the key note speech on strategic leadership for Digital technology in Early Childhood Education. The Chairperson Mrs Nasreen Mahmud Kasuri in her speech urged the school heads to strategize the designing and implementation of an all-inclusive programme to ETAC initiative will be rolled out across the board in the next three years; and the needs shall be interlinked with project based learning and inquiry based learning; shared by the Chief Executive Mr Kasim Kasuri. In his speech he also mentioned that Educational needs students in our schools. The topic of introducing foreign language curriculum. She also stressed that we need to look for ways to support for the special review project based learning and further strategize in implementing PBL into BSS curriculum guidelines. Mrs Nasreen Mahmud Kasuri asked the school heads to middle schools. Therefore, this year, a lot was accomplished in regards to support for middle schools. At the last year’s heads meeting, all the participants highlighted the much needed additional support for middle schools. This year a task force was commissioned to focus on the needs of middle school students. The participants were encouraged to share feedback, share the progress made on the English, Urdu, and Islamic curriculum development. Ms Farzana Nazarali stressed the value this school heads, to work jointly based learning and better strategies in implementing PBL into BSS curriculum. The team consisted of various strategies, group discussions and activities to enhance the learning process. Customer Service training in the Southern Region Convenient in high quality services is essential in achieving service orientation. A two-day training on Customer Service was held at the Regional Office South, Karachi. The training was conducted by Mr. Rehman Nandy, which included various strategies to improve customer service. The training was attended by the instructors of the Blended Learning, Mr. Rehman Nandy and David Basden. Professional Development for Physical Education teachers at BSS During a joint session, Beaconhouse’s physical education teachers from Karachi, Islamabad, and Lahore undertook three weekends of intensive training in coaching methods. The training was conducted by Mr. Iain Evans, who is a highly qualified PE teacher from Australia led many of the sessions. Mr. Iain Evans, along with Mr. Neil Evans, shared practical demonstrations of teaching methodologies to physical education teachers of Darlington (Assistant Director Sports) and Mr. Tariq Sidhu (Manager Sports) also gave a highly qualified PE teacher from Australia led many of the sessions. Mr. Iain Evans, along with Mr. Neil Evans, shared practical demonstrations of teaching methodologies to physical education teachers of Darlington (Assistant Director Sports) and Mr. Tariq Sidhu (Manager Sports) also gave a highly qualified PE teacher from Australia led many of the sessions. Mr. Iain Evans, along with Mr. Neil Evans, shared practical demonstrations of teaching methodologies to physical education teachers of Darlington (Assistant Director Sports) and Mr. Tariq Sidhu (Manager Sports) also gave. The council’s main goal was to focus on customer service, skills training on Communication & Interpersonal Skills with Zachary Chase was invited to share the key note speech on strategic leadership for Digital technology in Early Childhood Education. The Chairperson Mrs Nasreen Mahmud Kasuri in her speech urged the school heads to strategize the designing and implementation of an all-inclusive programme to ETAC initiative will be rolled out across the board in the next three years; and the needs shall be interlinked with project based learning and inquiry based learning; shared by the Chief Executive Mr Kasim Kasuri. In his speech he also mentioned that Educational needs students in our schools. The topic of introducing foreign language curriculum. She also stressed that we need to look for ways to support for the special review project based learning and further strategize in implementing PBL into BSS curriculum guidelines. Mrs Nasreen Mahmud Kasuri asked the school heads to middle schools. Therefore, this year, a lot was accomplished in regards to support for middle schools. At the last year’s heads meeting, all the participants highlighted the much needed additional support for middle schools. This year a task force was commissioned to focus on the needs of middle school students. The participants were encouraged to share feedback, share the progress made on the English, Urdu, and Islamic curriculum development. Ms Farzana Nazarali stressed the value this school heads, to work jointly based learning and better strategies in implementing PBL into BSS curriculum. The team consisted of various strategies, group discussions and activities to enhance the learning process. Customer Service training in the Southern Region Convenient in high quality services is essential in achieving service orientation. A two-day training on Customer Service was held at the Regional Office South, Karachi. The training was conducted by Mr. Rehman Nandy, which included various strategies to improve customer service. The training was attended by the instructors of the Blended Learning, Mr. Rehman Nandy and David Basden. Professional Development for Physical Education teachers at BSS During a joint session, Beaconhouse’s physical education teachers from Karachi, Islamabad, and Lahore undertook three weekends of intensive training in coaching methods. The training was conducted by Mr. Iain Evans, who is a highly qualified PE teacher from Australia led many of the sessions. Mr. Iain Evans, along with Mr. Neil Evans, shared practical demonstrations of teaching methodologies to physical education teachers of Darlington (Assistant Director Sports) and Mr. Tariq Sidhu (Manager Sports) also gave a highly qualified PE teacher from Australia led many of the sessions. Mr. Iain Evans, along with Mr. Neil Evans, shared practical demonstrations of teaching methodologies to physical education teachers of Darlington (Assistant Director Sports) and Mr. Tariq Sidhu (Manager Sports) also gave.
Strengthen Your Accountability Muscle.
Commit to full accountability for the next 24 hours. No matter what comes up, follow through with every single thing you said you would do or had scheduled. Doing this may mean letting emails sit in your inbox unopened for a few extra minutes, or letting phone calls go to voice mail. It may mean staying late at work or postponing your workout. Whatever it takes, notice how you used your time and dealt with distractions. This simple exercise will make you more aware of whether you use time optimally—or it uses you.

Set Short-Term Goals.
The more successful one wants to be, the smaller the unit of time one must think in. It is human nature to put things off or to not feel the urgency if the goal post is too far away. Small goals that you achieve on a regular basis will move you closer to achieving your potential.

Prioritize Your Priorities Daily.
Make two separate to-do lists daily. One list is for the most important daily activities, and the other one is for urgent, but not necessarily the most important, tasks. Focus on, commit to, and finish the first list, without fail, every day. With whatever time you have left, start in on the second list. Complete your priorities the first thing in the day, before distractions interfere and new problems intrude.

Create Rituals To Lock In Priorities.
Take a few minutes to ritualize some of the more important things you need to prioritize. You create a ritual when you get in the habit of behaving in certain ways consistently over time. An easy way to do this is to plug priority behaviors into your daily calendar. Having a fixed amount of time set aside to complete your goal each day will help you turn this behavior into a habit. Be realistic in estimating the time you need to fully complete your priorities so you can experience consistent success throughout the day, every day.

Attack The Open Space.
Whenever five minutes of time become free, ask yourself the following question: “What can I get done in the next five minutes?” By using five-minute time frames, which often show up two to three times a day for a busy person, you may be also to check off three or four extra items from your daily to-do list.

Trim The Fat From Appointments.
We waste a lot of time in appointments, between showing up late, small talk at the beginning, having no agenda, or straying from the agenda. Observe your interactions with others and try to identify the behaviors, yours and theirs, that use up precious meeting time. Try cutting half-hour meetings to 20 minutes. Make hard start and stop times. You’ll be amazed at how much “free” time you gain that you can now use being productive.

Identify Your Time-Maximization Unit Of Time.
Write down three examples of time wasters, and the amount of time you generally waste doing them. For example, one of them might be that you spend 15 minutes each morning on social media, catching up with the activities of friends and family, instead of doing this later at home. So, 15 minutes is one of your time-maximization units of time. Now start thinking, “When this unit of time shows up, I’m going to commit to using that time productively.” It will not be easy, but your intensity and productivity will increase dramatically by identifying your time-maximization unit of time.

Source:
Q1. How would you describe yourself?
Ans. People perception: funny, workaholic and energetic. My perspective: sensitive, workaholic and analytical (all three on slightly stronger end).

Q2. Give me the names of four people you admire and tell me what you admire the most about them?
Ans.
1. Ali Raza for being Mr Ali Raza and his extreme patience through the six years I worked with him.
2. My father for his extreme patience in the 34 years he has put up with me (and still counting).
3. Both Mr Larry Page and Mr Sergey Brin for changing the world through Google.

Q3. What is in your view, the best thing about working at Beaconhouse?
Ans. Opportunities, exposure and bonds.

Q4. What is your one personality trait that was enhanced as a result of working at Beaconhouse?
Ans. Emotional maturity.

Q5. Give me the name of a book that you have read that had a powerful influence on you?
Ans. Forty Rules of Love by Elif Shafak.

Q6. What do you think of the twilight series?
Ans. I like the fact that womanhood has been reduced to mere saving of a man’s life.

Q7. Where would you go in a time machine? (If you could witness any event, past, present or future, what would it be?)
Ans. I would really like to see a future world where travelling is visa free. I would like hassle free worldwide travel.

Q8. Which superpower would you like to have?
Ans. The power of reading minds.

Q9. What’s the best advice anyone has ever given to you?
Ans. “Control!”

Q10. What are you thankful for?
Ans. Everything. I feel very blessed and special for all I have got and can never thank Allah enough.

Q11. What are you most proud of?
Ans. As I look back, I am very proud of how I have evolved over the years: personally as well as professionally.

Q12. What is your greatest fear?
Ans. I am not scared of anything.
Personality Tests: Forest

Forest: Your view on life

1. Imagine a forest… Do you prefer the forest to be?
   a) No
   b) Yes
   c) I'm not sure

2. What is the forest like, dark or light?
   a) Dark
   b) Light
   c) Misty

3. In your view, are you moving through the forest? Is there some clear path that you are walking on?
   a) Yes
   b) No
   c) I don't know

4. Which statement best describes the path in the forest?
   a) Yes there is
   b) Yes there are, but I'm on the right one
   c) Yes there are, and I'm choosing my path as I go

5. Can you see some other paths around?
   a) Yes there are, and I'm choosing my path as I go
   b) Yes there are, but I'm on the right one
   c) Yes there are, but I don't see any other paths around

6. How is the forest coming to deal with new people and trying new things?
   a) Yes, I do not knowing who might be inside
   b) No I'm pleasantly surprised
   c) There are, but I don't see them anywhere

7. Are there animals in the forest?
   a) Yes, you can see them
   b) No, not really
   c) The road is more or less flat

8. When walking, you discover a cabin. Are you disturbed?
   a) Yes, I do not know who might be inside
   b) No I'm pleasantly surprised
   c) There are, but I don't see them anywhere

9. Are you feeling uncomfortable to leave the forest?
   a) Yes, I like staying in the forest
   b) No I'm pleasantly surprised
   c) Misty

10. Can you see the edge of the forest?
    a) Yes, I can see it
    b) No I don't
    c) No, I can't tell

11. You go to the edge of the forest… What do you see beyond the forest?
    a) Yes, I can see it
    b) No I don't
    c) No, but I'm aware that it is out there

Answers:

1. a)
2. a)
3. a)
4. a)
5. a)
6. a)
7. a)
8. b)
9. a)
10. a)
11. a)

Disclaimer: Beaconhouse does not endorse or accept responsibility for the results of this quiz.
Birthdays in May

At the Head Office
Mr M. Aslam Sharif, General Manager IT- May 13th

In the Central Region
Ms Sobia Sajjad Naqai, General Duty Trainer, School Group I- May 1st
Ms Asralee Farooq, Senior Mistress, Jhang Campus- May 2nd
Mr Syed Hassan Bari Shah, General Duty Trainer, School Group IV May 14th
Ms Maria Chisti, Senior Mistress, Garden Town Campus, Lahore- May 16th
Ms Sumbal Babar, Headmistress, Canal Side Campus Boys, Lahore- May 17th
Ms Shirin Khan, Headmistress, LMA Primary 11-FCC, Lahore- May 18th
Ms Abida Maqbool, Headmistress, Primary Campus, Faisalabad- May 21st
Ms Sarah Awais, Senior Head Mistress, Johar Town Boys’ Campus, Lahore-May 26th
Ms Ayesha Shahid, Senior Mistress, Walton Campus, Lahore- May 31st

In the Southern Region
Ms Rabiya Ejaz, Senior Mistress, Gulshan Primary V Branch, Karachi- May 1st
Ms Zahra Ahmed, Senior Mistress, PECHS Campus, Karachi-May 1st
Ms Narijs Haider, Manager Training, Regional Office South- May 3rd
Ms Humaiz Azam, Senior Mistress, Quetta Campus- May 5th
Ms Anjum Kaiwan, Headmistress, Rahimyar Khan Campus-May 8th
Ms Hina Arshi, Headmistress, PECHS Campus, Karachi- May 9th
Ms Rabia Hussainy, Senior Mistress, North Nazimabad Primary III, Karachi- May 10th
Ms Naila Abidi, Headmistress, Gulshan A Level Campus, Karachi- May 12th
Mr Ejaz Haider, Deputy Manager Accounts, Regional Office South,
Karachi- May 14th
Mr Syed Zahid Hussain, Regional Manager Security, Regional Office South, Karachi- May 16th
Ms Sonia Rizwan, Senior Mistress Incharge, Discovery Centre Smart School, Karachi- May 17th
Ms Aamina Wasif Khan, Headmistress, Defence Campus, Karachi- May 18th
Ms Humera Javed Khan, Headmistress, Beaconhouse College Campus, Defence, Karachi- May 18th
Ms Atiya Batool Tunio, Senior Mistress, Sukkur Campus- May 19th
Ms Maryam Nisar, Senior Mistress, Gulshan Middle II Branch, Karachi- May 20th
Ms Nafisa Iqbal Patel, Senior Mistress, Gulshan Primary IV, Karachi- May 20th
Ms Riffat Naseem, Headmistress, Jauhar Primary Branch, Karachi- May 28th

In the Northern Region
Mr Mansoor Ahmed, Regional Coordinator Sports, Regional Office North- May 2nd
Ms Faiza Nosheen Asif, Headmistress, Frontier Campus, Peshawar- May 2nd
Ms Samira Agha, Headmistress, Potohar Campus, Rawalpindi- May 4th
Ms Musarat Jehanzeb, Headmistress, Abbottabad Campus- May 6th
Ms Bushra Shahram Ali, Senior Mistress Incharge,Jinnahabad Campus,
Abbottabad- May 16th
Ms Saima Faheem, Headmistress, Satellite Town Primary, Rawalpindi- May 16th
Ms Sumbal Zubair Chughtai, Coordinator ET, School Group I-May 18th
Ms Maleeha Qayyum, Senior Mistress Incharge,F-11 Campus, Islamabad- May 19th
Mr Muhammad Schail, Senior Master, Jamrud Campus, Peshawar- May 20th
Ms Qudasia Sabri, Senior Mistress, Wah Cantt Campus- May 26th
Ms Shaghifia Minhas, Headmistress, Beaconhouse Educational Complex, Rawalpindi- May 27th
Ms Irum Razia, Headmistress Incharge, Peshawar KG Branch- May 27th
Ms Safia Cassim, School Group I Head-May 31st

An equally happy birthday to those whose names could not be squeezed into this section!
Quote of the Month

“A man who dares to waste one hour of time has not yet discovered the value of life.”

Charles Darwin

Source: http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/topics/topic_life.html

HR Humor

Top 10 Signs That You Are a Great Teacher

1. You see each child as a child, and not a diagnosis.
2. You see your class as individuals, not as a drawer full of case files.
3. You keep your sense of humor against all odds.
4. You deal with upset kids, clueless administrators, and pushy parents with grace and dignity.
5. You’re not afraid to be flexible and creative.
6. You know when to make a stand and when to choose your battles.
7. You see parents as allies, not enemies.
8. You never give anybody any doubts as to why you went into teaching.
9. You love your job, and it shows.
10. Your students love you, too.

Thank you for being a great teacher!