

FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 14, 2025

THE BEACON ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Dear Beacon Academy Community,

This week, I found myself reflecting on a fundamental question: What does all this mean in the grand scheme of things? I guess a little context is necessary—allow me to share my week.

Monday began with the faculty professional development session on AI and its role in work and education. There were many practical applications, but also a lot of real, difficult questions that require earnest conversation, philosophical thinking, and rational decision-making. What is AI meant to do? How does AI disrupt my role as an educator, and how should I respond? How can we measure learning fairly when answers are literally at one's fingertips? Does AI remove our relevance as educators? These were just some of the unfiltered, thought-provoking questions that arose during Monday's session. Some questions found answers, while others lingered, awaiting future reflection and discussion. And yet, AI is evolving so rapidly that keeping up often feels impossible. It's developing faster than we can make sense of it, and to some extent, that is unsettling. In the realm of AI, we are all in the great unknown, making sense of it together as it continues to unfold.

Tuesday was filled with my usual busy work—meetings with teachers and students to sort out academic, management, and student matters, finalizing a field trip letter, and even getting my blood pressure reading (normal!).

Assembly last Wednesday was a welcome reprieve. The community gathered in the Auditorium for the yearly Valentine's Showcase, where love songs prevailed. Students performed and celebrated one another. The community cheered with great joy and enthusiasm as The Novas, The Infinettes, ben&ben&ben, and other faces—old and new—took to the stage. There was much cheering for each other, and love was definitely present and felt in the auditorium that afternoon.

Thursday was spent meeting with teachers to discuss what needs to be done, what support the kids need, and organizing activities for February 25 in commemoration of the EDSA People Power Revolution. We also reconvened as a faculty to continue our discussion on AI. Again, there was much to think about, consider, and reflect upon.

Today, in good fun, students dressed in colors that may (or may not) reveal their love status. Shades of white, black, purple, blue, green, red, and pink took on new meanings today—and certainly became topics of conversation. What will come out of this sharing of personal status? Only time will tell.

As we continue to wrestle with the complexities of AI and explore the nuances of love, we must recognize that both can be powerful forces for self-improvement. AI challenges us to think critically, adapt, and redefine our roles in education and work, while love teaches us empathy, connection, and the importance of human relationships. Just as AI demands ethical reflection and careful implementation, love requires intention and care. Both can be forces of growth—one in how we navigate change, the other in how we nurture connection. Let us harness the potential of both to enhance our learning, creativity, and innovation. Let us use love—whether for ourselves, others, or our work—to provide the foundation for meaningful interactions and fulfillment.

As we navigate the changes that come our way, let wisdom guide us, resilience strengthen us, and compassion unite us in building a stronger Beacon community.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Ceci Francisco
Dean of Faculty
The Beacon Academy

WHAT'S IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

Letter to the Community:
Dean of Faculty

Important Dates

**BA Online Information
Session**

**Faculty PD Sessions at
BA**

Griffin Games

Valentine's Week at BA

Coi M. Tops Karting Event

Rite of Confirmation at BA

**Communications
Protocols**

**BA Calendar AY 2024-
2025**

IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday, February 15	Online Information Session for Grades 11 & 12
Wednesday, February 19	Career Fest Day 1
February 20-21	Grade 10 Bataan Field Trip
Wednesday, February 26	Career Fest Day 2
Friday, February 28	Grade 10 Class Night
Monday, March 3	Moratorium on After School Activities

PLEASE SHARE: BEACON ACADEMY INFORMATION SESSION

As part of our recruitment efforts, the Beacon Academy is inviting all interested parents and students to join an online information session hosted by our Head of School, Mark Vincent Escaler, along with students, alumni, parents, and teachers from the Beacon Academy community.

This session will provide valuable insights into our International Baccalaureate® Diploma Programme (Grades 11-12), our vibrant school life, college framework, and scholarship opportunities.

Interested families can register here to receive the Zoom link:

<https://forms.gle/mcoUa45JWap6G66w6>



The poster features the Beacon Academy logo at the top left, with the text "THE BEACON ACADEMY" and "VIRTUS ET ARS" to its right. Below this, a large green box contains the text "ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION" in white, followed by "FEBRUARY 15" and "10:00 AM - 11:30 AM VIA ZOOM". The background of the poster shows a group of students sitting in a classroom. At the bottom, there is a blue banner with the text "for families interested in SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (Grades 11-12) at Beacon Academy" and the website "www.beaconacademy.ph". To the right of this banner is a QR code with the text "REGISTER HERE" above it.

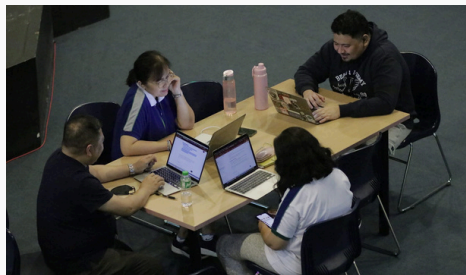
BA FACULTY PD SESSIONS: ENHANCING LEARNING AND GROWTH

At Beacon Academy, we are committed to fostering an environment of continuous learning and growth, not only for our students but for our dedicated faculty as well. On January 25 and February 10, our teachers participated in enriching professional development sessions that aimed to further enhance their skills and knowledge.

On January 25, Ms. Cecille Salvan led a half-day session on Conceptual Teaching. This session focused on how to encourage deeper understanding in students by emphasizing the underlying concepts behind what they are learning, rather than just memorizing facts. The approach encourages critical thinking and helps students apply their knowledge in meaningful ways, fostering a more holistic learning experience.

On February 10, Beacon Academy hosted a full-day session led by Mr. Vic Villanueva, which centered around the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the school environment. As technology continues to shape the world around us, it's essential for educators to explore how AI can support personalized learning, streamline administrative tasks, and enhance educational experiences for students. Mr. Villanueva's session provided valuable insights into how AI can be a transformative tool within the classroom.

These professional development sessions are vital to the ongoing success of our school. By investing in the growth of our faculty, we ensure that our teaching methods are current, effective, and responsive to the evolving needs of our students. At Beacon Academy, we understand that the quality of learning is directly tied to the continuous professional development of our educators, and these sessions are just one of the many ways we empower our faculty to provide the best education possible.



GRIFFIN GAMES: A DAY OF FUN AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION

On Tuesday, February 4, Beacon Academy students came together for an exciting full day of Griffin Games, where grade 7-12 batches competed in a variety of sports and activities. The friendly rivalry saw students engaging in everything from frisbee, basketball, and volleyball to tug of war, dodgeball, chess, and ping pong. The day culminated in a thrilling cheer dance competition, showcasing school spirit, creativity, and teamwork. It was an unforgettable day filled with energy, laughter, and camaraderie as students demonstrated their skills and supported one another, making Griffin Games a true celebration of community and athleticism at Beacon Academy.



BEACON ACADEMY CELEBRATES VALENTINE'S WEEK WITH FUN & FESTIVITIES

This week, Beacon Academy embraced the spirit of love and friendship with a series of exciting Valentine's Day activities! Students and faculty spread joy through Candy Grams, sharing sweet messages and treats with one another. The highlight of the week was the Valentine's Showcase, where talented students took the stage to perform heartfelt musical pieces, filling the school with love and cheer. To top it off, Casual Friday added a playful twist, with students wearing color-coded outfits to reveal their current love life status—adding a fun and lighthearted touch to the celebrations. It was a week filled with connection, creativity, and school spirit, making Valentine's at Beacon Academy truly special!



ATHLETICS GAME ANNOUNCEMENTS

GAME
ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRENT BADMINTON
FEBRUARY 15, 2025
BOYS - 7:30 AM @ BRENT

ISTA (TENNIS)
FEBRUARY 15, 2025
@ XAVIER SCHOOL SAN JUAN
8:00 AM SHS GIRLS D2 BA VS ICA
1:00 PM SHS GIRLS D2 BA VS POVEDA

MISAA FOOTBALL
FEBRUARY 15, 2025
@ BEACON SCHOOL
8:45 AM BA VS FOUNTAIN

MISAA VOLLEYBALL
FEBRUARY 15, 2025
@ BEACON SCHOOL
2:30 PM MIXED BA VS CISM

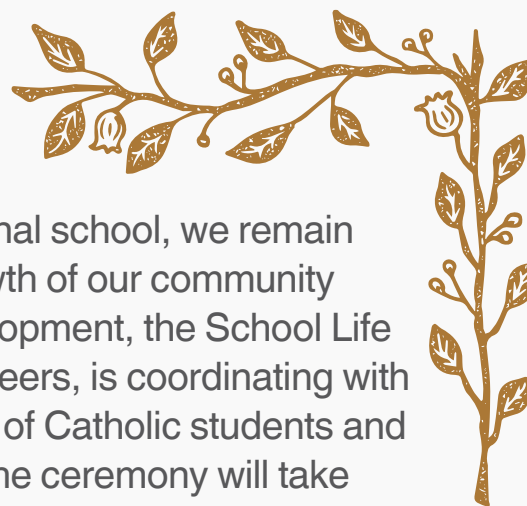
GO GRIFFINS!

GRIFFIN COI M. TOPS THE SODIE WORLD SERIES LEADERBOARDS

On January 26, 2025, Beacon Academy's very own Coi M. made an impressive mark at the Sodi World Series held at the Pampanga International Circuit. Competing in one of the biggest karting events in the world, Coi raced his way to the top of the Philippine leaderboard. With a qualifying time of 54.9 seconds, he started in 2nd place, thanks to his excellent preparation and prior practice at the track. Coi credits his victory to a bit of luck, as he was paired with an exceptional kart on race day. His hard work, determination, and skill proved to be a winning combination, making this achievement another proud moment for the Beacon Academy community!



RITE OF CONFIRMATION AT BEACON ACADEMY



At Beacon Academy, while we are a non-denominational school, we remain dedicated to supporting the spiritual and religious growth of our community members. In line with our commitment to holistic development, the School Life Office, along with a group of teacher and parent volunteers, is coordinating with the Parish of St. Teresa of Calcutta to prepare a group of Catholic students and faculty members for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The ceremony will take place on March 29, 2025.

This event is open to all students of the Beacon Academy community. If you are interested in having your child join our group of Griffin confirmands, please reach out to Ms. Luvim Encinares at studentservices@beaconacademy.ph for more information on requirements and other details.

Beacon Academy Communications Protocols AY 2024-2025

Matters relating to....	Department / Email
Students Academic, School Life, Learning Support	Faculty Advisers / Homeroom Teachers
IB Diploma Programme Senior High School (G 11-12)	Iris Morga / DP Coordinator dpcoordinator@beaconacademy.ph
IB Middle Years Programme Junior High School (G 7-10)	Roy Villegas / MYP Coordinator mypcoordinator@beaconacademy.ph
College & Career Counseling	Maricar Pascual / C&C Counselor maricar.pascual@beaconacademy.ph Chinny Inumerable / C&C Counselor chinny.inumerable@beaconacademy.ph
Mental Health & Well-Being	Din Mendoza / JHS Counselor din.mendoza@beaconacademy.ph Vian Erasmo / SHS Counselor vian.erasmo@beaconacademy.ph
Curriculum, Exams, & Faculty	Ceci Francisco / Dean of Faculty dof@beaconacademy.ph
Student Conduct, Support, & Activities	Lui Morano / Dean of Students dos@beaconacademy.ph
Health, Safety, & Bus Services	Luvim Encinares / Student Services Asst. studentservices@beaconacademy.ph
School Records	Marnell Lagan / School Registrar registrar@beaconacademy.ph
Finance	Lorna Sabino / Finance Manager finance@beaconacademy.ph
School Leadership & Policy Child Protection Committee Committee on Decorum and Investigation	Mark Escaler / Head of School mark.escaler@beaconacademy.ph Victor Villanueva / Deputy Head of School victor.villanueva@beaconacademy.ph



THE BEACON ACADEMY ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2024-2025

Semester 1 JULY 2024							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31			
Total No. of Days: 0							

AUGUST 2024							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3
1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
4	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Total No. of Days: 19							

SEPTEMBER 2024							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9	29	30					
Total No. of days: 21							

OCTOBER 2024							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
3	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
4	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
5	30	31					
Total No. of Days: 17							

NOVEMBER 2024							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
3	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
4	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
5	30						
Total No. of days: 20							

DECEMBER 2024							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10	29	30	31				
Total No. of days: 12							

Semester 2 JANUARY 2025							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1							
2							
3							
4							
Total No. of Days: 19							

FEBRUARY 2025							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5							
6							
7							
8							
Total No. of days: 18							

MARCH 2025							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
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25							
26							
27							
28							
29							
30							
31							
Total No. of days: 18							

APRIL 2025							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
4							
5							
6							
7							
Total No. of days: 17							

MAY 2025							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
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25							
26							
27							
28							
29							
30							
31							
Total No. of days: 21							

JUNE 2025							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							
26							
27							
28							
29							
30							
31							
Total No. of days: 5							

IMPORTANT DATES

Jun 10 - Jul 5

Jul 1

Jul 4

Jul 8 - Aug 1

Aug 2

Aug 2

Aug 5-9

Aug 13-14

Aug TBA

Aug 21

Aug 26

Sep 11

Sep 30 - Oct 4

Oct 7-11

Oct 14

Oct 15

Oct 21-26

Nov 1

Nov 2

Nov 20

Nov 30

Dec 8

Dec 9 - Dec 13

Dec 18 - Jan 3

Jan 6

Jan 20-25

Jan 29

Jan TBA

Feb 3

Feb 10

Mar 10 - 12

March 13 - 14

March 17

Mar 24 - Apr 4

Mar 31

Apr 7

Apr 9

Apr 16 - 20

Apr 21 - 25

Apr 28 - May 21

May 1

May 12

May 19 - 23

Jun 6

Campus Break

In-Service for All New Faculty

BA Leadership & Management Returns

All Faculty In-Service

Start of Quarter 1

Parent and New Student Orientation

Classes Begin for All Students; Foundation Days

National Career Assessment Examination (NCAE) for Grade 10

National Achievement Test (Grade 11)

Special Non-Working Day: Ninoy Aquino Day

Regular Holiday: National Heroes Day

Early Release: Faculty Professional Development

MYP Exam Week

No Classes: Quarter Recess

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

Start of Quarter 2

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Online)

Special Non-Working Day: All Saints' Day

Special Non-Working Day: All Souls' Day

Early Release: Faculty Professional Development

No Classes: Bonifacio Day

Special Non-Working Day: Feast of the Immaculate Conception

MYP/DP mid-year exam week

No Classes: Christmas/New Year Break

Start of Quarter 3

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Online)

No Classes: Chinese New Year

National Achievement Test (Grade 12)

No Classes: Binan Day

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

MYP Exams

Quarter Recess

Start of Quarter 4

Grade 12 Mock Exams

Eid al-Fitr (TBC)

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

Regular Holiday: Araw ng Kagitingan

No Classes: Easter Break

Grade 12 BA Pathway Exam Week

IB Diploma Examinations 2025

Regular Holiday: Labor Day

Philippine Elections 2025

MYP/DP Year-End Exam Week

Graduation Day; Last Day of School

Number of Class Days in the 1st Quarter:



THE BEACON ACADEMY ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2025-2026

Semester 1

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			I	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

Total No. of Days: 0

Semester 2

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						I	2
1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
4	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Total No. of Days: 19

IMPORTANT DATES

Campus Break
BA Summer Program TBC
BA Leadership & Management Returns
BA New Faculty Orientation
All Faculty In-Service
Parent and New Student Orientation

Start of Quarter 1

Aug 6 - 8
Foundation Days
Special Non-Working Day: Ninoy Aquino Day
Regular Holiday: National Heroes Day
MYP (Grades 7-10) 1st Quarter Examinations

Quarter Recess

Professional Development Day (No Classes)

Start of Quarter 2

Parent-Teacher Conferences (In-Person)
Special Non Working Day: All Saints' Eve
Special Non-Working Day: All Saints' Day
Regular Holiday: Bonifacio Day
Early Release: Faculty Professional Development
Special Non-Working Day: Feast of the Immaculate Conception
MYP (Grades 7-10); DP (Grades 11-12) Midyear Examinations

No Classes: Christmas/New Year Break

Start of Quarter

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Online)
Professional Development Day (No Classes) **
No Classes: Binan Day
Chinese New Year TBC
Early Release: Faculty Professional Development **
Eid al Fitr TBC
MYP (Grades 7-10) 3rd Quarter Examinations
Easter Break

Start of Quarter 4

Regular Holiday: Araw ng Kagitingan
Professional Development Day (No Classes) **
IB Diploma Examinations 2026 TBC
Regular Holiday: Labor Day
MYP (Grades 7-10); DP (Grade 11) Year-end Examinations

JHS Moving Up Day

Graduation Day; Last Day of School
Last Day of School

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							I
1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
3	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
4	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						

Total No. of Days: 17

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							I
5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Total No. of days: 17

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							I
5	1	2	3	4	5	6	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
7	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9	28	29	30				

Total No. of days: 22

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							I
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
12	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				

Total No. of days: 21

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							I
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
11	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
12	26	27	28	29	30	31	
13							

Total No. of Days: 18

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							I
13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
15	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
16	26	27	28	29	30		
17							

Total No. of days: 17

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							I
14	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
17	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30						

Total No. of days: 20

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							I
19	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
20	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
21	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
22	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						

Total No. of days: 20

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							I
18	1	2	3	4	5	6	
19	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
20	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31			

Total No. of days: 11

Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							I
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	
24	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30				

Total No. of days: 9

Number of Class Days in the 1st Quarter: 44
 Number of Class Days in the 2nd Quarter: 44
 Number of Class Days in the 3rd Quarter: 57
 Number of Class Days in the 4th Quarter: 46
 Total Number of Class Days: 191

Updated 9 January 2024