

FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

THE BEACON ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Dear Beacon Academy Community,

Today marks the end of our Filipino Week festivities, with MYP students participating in a Quiz Bowl and the community coming together in friendly competition for the Palaro. Despite the unexpected suspensions and pivots last week, the running joke among faculty members was to change Filipino Week because the yearly festivities are always affected by some unexpected disruption—be it natural or man-made. However, with continued good humor, we pressed on to make Filipino Week happen because it is an opportunity for the community to come together and celebrate our history, language, culture, and all other things that make us Filipino.

We kicked off the festivities with a talk by Candy Gourlay, author of award-winning books such as *Tall Story*, *Shine*, and *Bone Talk*. Ms. Gourlay discussed how incorporating the Filipino experience into her writing gave it authenticity and character. She shared her experiences and inspirations—many of which are deeply rooted in Philippine history that is not covered in textbooks but uncovered through her own research. What struck me deeply was her comment about Filipinos and our history: that we tend to forget it. And I do have to agree. History, sometimes I feel, can be likened to shifting sand, formed and shaped by the power of the tides. But as seen through Ms. Gourlay's work, diving into history has the power to inspire and shape our future directions if we have the courage and patience to sift through and reflect upon what it has left for us.

The festivities continued with the community coming to school dressed in Filipino attire. It was quite a sight—seeing patterns, colors, beadwork, and styles representing our diverse islands and regions worn by various members of the community. Some outfits represented our past traditions, while others showcased modern interpretations—all highlighting the evolution of our garments and the emerging pride of our people to wear what is uniquely our own. After the community salu-salo, which was a spread of varying textures and flavors (thank you, families and friends), the students showcased their talents. And what an afternoon it was! The 7th graders shared jokes only they could deliver, the 8th graders had us singing along as they danced to *Awitin Mo at Isasayaw Ko*, while the 10th graders rocked to *Panalangin* and *Mr. Suave*. The 11th graders showed us that the Tinikling is not dead, and the 12th graders commanded the stage with their renditions of *Pasilyo* and *Ikaw*. We also cannot forget how the Diwata, Kataw, and Minokawa came together to showcase the talents from their houses. It was an afternoon filled with wit, song, dance, and skill.

The 9th-grade students presented Kiko Manalo's poem *Ako'y Wika*. I share with you this excerpt:
Pagka't akong wika/ ang lakas mo't tuwa / Dilim na sumakop / sa bayan at bansa
Dagling lumiwanag./ sa pintig ay huminga / Ako'y lakas/ nitong bisig mo at diwa
Sa pamamagitan ng aking salita / Ligtas ka/ sa uring luksong masasama!

Truly, embracing every aspect of who we are gives us meaning. Let us continue to learn about, grow into, and celebrate our unique Filipino selves. Mabuhay tayong lahat!

Ceci Francisco
Dean of Faculty
The Beacon Academy

WHAT'S IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

Letter to the Community:
Dean of Faculty

Important Dates

Athletic Schedules

BA Golf Team Joins JGFP

BA Students Win at
Go-Karting & Fencing

Filipino Week Festivities
at BA

Communications
Protocols

BA Calendar AY 2024-
2025

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, September 17	College Visit: University of Calgary
Wednesday, September 18	College Visit: University of Sydney
Monday, September 23	College Visit: University of Sto. Tomas (UST)
Friday, September 27	College Visit: Universidad de Navarra
Monday, September 30	Moratorium on After School Activities
September 30 - October 4	MYP Exam Week
Friday, October 4	Grade 7 Class Night

ATHLETICS SCHEDULE

BA SPORTS TEAMS

WEEKLY TRAINING SCHEDULE

2:45PM - 4:00PM

Sports	Schedule
Badminton	Thursday
Basketball	Tuesday, Thursday
Chess	Monday, Wednesday
Football	Tuesday, Thursday
Swimming	Wednesday, Thursday
Volleyball (3:00 - 5:00 pm)	Monday, Wednesday, Friday

**GAME ANNOUNCEMENTS****ISSA VOLLEYBALL**

SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 @ ISM HS C2

9:30 AM	BOYS	BA VS ISM-B
12:30 AM	GIRLS	BA VS CJPS
2:00 PM	BOYS	BA VS CJPS

**GO GRIFFINS!**

BA GOLF TEAM JOINS THE 2024 JGFP INTER-SCHOOL TOURNAMENT

The BA Golf Team is set to participate in the 2024 edition of the Junior Golf Foundation of the Philippines (JGFP) tournament series, which will kick off on Sunday, September 15, 2024, at two venues: Caliraya Springs Golf Club in Cavinti, Laguna, and Summit Point Golf and Country Club in Lipa, Batangas.

This year, the tournament will feature two different leagues and will be played over a total of 8 days, spanning from September to early 2025. Matches will occur across six different golf courses, with teams competing in a minimum of 4 rounds and a maximum of 6 rounds. Each round will count the top 3 scorers, and the best 4 rounds will contribute to a team's final score.

The BA Golf Team lineup is as follows:

SHS Championship League Team

Parent Representative: Rosanna Alabastro

1. Jaime A. (Team Captain- Grade 12)
2. Iñigo L. (Grade 12)
3. Phoenix G. (Grade 11)
4. Santi P. (Grade 11)
5. Rocco P. (Grade 10)



SHS Developmental League Team

Parent Representative: Shera Tiu

1. Niko T. (Team Captain- Grade 12)
2. Jao D. (Grade 12)
3. Liam G. (Grade 12)
4. Mateo F. (Grade 12)
5. Mateo F. (Grade 10)

"Our school's golf teams have been preparing diligently, and we hope to improve on our first runner-up finish from last year." - Jaime A.

"We have new members joining us this year, and we hope that our participation in tournaments like this will promote the sport at BA and encourage more students to play." - Iñigo L.



ALEXIS C. NABS SILVER IN GO KARTING

Congratulations to Alexis C. (Grade 9) for being awarded an impressive second place (7th position overall) in the Ladies' Category at the recently held Asian Karting Open Championship at the Carmona racetrack last August. This was Alexis's debut race.



SUMMER F. NABS SILVER IN FENCING

Congratulations to Summer F. (Grade 8) for being awarded Top 5 in the U15 Women's Epee category and Silver in the U15 Women's Team Event at the recently held Canlas Fencing International Fencing Challenge, which took place at Ayala Malls Manila Bay from August 8-11.



FILIPINO WEEK FESTIVITIES

The Academy was filled with laughter and good cheer as Filipino Week festivities took place throughout the campus this week. On Wednesday, we had our community *Salu-salu*, where a bounty of Filipino dishes was shared by everyone in the community. In the afternoon, we held the first showcase of the year, where various houses, grades, and groups sang, danced, and performed with a Filipino twist. On Friday, the gymnasium hosted our annual *Palaro*, which featured various Filipino-themed games and tough competition within the community. Here are some photos from these celebrations.

SALU-SALU



SHOWCASE



FILIPINO WEEK FESTIVITIES (continued)

SHOWCASE



PALARO



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

FEBRUARY 2025							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
5	29	30					
Total No. of days: 18							

MARCH 2025							
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: 18							

APRIL 2025							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
5	29	30					
Total No. of days: 17							

MAY 2025							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
5	29	30	31				
Total No. of days: 21							

JUNE 2025							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
5	29	30					
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:

44

9 weeks

Number of Class Days in the 2nd Quarter:

45

9 weeks

Number of Class Days in the 3rd Quarter:

45

10 weeks

Number of Class Days in the 4th Quarter:

53

12 weeks

Total Number of Class Days:

187

Updated 23 July 2024