



# THE BEACON ACADEMY

## NEWSLETTER

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Beacon Academy Community,

*“A beginning is the time for taking the most delicate care that the balances are correct.”*

This epigraph opens Frank Herbert’s 1965 novel, *Dune*. These words, I believe, capture the spirit of our community as we open this school year.

There is a palpable energy on campus in these last two weeks. Families once again entrust their children to the school’s care and navigate the delicate path of ensuring support while nurturing independence that are so vital in adolescence. School administrators strive to ensure the effective delivery of services with a concentrated focus on institutional development that will enrich access to a Beacon education. School leaders, teachers, counselors and staff collaboratively refine their skills, steadfast in their commitment to the unique needs of each student as a learner. Students adapt to the return to school life—reconnecting with old friends and forging new bonds—elevating themselves to the academic, social and emotional challenges inherent in their ages and grade levels.

In line with our collective aspiration to dismantle barriers to learning, there is a liveliness in our community these days. There is a vibrance in the air, hinting that those unprecedented years of the pandemic and school closures are now (truly, hopefully) behind us.

Yet, a learning community does not discard the lessons of the past; rather, it builds upon them. As we each take “delicate care of the balances” at this starting juncture, we must remember that there is no such thing as a perfect balance—something attained and never revisited. Balance is both a verb and a noun. As we have learned, it is an ongoing effort we are perpetually summoned to undertake, adapting in response to the evolving circumstances that shape our life’s journey.

Celebrating the commencement of the school year then also serves as an invitation. As we embark on this journey together, I encourage each of us to remember and to sustain the energy that currently pervades our school, and to carry it forth throughout the year.

Go Griffins!

**Mark Vincent Escaler**  
Head of School  
The Beacon Academy

## WHAT’S IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

### General News:

[A Message from Our Head of School](#)

[Important Dates in August & September](#)

[New Student Orientation | Recap](#)

[Important Links for Parents](#)

[First Day of School | Recap](#)

[House Sorting | Recap](#)

[My Griffin Journey | Recap](#)

[Brigada Eskwela at BA](#)

[AY 2023-2024 Calendar](#)



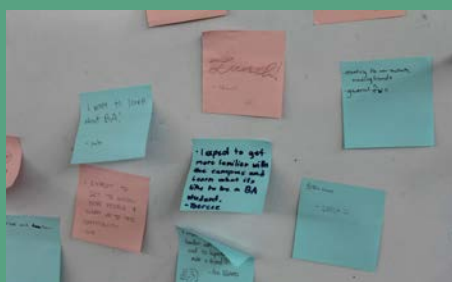
# THE BEACON ACADEMY

## IMPORTANT DATES IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

<b>August 21, Monday</b>	Ninoy Aquino Day (Special Non-Working Day)
<b>August 23, Wednesday</b>	Assembly: Club Fair
<b>August 24, Thursday</b>	College Visit   Hult International Business School
<b>August 28, Monday</b>	National Heroes Day (Regular Holiday)
<b>August 29, Tuesday</b>	Start of Regular Sports Training
<b>August 31, Thursday</b>	Batch Rep Elections College Visits   York University, Brock University, Toronto Metropolitan, Hong Kong Polytechnic University
<b>September 4, Monday</b>	College Visit   Northeastern University
<b>September 25, Monday</b>	Faculty Professional Development (No Class)

## NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION | RECAP

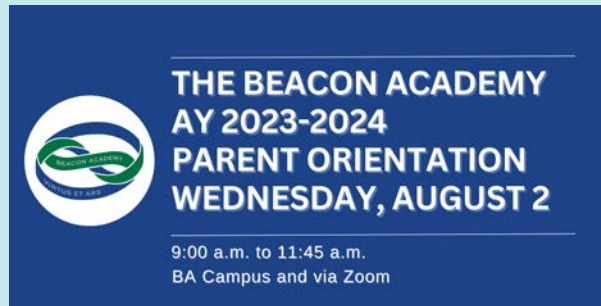
Welcome to our new Griffins! Here are pictures from our New Student Orientation held last Wednesday, August 2.





# THE BEACON ACADEMY

## PARENT ORIENTATION & ELECTRONIC AGREEMENT FORM | RECAP



Thank you for joining the Academy's Parent Orientation held last Wednesday, August 2.

### I. Recordings of our Parent Orientation can be found here:

Plenary Session:  
<https://youtu.be/Zdxl06z3xMA>

Parent MYP Session:  
<https://youtu.be/sd4H9939fz4>

Parent DP Session:  
<https://youtu.be/XL021Ew1LBY>

### II. BA Parents Google Drive

In this Google Drive you will find the following documents:

1. The Beacon Academy Student & Parent Handbook AY 2023-2024
2. The Beacon Academy Calendar AY 2023-2024
3. Parent Orientation Plenary Presentation Slides
4. Parent Orientation MYP Presentation Slides
5. Parent Orientation DP Presentation Slides

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1c6ZNzPIQt6HmZpWeAlb456noGZhwaH-n?usp=sharing>

### III. Electronic Agreement Form

After reading our Student Parent Handbook, please sign this Electronic Agreement Form: <https://forms.gle/ZSJmvhS-VBEMHVGK7A>

Kindly submit this year's Electronic Agreement Form by Friday, August 11

### IV. Managebac Access:

We highly encourage all parents to open their Managebac accounts. For those new to Managebac, please watch this tutorial video by Ms. Riza Estefani to help guide you: <https://youtu.be/vJI25lLsOA>

You may also email our IT Department Head, Mr. Aldy Aldea, if you need an updated welcome link to access your Managebac account. ([aldy.aldea@beaconacademy.ph](mailto:aldy.aldea@beaconacademy.ph))

Please let us know if you have any questions. We look forward to co-creating AY 2023-2024 with you.





# THE BEACON ACADEMY

## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL | RECAP

The campus was busy with activity as we launched the school year on Thursday, August 3. Here are some pictures from our first week back.



## BATCH PHOTOS WITH ADVISERS

The A-Squads aka the BA Advisory Program of the Beacon Academy is an integral part of the Beacon experience. Here are few pictures of our students with their advisers for this school year.







# THE BEACON ACADEMY

## DIWATA, KATAW, & MINOKAWA HOUSE SORTING | RECAP

Last August 10, all students gathered at the auditorium for the House Sorting. Students were all excited and hyped up to know the new members of each house – Diwata, Kataw and Minokawa. After showing a video montage of last year's house activities made by Stella Ruperto, the new students were asked to go up the stage. Mr. Morano called each student and one by one they had to sit in the middle of the stage. Once in the middle, Mr. Morano then announced to which house they belong. BASC even provided a sorting hat for this exciting activity. Afterwards, the new students joined their houses and spent the rest of the assembly welcomed by the current members of the houses.



## MEET YOUR NEW CLUB / SPORTS LIAISONS AND HOUSE CAPTAINS!

**MEET YOUR LIAISONS**

**MANDY DELA PAZ**  
**CLUBS**

**DANIEL LIZARES**  
**SPORTS**

**SANTI FANDINO**

**HOUSE CAPTAINS!**

**INIGO ELEAZAR**

**LUCCIA TORRES**

**FRANCESCA AQUINO**

**MATEO FANDINO**

**BEA ZAGALA**

**ROCCO PINEDA**

Congratulations to our new Clubs and Sports Liaisons and House Captains!



# THE BEACON ACADEMY

## MY GRIFFIN JOURNEY | RECAP



As a way to support the transition of the new students, the Counseling Resource Center (CRC) initiated a program called “My Griffin Journey.” It aims to promote camaraderie among the new students and establish supportive social connections with each other. The counselors assembled the new students twice this week for some fun and engaging activities. Last August 15th, they did an activity where they were asked to complete a list of tasks that allowed them to explore the campus and meet the members of the school community. The gathering was capped off with souvenirs such as school-themed stickers and BA pencils. Last August 17th, the new students were gathered once again for a BANquet. They were encouraged to share their experiences from the past two weeks over a shared meal. BASC members were also invited to attend and interact with our new students.

### Here are some testimonials from our new Griffins:

“It was fun! I wish it was done earlier, like before the school year started so that we can meet more friends. I would recommend doing this again next year for new students but much earlier too!”

- **Rocco, G9**

“It was fun. It made us know all the people in school and all the other Griffins. It was helpful for me because we got to know each other.”

- **Edward, G9**

“The first part where we were put into groups with different people from different ages, it was nice; also when we were asked to explore the campus, meet people that you don’t see everyday. It helps when you are new and you’re trying to learn other people’s names. As a freshman, it’s kinda hard to socialize with people older than me. Since we were gathered like that, it made me feel like I don’t have to be nervous around older people. I like the food in the end. That was nice.”

- **Sam, G9**

“It was effective. I like the random groupings, we got to know the other students in other batches. And the fact that the activities were quite random, it was nothing that you have to think about. Everyone feels exhilarated. Everyone did have fun”

- **Chloe, G10**

“It allowed me to feel more welcome and comfortable. It also allowed me to meet other people and socialize. I felt really happy.”

- **Kimi, G10**

“I like the activity in general, especially the food and meeting other people.”

- **Jim, 11**





# THE BEACON ACADEMY

## BRIGADA ESKWELA | RECAP

At the core of our vibrant Beacon Academy community, the spirit of collaboration and positive change is thriving as we embark on the exciting journey of renewing our community outreach projects in partnership with Inchican Elementary School. This endeavor not only strengthens the bond between our two institutions but also renews our commitment to making a lasting impact on the lives of the students, teachers and staff of those we serve.

On Aug. 15, 2023, The Beacon Academy, Inc. was invited to Inchican's Annual Stakeholder Meeting and Brigada Eskwela Kick-Off where we were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for the continued partnership between BA and IES. We renewed our commitment to the partnership between the two institutions, and acknowledged that by pooling our strengths, we will bring fresh perspectives, resources, and enthusiasm to the table. Together, we will create a synergy that amplifies the positive change we can achieve within our community.



## BA LIBRARY ONLINE PUBLIC ACCESS CATALOG QR CODE

### BA LIBRARY ONLINE



SCAN THE QR CODE

Or use this link:

<https://library.beaconacademy.ph/>

**LOG-IN TO ACTIVATE  
YOUR ACCOUNT**

**Username: ID Number**

**Password: GriffiN2022**

**THANK YOU**

Here is the Library's OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) QR code. Try it now!

1. Log-in your username and password.
2. Check your account history.
3. Reserve a book.
4. Request for a library resource.
5. Create a reading list and make it public!
6. Sharing is caring.

Happy reading! Please message [teacherlibrarian@beaconacademy.ph](mailto:teacherlibrarian@beaconacademy.ph) if you have any questions.



# THE BEACON ACADEMY

## Beacon Academy Communications Protocols AY 2023-2024

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





# THE BEACON ACADEMY

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR AY2023-2024



### THE BEACON ACADEMY ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2023-2024

Semester 1 JULY 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	2	3	4	5	6	7	1
	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:							

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

AUGUST 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	5
1	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
3	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
4	27	28	29	30	31		
Total No. of Days: 19							

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

SEPTEMBER 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
5	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
7	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Total No. of days: 20							

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

OCTOBER 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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
13	29	30	31				
Total No. of Days: 16							

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

NOVEMBER 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	4
14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
17	26	27	28	29	30		
Total No. of days: 19							

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

DECEMBER 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
18	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
19	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: 10							

JUNE 24							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
23	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						
Total No. of days: 4							

### IMPORTANT DATES

Jun 9 - Jul 4

Jul 5 - Jul 14

Jul 17

Jul 18

Jul 19- Aug 2

Aug 2

Aug 3

Aug 3-4

Aug 21

Aug 28

Sep 25

Oct 9-14

Oct 16

Oct 21 - 27

Oct 30

Nov 1

Nov 2

Nov 8

Nov 27

Dec 8

Dec 16 - Jan 3

Jan 4

Jan 20-26

Jan 29

Feb 3

Feb 10

Feb 25

Feb TBA

Mar 11-12

Mar 13

Mar 28 -31

Apr 1

Apr 9

Apr 10

Apr 24-May 17

Apr TBA

May 1

May TBA

Jun 7

Campus Break

BA Summer Program

BA Leadership & Management Returns

BA New Faculty Orientation

All Faculty In-Service

Parent and New Student Orientation

Start of Quarter 1

Foundation Days

Special Non-Working Day: Ninoy Aquino Day

Regular Holiday: National Heroes Day

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

Quarter Recess

Start of Quarter 2

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Online)

No Classes: Barangay & SK Elections

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

No Classes: Christmas/New Year Break

Start of Quarter 3

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Online)

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

No Classes: Binan Day

Chinese New Year

People Power Anniversary

National Achievement Test (Grade 12)

Quarter Recess

Start of Quarter 4

No Classes: Holy Week

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

Regular Holiday: Araw ng Kagitingan

Eid al-Fitr (TBC)

IB Diploma Examinations 2024

National Achievement Test (Grade 10)

Regular Holiday: Labor Day

National Career Assessment Evaluation (Grade 9 & 10)

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: 40 9 Weeks  
 Number of Class Days in the 3rd Quarter: 47 10 Weeks  
 Number of Class Days in the 4th Quarter: 57 13 Weeks  
 Total Number of Class Days: **188**