

The Compass

December 2023

Colleagues,

Greetings and warm Compass welcome to all, whether seasonal lights are adding sparkle to festive preparations or being flooded by glorious sunshine.

At a time of year when minds focus on those closest to us and those in most need, it is apt to reflect on the primacy of care in the development of the boys of our schools. We know the significant parts played by the home environment, peer groups, and boys' opportunity to have success in the classroom. And we know the advantage boys' schools have in being able to direct all levers of their relational influence to the best care of boys through these channels.

Attending start-of-year staff gatherings in the UK and joining Canadian boys' school heads and board chairs as they gathered in Vancouver in October, it was clear that the challenge of providing the necessary individual care in a complex world is to the fore of thinking. As is increasingly being realized in broader discussions around the globe, there are no quick, easy, off-the-shelf shortcuts.

Providing a framework for each boy to grow to best serve his community involves the sharing of knowledge and the desire and opportunity to continue to learn. IBSC is committed to inspiring shared learning amongst our community to support each boy throughout his journey. Care for boys is one of the themes explored in new ways for members to [interact with your executive director](#).

Thank you for your generosity in sharing your successes and for your continuing commitment to learn from each other for the benefit of the many.

Encouraging early registration for the [2024 IBSC Annual Conference](#) at Harrow School, I wish you well exploring this edition and for the celebrations of the festive season,

Tom



Tom Batty
IBSC Executive Director

Welcome to Our New Members!

Army and Navy Academy
Carlsbad, California, United States
www.armyandnavyacademy.org

St. Bede's College
Mentone, Victoria, Australia
www.stbedes.catholic.edu.au

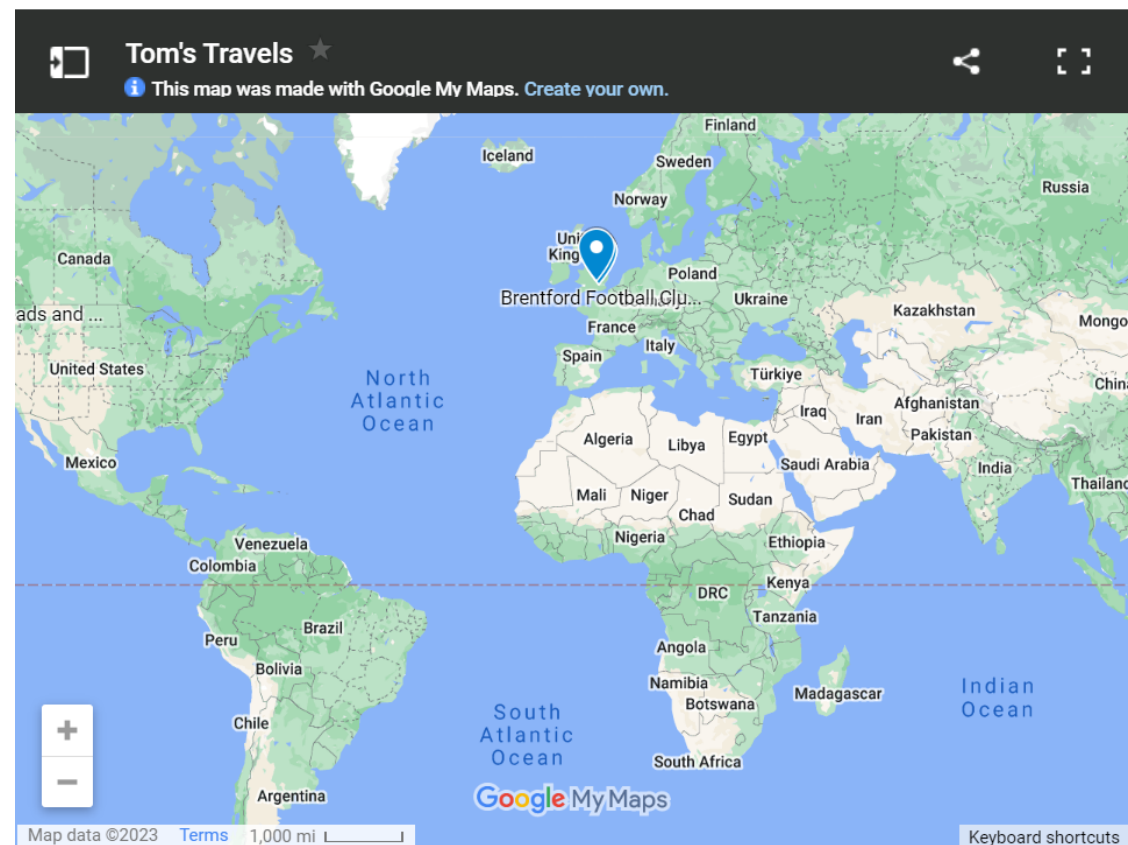
Szkola Skrzydla
Poznań, Poland
www.skrzydla.edu.pl

Tom's Travels

Each year IBSC Executive Director Tom Batty travels the globe visiting member schools on nearly every continent. We learn so much from each other. Please see the [list and map of locations](#) Tom has visited so far this year and check back frequently for updates from our frequent flier.

Want Tom to speak with your school community? Invite him for an [IBSC Virtual Visit to Your School](#) or explore bringing him to campus in person.

[Get more details.](#)



New Podcast Episode: Behavior Management in Boys' Schools

In the latest episode of the [IBSC Exploring Boys' Education podcast](#), Mark Dowley from Brighton Grammar School (Australia) discusses strategies for engaging energetic or distracted boys, effective ways to handle challenges to authority, and the importance of clear instruction. He also debunks common myths about boys' behavior and emphasizes the role of positive reinforcement and strong teacher-student relationships in shaping boys' development. Remember to share this episode with teachers at your school for invaluable insights and practical advice to better understand and guide boys on their educational journey.

[Listen now.](#)



Teachers Making a Difference Through Innovation

To celebrate boys' schools around the globe and share fellowship, we want to showcase IBSC member school teachers making a difference through innovation. Take a look at the inspiring stories on our website and consider [sharing a story](#) from your school. Thank you for championing boys' education!

[Read the stories.](#)



2024 IBSC Annual Conference

Registration is now open!

Join more than 600 boys' educators, colleagues, and friends July 1-4, for the [2024 IBSC Annual Conference](#) in London, United Kingdom. Harrow School hosts us to explore the theme Tradition, Leadership, Innovation.

[Get more details.](#)



Present a Workshop at the IBSC Annual Conference

Explore, debate, and imagine the best ways to prepare boys for the future. Present a workshop at the [2024 IBSC Annual Conference](#) and share your expertise with colleagues. Submit your workshop proposal by December 15, 2023.

[Get more details.](#)

Making Headlines

[Analysis shows single-sex education provides](#)

[Chris Luman's Decade of Character-Based](#)

[Palmerston North school teaching students](#)

[higher academic results](#)
Julie-Anne Sprague
6PR Perth
“An analysis of NAPLAN results from across the country’s 304 single-sex schools shows there is another advantage to segregating boys and girls: they both perform slightly better when it comes to academic results.”

[Education Uplifts College](#)
Brad Morgan
Pinnacle South Africa
“Luman’s focus has been on character-based education, and during his time leading the school he has obtained both a Masters degree and a Doctorate for his work on the subject. It was an issue, he contended, that needed to be tackled when he took up his post and, while he was exploring the theory in his studies, he was implementing those changes at College.”

[practical trade skills](#)
Jimmy Ellingham
Radio New Zealand
“A Manawatū school is giving students practical help for a move into the trades after school - and it does not involve being stuck in a classroom. At Palmerston North Boys' High School, students can come to school, clip on a tool belt and build houses. The construction programme aims to get the teens into the industry with skills and experience.”

Read more stories impacting boys' education on our [Education Headlines](#) page.

Upcoming Events

IBSC Ideas Lab for Assistant and Deputy Heads of Boys' Schools
Online Program
Starting January 17, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

IBSC Ideas Lab for Communicating the Value of a Boys' School
Online Program
Starting February 1, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

Better Boys, Better Men
Online Class
February 5 - March 1, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

Mastering Middle Leadership in Boys' Schools
Online Class
February 5 - March 1, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

Single-Gender Education: A Course for Teachers New to Boys' Schools
Online Class
February 5 - March 1, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

IBSC Boys and Bots: Learning in the Age of AI
Online Program
February 13 and 15, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

IBSC Ideas Lab for Senior Boarding House Staff, House Directors, Housemasters, and Directors of Boarding in Boys' Schools
Online Program
Starting February 14, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

IBSC Insights: Exploring Boys' Schools in Today's World
Online Program
February 20, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

IBSC Teachers New to Boys' Schools Collaboration
Online Program
Starting February 27, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

IBSC Southern Africa Conference
Hilton College
Hilton, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
March 7 - 9, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

IBSC Learning to Be Well: Creating Healthy Schools for Boys
Crescent School

2024 IBSC Annual Conference
Harrow School
Harrow on the Hill, London, United Kingdom

Toronto, Ontario, Canada
April 4 – 5, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

Kingdom
July 1 - 4, 2024
[Get more details.](#)

IBSC Virtual Visit to Your School
Online Program
Mutually agreed-upon date and time
[Get more details.](#)

Online Classes

Join colleagues from around the globe in one of these online classes designed specifically for boys' educators at all career stages. Engage on your own, flexible timetable. You can choose when you complete the four hours of weekly coursework to fit best in your schedule.

February 5 - March 1, 2024

[Better Boys, Better Men](#)

New! [Mastering Middle Leadership in Boys' Schools](#)

[Single-Gender Education: A Course for Teachers New to Boys' Schools](#)



IBSC Member Story: Recycled Rhythms: A Symphony of Education and Sustainability

In this [Mayo College](#) (India) program, education and music converge, weaving a tapestry of creativity, purpose, and environmental stewardship. Teacher Anurag Pinto Vinayak started with the idea of crafting "trash music" from waste. Boys meticulously crafted over 15 unique instruments from discarded waste, transforming everyday trash into melodious rhythms with a breathtaking performance at the Annual PG Music Concert. The program also teaches students the importance of recycling and reducing plastic consumption. This musical odyssey underscores that in the art world, purposeful creation holds a meaningful place, reminding students of their role as stewards of the environment—a harmonious blend of artistic expression and ecological responsibility in the symphony of education.
[Learn more.](#)



Join the Second IBSC Teachers New to Boys' Schools Collaboration

Members of the inaugural cohort are thriving:

I came away with content I can directly apply to my own context.

I have enjoyed deep-diving into different topics and networking with colleagues from all over the world.

I have found each session encouraging as a teacher new to a boys' school. Mostly, after 14 years of teaching coed, it's lovely to be immersed in research and experiencing a new challenge.

As a teacher new to a boys' school, it has been most worthwhile having dedicated time set aside to pause and really evaluate this new and unique teaching environment.

Starting February 27, 2024

Engage in a year of global learning, networking, and collaboration, fostering lifelong professional connections and specialized growth for teachers newly hired at boys' schools.



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