21st May 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have spent a lot of time in the last few weeks discussing different emergency procedures and why we need them. Throughout the discussions the children have been thoughtful and responsible and approached this week’s fire drill in a mature and calm way.

A lockdown is rare but we must be prepared. It may be activated in response to any number of situations, but some of the most typical may be:

* The close proximity of a dangerous dog
* Risk from air pollution (smoke, gas, dust storm)
* An intruder on the school site
* Civil disturbance in the local community with the potential to pose a risk to staff and students in the school e.g. tear gas shot at rioters just outside the school gate

The aim of the lockdown is to remove staff and students from danger, make it as difficult as possible for an intruder to see staff and students and get access to anyone, and to delay an intruder for as long as possible.

Braeburn International School Arusha (BISA) will conduct a lockdown drill in the coming week. A lockdown means students, teachers and visitors clear the hallways, lock down their rooms, turn out the lights, move out of sight and maintain silence. They remain silent until first responders call the all clear.

In an actual lockdown, the school would contact emergency responders and local police to coordinate the response. The situation is then under the command of the police and security.

In the event of a real lockdown, parents will be informed and instructed by the school. This is why it is imperative to inform the school of any changes of your phone numbers and emergency contacts.

We appreciate your cooperation as we practice lockdown procedures with your child.

Thank you.

Mrs. Claire Baker

**Head of Primary**