



TAIPEI EUROPEAN SCHOOL

台北歐洲學校

EUROPEAN SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWSLETTER

Edition 8.0 Friday 14 January 2011

From the Acting Head of British Secondary and High School Section

Dear Parents and Students,

On behalf of Mr. Glascott, who is currently overseas on teacher recruitment, I would like to welcome you back to Term 2. I trust you had a restful holiday and that 2011 will be a successful year for you. The secondary campus is as busy as ever with students settling back into their daily routines. You can find out about events happening this term in this newsletter as well as read about some recent activities that have taken place at the school. Term 1 finished on a high note with the house Glee competition. With so many staff and students involved in this event, it was a really enjoyable way to finish the term. You can read about the competition in this newsletter.

The H2 and H4 students are currently busy with their mock examinations. Please ensure that your child is preparing well for these examinations. In addition to study, it is important that the students eat well and get enough sleep. The High School students will receive their reports in late January (H1 and H3) and early February (H2 and H4). Parent teacher interviews for High School students will follow on Wednesday 23 February. Details about these meetings will be sent in due course.

Next week the H1 students enter the world of employment as they embark on the Work Experience Week. Students have been preparing for this in their PSHCE lessons and are ready for this exciting experience. The students are going to be based all over Taipei and placements vary from working in a school nursery to working for ICRT. Teachers will visit the students over the week and our thanks go to Hazel Hsieh who has been very busy preparing maps and directions so that we don't get lost.

All parents should have received important details about the change to the school year which affects the dates for the summer vacation. If you have not received this letter, please contact the school office and we can arrange for this to be sent to you. This information is also available on the school website.

**Warm regards,
Sarah Pearson
Acting Head of Secondary**

SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.taipeieuropeanschool.com



Deutsche Sektion



British Section



Section Française



TES High School

CONTACT: Taipei European School, Swire European Secondary Campus, 31 Jian Ye Road, Shihlin, Taipei 11193 Telephone: +886 2 8145-9007

From the Assistant Head – Student Welfare

It has been an extremely busy start to the new term. Firstly I would like to welcome the new students who have joined us recently, Alida and Nancy in Year 7, Aaron in Year 8, Nancy and Hayla in Year 9 and Annie and Hye In, in H1. As the H2's and H4's are in the midst of Mock Examinations it is appropriate to emphasize that their wellbeing at this time in gaining enough rest and maintaining a healthy diet is very important if they are to perform to the best of their ability and keep their stress levels in check.

Last October we were fortunate to have UK trainer Stephen DeSilva with us who worked with staff and students and led a great workshop on 'adolescence' for parents. Despite the typhoon hovering above Taiwan we were very pleased with the number of parents who joined us. Stephen will be returning to work with us in May (9th to the 12th) this year and we will include another parent workshop which will be held in the evening. I will publish the date of the workshop shortly and details on how to register for this event.

Stephen will be writing a 'blog' next week on a UK website for educators featuring his last visit to TES. To access the blog and learn more about Stephen who is writing for the month of January please visit the web site:

http://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/Schools/Nests/Hodder_Citizenship_Subject_Nest/nest_blog_citizenship.aspx

Some excellent work is evident in PSHCE with great plans for the rest of the term, further information will feature in the next newsletter from High School. In the meantime, we include a brief update on PSHCE in Year 7, 8 and 9.

YEAR 7 PSHCE

Currently in PSHCE Year 7 are exploring the issue of 'Health': being healthy and thinking carefully about the decisions we make and how we should look after ourselves. I have been pleasantly surprised at how mature the students have been when discussing issues such as 'Smoking!' The Year 7s have been involved in discussions and role plays as well as responding to video clips on this topic. I am confident they are now fully aware of the dangers and risks involved and will make informed and sensible decisions.

Year 7 is a time when many changes occur. We are now in Term 2, and I have been proud of how well the Year 7 students have adapted to life at Secondary School. During Term 1 there were many changes to deal with and most students have overcome these challenges and are confident Year 7 TES students who thoroughly enjoy life at Secondary School. Our upcoming topic in PSHCE is also looking at change, but change to ourselves, our bodies and growing up; and how to cope with these changes. Over the next few weeks we will be discussing these changes and what happens during puberty. At TES, we feel that it is our responsibility to ensure that students are equipped with the knowledge necessary for them to understand their physical and emotional development and to provide information to students so that they know what changes will occur in their bodies during puberty. I have included some websites for you to look at, if you wish, so you are aware of the issues being discussed:

Websites on Puberty and Growing Up:

<http://www.avert.org/puberty-boys.htm>

<http://www.avert.org/puberty-girls.htm>

<http://www.tactsoflife.org.uk/html/puberty/puberty.htm>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/parenting/your_kids/teen_devstages.shtml

Should you wish to discuss this topic or any other Year 7 issue please do not hesitate to contact me.

Joanna Crimmins

Joanna.crimmins@tes.tp.edu.tw

Head of Transition and Year 7

YEAR 8 PSHCE

At TES we have students from such a diverse range of countries. It is so important that our students recognise this, embrace this and learn from other students and their cultures. We are very fortunate that we have such a wide range of cultures, religions and countries represented at TES. The Year 8 students are currently exploring the topic of diversity in a unit led by Ms Gaudin. They are in the process of producing some visual presentations to define their views of what diversity means here at TES.

YEAR 9 PSHCE

The Year 9's have just completed the very important and interesting unit of Internet Safety which was led by Mr. Graves. This is such an important topic with the use of social network sites such as Facebook and My Space. Nearly all of the students use such sites but not all were aware of the dangers associated with this and the safety issues associated with internet use. This topic was an eye opener for many students and they will be thinking very carefully about what they post on these sites and altering their security settings.

Next week Miss Christou will begin a unit looking at 'Body Image'. This is a very important topic with the pressures put on young people by the media. I am sure all the Year 9 students will be very interested and will learn a great deal in the next 3 weeks.

James Woodall
Head of Year 8 and 9

STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATES

It has only been a week and a half since Term Two started but the Student Council is already busy with the many activities and projects continued on from Term 1 and also with new ones that we plan on bringing to the school to make it a better place for the student body.

First of all, I'd like to thank Ching Liu and the other H4s involved in the council again for all their guidance last term. They have made my job as the new Student Council President a lot easier! Also, I would like to congratulate the members that have been elected to be on the new Student Council Executive.

Executive Council:

Secretary: Christine Shih
Events Leader: Alessia Cheng
Events Vice Leader: Simay Onaz
Service Leader: Ariel Liu
Service Vice Leader: Kevin Lu
Central Leader: Cindy Chen
Central Vice Leader: Lilian Barratt



As you might already know, the student council is divided into three committees: Central, Service and Events. The Central Committee works towards the amelioration of the school itself. Service is the committee that creates links with other organizations and provides financial aid to them to further emphasize TES' commitment to our community. Last but not least, the Events committee organizes school events for the students in order to build spirit.

Last term, it was the central committee that organized the regular egg-pancake (蛋餅) sales so that the students would have something to eat at break to fuel their energy. This has proven to be very popular and the Central Committee is looking forward to extending the variety of food choice in order to meet the satisfaction of the hungry students at TES. In addition, they have also been discussing bringing new microwaves, shelves for bags, extension cords, and cups for water fountains etc. into the school as they have realized these small items could really benefit the environment of the school. The Central Committee has worked hard for these items to be put in school and/or have raised money to buy them. You should be able to see them around school in a short amount of time!

The Service Committee took the initiative to visit the Taipei Down-Syndrome Association at the very beginning of the year and they have also established ties with the Pi Ya Wai Aboriginal tribe so far this academic year. The Student Council hopes to continue our support for this group that is need of our financial and social support. So far, the Service Committee has raised around 30,000 NT for this community and hopes to spend it on utilities that will work towards the betterment of their village. Another sub-project the committee worked on last term was people affected by HIV and AIDS. 10,000 NT was raised by selling AIDS ribbons before and during Health Week for World Aids Day. Next year, they will continue making ties with other organizations and maintaining their currents ones. However, all their work would not have been possible without the support of the students. On behalf of the Student Council, and the Service Committee in particular, I'd like to say a big Thank You to those who have continuously supported the Service work of the Student Council.



The Events Committee was also quite busy last term. They hosted events like the pumpkin delivery service at Halloween. It allowed students to send their own designs on a pumpkin of their choice to their friends but also unleash their artistic creativity. The Candy Cane sales were also organized by the Events Committee. The service provided a good way to celebrate Christmas. Their biggest project this year was the largely successful "Candy Cane Twist" disco. They worked hard selling tickets and promoting the disco. Moreover they

organized the student council to provide food sales, funky (alcohol free!) mock-tails, glow-sticks and great music at the disco for the students' enjoyment. I can confidently say that the disco was enjoyed by many of the students that attended and the school can hope for an even better and bigger disco in the near future. This term, the Events committee will be providing the Valentine's Day Roses service where students can send their friends or that "special someone" a thoughtful gift for valentine's. Keep an eye out for that!

All in all, the Student Council has had a successful term and with the new changes to the Student Council, we hope to lead an even more successful year advocating for and providing for the student body in general. Thank you again for everyone's continued support!

Christine Yeh (H3BTH)
Student Council President 2011

	Central Committee	Events Committee	Service Committee
Members			
H3	Zoe Hsu	Darice Hsu Joe Ligalevu Stephanie O'Yang	Michelle Rao
H2	Altman Tai Tiffany Hsiau	Alison Chan Eric Yang Max Klemm	Brandon Hsiao Grace Tsai Katherine Wang
H1	Joseph Liu	Victoria Yeh	
Y9	Timothy Chen Melody Cho	Freya Smith Janice Liu	Michelle Yeh Angel Mai
Y8	Thulie Mazibuko	Johanna Lim	Beatrice Blanc
Y7	Alex Lin		Jenny Gunnarsson

HOUSE UPDATE

Mistral victory for GLEE



Congratulations to students and staff in **all** Houses who secured an exciting and fun finale to Term 1 through the GLEE competition. Mistral won the overall point score but there were great performances from all Houses and fantastic preparation with students and staff practicing their dance moves and exercising their vocal chords in the lead to this event. Despite this great victory for Mistral, **Sirocco** ended the Term in first place. It's time to reveal the House Points this week as we venture further into Term 2, the points could all change.... 'I Points' are making the difference so Key Stage 3 and IGCSE students keep earning these and handing them into the offices to be added to the House and your individual I Point total.

RESULTS

SIROCCO	
MISTRAL	4617
MARIN	4132
BORA	4011

Good luck to all Houses this term.

Rachel Harris
Assistant Head of Secondary (Student Welfare)

From the Assistant Head – Studies

Dear All,

Term 2 is off to a busy start with H2 and H4 students involved in mock examinations and students in all other year groups getting straight back into their busy schedules. Academic reports detailing the results of these and of the academic progress of your child will be sent to parents of H2 and H4 students on 11 February. Reports for H1 and H3 students will be issued on 28 January. I would ask that you discuss the academic targets set by the teachers on these reports with your child and check that they are clear about what they need to do in order to achieve the target. Parent- teacher interviews for High School students will be on Wednesday 23 February.

Key Stage Three students should also be working on achieving their targets which were set in December. The students have copies of these stapled into their diaries. Please find some time to talk to your child about these. They should have a good idea of what they need to do in order to reach their targets as the targets have been discussed with their teachers. If they are not clear, it is important that they ask their teachers for further clarification. Academic targets are written to give the students a clear focus and if they follow these they should see an improvement in their attainment.

All British Secondary and High School teachers have been involved in a new professional development initiative which started this week. Working in Professional Learning Communities of approximately eight teachers each, teachers have been sharing effective teaching strategies that they use in their classrooms. The aim of the groups, which will meet monthly over the next two terms, is to develop further the formative teaching strategies used in our classrooms. These assessment strategies concentrate on the way we teach, ensuring that we check for student understanding, that we use effective questioning strategies, and that we enable students to become independent lifelong learners who take responsibility for their own progress. Based on research carried out in the US and the UK, we are hopeful that the groups will have a marked effect on our teaching and on student learning.

Next week, we are very fortunate to have secured the services of Educational Consultant, Andy Philips of BPC International. BPC International offers high quality consultancy and training both in the UK and internationally in leadership and management for senior and middle leaders, in school review and self-evaluation and sharper accountability as well as innovative approaches to learning and teaching that promotes excellence in students' achievement and personal development. Andy will be working with TES for three days. In secondary we will concentrate on looking at elements of assessment. We will also have a joint primary and secondary training day where key staff will discuss aspects of leadership and management within schools. More details of this visit will be included with the next newsletter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries regarding teaching and learning in the secondary.

News from the History Department

On a cool December day, our H2 History class was rewarded with a special presentation by a couple of the students from the German section. The presentation was about how Germany became split into different sections in 1949 and subsequently how East Germany (DDR) and West Germany (Bundesrepublik Deutschland) became reunited in 1990, 41 years after their separation. This all happened on a staircase, where large posters were placed, showing what had happened in Germany at the time. At the start of the presentation, we were first told about the stability of Germany after the Second World War. The focus of the exhibition was on the

final years of East Germany. Numerous decisions and events that happened within each part of Germany were presented to us. We were given insights into the perspectives of the German public at the time about the division of Germany. We learned about how lifestyles were different in each country; how many people had jobs and whether they were content with their lives or not. Also documented in the posters was the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, which paved the way for reunification on October 3rd 1990. The presentation was fantastic overall, very informative and gave us a different, unique view on how the German people themselves viewed the division at the time.

Akshay Sinha H2

Ian Stewart, Head of History

News from the English Department

All the World's a Stage: Amazing Drama at the ESC

On Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th December, students in Years 7, 8, 9, H2 and H4 worked with a Shakespearean actor to gain special insights into stagecraft and analysis of dramatic technique. Daniel Foley, who has appeared in over 200 stage productions in 66 countries and who is a member of Performance Exchange in London was touring Asia and performing in Japan during December, and kindly agreed to come to Taipei to work with our students in order to support their study of both Drama and English.



Key Stage 3 students were taught stage-fighting, voice projection, body movement, and how to breathe life into the text on the page.

H2 IGCSE students worked with Daniel on their exam set text, Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* looking at the way key passages can be portrayed on stage. They also looked at characterization in the play and Daniel gave students some strategies for getting to know more about what motivates characters and how the language they use reveals something about them. Both activities were designed to help

students produce better passage-based and empathic responses in their final exam in May this year.

H4 IB Theatre Arts students worked with Daniel on physical theatre to help them with their portfolios and IB English A1 students worked with him on *Othello*, one of the texts set for the Individual Oral Commentary, the final exam for which is in February this year.



Feedback from students was very positive. From a teacher's point of view it was great to allow students the opportunity to consider drama away from the books in which they usually see it. Shakespeare wrote his plays to be heard and seen, and we feel it really helped students to remind them of this in such a practical way.

Darren Latchford Head of English

News from the Science Department

2010 Christmas Science Show

At the end of term 1 it has become traditional for the Science Department to run an Annual Christmas Show, a series of Physics and Chemistry demonstrations to entertain the students but also, more importantly, to get them to think about Science and try to explain what they see.

This year activities included freezing flowers with liquid nitrogen, the effects of the gas sodium hexafluoride, gummy bears exploding in potassium chlorate, hydrogen rockets and the old Nassau clock reaction.

As usual thanks go to the teachers for organizing and presenting the show; Mr. Beaupre, Mr. Redden, Ms. Dray, Mr. Wong, and, of course, to Joyce Lee and Flora Hsieh, the lab technicians for doing all the preparation.



The H1 and year 9 students watch Mr Redden demonstrating the old Nassau reaction. This is an iodine clock reaction in which the reactants turn first orange and then black, the school colours of Princeton University.



Mr Beaupre demonstrates the effects of the very dense gas sodium hexafluoride. It is so dense that you can actually float an aluminium foil boat on it or pour it like a liquid.

Neil Tollervey – Head of Science

**Sarah Pearson
Assistant Head of Secondary (Studies)**

From the Assistant Head - IB

The mock examinations are well underway and the H4 students are studying hard. There is no doubt that these students are now at the business end of their IB courses.



After Chinese New Year the final pieces of coursework will be submitted and the TOK presentations will be looming. Next, the Visual Arts students will have their art show to prepare for and after that the actual IB examinations will begin. With very little time to recover graduation will take place at the end of May. The advice I have for the H4 students is to remember that they exist in the here and now and to get their work done day by day and then the future will take care of itself.

The H3 students have completed their first step in the Extended Essay process by submitting their proposal forms. These students have also completed their first task on turnitin.com in learning how to avoid plagiarism. Extended Essay supervisors will soon be allocated and it is vital that the H3 students work with their supervisors to produce a focused research question.

Visit of Theory of Knowledge Speaker to TES Monday, December 13th.

Many of our parents, staff and students will remember the visit two years ago of Andy Fletcher, who, at that time, gave two evening lectures at the EPC on the topics of *Third Culture Kids* and *Darwin's Theory of Evolution, Two Centuries On*. The second talk was TES' celebration of the bi-centennial of the birth of one of Britain's greatest scientists.

Once again Andy enthused the students and staff who attended his three talks on Monday, 13th December, at the ESC. He has the happy knack of being able to communicate a seemingly endless number of up-to-the-minute scientific insights in a way that makes them accessible to the average "non-scientific mind."

Andy led us to see the state in which certain scientists find themselves now, seeking a "theory of everything" to explain the big picture that will make sense of the facts reductionism has uncovered over the decades. TOK students will understand that "facts" are not cold, dead-in-the-water things, but living, evolving sets of data that need constant falsification and review, so that their validity is both accepted and of pragmatic, ethical use in the world.

For me the highlight of Andy's presentation on the 'Anthropic Principle and the Multiverse' was the insight I gained into the range and depth of the conversation that is going on between scientists, as well as the conversation between theist and atheist scientists. Fascinating stuff and all good TOK!

Doubt is a valued commodity in TOK, and Andy seeks not to impose a view, rather to inform a debate. He speaks all over the world and informed me that the latest school to request his services in the UK is Cheltenham Ladies' College.

Andy left us to travel down to the I-Shou International School and the Kaohsiung American School. We hope to co-operate with them on TOK matters again in the future.

Sean Kenny.
TOK Subject Leader.

UCC Update

Work Experience 2011:

Our H1 students are now all organized with their placements for their Work Experience week (17th-21st January). They should be preparing now for their first day: organizing transport, appropriate attire and having their log books ready to begin filling in.

2011 TES Careers Evening: Phase 2 Building, Secondary Campus, Yangminshan, Tuesday 8th February, 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm. We hope this will be as successful as the last one in 2009.

- **We still need presenters** for the night so any parents who would like to share their professional expertise with our students please contact me at graham.bean@tes.tp.edu.tw or 8145 9006 Ext. 2609.
- Similarly **ALL secondary students are invited to attend.** Particularly Yr 9 and H2 students who are about to choose subjects for IGCSE and IB will find it beneficial for selecting their courses. Please read the notice attached, fill in and return the reply slip.

Graham Bean
University and Careers Counsellor

Stewart Redden
Assistant Head (IB)

TES Sports

Yr 7-9 Physical Education and Sport in Term 2.

Swimming: is one of our main activities this term. Though it will be a bit “chilly” outside the Chinese Culture University swimming pool is a lovely 28c degrees so the students will not be cold in the water. **Your child is expected to swim.** As well as being part of our P.E. curriculum, being able to swim and have confidence in water is an important life skill. We ask that you support us in our swimming unit by ensuring your child has his or her swimsuit, cap, goggles & towel for each swim lesson and brings a medical certificate or note from you if s/he is not swimming.

Swim Club: starts on 14 January and will run on Fridays only, 3.15 – 4.15 at the Chinese Culture University up here on Yangminshan. Entry to the pool is NT 100 per swim session. Students will be brought back to ESC for 4.35 and will either take the ECA bus (by arrangement with the school Transport Dept – natalie.wu@tes.tp.edu.tw) or own personal transport.

Yr 9 Boys' & Girls' Football & Cross Country Training.

Obviously in the winter season it will be raining at times. If Yr 9 Boys' & Girls' Football or Cross Country Training has to be cancelled because of rain Mr. Edwards (Head of P.E.) and Mr. Schulz (Cross Country Coordinator) will do their best to inform students at the end of the school day so they do not miss their bus ride home.

TES tournament dates Term 2 2011

- Jan 15 - JVB Boys Basketball @ ISIS / JV Girls Basketball @TES / JV Boys Basketball @MAT, Taichung
- Jan 22 - JV Boys & Girls Basketball @TAS
- Feb 12 - TES Boys U14Football @ ESC
- Feb 19 - TES Girls U14Football @ ESC
- March 5 - MS TEAMS Football @ TAS & MAT, Taichung
- March 12 - Int'l Schools Cross Country @AST, Taichung
- March 17 – 21 – U13 FOBISSEA Games @ ELC, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- March 19 - HS Football @KAS, Kaohsiung

TES Sports ECA's: Term 2 2010 - 2011

DAY	1.00-1.30	3.00-4.30	4.30-6.00
MON (Gym) (Field) (MPR)	U13 FOB Boys Football (LED) Table tennis (SGA)	U13 FOB Boys Basketball (AJ) Yr 9 Girls Football (ALE) X-Country Running All ages (PSC)	JV Girls Basketball (AJ)
TUES (G) (F) (MPR)	U13 FOB Girls Basketball (JWO) Unicycling (SPU)	Yr 7 & Yr 8 Girls Football (MDR & PWA)	JVB / JV Boys Basketball (DLI)
WEDS (G) (F)	U13 FOB Boys Basketball (AJ)	Yr 8 Boys Football (LED) X-Country Running All ages (PSC)	IPL Boys U14 Football (PTU) JV Girls Basketball (AJ)
THURS (G) (F) (MPR)	U13 FOB Girls Football (LED) Table tennis (tbc)	U13 FOB Girls Basketball (JWO) Yr 9 Boys Football (PTU) Capoeira (AKN) Ph.1 Drama area X-Country Running All ages (PSC)	JVB / JV Boys Basketball (DLI)
FRI (G) (F)	Badminton (HRLA)	Yr 7 Boys Football (PSC) Swim Club (3.30–5.00pm) (JWO/CLI)	Snr Boys Basketball (DLI)

Leighton Edwards
Head of Secondary Physical Education and Sport

TES Careers Evening 2011



When: Tuesday 8th February
6.30 – 8.30 p.m.

Where: Taipei European School
Phase 2 Building
Yangmingshan
European Secondary Campus