



TAIPEI EUROPEAN SCHOOL

台北歐洲學校

EUROPEAN SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWSLETTER

Edition 12.0 Friday 9th March 2012

From the Head of British Secondary and High School Section

Community Lunch.

TES held its annual Community Lunch today for members of the local community that live in and around Yang Ming Shan. The Student Council hosted the event and did an outstanding job. Please see page 5 and 6 of this Newsletter for a full report and photo.

Our Amazing Students

Congratulations to all staff and students who attended the South East Asia Mathematics Competition (SEAMC) in Singapore from February 23-26. Our students performed with distinction and recorded our best result ever. Jensen Yang, Milton Lin and Stanley Chang teamed together to form the 'Taipei Rottweilers' and recorded an impressive 6th result overall. Well done to all concerned. Please see page 13 of this newsletter for more information and photos.

Congratulations also to the students who represented TES in the extremely demanding International Young Physicists Tournament. These students also recorded our best ever result in this competition. In particular, Brandon Hsiao, Altman Tai, Christine Shih, Grace Tsai deserve special mention for their outstanding achievement of winning a Bronze Award. A full report and photos will appear in the next edition of the Newsletter.

Options Evening.

Thank you to the large number of students and parents who attended the Options Evening on Thursday March 1. It was great to see so many people take the opportunity to talk to staff about the courses that students will undertake in the coming years. Mrs Sarah Pearson (IGCSE) and Mr Stewart Redden (IB) both completed informative presentations that I am sure were well received by parents. It is important that Year 9 and H2 students complete their forms for next year (if they haven't already done) asap as the due date is today!

Parent Teacher Meetings.

A reminder to Key Stage 3 parents that Parent Teacher meetings will be held on Wednesday March 21. Mr Woodall will send information to parents on how to book for this event early next week. I look forward to seeing you on the 21st.

Warm regards,
Stuart Glascott

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 – Studies

Dear Parents,

It was good to see so many of you at the recent High School Options Evening; I trust the evening has helped clarify the high school programmes and the pathways that students can take through the school. Students in Years 9 and H2 have received option surveys which should have been returned to school by today. Further discussions regarding subject choices are taking place with students in school over the next few weeks. Curriculum information booklets can be downloaded from the TES school website.

Next Friday (16 March), Key Stage Three students will receive Progress Reports. These interim reports will give you an overview of how your child is working in each of their subjects. Additionally, the academic targets that were set in December will be reviewed and progress made towards meeting the targets will be commented on. Teachers will then set new targets and these will be discussed with students over the coming weeks.

H2 students should be busy finalising their IGCSE coursework at this stage in the year. The deadline for the submission of IGCSE coursework is in April and so the students will need to ensure that they have presented their very best efforts. Following this, their full focus should be on revision for the upcoming examinations in May and June. Mr Sparks is responsible for overseeing the IGCSE examinations and will be liaising with students regarding examination procedures in the coming weeks.

Kind regards,

Sarah Pearson
Assistant Head (Studies)

News from the Chinese Department

Meeting with the Chinese Author, 黃春明

With great support from the school chief librarian, Angela Chang, it was an exceptional honour for TES to meet with Professor. Huang, (黃春明), this week on March 7.

Prof. Huang, (黃春明) is internationally renowned for his Chinese writing in various genres including novels, poetry, and prose. He is also respectfully listed by the IB PLA as one of the chosen writers for IB Chinese Literature programs and his works have been widely studied by our IGCSE and IB students this year.



Our H3 students, Brandon, Grace, Christine, Tiffany, Aidan, Vincent, Benson and Ernest, prepared and performed two drama productions adapted from his original stories, which not only highly appealed to all the audience but also deeply impressed Prof. Huang because of their creativity and superb competence in Chinese.



The feedback from parents, students and staff attending the speech were very positive and we believe Prof. Huang has successfully touched the young hearts of our students and opened their minds through his magic of words.



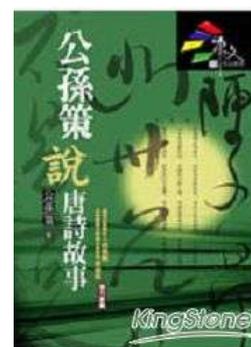
Reading with the Author, 公孫策

One of the Chinese ECAs, Chinese Reading Club, run by Ms. Fenny Chen, has successfully invited a prominent Chinese author, Mr. 公孫策, to attend the ECA. Mr. 公孫策, is also a famous columnist writing for major Chinese newspapers as well as Business Weekly (商業週刊).



Mr. 公孫策 spent one afternoon with our Chinese Reading Club students on March 7 and shared with them various historical legacies and the stories of famous Chinese idioms.

Students and teachers highly enjoyed his speech and are looking forward to his next visit in the near future.



Flora Sung
Head of CLC



South East Asia Mathematics Competition SEAMC 2012

February 23rd –26th 2012 *SINGAPORE*

SEAMC 2012 - It was Singapore's turn to host this year's South East Asia Mathematics Competition and Ms Dale and myself had the pleasure of accompanying six of our highest skilled 'problem-busters' as they looked to repeat or even surpass the fabulous achievements of previous years.

This was TES' fifth year competing in this annual competition and with one of the strongest teams we have ever fielded, we had high hopes of one of our teams finishing in the top 10 out of the 80 teams attending. We were one of 40 of the region's top international schools in attendance.

This year's participants were:
 Taipei Rottweilers: Stanley Chang, Milton Lin, Jensen Yang
 Taipei Terriers: Justin Liu, Christopher Lu, Brian Shih
 - Mr Lee, March 2012



Results highlights:

Team results (out of 80 teams)
 Taipei Rottweilers 6th
 (Absolutely fabulous! Our best finish ever!)

Individual results (out of 240 students participating):

Jensen Yang	4th
Milton Lin	7th
Stanley Chang	16th

(Math-nificent!)



News from the Geography Department

The Year 8 students have just completed a unit of study on rivers and river landforms. As part of a culminating project each student was able to work either in a group or individually to research, plan, build and present a model based on a particular river landform and its features. The standard set by this year's cohort was extremely high and I was truly impressed by the fantastic models and thorough presentations produced by our students. It was wonderful to witness the Year 8 students develop essential teamwork, communication and organisational skills, as well as an understanding of key river processes through this dynamic and fun project.



Mr Sing-Key
Geography Department

Sarah Pearson
Assistant Head (Studies)

From the Assistant Head – High School

Community Lunch

The community lunch took place today (9 March 2012). This is always an important opportunity for the school to interact with the local community and learn more about our neighbours. Just like anywhere in Taipei the area around the school has changed and developed a lot in recent years, and it through the stories told at such an event that we get a glimpse of how life used to be up here in Yangminshan.

The Student Council members were excellent ambassadors for the school and provided tours for the local community around the Swire European Secondary Campus. These students were also on hand throughout the dinner to translate speeches made by Dr. Weston and Mr. Glascott, and to answer any general questions about life at the Taipei European School. In addition, I know our students also found out a lot about the local community from the conversations they had with our local residents.

During the lunch the TES String Quartet (Vincent Kao, Stephanie Kao, Kathleen Cheng and Xuanlin Thamand) and Nicolai Spreter on guitar provided a sophisticated and accomplished musical accompaniment to this event.



IGCSE and IB Music Performance Evening

The IGCSE and IB Music Performance Evening on Monday 5 March 2012 was an excellent demonstration of the musical ability of our High School students. There were excellent performances from all involved that ranged in style from Jazz through to Classical. I would especially like to thank Mr. Papps and Ms. Jameson for the excellent work that they have done with these students.

Extended Essay

On Monday 12 March 2012 our H3 students will find out who their Extended Essay supervisors will be. The initial meetings our H3 students will have with their supervisors are important ones as they revolve around developing their research questions. With a clear and focused research question the students have the clarity and direction necessary to produce an excellent Extended Essay. In order for you to support your child and to learn more details about the Extended Essay I would like to invite you to the Swire European Secondary Campus at 7pm on Monday 26 March 2012. This evening will provide an opportunity to learn more about the Extended Essay and enable you to ask any questions that you might have. I will follow up with a letter next week confirming the details of the evening.

Stewart Redden
Assistant Head of High School

CAS at TES

Last Sunday, three other students and I went to Beitou Sports Center for rock climbing. Needless to say, rock climbing is a strenuous sport and left us breathless and aching at the end of the hour.

After getting our harnesses and safety gear on, the instructor made us do warm ups and stretches before attempting to scale the walls. As the first person was being harnessed to the rope, the rest of us watched with mixed expressions of fear and excitement. Watching the first person face the wall with hesitation, I wondered if I would even be able to climb up half

way or even all the way to the top. All too soon, it was my turn to climb the wall. With sweaty palms, I gingerly grabbed hold of the first handle and began the ascent up.

The sheer height and uneven surface of the wall mimicked that of mountains you'd find around Taiwan; the fact that some of the footholds were far apart didn't help either. After debating which grip to hold and where was the best place to place my feet, I was slowly but steadily climbing up the wall. Of course, there were moments where the ache in my arms pressured me to give up but the cheers and encouragement from below pushed me upwards. At long last, I made it to the top. Looking down, I saw the smiling faces of my friends and began my descent to the ground.

The walls progressed in difficulty, each with its own challenges but we helped each other get through them by suggesting ways to improve and learn from our mistakes. I would definitely suggest this sport for the risk-takers who love a challenge.

H3 Melanie Chan



Maggie Hsu Supervisor & CAS Coordinator

TABITHA Cambodia

That time of year is approaching when the students of Taipei European School gear up for a fundraising drive for their expedition to Cambodia to cooperate with a locally based NGO, the Tabitha Foundation. The students and supporting staff of TES aim to aid community development through raising the funds to build houses for families who cannot afford a home. The members of this year's cohort are driven to meet, or in this year's case maybe even surpass, their ambitious goal of raising \$850,000NT to build 21 houses. The TES Tabitha group proudly presents their latest efforts with great excitement – the Tabitha Evening of Dinner and Jazz.

The event will take place on Friday, March 23rd at Franz and Friends Music Restaurant – one of Taipei's hotbeds for lovers of cuisine, music and art. The evening promises to be a delight for anybody that enjoys any one of these – It is a must for those who enjoy all three.

The evening aims to celebrate the achievements of previous Tabitha cohorts, promote the awareness of the students' mission, and to offer members of the community the chance to play a part and help raise funds towards meeting the current and prospective cohort's fundraising goals.

In a cultural sense, the group are utilizing the artistic capabilities of the student body by creating pieces for an art auction and the talented student photography team will be elegantly capturing moments that attendees may wish to keep as a memory. Commercially, students have been successful in attracting sponsorship packages and inviting companies to generously donate their goods as raffle prizes.

The TES Tabitha group would like to invite all members of the Taipei European School community and their acquaintances to attend. For information on the event and for ticket sales please email.

Simon Thomas

Maths and Humanity Teacher / Tabitha project supervisor

UCC Update

Recently, a number of our H2/3 students joined the **Council of International Schools Student Registry**. This service helps to match individual students with appropriate college and university members of CIS round the world. It is hoped that this will provide another valuable support system for our students in the university application process.

H4 students are waiting eagerly for their application outcomes particularly in the US, Canada and Hong Kong. The trickle of acceptances is beginning with the full returns expected early in April.

On March 26th three universities will visit TES at different times: Loyola Marymount (US), and Nottingham Trent and Southampton Solent (both UK).

This week has seen a visit by a popular Canadian destination for our students: UBC.

Two new medical schools will open in the UK from 2013 (previously one school: The Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry (PCMD). They are:

-The University of Exeter Medical School: <http://www.exeter.ac.uk/medicine/bmbs/entry/>

-The Plymouth University Peninsula Schools of Medicine and Dentistry:

<http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/peninsula>

A new degree which will help students carve out a career in the lucrative marine sports industry is being launched at Plymouth University, UK. The new course includes a detailed academic programme of ocean and environmental science, and research within marine sports.

For more information go to: <http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/pages/view.asp?page=38473>

Graham Bean

University and Careers Counsellor

From the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Department

Autistic Spectrum Disorders

In a nutshell, the brains of people with autism are wired differently and this affects how they perceive and sense the world around them. Aspergers Syndrome, as discussed last time, is on the autistic spectrum, at the higher end of the scale and people with this condition can generally function quite independently in life. In fact, some can be very successful *because of* their different way of interpreting the world.

However, others with autism can have profound learning difficulties. For example, they may be unable to speak or communicate their feelings, and may need to be looked after all their lives. It is a very wide and varied spectrum.

Please take the time to check out this video link about a young girl with autism – I guarantee it will change your way of thinking about people with autistic spectrum disorders!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vNZVV4Ciccg&sns=fb>

Once again, if you have any links you would like to share in our newsletter, please send them to me so we can share our resources.

Misha Lynn

SEN Coordinator

From the Key Stage 3 Co-ordinator.

It has been very busy in Key Stage 3 over the past few weeks. The Year 8 and 9 Service Projects are in full swing and Miss Billante has some articles to explain more about these. The Year 7's went on a PSHCE trip to the Museum of World Religion on Wednesday which was extremely informative. Thank you to Mr Sing Key for organizing that. Teachers are currently completing progress reports for all Key Stage 3 students which will be sent home next Friday. These will give you an overview of student progress at this stage of the year.

PDE Week

As explained in the last newsletter we are beginning preparations for PDE week. All Key Stage 3 students have had letters regarding their respective trips to Camp Taiwan or Outward Bound. We have been getting a steady stream of returns for all 3 trips. I would like to stress the fact that the Year 8 and 9 trips are capped at 50 so please register as soon as you can if you would like to reserve a place on either of these trips.

TEACHER TARGETS

The Key stage 3 students have worked very hard over the past term to reach the targets set in their Term 1 reports. The progress reports issued next week will indicate if the students have met their targets. Two teachers set themselves a target earlier this year. Both Mr Sing Key and Mr Elkins will be attempting their first full marathon (26 miles – 42.2 km) next weekend in the Expressway Marathon in Taipei. They have been training very hard over the past 4 months and I hope that their hard work will be rewarded with excellent times. I would like to wish them both the best of luck and I look forward to hearing about the results. There are a number of TES students and staff running in the 21km and 10km races as well on the same day so good luck to all involved.

Year 8 Service Project

The Year 8s have continued the development of their community garden under the direction of Mr Graves. After a couple of Saturdays of hard work building garden beds, they have begun the process of filling the gardens with soil. A big thank you to all the parents who helped with the construction process. It was great to see so much support!

Students now need to be thinking about what they will be planting. A handful of Year 8 students were given instructions on how to germinate seeds from a local farmer from Si Bon Organic Farm. This was organized through the Paradise Occupational Workshop just around the corner from the school. They have their own garden and are supporting our project by supplying a range of seedlings for groups to purchase. This is helping to make the garden truly a community connection.

For regular updates on the project, refer to the website

<https://sites.google.com/site/year8garden>





Year 9 Service Project

On Wednesday 29 February, the Year 9 students went to Yangmingshan National Park to learn about one of the park trails. The park organized 3 volunteer guides to take all students on the walk and teach them important information about the hike. This is the first step in the Year 9 service project where students will themselves be running a community hike in the National Park.

As part of the project, students will become specialists on aspects of the trail. They will make decisions about how to organize a community walk and will then be promoting the walk for the National Park. The community hike day will be on Saturday, April 28. Keep an eye out for further information from the students.



James Woodall
Key Stage 3 Co-ordinator

From the Secondary and High School Library

Dear parents and students,

Have you ever used a QR code before? You may notice that there are QR codes in the library- on the wall and on book covers!! This is to help you access digital resources in a few clicks. For example, if you scan the QR code we stick on the book cover, you will be taken to an author interview video or book review online! It can be read by using smartphone app or desktop webcam. You may need to install a bit software before you start.

This month's library theme display is *China and Chinese Diaspora*! Familiar titles like *Mao's last dancer*, *Wild Swans*, *Balzac and the little Chinese seamstress*, Amy Tan and Ha Jin's works are all included. You can find the full list of recommended books by scanning the QR code here!

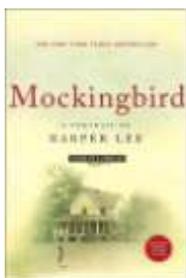


Happy reading!!

Angela Chang
Chief Librarian angela.chang@tes.tp.edu.tw

Librarian's Recommendations

Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee / Charles J. Shields (EN 813.54 SHI)



[Recommande to HS students] Shields takes on the elusive writer in this first-ever biography of her. Without direct input from his subject, the author's extensive research combines sources in local-history collections, interviews and correspondence with Lee's acquaintances, and Internet resources to piece together the details of the writer's life. Starting with Lee's childhood in Monroeville, AL, Shields depicts the people and events that inspired *To Kill a Mockingbird*'s characters. A picture develops of a girl who would face down any bully, a nonconformist whose sorority roommates kicked her out after one semester but who made an impact on the campus with her presence, a woman with a wicked sense of humor and a writer with a voice and themes of prejudice and justice that resonate. Students and curious fans alike will find material here to further their understanding of her work and life. Extensive source notes and a student-friendly bibliography are included.

APPELEZ-MOI ISMAEL / De Michael Gerard Bauer (HUMOR FR BAU)

Ismaël ? Qu'est-ce que c'est que ce prénom de lavette ? Que pouvais-je répondre ? Jusqu'alors, j'ignorais que je portais un prénom de lavette. Personne ne m'avait averti qu'il s'agissait d'un prénom de lavette. Pourquoi mes parents m'avaient-ils affublé d'un prénom de lavette ? Je me suis contenté de sourire bêtement tandis que Barry Bagsley et ses copains rigolaient et me bouscullaient comme une porte à tambour. Ismaël s'apprête à vivre une année infernale au collège de St Daniel. D'autant plus que Barry Bagsley, le tyran de la classe, a juré d'avoir sa peau. Mais contre toute attente, il va traverser les moments les plus bizarres et les plus exaltants de son existence...



Die Tarnkappe / Markus Orths (REALISTIC GR ORT)



Unsichtbar sein. Sehen können, ohne selber gesehen zu werden. Dinge tun, ohne Konsequenzen fürchten zu müssen: Jeder hat sich das schon einmal gewünscht.

Simon Bloch, Mitte vierzig, erhält eine solche Chance. Seinen Lebenstraum - Filmkomponist zu werden - hat er längst beerdigt und sich eingenistet in alltäglicher Routine. Da gelangt er vollkommen unerwartet in den Besitz einer seltsamen Kappe. Als er sie aufsetzt, verschwindet er vor seinen eigenen Augen und spürt »ein Knistern, etwas, was tief in ihm geschah und zugleich auf der Oberfläche, ganz so, als kehre sich alles Verborgene nach außen und alles Äußere nach innen«. Blochs Leben gerät aus den Fugen. Zunächst versetzen ihn die neuen Möglichkeiten in einen Rausch. Doch bald werden seine Fragen dringlicher: Wer hat ihm die Tarnkappe zugespielt? Wie funktioniert sie überhaupt? Und: Was macht sie mit ihm? Um das herauszufinden, muss Simon Bloch Dinge tun, die er niemals für möglich gehalten hätte.

他們在島嶼寫作：文學大師系列電影 (DVD 895.092 INS)

《他們在島嶼寫作》系列共六部電影，是由五位精銳導演：楊力州、陳傳興、陳懷恩、林靖傑和溫知儀，以風格化的電影敘事手法，重新詮釋、紀錄六位台灣文壇重量級文學家：林海音、周夢蝶、余光中、鄭愁予、王文興以及楊牧的生命與創作歷程。《他們在島嶼寫作》系列以紀錄片作為媒介，以年輕導演的電影語言作為引路人，將台灣戰後最重要的文學家介紹給新一代讀者，藉此永久記錄作家的重要事蹟，也希望透過這些作品，重燃新一波的書寫復興。



Roots and Shoots

Roots and Shoots is not just an ECA. Our aim is to make the world a better place by raising environmental awareness around the school and the community. We are trying our very best to reduce the school's ecological footprints (a way of measuring the amount of demands one gives to Earth's ecosystems).



In the past, we have grown lettuce and strawberries. Despite the cold and drizzling weather, the secondary school members of Roots and Shoots have recently harvested 10 banana trees behind the fields. Those who have not yet seen the small certificates around the school, TES Roots and Shoots has also adopted Sen, the orangutan, which was a very great cause by sponsoring the *Orangutan Appeal UK*.

Now, we plan to work on the attitude inside of school. For the past 3 months, we have tried to decrease the amount of incoming plastic bags from outside of school. Plastic is a non-biodegradable substance, which takes about 450 years to start breaking down. If we recycle one single plastic bottle, we can actually conserve enough energy for a 60W bulb to light up for 6 hours straight! This is why we are planning to sell "Granny Bags" By using re-usable bags, we are reducing our personal ecological footprints and saving our own money by not buying plastic bags from markets. Moreover, we are also planning to sell plastic bottles in order to decrease the amount of paper cups used. (For further information, please watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=koETnRONgLY> or talk to

one of the members of Roots and Shoots) The money raised will be donated to Tabitha Cambodia, another great cause.

TES Roots and Shoots is a very devoted ECA towards the environment. However, we cannot succeed without your help. We know Earth needs a change and we are sure you can help just by supporting us. If you know you have the potential, you are always welcome to join!

Written by Jenny Li, with the help of Angela Chen and TES Roots and Shoots members



TES strongly supports Roots and Shoots in its aim to reduce the waste produced at school. Please bring food to school in reusable containers. Putting waste in the bin doesn't solve the problem. Reduce your waste by using reusable food containers, drinks bottles and utensils.

From the Head of Sport

KS3 football tournament

This weekend all of the KS3 football teams competed in the annual TEAMS tournament.

The Year 7's and the Year 8 girls stayed locally at Taipei American School where we had a fabulous day and an even better weather. The students were a credit to their school and all day and competed with passion and integrity.

The Year 7 girls' team, coached by Miss Billante, was undefeated in the round robin tournament and came 2nd overall. Mr Bean's Year 7 boys, despite not having a goal scored against them all day went into the 3rd/4th play off and won very easily to clinch the bronze medal.

The Year 8 girls played with heart all day, and to watch them you would think they were always the winning team. However, the girls struggled to get the ball in the back of the net and so came 4th at the end of the day.

The Year 9 teams and the Year 8 boys travelled to Taichung and also brought home some fantastic results. The Year 8 boys and the Year 9 girls, coached by Mr Cornes and

Mr Thomas both came 3rd in their tournaments. The Year 9 boys had gone into the tournament hopeful as they won the friendly tournament we held at TES a few weeks ago, beating TAS in the final. The TES, TAS rivalry was kept alive when they met once again in the final. This time though it was to be TAS who were the victors.

Congratulations to all the teams and a large thank you to all the coaches and to the parents for their ongoing support.



TES

Taipei European School Parents Support Council presents to you a
MAGICAL NIGHT

6:30pm Saturday 21st April
Gala Evening 2012

Palais de Chine Hotel (5th floor)
No.3, Section 1, Chengde Road, Taipei 台北市承德路一段3號

Contact for further information:
Shilpa Kumar at Shilpa@magical.kumar@gmail.com or 0919-023-750

NT\$2,800 per person, NT\$27,000 per table of 10 persons (No refunds)

Cash bar after 10:00pm

Dress Code: Cocktail

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