



TAIPEI EUROPEAN SCHOOL

台北歐洲學校

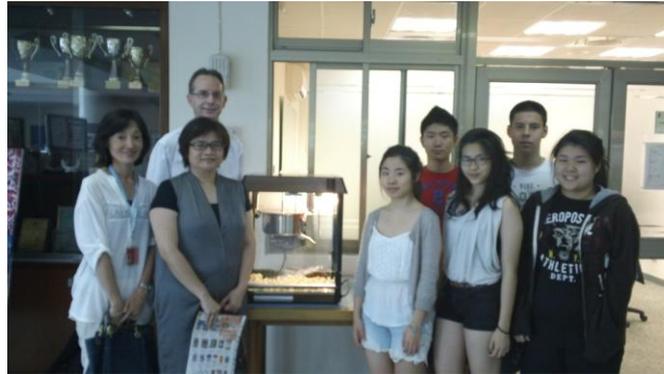
EUROPEAN SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWSLETTER

Edition 17.0 Friday 14th June 2013

From the Head of British Secondary and High School Section

ESC PA Donate Popcorn Machine.

The ESC PA has once again shown its generosity by donating a popcorn machine to the ESC to be used for fundraising and social events. Members of the ESC PA presented the machine to the Student Council on June 13. I look forward to trying some tasty popcorn in the new school year!



TES Titans Sports Club.

Please see page 16 of this Newsletter for some exciting news about the Titans Sports Club. Thanks to Annette Oani from the ESC PA for her fantastic work on this wonderful initiative.

Another Great Year

Thank you to all members of the BS and HS for another great year. The school continues to go from strength to strength and that is due to the hard work of the students, staff and parents of the school. I wish all members of the TES community a safe and happy holiday. In particular I would like to thank staff and students that are leaving TES for their contribution to the school and wish them all the best as the move onto another place and/or school.

Thanks and farewell to Gavin Winter, Nina Chen, Graham Bean, Stephen Whittall, Dylan Graves, Jon Woolley, Adrian Knight, Alex Elkins, Lorna Wright, Amy Beacock and Simon Thomas.

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 Deputy Head

Dear Parents,

It is hard to imagine that this academic year is almost over. In typical TES fashion, in the last few weeks the school has been a hive of frenetic activity as opposed to a gradual 'winding down'!

Last week saw all students involved in a variety of different enrichment activities ranging from camping expeditions, visits to indigenous tribes, house building in Cambodia and the Eurovision contest. There is no doubt that some of the best learning happens during these kinds of activities with students hopefully coming to an understanding of what it truly means to live and breathe our Secondary Values: Respect, Participation, Perseverance, Creativity and Responsibility. Speaking personally as one who accompanied our H3 students to Cambodia for Tabitha house building – our students consistently embodied these important qualities throughout their week and were an absolute credit to the school. Heartfelt thanks to all colleagues in school who gave time above and beyond their usual commitment to make a lot of these trips overseas and in Taiwan happen.

As the year draws to a close, all academic reports will be issued tomorrow across KS3 and the High School with summative comments, final grades and targets set to help inform learning for the new academic year. For High School students two important dates for the summer: July 5th will see the publication of IB results and IGCSE results will be published on August 13th. We are very confident that once again our students will achieve the very highest academic standards to reflect their hard work throughout their study programmes.

There are too many highlights from the last year to mention here, and most of them you have already seen celebrated in our fortnightly newsletters, so suffice to say – it has been a very good year! Enjoy your summer holidays, stay safe and we all look forward to seeing our students and parents refreshed and re-energised in the new academic year.

Warm regards

Chrysta Garnett

An Inspector Calls - H1 show – Drama



An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestly, though set in 1912, was first performed in the U.K in 1946. As such, it was an early and powerful reflection / critique on post-industrial England. It was perhaps the 'prototypical' socialist play. Recent history saw the play disappear from many theatres' seasonal output only to enjoy a celebrated 1992 London revival by Stephen Daldry ('Billy Elliot', 'The Reader' etc...).

Whilst artistic directors' views of the play's currency have passed in and out of the zeitgeist, the plays continued presence on many GCSE English syllabi has ensured that it remain in the public consciousness and it has, for want of a better word, attained the status of a classic.

This is a very 'British' play in that it is about issues of class, wealth and the fashionably proportional relationship between moral bankruptcy and economic power. However and this is certainly true in the last analysis, it is a play which also squares up well to the twenty first century globalised and increasingly globalising landscape. Evidently, Stephen Daldry saw that too; indeed, twenty years later, (admittedly in a more complex world) Priestley's relevance remains strong.

Our students in H1 had history to learn, accents to model and social mores to study in order to understand the context of 'An Inspector Calls'. They did a good job and certainly took their task very seriously. Whereas the previous performance had been about group dynamics and road miles on stage, this performance was about inhabiting character, place and time. The TES audience of encouraging parents was of course able to see that much ground had been covered between shows and could also see the level of difficulty that was present for this task.

Whilst there isn't time to relay the entire plot of the play in this article, suffice it to say, that whilst the language of the play is written in a stiff and suitably 'Edwardian' English, the themes that underlie it are quite 'adult' by contrast: alcoholism, unwanted pregnancy, corruption, and a refusal to face up to the truth, to name but just a few examples.

Drama is of course about real life and young people love to learn about the mechanics at play in human relationships; it helps them better understand the future. Miss Campbell and the students of H1 IGCSE drama should be congratulated for their efforts therefore. We look forward to future shows to come.

News from the Mathematics Department

JMC award winners



Junior Olympiad entrants working hard



We finish off the year by celebrating the achievements of the youngest students in the school. Here are year 7 receiving their Junior Maths Challenge certificates and Alan, Ryoki, and Jennifer taking part in the Olympiad. We are very proud of them all!

Have a good holiday everyone, if you are looking to keep up your maths practice over the break then remember that your MyiMaths and Mangahigh accounts will still be active.

International Computer Driving License

The ICDL is an internationally recognised Computer Skills Qualification that originated in Europe as the European Computer Driving License but due to its popularity, soon spread around the world and thus became the internationally recognised qualification that it is today. The course involves a program of guided self study, in seven main IT skills areas, with an online examination at the end of each of the seven units.

This academic year was the first year that TES has been accredited as an ICDL Test Centre and over 80 candidates in total, made up of both students and teachers, enrolled on the course back last August. Candidates are allowed up to three years to complete their online examinations, but already we have seen over a dozen candidates awarded their Starter Certificate (achieved for four units successfully completed) and a further four students and two teaching staff complete their Full ICDL Certificates. Congratulations to everyone but especially to Vatsal Savani who became the first Year 7 student to complete the full course when he passed his final unit in May of this year.



Year 7 Student Vatsal Savani

For further information regarding the ICDL course, please contact Mr Mowbray in the TES Secondary Campus.

YEAR 7 HISTORY CASTLE BUILDING PROJECT

To conclude their study of the Middle Ages, Year 7 students were asked to design and build a model of a Medieval European castle. The aims of the project were to be creative and environmentally sustainable whilst constructing an historically accurate model of either a Motte and Bailey, Norman Stone Keep or Concentric Castle. The final models were absolutely amazing and a testimony to the hard work, commitment and creativity of the students, making the job of judging the winners extremely difficult. All students received prizes on the day for their fabulous achievement whilst the following students were presented with certificates for historical accuracy and creativity:

Audrey Lam, Hani Sparks, Scarlett Pygott, Caitlin Glasgott, Michaela Lintott, Keisuke Makino, Kei Sumiya

Congratulations to all Year 7 students for their achievements not only in this project but throughout the year as they were introduced to and explored the fabulous subject of History.



From the Music Department

Claude Diallo Visit - Student Reflections



The H3 and H1 Music classes had the honor of playing with visiting musicians 'The Claude Diallo Situation' on 14th of May. After a morning of performing for KS3 students, the group had already attracted a mini group of fans, which followed their every move around the school! During the H1 + H3 workshop, it became apparent very quickly that this was a band of experienced and extremely talented jazz players, creating wonderful music, not just individually during solos, but together as a

group. The lesson was very much like a university lecture with all students' questions answered in detail and with practical demonstration. I asked about how to improve my solo piano playing technique as I enjoy playing jazz outside of classes.

In addition to their performance at school, I also went to watch the group perform at Capone's for the H1 Harmony Home Project. I got to chat many times with each of the members of the group and learned that all of them had spent some time at Berklee College of Music in Boston, my dream university! I am now more determined than ever to enter that school and carry on in the future with a musical career. Thank you, Claude Diallo Situation, for giving me that drive I needed to work hard in the coming year!



Allen Chang H3

Jazzkonzert am ESC



Am Dienstag um 9:50 hatten wir eine Jazz-Gruppe zu Gast am ESC, die international bekannt ist. In der Band spielen ein Schlagzeuger (Massimo Buonanno), ein Pianist (Claude Diallo) und ein E- Bass Spieler namens Laurent Salzart. Wir haben zuerst Informationen über die Band erhalten: so z.B., dass sie sich alle drei in Boston getroffen haben und dort die Band gründeten. Während des Besuchs an unserer Schule haben sie uns verschiedene Informationen gegeben, so zum Beispiel darüber, was ein „Motiv“ ist, und wir haben Musik-Spiele gespielt, bei denen man sich zum

Beispiel in acht Reihen aufstellen sollte und in den folgenden Reihen klatschen musste. Das alles war sehr unterhaltsam und wir haben es alle wirklich genossen, die Band zu Besuch zu haben. Natürlich haben sie dann auch eigene Lieder gespielt, die sich wirklich gut angehört haben. Ganz am Ende konnte man sich von den einzelnen Musikern noch Autogramme geben lassen. Das war ein sehr abwechslungsreicher Musikunterricht.

Anja Jung K7

From the HOD Music



The 2012/2013 academic year has been another extremely busy time for the TES ESC Music Department! August marked the arrival of Miss Tara McNeill to the ESC Music Department, who has been an integral part in the ongoing growth and development of Music at TES. Her influence has been particularly visible through her work with the choirs, including a rename of the old 'Select Choir' to Formosa Voices and a renewed interest and involvement of KS3 students in the Yangmingshan Chorus.

The academic year began with many students achieving good results in the ABRSM Music Examinations and continued to see a number of our students achieve success in local and national Music Competitions. Visits by two external groups of musicians, blues guitarist and vocalist Ken Minhan (aka 'The Snowman') and the 'Claude Diallo Situation', inspired and impressed large numbers of students during their time at school in September and May respectively. The FOBISSEA Music Festival in November boasted the highest ever number of



attendees from TES, with 32 students flying to Ho Chi Minh City for five action packed days. February and March were probably the busiest months of the year with the 13th Annual Music Concert, a trip to Busan, Korea for the ISCMS Musical Festival (featuring a performance of Brahms's German Requiem!) and the school production of 'Sweeney Todd' all taking place. One of the hardest jobs for the Music Department this year happened in May with auditions for the 4th KS3 Performance Evening taking place. Over forty different acts signed up to audition for a



limited number of places in this concert, the largest ever at any ESC concert – a lot of extremely difficult decisions were made by Mr Papps and Miss McNeill. What made this evening particularly special was the involvement of such a wide range of students, including a large number who performed for the first time in front of an audience. The year ended with a final performance involving every student from KS3 as one enormous ensemble. This performance combined several different elements taught this year during classroom music – a fitting end to the year! A special thank you to Miss Tara McNeill for her work with this project.

A big thank you to all students involved in music activities this year (in front and behind the stage!), all parents for their efforts to foster and develop their child's musical abilities, all teachers, staff and tutors involved in the preparation and performance of music this year at TES, and to the ESCPA for their ongoing support of Music Events.

Have a great summer holiday.

Mr Papps, HOD Music



A brief summary of what has happened this year...

Music Department 2012/13 Events

September

- TES Autumn Festival Performance by Jazz Band
- Visit by Ken Minahan aka 'The Snowman': Performances and workshops for KS3 students and HS Music Classes
- ESC Peripatetic Music Programme First Semester Begins

October

- IGCSE + IB Music Performance Evening

November

- Music FOBISSEA Vietnam: 32 Students + 4 Teachers

December

- Christmas Bazaar Performances: 2 1/2 hours of performances from ESC students – Choirs, Orchestra, Jazz Band
- A cappella performance by five students of Christmas Carols by on radio ICRT
- Formosa Voices performance at the BTCO Christmas Function
- Christmas Assembly Performance by Choir and Orchestra

January

- Preparation and performance of the 13th Annual TES Music Concert

February

- ISCMS Festival in Busan, Korea: 18 students + 3 Teachers: Brahms 'German Requiem'
- ESC Peripatetic Music Programme Second Semester Begins

March

- Performances at the TES Community Lunch
- IGCSE + IB Music Performance Evening
- Production 'Sweeney Todd': 3 performances

April

- IGCSE + IB Music Performance Evening
- Gala Evening: Performance by Leo Ku and Allen Chang on piano and the TES Jazz Band

May

- Europe Day Performances by Choirs + Orchestra: Combined performance of an upbeat 'Ode to Joy'!
- KS3 Music Performance Evening: The largest ever number of students auditioning for places in an ESC concert
- Visit by the 'Claude Diallo' situation: Interactive concerts for Y7 + Y9 students and workshops for H1 + H3 Music Students
- Graduation: Performances by the Formosa Voices + H3 Jazz Trio

June

- Summer Fair: Performances from Rock Bands + Jazz Combo
- Final Assembly: Featuring performances from the Formosa Voices, Orchestra and massed number performed by the entire KS3 cohort.



From the Assistant Head (High School)

High School Awards Assembly

On Thursday afternoon H1 and H3 students came together to celebrate highlights and achievements of the past year. Mr. Lee got the awards rolling with a presentation about this year's SEAMC Maths competition. Ms. Wright followed with sporting awards and Mr. Elkins presented our first ever IA Gold awards! Awards were also given by Mr. Laureti for MUN, Mr. Papps for Music Leadership and Mr. Winter for the H1 Harmony Home Service Project. Academic awards were also presented to students in the German and French Sections for their very good results.

I, along with Mr. Winter and Mr. Latchford had the pleasure of presenting the Academic and Values awards across both year groups. It was fantastic to see so many of our students celebrated for the impressive results they achieve in the classroom, but also for consistently exhibiting our Secondary Values on a day to day basis. Well done and Congratulations to all awards recipients!

I wish all High School students and their families a safe and relaxing summer break. Students, especially in IB will need to do school work over the holiday, but I hope this will be balanced with plenty of fun in the sun. To those of you who are leaving us – you will be missed. Good luck and best wishes for your next adventure. To our returning families, I look forward to seeing you in August for what promises to be another busy and productive year at the ESC!



Our first ever IA Gold Award recipients! Ming Toh, Chi-Wen Chang, Sion Ings, Kelvin Lee, Ryan Lin with Ms. Wright and Mr. Elkins.

Sonya Papps, Assistant Head (High School)



IB students have done so much this year, it is almost impossible to sum it all up in one article. Once a student starts the IB course it consumes them totally – it becomes them and they become it. I don't mean this negatively – the philosophy behind the IB programme is so positive and enriching that to live by its principles for two years (and, we hope, for a lifetime) is incredibly rewarding and fulfilling. In my recent speech to our graduating H4s (a wonderful event at which we all acknowledged the resilience, perseverance and academic and creative ability of a really special group of students who we are already missing very much), I alluded to the fact that students at TES, by following the IB Diploma programme, are at the cutting

edge of educational innovation and part of a system that creates well-rounded individuals who can think critically, creatively, collaboratively and independently in and about a range of different fields and areas. Our graduating H4s will realize, when they get to university, that they are already ahead and they will leave standing those who were not compelled to learn effective time management skills so early in their lives.

Academic study is, of course, a huge part of the programme and courses are designed to allow students to acquire knowledge that will mean they can 'hit the ground running' when they get to university, but there is so much more to it than just the acquisition of knowledge. The Learner Profile, a set of values which provide the foundation for all IB programmes, has many attributes which are directly linked to study ('**Inquirers**', '**Knowledgeable**', for example) but there are others which take students further than academic learning, exams and tests.

As my first year as IB Co-ordinator draws to a close, I would like to draw attention to and celebrate the non-academic aspects of the IB programme and what they mean for our students. I am always struck by how **caring** TES students are, but leading two years groups really brings that home and I am extremely proud of how our students show empathy for others and recognize that other people often have different views from their own which can also be right. I am always impressed at how they are able to be **principled**, behaving morally and ethically, how they **take risks** in their learning and their experiences and try out new ways of behaving and thinking to help them grow and how **balanced** they are in managing their workload and staying fit and healthy at a time when they are so busy.

These Learner Profile attributes are the ones which form the basis of the CAS (Creativity, Action and Service) component of the programme and the ones which really help students become well-rounded and grow outside their academic disciplines. CAS has been happening every day here since the school year began. We have seen students getting involved in musical events, volunteering to chat with elderly people in nursing homes, thinking of global issues and learning how to argue and present them in Model United Nations trips. We've had students running cartoon drawing classes, learning to cook so that they can be healthy and balanced at university and playing parts in a Student Council that goes from strength to strength.

I presented fourteen academic excellence awards in yesterday's High School assembly and I have read a number of reports (which you will receive today) that show our students are working really hard and succeeding academically. It is fitting, too, that this academic year ended with two extremely successful CAS trips: Tabitha Cambodia (organized by Mr Henri Labuschagne) and Bunun Taitung (organized by Mr Paul Lee). It was a real privilege to be part of one of those trips and to read student reflections on a daily basis both on paper and on the brilliant student-run TES Tabitha website (<https://sites.google.com/a/tes.tp.edu.tw/tabitha-tes/>). Thinking about ourselves and thinking about our thinking are key to being successful at IB (the Learner Profile wants students to be **reflective**) and they are skills which our students are developing at a really impressive pace. Spending time away from school and away from Taipei really allowed them to bond as groups, listen to others and reflect.

At the end of an extremely successful and tiring year, I would like to wish our H3 students a restful summer break in which they are able to get a bit more fresh air and exercise than normal, but also one in which they work hard, read widely and get at least two-thirds of the Extended Essay written in advance of the late September first draft deadline. They have achieved an awful lot this year, but the IB way of life continues and I am very much looking forward to seeing what they are able to achieve in the second year of their studies.

Darren Latchford, IB Co-ordinator

H3 Bunan Visit

The aim of this trip was for our H3 IB students to learn about how indigenous tribes, such as the Bunun, preserve their culture in the context of a country like Taiwan. Our students were given a first-hand insight into the farming aspect of their community and they also met some primary children from the local Bunun school and experienced running some activities for them. They also visited the National Museum of Prehistory in Taitung, where they could learn about the many theories on the origins the tribes of Taiwan and the Asian Pacific region. The trip was a very rewarding experience and having read the reflections written by our students, it was successful in meeting many of the IB CAS Learning Outcomes. I would like to personally thank Ms Tara O'Neill, Mr. Darren Latchford and Mr Ming Chien Li for making the trip a success and helping to guide the students with writing their reflections.



Mr. Paul Lee, CAS Coordinator



Now that we are back from Cambodia you
some feedback and updates on how our

can visit our Tabitha website for
trip went.



We had another successful visit to Cambodia and ended up building a total of 21 houses for Cambodian families. Our students are very proud of this achievement and it served as an excellent reward for a whole years worth of hard work.

The memories made in Cambodia will stay with our H3 students for a lifetime.

<https://sites.google.com/a/tes.tp.edu.tw/tabitha-tes/>



From the University and Careers Counsellor

The TES class of 2014 (current H3) should be well into researching their university intentions. They now need to work on their personal statements and/or college essays over the summer in preparation for the autumn term, which will be the busy one where applications will be made, and need to be completed by December in most cases. Those looking to UK medicine, dentistry, veterinary science and Oxbridge need to 'hit the ground running' when

they start the term, as their deadlines are much earlier. This also applies for those looking at early decision US colleges.

For current H2 students, another **Princeton Review SAT strategy class** is intended to begin in the autumn term, each week after school leading up to the May 2014 test date (recommended as the best initial one by the US College Board). Also a TOEFL strategy course is available for those who need this valuable language qualification to be accepted by US and Canadian colleges.

Higher education in Singapore

The higher education sector in Singapore is made up of 4 local universities, 5 polytechnics and numerous private education organisations (PEIs). In addition, Singapore has many world-class institutions, such as the French university INSEAD, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and US business schools such as the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. For more information, go to: www.cpe.gov.sg

Mr. Graham Bean
University and Careers Counsellor

From the Assistant Head (Key Stage 3)

It is said that 'Time flies when you are having fun'. Well TES must be an incredibly fun school at this year has flown past and it is hard to believe today is the last day of the 2012-2013 school year.

There have been so many highlights over the course of the year and Key Stage 3 student should be congratulated for their tireless efforts both in the classroom and the ECA environment. Sporting teams have had success and the music programme showed in the KS3 concert how successful it is.

TES truly is a fantastic school to be part of and it is an honour and a pleasure to watch our Key Stage 3 students mature into young, mature adults with such bright future's ahead of them. It also a privilege to work with such dedicated staff. The tutor teams have been fantastic this year under the guidance of the Heads of Year, Mr sing Key and Mr Imbleau. All staff have earned a well deserved summer break before returning to do it all again in August.

All student will be coming home this afternoon with their end of year Academic Reports. These will give you a detailed picture of the progress made over the year and will also provide you with written feedback and academic targets for next year.

The last weeks of school have been very busy and below are some articles to explain all that has been going on. I wish you all a very safe, enjoyable and memorable summer and look forward to seeing you in the new academic year.

Warm Regards,

James Woodall
Assistant Head Key Stage 3

Year 7

Teamwork, rewarding and exciting! That is how so many Year 7s described their week of adventure in the hills of Camp Taiwan, in their lush gardens at school and at their very own Ocean's Day Art Exhibit at the National Taiwan Science Education Center.

Below are personal narratives of a very memorable week that Year 7s and teachers shared with each other.

Lydia Chim June 3rd-5th: My Camp Taiwan Memories

This was my first time to Camp Taiwan and my favourite memory was river tracing and rock climbing, because I learned a lot about teamwork; how to be part of a team, how to support each other and that team spirit is what counts most. This was also my first time living outdoors and sitting in front of a campfire cooking smores. Overall, Camp Taiwan was a great experience for me!



Yuko Nogawa June 6th: Harvest and Pizza Making Day

In the morning, the majority students went to the Welcome Supermarket to buy ingredients for pizzas, which we used later that day along with fresh herbs from our gardens. At the same time as the students were shopping, six students traveled down the mountain to horse stables near our primary campus to collect some horse manure, which was later used as a natural source of fertilizer for our gardens. After arriving back from the stables, all the Yr 7 set to work weeding, harvesting, spreading manure and tidying our gardens in hopes of lessening the work for our next year's Yr 7 cohort.

By the end of the day, everyone was exhausted having worked many hours in the hot sun. As a reward, we made tasty pizza. All in all, Thursday was a very exciting, busy, and memorable part of our week to me. I know that everyone in Year 7 also enjoyed that day as well.



Nicole Novak June 7th: National Taiwan Science Education Center

The Year 7 students set off on a trip to the National Taiwan Science Education Center to check out on their accomplished ocean project they created. The projects included artwork, such as sculptures of underwater ocean animals and small creatures whose habitat was the Shimen Beach. During the museum trip, the exhibit curator introduced us to some ocean creatures and also explained the difficulties that the sea creatures are facing. As the day ended, the Year 7s left much more informed about the disasters that humans are creating and how the humans can help stop this tragedy.



Mr. Christopher Sparks June 8th: Ocean Day Press Conference

Following the trip to the Science Center last Friday, Hani, Audrey and Cheryl represented TES and the Year 7 group at the press conference to launch the Oceans exhibition on Saturday. Following speeches and a water-dance performance, VIPs, (including the Minister of the Environmental Protection Agency) were led on a tour of the exhibition. The girls presented the TES tide pool section to the tour group, telling the story of the project from the field trip on Shimen Beach to the final exhibition.

Thanks once again to all teachers who worked to put this project together and to La Benida Hui and the Society of Wilderness. We hope you get chance to visit the exhibition which is on the 8th floor of the National Taiwan Science Education Center until the end of September.



Mr. Imbleau

If there was one word that could describe our adventure in the mountains of Camp Taiwan, it would have to be **OPTIMISM**. The rain was on and off for the three days, but it never got their spirits down. As we were told by the camp counselors that we couldn't kayak in the ocean because of the lightening, the Year 7s looked at each other, frowned for a second and then out of nowhere - started singing and never stopped. They sang on the bus all the way back up the mountain and when we got off the bus to have lunch – they kept going. It was a very lively and musical few days at Camp Taiwan and I'll never forget my time there with all the positive and cheerful Year 7s.

A week of adventure, challenge, service and fun!

The Year 8 cohort had an action packed week filled with opportunities to learn from each other, face personal fears and grow in confidence and ability. I have included 3 articles written by Year 8 students who attended the different activities from last week.

Outward Bound 2013 by Janina Strohbecke (B8DGR)

From June 3rd to June 5th, 52 students from Year 8 went to Outward Bound Taoyuan. At Outward Bound, the students overcame their fears and also took a lot of challenges and risks. We arrived at about 10:00am, then we were split into 3 activity groups and we started playing some games that focused on building teamwork. Then everyone was split into 9 groups for a scavenger hunt, where we had to find questions and answer them by using a GPS and a map. We started pitching our tents in the late afternoon. At night, we had a cooking competition. All of us were split into 12 cooking groups, we were given different types of ingredients and we had to cook something from those ingredients. The food was scored on presentation, taste and smell.

The second day, everyone went river tracing. Most of the students said it was very challenging, it was an interesting experience but it was also very awesome and adventurous! At night, we had a talent show, the judges were Mr Sing Key, Ms Wright, Mr Laing, Ms Huang (Chin Lin) and Mr Elkins. Everyone did a great job in the talent show!

The Last day we did different types of High Rope Courses, the students took a lot of risks during the high rope courses which were challenging.

We all had a lot of fun and awesome times at Outward Bound, we also learnt to work together in a team, to face and overcome our fears, taking healthy risks and having new experiences.



Animals Taiwan Mountain Dogs Research Investigation by Selina Lee (B8ECA)

During the three days when the other students went on Outward Bound, the people who chose not to go did some in-depth research. We researched the stray dogs around Yang Ming Shan and how we can help decrease their numbers. We spent a few days researching whether or not we could do anything to help as the future Year 9 students. We researched the population of stray dogs in America, Japan, Taiwan and many other places. While doing this, we found out that the best way to decrease stray dog populations is through TNR. Trap Neuter and Release is a program mostly used on cats. This is done so that they cannot reproduce anymore. The same process can definitely help decrease the number of dogs in Yang Ming Shan. We then decided to speak to different people. We called Lisa Milne, the Animals Taiwan chairperson who gave us loads of information. She revealed that the TNR project would take us 5-7 years and that we could only really act as ambassadors between Animals Taiwan and local animal feeders. This was very helpful project to work on in order to benefit our TES community and I think it will be a very exciting service project for us to work on!

Animals Taiwan Service Days by Grace Liu (B8CHLA) & Sherry Chen (B8ECA)

Animals Taiwan is a non-profit organisation that rescues, controls, rehabilitates and re-homes the stray animal population in Taipei. They educate citizens, explaining the consequences of stray dogs and cats, how animals are mistreated and how the stray population is growing rapidly. This year, the Year 8 service project was to help Animals Taiwan with their campaigns.

The Year 8 students arrived at Animals Taiwan and were greeted by the Animals Taiwan coordinator, Liza Milne. She gave everyone specific chores to do, such as, cleaning the centre, the garden, washing dogs, walking dogs, etc. The year 8 students worked diligently.

After a one hour break, the students walked and washed the dogs living at Animals Taiwan. They learnt how to wash and handle dogs correctly. Jody Calpito, a year 8 student said, "I loved cleaning the cages of the dogs and washing the dogs. I found it really fun and I wish I can go back again." Many students appreciated their time in Animals Taiwan and are willing to go back again. They had experiences they never thought of trying before and they learnt new techniques. Alan Kuo, another year 8 student said, "After my experience in Animals Taiwan, I learnt how to take care [of] dogs by feeding and taking care of them. I also found out that dogs are friendly and nice if you don't bother them."

The Year 8 students showed the school values while helping out at Animals Taiwan. They **participated** in serving our community and the animals of Animals Taiwan. They grew in **responsibility** and **perseverance** as they completed their tasks with great commitment. They were **creative** in handling the animals. Most of all, they learnt to **respect** the teachers, the animals, the staff in Animals Taiwan, and each other.



Qishingshan Hike by Shawn Lam (B8CHLA)

Last Friday, the Year 8 students who did not go to Animals Taiwan went on a hiking trip to Mount Qixing, which is the highest peak on Yangmingshan. Although it was a challenging climb, it was very rewarding as the view from the peak was breathtaking.

We started the hike from the Yangmingshan Visitors centre, from there we slowly ascended to the peak. It was a really tough hike, since most of the trail was made up of steep steps, with some flat terrain in between. Reaching the peak was a great accomplishment for all of us, after the tedious and tiring climb! The panoramic view from the peak was great, the sky was blue and the sun was out. Unfortunately the city view was covered in mist that day. As we descend from the peak, we ran out of water, motivating us to reach the end of the trail faster. Reaching Xiaoyoukeng Visitor centre marked the end of our journey. Everyone was tired and exhausted but also glad to have conquered the peak. Despite the tough challenges, the hike was a terrific experience for all!



All in all, the Year 8 cohort had a fabulous week of challenge, growth and learning. My hope is that the Year 8 students will carry their experiences, personal growth and lessons learned with them as they take on the mantle of seniority as the Year 9 leaders of KS3 next year!

Timothy Sing Key
Head of Year 8 & 9

From the Titans Sports Club

The ESC PTA has developed a new and exciting out of school sports training program: TITANS Sports Club Taipei. The Football club team will begin training on August 19th from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on TES Primary campus. The following teams for the club will include: BOYS U14, BOYS U16, and GIRLS U16. Only fourteen (14) Players per each team to encourage and develop football skills at the highest elite level of training and competition. TES students are encouraged to register early. Please see website: <http://220.133.60.141/tes>

Or contact Professional Coach Robert Iwanicki for additional information:

iwanrobert@hotmail.com

Or TES Parent Coordinator, Annette Oani: ap.oani039801@gmail.com

The ESC PTA is in the process of developing the basketball team for the TITANS Sports Club. If there are any TES parents with interested sons or daughters, we are in the process of developing a committee to implement a basketball club organization. Please contact Annette Oani if you would like to participate in the committee.

Thanks,
Annette Oani

From Roots and Shoots

Vegetarian lunches

Tuesday saw the final Veggie Lunch of the year and what an event! Pasta & pesto from Mrs Goh, sushi from Mrs Kunii, Thai noodles from Mrs Hui and stuffed peppers and fruit salad from Mrs Barratt, (with herbs from her garden!), gave students and staff a real treat. But as if that wasn't enough, a crew from DaAi TV filmed the whole process from Mrs Hui's house to the plates of TES students for a piece called; "No boundary for Vegetarian Life -- The Vegetarian Day at Taipei European School", which will be screened on their Vegetarian Life Weekly show soon, (date to be confirmed, watch our Facebook page – TESshootingroots -for details). Thank you to everyone who has taken part in this activity this year, we can't wait to get started again next year. Please think about having a meat free day every now and then this holiday, now you know how good vegetarian food can taste!



In the garden

This year we have expanded our garden and we now have a great selection of herbs, vegetables and fruit growing. If you haven't tried a Roots & Shoots garden strawberry yet, you're really missing out. Thanks to this year's team of gardeners; Amelie, Alex, Juliana, Fabia, Senta, Kasheen, Jimmy, Victoria, Andie and Saloni, but special thanks, and a sad farewell to Mr Graves who has been a driving force in all matters green at TES in his time with us and has left lots trees and herbs for us to look after. Good luck with your green project in Australia Mr Graves, keep in touch.



Coming up.....

So looking ahead we will continue to garden and provide veggie lunches, and work towards our Eco-Schools Silver Award. We will also keep up our green enterprise initiatives such as the hand printed bags, and expand this to TES water bottles next year in a joint attempt with the PE Department to end the purchase of disposable paper cups at the ESC.

We will continue to work with groups like the Society of Wilderness and try to have an environmental field trip for the Roots & Shoots group, and we will keep doing our bit, because if everyone does a little bit, we can make a whole lot of difference.

Have a great, green vacation everyone, see you next year.

The Roots and Shoots Team

