



TAIPEI EUROPEAN SCHOOL

台北歐洲學校

EUROPEAN SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWSLETTER

Edition 1.0 Friday 30th August 2013

From the Head of British Secondary and High School Section

Welcome.

A warm welcome to the 2013-2014 school year to all members of the British Secondary and High School. I sincerely hope that everyone had a refreshing and rewarding summer vacation. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome new staff and students to TES. I am sure you will all have a happy and successful time at this wonderful school.

New Staff.

I welcome the following new teachers to the British Secondary and High School Section in 2013-2014.

Jonathan Booth	Head of English
Kwok Chow	Head of Sport
Nick Hardy	Assistant Head of Science
Jared Duxfield	PE/EAL
Scott Powell	Physics/Science
Robin Neroutsos	Physics/Science
James Greenwood	IT
Louise Fung	Maths
Kathie Chang	Maths
Tara Laing	English/EAL/Psychology
Julian Brown	Universities and Careers Counsellor
Emma Crofts	Learning Assistant

Results

Congratulations to last year's students in H2 and H4 for achieving a wonderful set of results. I am delighted that these students were rewarded for their hard work with results that can only be described as amazing. Among the highlights were the 9 students who scored 40+ on their IB and the large number of A and A* results recorded by students in their IGCSE. See later in this Newsletter for more detailed information.

Information Night

All parents should have received a letter via email from me regarding the BS and HS Information Night to be held next Thursday, September 5. I look forward to seeing as many parents as possible on Thursday.

Warm regards,
Stuart Glascott

SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.taipeieuropeanschool.com



Deutsche Sektion



British Section



Section Française



TES High School

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From the Deputy Head

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome back to a new academic year! As always, a new school year brings with it an inevitable sense of apprehension (particularly for those students and colleagues that are new) and a buzz of excitement about potential learning opportunities both within and beyond the classroom.

It is a year since I arrived at TES - consequently I can easily remember what it feels like to be a newcomer to the school. Remarkably our Year 7 students seem to have made a seamless transition to life at secondary school and supported by the wonderful work of our Pastoral Team – Form Tutors and Heads of Year appear to be moving around the school in a very mature and purposeful way and establishing themselves as a very capable year. One of the biggest challenges for new students is adapting to the demands of Homework. Our Homework Quality Standards should be referred to (attached) if you have any questions about the nature of length of homework tasks that are being set for your son or daughter. Homework is most effective when it is used to consolidate or review learning and you should expect to see learning focused tasks recorded in your child's planner.

As well as new students we are pleased to welcome a total of 10 new teaching colleagues across many Departments. Our new colleagues come from a range of different UK and international backgrounds and will no doubt enrich the school as a result. I have asked our new colleagues to formally introduce themselves in our next Newsletter so watch this space.

We are thrilled to announce to parents the headline figures for this year's IGCSE and IB exam results. Our IB and IGCSE students in H4 and H2 last year excelled themselves in their examination performance – not to mention the H1 students who took some IGCSEs early – achieving a set of truly impressive results!

IGCSE Headlines:

- Number of A*/A grades for combined H1 early entry and H2 exams 2013: 339 (2012: 286)
- A*/A grade pass rate for H1 early entry and H2 combined 2013: 63% (2012: 47%)
- 14 students in H2 gained A*/A passes in 5 or more IGCSEs (2012: 3)
- 5 A* - C IGCSE passes for H2s: 93% (2012: 93%)

IB Headlines:

- Number of grade 7s: 57 / 17.3% (2012: 38 / 12.4%)
- Students with 40+ points: 9 (2012: 6)
- Average grade: 34 (2012: 33)
- Average grade: 5.39 (2012: 5.29)
- Highest points awarded: 43 (2012: 44)

I look forward to meeting parents at next week's Parents' Information Evening where you will get an opportunity to be introduced to key members of our school community and learn more about the Key Stage 3, IGCSE and IB curriculum.

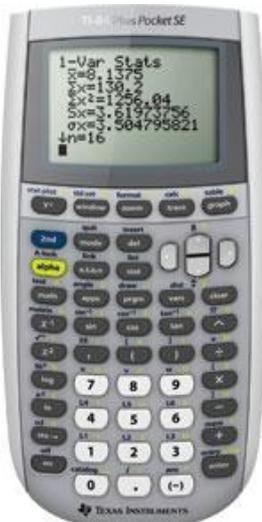
News from the Mathematics Department

Over the summer the results of the Junior Mathematics Olympiad came in and we would like to pass our congratulations on to Ryoki Kunii, Jennifer Li, and Alan Kuo who achieved Certificates of Participation.

Yet again, amazing achievements by our junior mathematicians at TES! Here are a couple of questions from the JMO paper – how well would you do?

- B1** How many numbers less than 2013 are both:
- the sum of two consecutive positive integers; and
 - the sum of five consecutive positive integers?
- B2** Pippa thinks of a number. She adds 1 to it to get a second number. She then adds 2 to the second number to get a third number, adds 3 to the third to get a fourth, and finally adds 4 to the fourth to get a fifth number.
- Pippa's brother Ben also thinks of a number but he subtracts 1 to get a second. He then subtracts 2 from the second to get a third, and so on until he too has five numbers.
- They discover that the sum of Pippa's five numbers is the same as the sum of Ben's five numbers. What is the difference between the two numbers of which they first thought ?

We would also like to thank all H1 & H3 parents for making sure your son/daughter has a graphing calculator for the start of their new IGCSE or IB courses. Here are a couple of websites to help you get to know your new calculator:



- <http://mathbits.com/MathBits/TISection/CachingPage.html>
- <http://education.ti.com/studentzone/StudentZoneUS/index.html>

Year 7s have also made a good start to their mathematical studies at TES, here is a report from Mr Sparks class:

Last week Year 7 Maths students started their work on decimals by looking at other ways of counting and recording numbers such as binary, Roman numerals, Chinese numbers and Mayan counting. They were set the challenge of creating their own systems, and the creativity and effort that went into these presentations was outstanding. There were websites, slideshows, posters, videos and one group even created their own solar system complete with descriptions of the cultures of the surrounding planets and how they record numbers!

In our project we had 4 planets that had a different alien appearance, different names of the planets (Grenetic Glasio, Al-mols, Shella Chella and Swurli Pwurli) and different number systems. In one of the 4 planets there is a big planet (Grenetic Glasio), which is the head of all three planets and it stays in the centre. The orbit system is in a triangle manner that is around the big planet. Each small planet moves in their own territory which is one side of the triangle. (Krishi, see photo)



It is amazing what our students can imagine and how professionally they present and clearly they communicate their ideas using all kinds of media. They are truly all-round learners! Well done Year 7.

From the Music Department

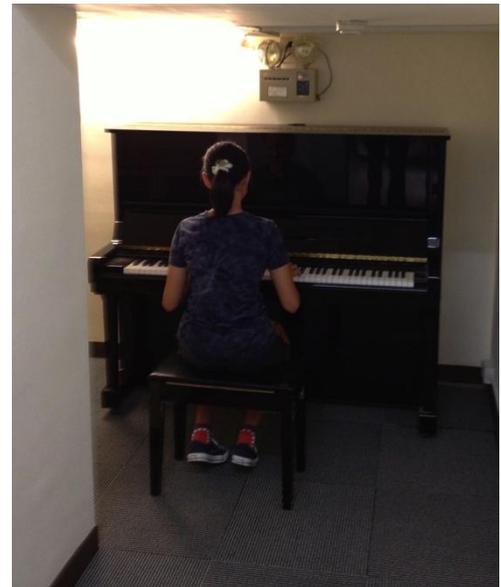
Peripatetic Programme: The ESC Peripatetic Programme will continue again this year, providing instrumental and vocal lessons for students at school. Information about this programme has been advertised in the daily bulletin over the last two weeks and students should have already picked up an interest letter and returned an interest form. If any student have not done this and still want to receive instrumental or vocal lessons at school this year, the attached form must be completed and emailed to chris.papps@tes.tp.edu.tw by Monday morning (2/9).

New Rooms: A number of exciting developments to the Music Departments physical space occurred over the summer holidays. Two new piano studios were developed, allowing much need space for small group work during Music classes, peripatetic lessons and individual rehearsal outside of class time. In addition a further room was refurbished, being fitted with soundproofing and new lighting, allowing another space for 'louder' ensembles to rehearse without disturbing other classes! Many thanks to all people involved in making these rooms are a reality.

IGCSE and IB Academic Results: The 2012/2013 academic year delivered extremely



pleasing results for Music students completing their IGCSE and IB courses. IGCSE Music students achieved at an extremely high level with more than 85% of the class receiving A or A*. Not to be outdone, the sole IB Music student obtained the first ever 7 in IB Music in the history of diploma at the school. All Music students should be congratulated on their hard work and achievement in IGCSE and IB Music.



Music FOBISSEA: The annual Music FOBISSEA Festival will be held in Rayong, Thailand, from 8th to the 13th of November this year. The FOBISSEA Festival is a four-day event that provides opportunities for students to perform as members of either a choir or orchestra. The objectives of the festival are:

- To be appropriate for students from upper primary school to senior school age range
- To achieve a high standard and extension opportunities for gifted students
- To provide a learning experience in musicianship covering a range of musical styles through intensive but varied rehearsals and workshops
- To promote the value of teamwork
- To reinforce the value and benefits of rehearsing in preparation for performance
- To share relevant musical cultural experiences from rehearsals, workshops and other visiting performers during the festival

This festival is for choral and orchestral students who are at a performance standard of at least Grade 3- 4. This year, there is a restriction on the numbers of students who can attend due to the expanding FOBISSEA network and the location of the festival in Thailand. Places

INTERNATIONAL-MINDEDNESS AT IGCSE: Excellent first results for World Literature

In 2011, the English Department at TES was approached by the University of Cambridge International Examinations organization to pilot a brand new IGCSE in World Literature and we jumped at the chance. The course is well constructed and what really persuaded us, was that it prepares students well for English courses at IB level. We were pleased to see an unseen commentary examination paper on the syllabus (this is on both IB courses) and we liked the fact that the coursework portfolio included a long critical essay (similar to what IB students have to do than in the established English Literature course). Most impressive, though, was the inclusion of an assessed oral component (something of a departure for IGCSE Literature courses), the skills of which are so vital at IB level for the Individual Oral Presentations, Further Oral Activities and Individual Oral Commentaries and Discussions.

In some ways, making such a big change was a gamble. IGCSE English Literature is well established and we have taught it here at TES for many years. We decided, therefore, to trial the new World Literature IGCSE with just two classes – our most able H1s (the classes taught by Darren Latchford and Nicole Billante). We devised new thematic units (which dovetailed with the counterpart IGCSE First Language English course – most students at TES attend English lessons and come away with two separate qualifications), which included some really exciting new texts for us and for the students.

We designed the course along the lines of our previous Key Stage 3 syllabus in which students had to study a unit from several categories every year, and which bridged nicely with the new IB English A courses.

Our ‘Signs of the Times’ unit included the study of Charles Dickens’ classic *Great Expectations* and Henrik Ibsen’s *A Doll’s House*, ‘What Unites Us?’ included the study of William Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*, and ‘Who We Are’ included New Zealand Maori writer Witi Ihimaera’s *Whale Rider*. Set texts studied for the final exams in H2 were Japanese writer Yukio Mishima’s *The Sound of Waves* and South African writer Athol Fugard’s *Master Harold’ and the boys*.

We were confident that the course would be a success and felt very proud of our students’ final results. We entered twenty-nine students for final assessment. Seven students got A* grades, thirteen got A grades and nine got B grades. We sent in three coursework folders for moderation at full marks. All of our marking of the internally assessed coursework portfolio was verified by assessors at Cambridge and all marks were carried.

The course is now out of the pilot stage and is available to all schools. We are now introducing it for the majority of students who study Literature at TES (the current H1). It’s enriching for students aged between 16 to 18 to read texts from other cultures and those which are translated from other languages. It’s challenging for teachers who may have ‘white Anglo-Saxon’ reading histories and it keeps our teaching fresh. It prepares students excellently for the next academic stage (IB). Above all, it exposes our students to some really great literature and, as our first cohort has proved, it is possible to read widely and still achieve excellent results.

Nicole and I had a wonderful time teaching this new course and look forward to seeing it grow and develop. Many congratulations to our wonderful students who worked so hard, read so widely, and did so well!

Darren Latchford
IB Co-ordinator/Teacher of English

Launch of A.S.P.I.R.E



Dear Parents

Welcome to **A.S.P.I.R.E**, the department formerly known as SEN. As you can see from our new logo and name we have decided to adopt a more positive and up to date image. This philosophical change is in line with the International Baccalaureate (IB) which states;

“The IB supports the premise that schools should be organized in such a way that student diversity of all kinds can be included as a resource, seeing individual differences not as a problem to be fixed, but as opportunities for enriched learning. Diversity is a positive resource with regard to what it means to be internationally minded and inter-culturally aware.”

The International Baccalaureate 2010

Special Educational Needs within the International Baccalaureate Programmes

Our new logo and concept were the result of many hours of collaboration with our students who decided on the following slogan:

‘Celebrating Diversity’

This motto encapsulates what we strive to do as a department and I hope that both parents and students will join us in this endeavour.

I believe our new look department will have a significant impact throughout the school and I look forward to working with you all in the coming year.

Grace Kennedy

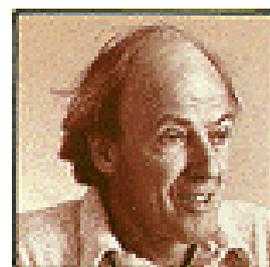
Head of A.S.P.I.R.E.

News from the English Department

Book Week 2013 is fast approaching on the 21st October. We hope this year’s event in the secondary school will be a celebration of all that is literary, encompassing our three schools and all our language departments and coordinated through our school’s library.

We are always grateful for fresh ideas from our school community, so please feedback to any of your language teachers how you would like Book Week celebrated this year.

Roald Dahl Day is on 13th September. This annual event celebrates the life and work of one of the most endearing children’s story tellers in the English language, whose books continue to be discovered by new generations of children from around the world.



**R. D.
(1916-1990)**

Born in Wales in the UK to Norwegian parents Roald Dahl's books, although fun, dark and filled with memorable characters, illustrate the theme of what it means to be a child growing up in an adult's world. This has proved to be a timeless attraction for children of all ages.

The English department hope to celebrate the writer with Year 7 and 8 students on the day but you may wish to discover or rediscover some of Roald Dahl's greatest works in the school library which includes: *The BFG*; *George's Marvelous Medicine*; *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*; *Danny, the Champion of the World*; *James and the Giant Peach*; *Matilda*; *Fantastic Mr. Fox*; *The Twits* and *The Witches*. Many of which have been made into popular movies. Perhaps you might wish to read one of these titles in preparation for Roald Dahl Day.

Homework Quality Standards - BSHS

For students, parents and teachers, homework is a subject that generates a range of different views. Parents want schools to set homework; students appreciate that homework is important and understand that it helps them to be successful in their studies; and teachers believe that independent study is an important skill in its own right as well as supporting student progress.

Research shows that there is positive relationship between time spent on homework and achievement at secondary school level - but only when set in moderate amounts and when tasks are interesting, challenging and varied. Our school survey results demonstrate that our students prefer homework tasks that are clearly defined, allow for an element of creativity and have adequate deadlines but dislike regular and mundane tasks that aren't clearly linked with their learning. These findings match with the current available research on homework.

In order to try and improve home learning for our students we have produced some quality standards which we will try to uphold. Good learning requires a partnership between students, families and the school and so we have also included standards we expect can be met by students, teachers and families and have suggested ways in which all of us can support the deeper learning of our students.

In short, we believe that homework tasks should:

- consolidate learning
- provide opportunities for students to practise and apply skills
- be structured
- be planned
- have a purpose
- have clear outcomes
- have success criteria made clear to students
- promote where possible, the TES values: we encourage students to persevere when homework is difficult; allow opportunities for students to be creative in how they present their learning; and expect them to take responsibility for organising themselves and respecting deadlines.

HOMEWORK QUALITY STANDARDS: SCHOOL

- All homework tasks should be planned for learning.
- Teachers should communicate how long students should spend on a particular task and have realistic expectations about how long a task might take a student.
- Tasks should be accessible by all students and differentiated if required.
- Homework needs to be explained in lessons and clear instructions given on the nature of the task and how students might go about achieving it.

- Students must be given the opportunity to write the instruction in their diary and email used when necessary to communicate homework instructions or guidance to parents.
- Students need to know how homework will be assessed (eg, by self/peer/teacher).
- If the task is new to students, and is not a creative open-ended task, it should be modelled, for example – what does ‘research look like? If students are being asked to ‘revise’ how should they go about it? What evidence would you expect to see of revision?
- Head of Departments will regularly review and monitor the quality of homework set in departments.
- Teachers will use TESmile to log when students consistently miss homework deadlines and provide appropriate sanctions as per Departmental policy.

HOMEWORK QUALITY STANDARDS: STUDENTS

- Will attempt homework tasks to the best of their ability.
- Will use the homework diary to accurately write down the homework instruction.
- Will meet homework deadlines. If there is a problem with homework students should notify teachers as soon as they are able – prior to the due date.
- Will try to keep their academic targets in mind when completing homework.
- Should understand that homework is important to learning
- Aim to stick to the guidance given by teachers regarding the length of time to spend on homework.
- Keep things in perspective. Homework is important, but social, artistic and sporting activities are also important in achieving life balance.
- Know that quality is more important in most cases than quantity.
- Never copy or plagiarise work – asking for extra help is better!
- Avoid rushing to complete work. Be well planned and organized.

If there is a problem, students have the following options available to them:

- Speak to their Form tutor for advice
- Ask a friend/member of the class
- Ask/email their subject teacher for further clarification
- Ask parents/siblings for advice
- Speak to their Head of Year if they things feel are getting on top of them

HOMEWORK QUALITY STANDARDS: HOME

- Please remember that when it comes to homework, quality is more important than quantity.
- Use the homework planner to check that your child has clearly written their homework tasks.
- Once per week, for example, on a Sunday - help them plan for the week ahead.
- Allocate specific times for homework tasks for KS3 students, for example –aim to get homework finished by 9 pm.
- Provide a quiet work space free of distractions and provide light supervision.
- Support your child in managing distractions eg. Facebook, personal email, TV.
- Don’t do homework *for* your child.
- If your child has a tutor they should provide guidance and support rather than undertaking the actual task.
- Communicate with school if there are problems – please use the diary.

- Encourage children to approach teachers to ask for help.
- Consider how other activities might impact homework. Avoid over-commitment, eg. personal tutoring, SAT courses, language learning.
- Spend some time to help children devise organizational systems. For example use a wall-planner or calendar to record what is due and when it is due so your child can 'see' what needs to be done.
- Contact your child's Form Tutor or Head of Year if your child is exhibiting anxiety or stress over homework.
- Developing the whole child is part of our school's philosophy – remember that social, creative and physical activities play a part in this.
- Homework should always provide an opportunity for learning. Talk to your child about their homework and take an interest in their work.

Chrysta Garnett
Deputy Head

From the Assistant Head (High School)

I would like to extend a warm 'welcome', or 'welcome back' to students in the High School. We have had a fantastic start to the new school year! I have had the opportunity to catch up with many students, and it has been encouraging to see how quickly they have settled into routines and their lessons.

Most impressive is the focus and drive we are already seeing from our examination groups – H2 and H4. The year ahead promises to be both exciting and challenging for these groups as they work towards their final IGCSE and IB examinations. It is vital that they are enthusiastic and organized right from the start in order to fully prepare for the year ahead.

H1 students have spent the past two weeks becoming better acquainted with the IGCSE programme. Yesterday in PSHCE we took some time to reflect on the start they've made, and their first experiences as High School students. Students were very positive about their lessons, and the opportunity to pursue their areas of interest. However, perhaps not surprising, many seemed most excited about no longer having to wear school uniform!

The H3 students are currently on our first ever TES IB Induction Camp at Outward Bound Long-men. They will spend the weekend participating in a fun and challenging mix of team building activities and IB induction sessions designed to give them a good start to the IB programme. Stay tuned for the next newsletter for highlights from the weekend!

We are pleased and proud of last year's IGCSE and IB results. Our students are performing exceptionally well and in addition to our rigorous academic programmes, our strong pastoral systems help TES students achieve to the best of their potential. Our two High School Heads of Year closely monitor the overall wellbeing of High School students, along with their academic progress. Dr. Gavin Matthews looks after students in H1 and H2, and IB students are under the care of Mr. Darren Latchford, IB Co-ordinator. Should you wish to contact your child's Head of Year you can reach them through the High School Office or via email:

Gavin Matthews: gavin.matthews@tes.tp.edu.tw

Darren Latchford: Darren.latchford@tes.tp.edu.tw

Sonya Papps
Assistant Head, High School

A warm welcome (back) from the Head of Year, H1 and H2

As my first contribution as Head of Year to the student newsletter, I would just like to say a warm “welcome”, or “welcome back” in most cases, to all of our H1 and H2 students. The first ten days in this job have been incredibly busy with all the timetabling changes and new students that the start of the academic year involves. However, the students could not have made it any easier for me. All of you have been so friendly and helpful to me and to each other. As citizens of the school, you all impress me enormously. (I shouldn't be too surprised, though – I felt exactly the same way after the Euro Vision Week at the end of last year.)

It should be noted that we have a lot of new students joining us in H1: almost a quarter of the year group have just joined our community. It will naturally take them a little time to get used to the new surroundings, traditions and rules. I am confident that everyone will be understanding and as helpful as possible while they find their feet. I know from conversations I have had with many of our new students that they feel lucky to have joined this school. They are indeed lucky, and we all look forward to seeing the contribution that they will make to their new year group.

For the H2s in particular, it is vital that you ‘hit the ground running’ at the start of this term. It is such an important year for you all, and time is now beginning to press. I will be spending much of my time in data tracking over the next few months, seeing how you are all getting on in your academic studies. As a teaching team, we will do everything we can to make sure that you have the best chances possible to attain as much as you can in your exams and coursework. In return, we ask that you are open and welcoming to all the advice that we will be giving you this year.

We (the teachers) in turn want to be open and welcoming to all the comments you wish to make to us during this year. There will be many things on which we ask your advice, such as PSHCE provision or how we can best engage with our local community. Your collective ‘student voice’ needs to be heard. You will of course occasionally say things that we as education professionals don't agree with, and then it is up to us to engage with you, to explain why we disagree. On other occasions you may say things that we hadn't thought of, and then we can implement your ideas and become a better school.

To the H1s and H2s, I am delighted to be your Head of Year. It is a privilege to spend so much time with you all, and I look forward to the extended conversation that we will have this year.

Dr. Gavin Matthews
Head of Year, H1 and H2



WELCOME

It was my great pleasure, on Monday 19th August, to welcome back our H4 students after their long summer of Internal Assessment preparation and Extended Essay researching and writing. It was also great to see last year's H2s returning as H3s, fresh-faced and eager to begin their IB journey. They have all made a really positive impression on their teachers and

the pastoral team and settled down to work with a no-nonsense, can-do attitude. That's great to see and bodes well for success with the IB Diploma courses on which they are now embarked.

I would like to extend a special warm welcome to our seven new H3 students who joined us last Monday: Trista Chen, Anita Chou, Felicia Chua, Daniel Hsieh, Jeffrey Lee, Wilson Li, Sean Pai, Conrad Wang, Vincent Wu and Brian Yu. These students join us from a variety of backgrounds and experiences and it is evident that they are all really excited about their IB studies.

IB RESULTS 2013

One of the biggest highlights of the summer for me was, for the first time in my career, being the first to receive the IB results of our students who graduated in May. On Friday 5th July, I discovered that we had broken some of previous records and that many of our students took our advice and encouragement to heart and did extremely well for themselves. I am very proud of them indeed.

This year, we entered sixty students for exams forty-two subjects. Nine students scored 40 points or above (three more than in 2012) and have secured places at some of the most prestigious universities in the world. Overall achievement was impressive with thirty-four students scoring between 30 and 39 points (compared with last year's twenty-nine). The average points score was 34 (33 in 2012) with an average subject grade of 5.39 (5.29 in 2012) – IB grades range from 1 to 7, with 7 being the highest.

Our highest achieving students this year (Nicholas Huang, Beatrice Kern, Christine Shih and Grace Tsai) all scored 43 points, and have amazing futures ahead of them. Nicholas will go on to study Mathematics at Imperial College, London, Beatrice will study International Business at Baaden-Wuerttemberg Co-op State in Germany, Christine will study Economics at the University of California (Berkeley), and Grace will study Jurisprudence at the University of Oxford.

There were many other success stories too, and it is a tribute to the Diploma Programme that it allows students to perform at their own level and achieve the very best they can. There were some real success stories this year and I am really proud of the year group as a whole. I wish our graduates of 2013 the very best in their futures and hope that they will keep in touch and pay us a visit whenever they are back in Taipei.

I wish all IB students a very successful year.

Darren Latchford
IB Co-ordinator

From the University and Careers Counsellor

I am Julian Brown; I am British, grew up in France and attended an International school. I finished my undergraduate degree at the University of Oxford in the UK, where I also recently completed a Master's degree in History. So as a European, I join the staff at TES. As I begin working with you, I am keen to inform three groups in our school community: High School students, Key Stage 3 students, and our TES parents.

High School Students: do you choose SATs or ACTs?

There are two different types of learning happening at your level. We study the International Baccalaureate to become a certain type of learner. We pass SAT tests, or ACT tests to put a score against our name and pass this information, in addition to our IB results to any American Universities we want to attend. If you want or need to get a score reflected back from the **SATs*** or **ACTs****, it takes several months of practice to get a high score in these tests, and you should begin to prepare in H3.

The next available SAT test is on 2nd November (register by 10/3). Including the international processing fee it costs US \$ 91 per test. The next available ACT test is on 26th October (register by 9/27). For outside North America it costs US \$ 85 per test.

The SATs suit those students who have a broad English vocabulary; and those who are strong on structures. If you are good in Mathematics, the ACTs may be your best option. If your Science reasoning is strong you should choose the ACT. The Essay is usually an *option* in ACTs – in SATs you *have to* write one.

Those of you applying to the USA should search what admission scores your wished-for colleges require: <https://collegesearch.collegeboard.com/serach/index.jsp>

You should also contact the Colleges' **International Admissions** to ask how these colleges regard IB grades. Then you will know how much to invest in SAT or ACT preparation.

KS3 students, are you already dreaming of University or a career?

Key Stage 3 students, do you already find yourself dreaming of University destinations? And parents - because your child is dreaming, you may be planning for up to 7 years ahead. If this is so, please chat with the University and Careers Counsellor before your child becomes a High School student. I shall invite parents to make contact with me at the Information Evening on September the 5th. I can also be contacted via telephone at extension 2609 or by email at: ucc@tes.tp.edu.tw.

I work from Monday to Thursday. I will also be attending ESC PA social functions, so please let me know if you're planning one.

**scholastic aptitude test*

***American college testing*

Mr. Julian Brown
Universities and Careers Counsellor

Last TOK Session of H3 with visiting local artist, Matthew Hill.

By a happy piece of synchronicity Matthew Hill, our Head of Art, was invited to give his annual TOK reflection to the H3 cohort only 3 days (May 30th) before his exhibition was due to open at the Mayor's Residence Arts Salon in Taipei City on June 3rd.

Matthew has recently written,

“For me to be an artist is to try to see the world beyond what we so easily take for granted, the styles and expectations of what is beautiful: it is to explore new ideas, and to use knowledge to try to challenge the conventions of art, and offer the viewer an experience that can work on an aesthetic and also intellectual level.”

Suffice it to say that he invited the H3 students into a deeper exploration of what these words mean in the 80 minutes at his disposal. They listened, they reflected, they wrote, they drew, they shared ideas and asked questions. Some accepted the challenge deeply while others didn't. Some understood and some didn't. That's life. In short, those who accepted his invitation and his ideas constructed meaning and assembled knowledge, and there are 3 large canvasses which will be displayed around the Phase 2 building as physical manifestations of that exploration. This was art at work and through those canvasses the work continues.

Thank you, Mr. Hill. TES is enriched by the insights you offer, the challenge your discipline invokes, the sharing you make with those ready to dialogue.



And *'insight, challenge and dialogue'* are 3 words that pretty well sum up TOK.

At the end of the year I would also like to thank Mr. Simon Thomas of the Mathematics Department. for the excellent contribution he has made to the TOK Team over the past two years, and to wish him well on the next stage of his journey. We welcome back Mr. Henri Labuschagne into the TOK Team, and we also bid welcome to Ms. Tara Laing who has taught TOK previously in another IB school who will be teaching Psychology on the Diploma course. Next year's TOK Team will comprise a History teacher, an English teacher, a Psychology teacher, and a Business Studies/Economics teacher all for good measure.

Mr. Sean Kenny
TOK Subject Leader

From the Assistant Head (Key Stage 3)

A warm welcome back to returning families and I hope that all new families have found the transition to TES a smooth one. If any parents have any concerns or questions please feel free to contact me directly and I will do all that I can to support. The two Key Stage 3 Heads of Year (Mr Imbleau and Mr Sing Key) are also here to offer any support or guidance throughout the year so please contact them if you need any support.

As ever it is an incredibly busy start to the year. Key Stage 3 students are now beginning to settle into their routines and new classes and seem to be very happy in their first weeks back at school. Pastoral care is something we pride ourselves on at TES and the happiness of the students here is so important. School life can be challenging at times for so many reasons so please be assured that if you have any worries or concerns we are here to support at any time.

Today is Team Building day and all KS3 students are involved in fun, challenging and educational activities as a way of developing team work and friendships at this early stage of the year. More articles about this will appear in Newsletter 2.

Now that students are feeling settled the process of learning is beginning. This of course will mean learning at home and 'Homework'. Next week all KS3 students will be issued with a homework timetable. This is a guide for teacher, students and parents so that homework is set on the correct days, deadlines do not appear on the same day and that the quantity of homework on specific evenings is appropriate. I would like to stress that homework is set to aid and reinforce learning. It is not set to fill a specific amount of time or for the sake of it. Homework will be relevant to the subject content covered in lessons and will have to sole purpose of scaffolding what has been covered in class. If at any point you have concerns regarding the quantity or content of homework set please contact me.

James Woodall
Assistant Head Key Stage 3

Year 7: Welcome to the Secondary Campus: Mr. Imbleau

Year 7 students and parents, welcome to the TES Secondary Campus. This academic year is sure to be a wonderful year with all that is planned: Teambuilding Day, Camp Taiwan, the Raised-Garden Bed Service Project and so much more. School life up in Yangmingshan is fairly similar to the routines at the Primary Campus and the transition should be fairly seamless; however it can be a bit daunting at the beginning of Term 1 with all the new classrooms and homework tasks that are set. Mr. Singkey's aforementioned 5 Essential Tips for Success in KS3 is a very good outline for all Year 7s to follow this year. Managing homework is usually one of the biggest challenges for Year 7 students. On Thursday, the 29th of August, all Year 7 students had a workshop in PSHCE on how to keep themselves organised for school and how to prioritise their homework. I am sure that this tutorial will prove fruitful!

Written below are Year 7 personal accounts of the first 2 weeks at Secondary School.

Summer is Over: James Kung, Year 7

Summer has passed for a full 2 weeks already, but to be honest, school so far has been much more enjoyable than my summer. School has been much more enjoyable because of the challenges at Secondary School. I like Year 7 because there are lots of interesting lessons such as: Drama, History, Geography and gardening. We also have lockers which really help me keep organised. Keeping organised is our responsibility. Another responsibility that we have now is organizing out time after we finish eating lunch. We are older now and are given more trust, I like that!

How to Keep a Nice and Tidy timetable: Tal Halperin, Year 7

Here is my advice to keep the school timetable tidy. When you get homework, you should write the subject down, the homework task, and date its due inside your diary. When you get home, you should prioritise and do your homework which is due the next day. If you have free time, then you can do the homework that is due later on. If you have a locker, you should take your first two subjects books in the morning. When it's break-time at 9:30am, you should take the next two subjects books and so on. Then at the end of the day, you should take home the books that you need for homework, along with your homework diary.

Mr Imbleau
Head of Year 7

5 Essential Tips for Success at KS3



Key Stage 3 can be tough, but with the proper equipment and good organisational skills, you can stay on top of everything and begin to reach those higher academic levels! A good idea would be to stay organised from the start of the school year. It's always nice to start off on the right foot.

There are a few simple yet effective steps to become an organised student. Here are a few that will help you this year:

1. Have your own stationery

A key to having everything organised in KS3 is having all the supplies you need, nice and clean and ready. You should at least have glue, pencils, pens (preferably erasable) for each lesson. Some subjects like Maths and Science require students to have their own instruments (calculators, compasses, protractors etc.). Make sure you have what you need for each subject so that you can focus on your learning and achieving your BEST!

2. Get a locker

Lockers are available at TES. They are fantastic for keeping your books, PE kit, ECA equipment and valuables safe during the school day. The advantage is that you will not have to carry EVERYTHING around with you then! See Ann in the Phase I office to get a locker. They are limited so get there FAST!

3. Use your NEW planner

Keep your planner with you. With your planner, your homework schedule and after school activities can be organised. Write things in it like homework, school and house events, meetings, ECA activities etc.

4. ASK Questions

If you are ever stuck or unclear about anything (instructions, homework etc.) ASK your teacher(s) for help; no need to be embarrassed. Chances are there is at least one other student wondering the same thing but too shy or afraid to ask. Understanding what the teacher requires of you is the first step to reaching higher targets and your true academic potential.

5. Make sure everything has a place and stays in it!

Maths papers don't belong in your English notebook or your pocket. Be consistent. Keep papers in their corresponding notebook at all times. It will make things so much easier. You won't have to be worried on the way home (or class) about where your notes are. TES teachers even schedule regular "notebook checks" where they make sure that you have all your papers in the right places in your notebook!

If you follow the 5 tips I shared, you will not only show your teachers that you RESPECT them and are a RESPONSIBLE student, but you will also be able to engage and PARTICIPATE more readily during lessons. If being organised is something you find difficult, then my challenge to you is to PERSEVERE and work on getting better organised this year!

Mr Sing Key
Head of Years 8 and 9

From the Secondary and High School Library

Dear parents,

It is another new school year and, like always, we have new books to welcome our students back to school. We are glad to inform/remind you that you are also very welcome to borrow books from our library!

The only thing you need to do is to see the librarian, let us know your

- **name**
- **telephone number**
- **email address**
- **names of your children and their roll class**

You can borrow up to 5 books for 2 weeks. Don't forget to return them on time as you will be charged for NT 5 per day for overdue!

Don't know what we have in our library? Please check our online catalogue at <http://library.tes.tp.edu.tw/oliver> You can also find our new arrivals list and recommended reading list from the links on the homepage of our library catalogue.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any question regarding our parent borrowing program.

Happy Reading!

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

From the Titans Sports Club

The ESC PA has developed a new and exciting out of school sports training program: TITANS Sports Club Taipei. The Football club team have open tryouts and training every Mondays and Wednesdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the TES Primary campus. The following teams for the club will include: BOYS U14, BOYS U16, GIRLS U14, 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. Early registration is critical because Non TES students will be allowed to join in September. Please see website to register:

www.titanstaipei.weebly.com

Or contact Professional Coach Robert Iwanicki for additional information:

iwanrobert@hotmail.com or mobile number 09722 02373. Or TES Parent Coordinator, Annette Oani: ap.oani039801@gmail.com

The ESC PA 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 this committee.

Thanks,

Annette Oani



TES
TAIPEI EUROPEAN SCHOOL

Come to our annual Autumn Festival. The evening will feature live music, delicious food, children's games and activities, art and craft exhibitions and more. Bring your family and friends for an enjoyable evening of music and fun.

Guests of all ages are welcome.

Admission to this event is free.



**Taipei European School
Autumn Festival 2013**

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Volkswagen



Date : Friday 27th September
Time : 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Place : Swire European Primary Campus (EPC), Taipei European School
727 WenLin Road, ShiLin District, Taipei
台北市士林區文林路727號
Te l : 8145-9007 ext. 1000

Nuclear Safety and Radioprotection



6:30pm on Wednesday 11th September 2013
Amphitheatre
Swire European Primary Campus (EPC)

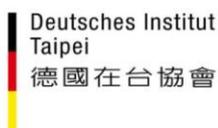
Guest Speaker



Dr. Christine Wassilew

**Counsellor for Nuclear Safety and Radioprotection Issues,
Renewable Energy and Environmental Policies,
The German Embassy Tokyo**

**The speech is delivered in English. For any query, please
contact 8145-9007 ext. 1000**



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