



TAIPEI EUROPEAN SCHOOL

台北歐洲學校

EUROPEAN SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWSLETTER

Edition 2.0 Friday 13th September 2013

From the Head of British Secondary and High School Section

Information Night

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Information Night on Thursday, September 5. There was a big turn out as usual. I am always amazed at how supportive our parent community is. I am sure it is one of the reasons that our students do so well in their studies. Thanks also to Ms Garnett, Ms Papps, Mr Woodall and Mr Latchford for their very informative presentations.

Autumn Festival – advanced warning

I look forward to seeing many students and parents at this year's Autumn Festival. The event will be held at the EPC on Friday 27 commencing at 6.00pm. Entry is free and it is a great opportunity to hear our musicians, experience fine food and examine the many art and craft exhibitions that are on display. I hope to see you there!

Team Building Day

Congratulations to all staff and students who were involved in an extremely successful Team Building day. In particular, thanks must go to Mr Woodall, Ms Papps and the Heads of Year for the wonderful leadership they displayed in organizing the interesting activities that occurred. Please see later in this newsletter for photos and detailed reports on the Team Building activities.

IB Induction camp

This year we held our first IB Induction camp. Reports from students and staff were generally very positive and a pleasant and educational experience eventuated. Students completed a range of Team Building tasks as well as activities with the focus on preparing them for the IB. Congratulations to Ms Papps and Mr Latchford on this wonderful initiative that I am sure will remain on the school calendar for many years to come.

**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,

Unfortunately there was a typo in the IGCSE statistics that I provided you with in last week's newsletter...but I am glad to say it was a 'favourable' error! Our 5 A* - C pass rate has now gone up from 93% to 95% after receipt of our GCSE PE exam results.

In addition, in my haste to celebrate our success I mistakenly reported that 14 students achieved 5 or more A*/A when in fact a staggering 38 of our students achieved this remarkable feat. What I had meant to celebrate was that 14 of our students achieved straight A*/A grades in all of their examination entries. I do apologise for any misunderstanding caused by these errors.



Read our interview in the High School Section of this week's newsletter with Jensen Yang – our top performing IGCSE student of the year.

Jensen, pictured here with Dr Weston and Mr Glascott achieved a remarkable 10 straight A* grades, not forgetting an A grade in A'Level Maths - achieved entirely through self study.

It is my pleasure to introduce you to our new members of teaching staff that have joined us in the BSHS this Term. Our new colleagues have hit the ground running and are already making their energy and presence felt around the school. You will no doubt have an opportunity to meet many of them at our first Parent Teacher Evenings in October.

Kwok Chow



I am the new Head of Sport at TES. I have worked at Bangkok Patana and have just finished 8 enjoyable years at Dulwich College Beijing as Director of Sport. I am married with a 3 year old boy who has just started Nursery at EPC. As you know we have changed our School Sports Mascot to TITANS and you will be seeing a lot more of the mascot as the school year progresses. We are at the moment selecting for the U15 FOBISA (Federation of International Schools in Asia) and sports teams will have started training next week with many fixtures already secured for those teams in Middle School Volleyball & High School Football and Volleyball. Stay tuned for next months installment of sports news, it's going to be an exciting year!



My name is Jonathan Booth and I am the new Head of English in the secondary school. I am delighted to be here in Taiwan and extending my stay in Asia following a similar position I held in my previous school in Bangkok, Thailand. Previous to this I worked in schools in Sheffield and Birmingham in the UK. My family and I already feel very settled in Taipei and I have already built up some good relationships with colleagues and students in a short space of time. I have been very impressed with the diligence and commitment that our students put into their studies here at TES which makes my teaching equally rewarding. I have also enjoyed coaching the Varsity Girls football team where we hope to have a successful year.



Julian Brown

Mei-Hwa, my wife, is from Taiwan. We were married here. On our visits home we have enjoyed wonderful family and friends. Living overseas, we were happy to meet generous, peacemaking people from Taiwan and China. Now our home is here, we look forward to contributing to the success of Taiwan's young people preparing to share the best of themselves overseas, through study and friendship-breakthroughs across cultures. T.E.S is a great place to do this

Coming from an English family and growing up in France, for ten years I taught English to University students and Business people in North Africa – for ten further years I helped found an NGO in France for the North African community. After teaching in Oxford for one year, I wrote a modern history dissertation for Oxford University on women's experience of the 1990s conflict in Algeria and was awarded the MSt. degree in 2012



G'day! I'm Ms. Chang from Brisbane, Australia. I have left my job here at TES in 2011 for a beautiful reason - my first baby, Liam. I have spent the last two and a half years as a full-time mother and I'm sure this wonderful experience will bring new perspectives to my teaching. I'm taking the role as a Teacher and Assistant Head of Mathematics Department. It's good to be back!



My name is Jared Duxfield and I'm an EAL and PE teacher from New Zealand. I have a wife and two young, rambunctious daughters. I've been teaching high school PE and EAL in both New Zealand and Taiwan for 12 years. In that time, I've been the Head of PE, Head EAL teacher, sports coordinator and coached a number of sports teams to many levels of success. I love the people here in Taiwan, particularly their friendly, easy-going nature. It must be one of the only big cities in the world where people consistently go out of their way to

help a confused looking foreigner. TES is a great learning environment both for staff and students and I'm really looking forward to growing professionally here. I especially enjoy the challenge of coaching teams and using that environment to develop character and life skills in students.



Hi, my name is Louise Fung and I am a new teacher in the Mathematics department. It has been very nice to meet other staff members and students at TES as everyone has been really friendly and welcoming. I have previously taught and lived in London and Beijing and so far, living in Taipei has been really exciting and interesting. I look forward to exploring more of the city and establishing a home here.



Bonjour! My name is Rob Neroutsos...but do not let my Greek last name scare you as I am Canadian. I was born in Montreal, Quebec, but grew up on the west coast in beautiful Victoria, British Columbia. I studied Civil Engineering at McGill University and University of British Columbia, before working in Vancouver as a Sewage Engineer. Feeling that I was not quite in the right job, I travelled to Tanzania as a VSO Volunteer to teach Physics and Maths for two years, before returning to Canada to complete my Professional Teaching Qualification at the University of Victoria. I am

coming to TES from British International School Phuket, where I spent the last six years teaching Physics, Science and Maths. After a month in Taipei, I am most impressed by the greenery and easy feeling that the city has! It is great to get up every morning and come up the hill to the campus with magnificent views and the surrounding trees! So far the most enjoyable part about teaching here has been how welcoming all the students have staff have been. I am looking forward to a fantastic year in the classroom with my classes and taking

part in all the great activities TES has to offer, including sports, House Competitions, the International Award programme and the cultural events at the school.



Emma Crofts- I was born in southern Ontario, Canada, but I grew up in Cyprus and Syria. I moved here from the UK where I worked at a sixth form college in Surrey as the College Librarian. I have a BA in North American Studies and I am in the final year of my MSc Econ in Information and Library studies. I'm working towards becoming a teacher/librarian. I was worried when I moved to Taiwan that I would be homesick for the UK but so far I haven't been at all. Taipei feels like home. I love the people, the culture, and the food! The weather was a bit of shock to start with but I'm learning to deal with the heat. I'm looking forward to learning Chinese this year and exploring more of Taiwan.



My name is James Greenwood and I joined TES this year in my second international post after teaching in St Helena in the South Atlantic. I come from Yorkshire in the UK, where I taught in a large high school before venturing out to see the wider world. I'm passionate about my subject, and excited to be teaching so many students who feel the same way. I'm also a card-carrying classicist, as my ECA members will attest, and keen to share my love of Ancient Greece & Rome with any and all students interested in history, philosophy or literature. Whether through teaching ICT, as a year 7 form tutor or through extracurricular activities, I'm eager to get to know as many students as possible in my first few months. My partner Emma and I have enjoyed the warm welcome from the school and look forward to the happy years ahead here in Taipei.



Tara Laing- It's with great pleasure that I introduce myself as a new TES staff member. I teach English, TOK and this year, I am introducing students to the study of Psychology, a subject that I am very passionate about, at IB level. My home country is Australia, and I have also taught in the UK, Dubai and mainland China. I have been living in Taiwan for the past year and find Taipei a really exciting place to live, with wonderful landscape, fabulous food and friendly and helpful people. I find working at TES a fantastic experience and I look forward to getting to know more students and parents as the years go on.



My name is Scott Powell; I grew up in a small country town called Ballarat in Victoria, Australia. My previous teaching school was at Haileybury College in Melbourne, and before that at Mentone Grammar. I got into teaching because I have always loved science and physics and I wanted to share that understanding of the universe with others. Taipei European School is my first international school and I have been pleasantly surprised at how familiar everything is. As I love the outdoors and hiking, I am very much looking forward to exploring the mountains of Taiwan.



Nick Hardy- I have been teaching for over 20 years internationally and recently arrived from The British International School, Vietnam where I was Head of Science in a large, highly successful day school with 1000 pupils. Prior to that I was in the United Arab Emirates for 13 years and was Head of Science at Dubai English Speaking College and also worked at Emirates International School as Head of Biology and Fujairah Private Academy. I have been a CIE Science coursework marker and IGCSE & A level examiner for many years. My first posting abroad with my teaching wife was in Kuwait at Fahaheel English School after I finished my first 3 years of teaching at Priory School in Essex in the UK.

I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know my new classes during these first few weeks and we are working harmoniously and collaboratively to develop our teaching and learning skills and reach our potentials.

I have been absolutely overwhelmed by the friendliness of the Taiwanese people, the beauty of the national parks, the cleanliness of the city and how hot it can get at midday! I just can't wait to get out there camping and hiking in the mountains...



你好!

Guten Tag!

My name is Michael Mangold. I was born in the Black Forest and I spent most of my life near or in a city called Stuttgart. I enjoy travelling and learning languages, so studying to become a teacher for English as a foreign language and for German was an easy choice. Before I arrived in Taipei, I taught in Germany and at two schools in England's beautiful southeast.

Thanks to my new colleagues and the Taiwanese people, I haven't received nothing less than a warm welcome to this exciting city and TES. Although teaching at two sections of this school is sometimes a bit confusing, it's a unique experience which I am happy to be a part of. I'm enjoying working with the students of TES very much. Please feel free to send me an email if you've got any questions!

GETTING TOGETHER OUR GROUP 4 IDEAS.

H4 IB Science students have been thinking outside the box this week.

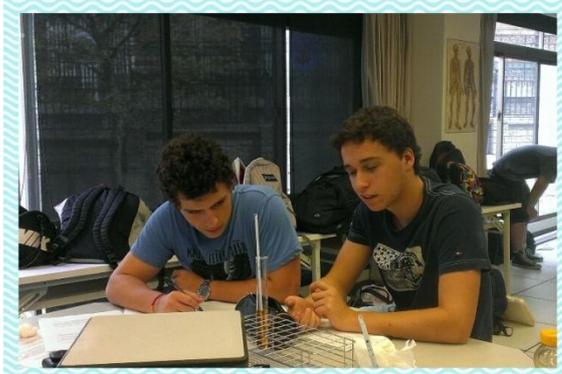
They have been showing off their skills as research scientists through their ideas for the Group 4 project. This is an opportunity for Biology, Chemistry and Physics students to work together to devise a research question that they are interested in. This year the chosen theme is 'Nature'.

So far students have been researching questions such as "Which type of leaf makes the best paper?" or "Does music have an effect on the speed of plant germination?"

We are looking forward to enjoying lots of short, dynamic and varied presentations next week to feedback on their scientific findings. Staff will be looking out for great collaboration between students, the marks of which will go forward to their final assessment.

The next newsletter will feature the findings and presentations from these research questions, as described by the H4 Scientists themselves.

Here are some photos of the H4 scientists in action.



FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

Mr Hebden and Mr Hill will be leading the year 7 artists through two exciting exhibitions - The Miro exhibit, which contains a significant amount of artworks from one of the world's most intriguing painters, and the permanent collection, which features some inspiring artwork from Taiwan's rich past. The trip will form the basis for lots of upcoming class work, including students 'Looking at Art' books, and a ceramics based project.

Ms Campbell will be supervising the History element of the trip, and she will be guiding the students through the history of China and Taiwan, from the ancient past to the present day. Ms Campbell and Mr Imbleau will be working with them closely over the upcoming weeks producing a range of promotional materials based on what they have discovered.

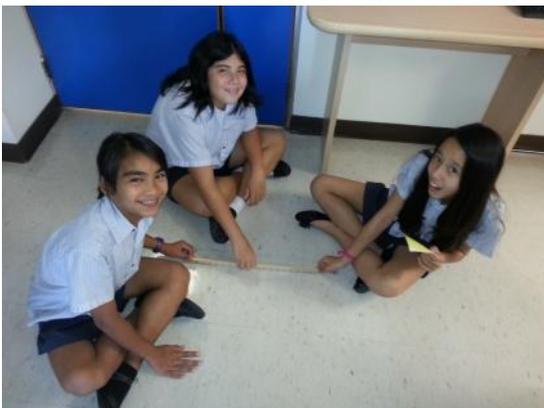
Trip report to follow!

Sam Hebden
Art Teacher

News from the Mathematics Department

Year 8 Mathematics – Measurement in Action!

Year 8 is off to a great start in Mathematics this term, having already completed their first topic and now starting their next unit on Measurement this week. To demonstrate the uses of Mathematics outside the classroom, students were given the task of measuring different dimensions using different tools. Before starting, all the students were asked to write down what they estimated the values to be. One group used a metre ruler, another used a half metre ruler, the third used a tape measure and the final group used their hands and feet! By comparing their measurements of the length and width of the classroom, the white board and a text book, they were able to make conclusions as to which method of measurement was the most accurate and how close they were to their original predictions. Surprisingly the half meter ruler group came up with the best measurements, while the hands were a few feet off! Mathematics is a practical skill that we use every day, but may not even realize it. Giving students the opportunity to see how they can apply their knowledge outside the classroom helps them realize that Mathematics is around us everywhere!



Love to solve Maths problems?.....

**NEAMC 2014
Try Outs**



Stage 1 (of 2)

12.55pm to 1.35pm Room 1205

Weds 25th Sept

or

Thurs 26th Sept

(come on either day)

As **SEAMC** has grown, 2014 will see the first ever **North East Asian Mathematics Competition (NEAMC)** taking place in Nanjing, China.

**Sign up on Maths Noticeboard and try out for a place on the TES team!
(You must be born after 31st August 1998)**

News from the History department.

Calling all high school students: follow this hot new web link for an excellent free resource for referencing your coursework and IB work using the Harvard referencing system.
<http://www.classtools.net/harvard-citation-generator/?id=ah>

Enhance your general knowledge and critical thinking skills by watching some of these relevant and interesting TED talks online.

<http://www.activehistory.co.uk/ted-talks-for-history-lovers.php> - any problems see Mr Stewart

Student Charter

At the end of Term 3 last year a lot of work was done with staff and students to develop a TES student charter. The idea was to develop a consistent set of expectations for behaviour in classrooms that students and staff would live up to. The ESC staff were involved in a staff meeting listing their priorities. Different representatives from the student population were then surveyed. Both sets of results were combined and compared and the charter, shown below, was designed.

A big 'Thank You' to Mr Hebden in the Art Department for designing the posters which will be displayed in every classroom in the ESC.



The next step will be to design a Teacher Charter. This will be done on the Inset day later this month. Students again will be given voice in this process with feedback given to the staff working groups on the day. 15 students from across all year groups have been filmed sharing their views on what they would like to see in a teacher charter. This will be shown to all staff on inset day to ensure the opinions of the students are taken into consideration in the process.

New Look Diary

Parents will have seen the 'New Look' student diary. It has been reformatted, all colour pages and freshly student designed front cover. Thank you to Boren Hui for his learning and Secondary Values themed cover art.



As part of our journey towards becoming an accredited 'Thinking School' (through Exeter University) a new section on 'Thinking Skills and Thinking Maps' jam packed with fun and challenging strategies to help students become more critical and analytical thinkers.

James Woodall
Assistant Head- Key Stage 3

Sonya Papps
Assistant Head- High School

From the Assistant Head (High School)

H1 Team Building at Maokong Tea Centre and Taipei Zoo

In a sense, we were lucky to be able to go up to Maokong on Team Building Day. The gondolas to take us up there had been closed on the day before as a result of the tropical storm, so it was with some trepidation that we ventured into the Maokong Station. But Mother Nature, after the tantrum of the previous day, had blown herself out, and we enjoyed smooth rides and great views all the way up.

We visited the Maokong Tea Centre, which is run by Taipei City Government to provide people with education and information about the tea growing that takes place in the region. Many of the year group had not visited Maokong or been up in the gondolas before, so it was a good opportunity to see the city with new eyes. We also got to find out about the ecology of a tea plantation and to understand something of the cultural impact of the drink. While the delivery of the information by the tea experts was possibly not as dynamic as it might have been, and we didn't get to experience the tea-making ceremony, the students came away knowing a little bit more about this important element of Taipei culture.

We finished the day with a brief visit to Taipei Zoo. By that part of the afternoon, it was very hot and humid, and for many of our students, McDonalds appeared to have a greater appeal than pandas and koalas. Other groups, led by Mr Morris and Mr Peswani, went adventurously haring off into the wilder, more remote regions of the zoo.

It was a day to relax together, to spend away from the academic commitments and chiming bells of the classroom. From a personal perspective as this year group's new Head of Year, I really enjoyed just talking to so many different students, many of whom it can be difficult to catch up with during the normal frenetic pace of a school day.

Dr. Matthews

Head of H1 and H2

TES Master Chef Challenge 2013!

Our third annual TES H2 MasterChef Challenge was a great success! Students were put into teams and tasked with the daunting challenge of converting a classroom into a restaurant and cooking two dishes, a main and a dessert, for our celebrity judges to sample... all on a tight budget of 700NT.

The day started with each team sending their designated shoppers Tien Mu to buy ingredients while others transformed classrooms into very convincing restaurants. As soon as the shoppers returned the cooking began! It was a race against the clock as teams chopped, stirred and sautéed until the final buzzer went and the judging began. Our four TES Celebrity Judges. Dr. Allan Weston, Ms. Chrysta Garnett, Ms. Patricia Tzeng, and Ms. Ping Kao were given the challenge of sampling dishes prepared by the H2 teams. They were also asked to judge the décor and overall impact of each restaurant. The judges were thoroughly impressed by their dining experiences, and while they managed to select four winning teams they highlighted the achievements of all the participants. TES Master Chef 2013 was a fantastic event. Well done to all of the H2s; their team- work (and culinary skills), made the day!

Ms. Sonya Papps

Assistant Head, High School

Conrad Wang , H2, whisking up a culinary delight.



TES: Celebrating Success

This article is the first in a five part series TES: Celebrating Success. This week Deputy Head, Chrysta Garnett interviews H3 student Jensen Wang about his stunning results on his stunning IGCSE results which were released at the end of August.

Jensen Yang – one of our current H3 students, enjoyed tremendous success in his IGCSEs this year. Jensen achieved a remarkable 10 straight A* grades for all examinations taken in both 2012 and 2013. As if this weren't achievement enough – Jensen also gained an A grade in his Maths A'Level self study.

Keen to hear the secret of his success and to celebrate his fantastic news, I invited Jensen along for an interview this week.

Ms Garnett: Jensen, talk me through how you felt when you first heard the news about your results.

Jensen: Happy and surprised! I felt a great sense of achievement too.

Ms Garnett: How confident were you that you were going to achieve all these A* grades?

Jensen: Well it had always been my personal goal to try and get straight A* grades. It was my aim to achieve it but I wasn't completely sure about all of them...

Ms Garnett: So how did you do in your mocks compared to in the real exams?

Jensen: I scored mainly A grades in my mock exams so then I just had to work out how to convert these into A*. I knew my teachers believed in me as they had all told me to aim high.

Ms Garnett: So, what's the secret? How did you do it?

Jensen: Practise, practise, practise. I did lots of independent practise of past papers and gave them to my teachers to mark. The 1:1 feedback that they gave me was useful. I was most worried about my First Language English exam so this is where I focused my efforts.

Ms Garnett: What would be your top tips for our current H2s with similar aspirations?

Jensen: Firstly, don't cram. Try to spread your work load throughout the year and leave yourself plenty of revision time. Secondly, really concentrate in lessons and take great notes as you will be relying on them later. Third, form study groups with friends that you trust and share the work load.



Mr. Glascott, Jensen Yang, and Dr. Weston



IB TEAM BUILDING – INDUCTION AND FOCUS DAY

For their annual team-building day this year, H3 and H4 students focused on what it means to be IB students and how to get the best out of their diploma or course programme.

Our H4s are at a crucial stage in their two-year course, and we felt that a day on which they were allowed to focus on aspects of their IB programme, which they ordinarily manage in their study time, was what they needed.

We designed the H4 IB Focus Day, as we do all of our IB activities, along the lines of the Learner Profile, in order to remind students of the various aspects of the ten attributes (shown in *italics* below) which they embody on a daily basis, and to try to get them to remember to make sure they are living all ten equally in their everyday lives.

The day began with our students being *balanced* – possibly the attribute they neglect the most when the pressure of deadlines and assessments is on. The Learner Profile encourages students to pay attention to their physical selves, making sure that they eat well and get some exercise in between studying. Our *balanced* activity on Focus Day was yoga, and we were very lucky (thanks to the help of Mr Labuschagne) to have an experienced yogi come in to school to teach our students some practical moves and poses that they can practise in their own time at home. They also focused on breathing in order to centre themselves and remain calm when things get difficult (a skill we hope they remember when they are sitting mock and final exams this school year). The next activity, led by Mr Rob Morris, was designed to give students some tips on using their voices effectively and to give them strategies for remaining calm when speaking in public, or when delivering assessed oral work for their IB studies. In this activity, they were *communicators*.

These physical classes were followed by two workshops with a more academic focus. Mr Cornes led a session on academic referencing for the Extended Essay – something very practical as the first draft deadline is this coming Monday. This activity stressed the importance of academic honesty and acknowledging the views of others using the conventions expected by the IB. In this activity our students showed integrity and honesty in their work – what the Learner Profile terms as being *principled*.

Students were then given an opportunity to catch up on work of their choice - something they had planned to bring in, and for which they could receive some support from a teacher. Students worked on their Extended Essay, university applications and Internal Assessments for subject they chose, being *reflective, knowledgeable, inquirers and thinkers*.

The day ended with some fun – collaboration and competition. Mr Laing and Mr Wong led a range of activities designed to build rapport and to get students outside in the fresh air. In these games, they were *open-minded, caring and risk-takers*.

My sincere thanks to the teachers involved in planning and delivering this successful day – and to the students for their active participation.

By contrast, H3 are at a very different stage of their IB studies – they are at the beginning. Keeping in mind that they are new to a fairly complex course of study and some of them are new in the year group (and that collaboration between students is vital all the way through the course), we decided to take the whole year group away to Longmen Outward Bound (near Fulong Beach) for a range of team-building and IB-related activities.



Daytime activities involved cooking breakfast and dinner, a range of team-building activities with Outward Bound staff and then kayaking (in pairs). These activities allowed students to bond as a year group and I was particularly pleased to see new friendships form and lots of genuine caring between members of this particularly impressive group of young people.

Late afternoon and evening activities focused on the IB and gave students a chance to really engage with the principles and practices of the programme they are embarked upon and really do some critical thinking. Mr Lee, our Creativity, Action and Service (CAS) Co-ordinator, led two sessions which explained the thinking behind the CAS programme and the what the students are expected to do in order to complete it successfully. One workshop focused on what kinds of activities are acceptable and what constitutes a good reflection. As you know, students have to complete around 150 hours of CAS over their two years and they need to complete worthwhile reflections as part of their CAS journal in order to pass it. The brainstorming of activities they did suggests to me that 2013 – 2015 will see some really innovative CAS activities.

Mr Kenny, our TOK Co-ordinator, led two sessions which encouraged students to think critically about perception, prejudice, responsibility and courage, one of which involved watching and discussing Sidney Lumet's 1957 classic film *Twelve Angry Men*. The other activity looked at making judgements, bias and subjectivity. Much of the critical thinking of these sessions was extended in an evening discussion on Saturday in which students analysed Stephen Fry's recent open letter to the International Olympic Committee and British Prime Minister David Cameron requesting a boycott of the 2014 Winter Olympics in Russia following the introduction of laws which limit the rights of homosexuals in Russia and following reports of police neglect of and brutality towards gay men and women there. The task, which Ms Billante designed, really got students thinking and I was proud of our students for being so caring and so principled while always recognizing how language can influence the way we perceive an issue.



Mr Brown, our new University and Careers Counsellor led two workshop sessions on the ultimate goals of our IB students – securing places at the universities and on courses of their choice. He led them through the application process and demystified some of the systems associated with university entry around the world (which league tables to trust, which countries offer optional extras etc.). Students got the opportunity to put together a group application and have it judged by Ms Laing who joined in the spirit of the occasion by wearing a graduate's cap and gown and giving tips and feedback on group submissions. Hopefully, the foundations laid by Mr Brown on this trip has meant that students are thinking about that 'ultimate goal' a little earlier than they otherwise might have and they will be better prepared when the time to submit applications approaches.

Unfortunately, the heavy rain on the last night meant that we had to cut short our last day at Longmen and that we were unable to do the raft-building activity, but what a careful and mature group of young people our H3s showed themselves to be as we ferried them to the train and buses for the trip home!



My thanks to all the staff who were involved in both the Focus Day and the Induction Weekend (not mentioned above were others who contributed such a lot in leading groups of students and getting involved in the activities, namely Ms Hsu, Mr Laureti and Ms McNeill). This was a very successful first induction weekend and our students conducted themselves in an exemplary manner – they were consistently respectful, they participated in absolutely everything with enthusiasm and confidence, they were creative in their ideas, responsible for themselves and others and, when the wind was blowing at them and they had been kayaking for quite a few hours, they kayaked on, persevering all the way!

As a staff we felt that ten students really stood out for the ways in which they embodied a particular attribute of the Learner Profile during the weekend. In only Week 2 of the course, these students were awarded certificates and given the following titles – and hopefully will be inspired to take the Learner Profile, and all that it does to develop well-rounded students, and really run with it.



- Champion Inquirer* – Ju-Han Tarn
- Eminently Knowledgeable* – Amit Agnani
- Champion Thinker* – Antoine Faure
- Champion Communicator* – Kevin Wang
- Eminently Principled* – Melody Cho
- Extremely Open-minded* – Jolie Ting
- Extremely Caring* – Conrad Wang
- Champion Risk-taker* – Tiphélele Dube
- Extremely Balanced* – Modou Jarjou
- Eminently Reflective* – Janice Liu

Many thanks to Amit Agnani for the photographs in this article.

Darren Latchford
IB Co-ordinator

University and Careers Corner

Upcoming University Fairs:

The competition for getting into universities is great. The USA has at least 3,800 schools, community colleges and universities. The range of costs and degree subjects is greater still.

The advantage is that overseas universities are also competing with one another to receive your application, and make the journey to inform you.

A range of University visitors are soon coming to visit the High School while, in Taipei, major Educational fairs will spark ideas about your future education after T.E.S. Finally, I offer an opportunity from one US University to be interviewed next month in Taipei.

A University visitor to our school is specifically for students of H3 upward: this person represents a whole roomful of people behind the website address who are going to decide whether to admit you to College / University. They know all about required grades, visas, college essays. You should prepare some smart questions to ask: such as “what careers do people from your College choose after graduation?”; “Tell me about scholarships”. The visits are all at lunchtime in Phase 2.

Educational Fairs: Please attend at least one of the American, Australian, and European Educational fairs in the next two months.

- Australian Educational Fair: October 5th-6th From 12 – 6 PM. Taipei World trade Center. <http://www.sia2013.com.tw/>
- American Educational Fair: October 12th-13th, CPC building, No.3, Song Ren Rd., Sinyi District, Taipei city 110. From 1 - 5 PM.
- European Educational Fair: October 26th-27th, from 1-6 P.M. Taipei World trade Center Hall No.3

TES holds a European Universities Fair on the morning of Friday, October 25th, at our Secondary Yang Ming Shan campus, between 9 and 11. Themed around our three countries, The United Kingdom, Germany and France, it will feature interviews with university admissions officers.

Finally: **the U.S.C [University of Southern California] will interview** volunteer undergraduate applicants in Taipei on October 3rd (Thursday), from 17:00 to 19:00. Only those who are genuinely interested in applying to the USC need apply. The official writes: “The interviews (1 hour in length) are open to H4 students only, and are conducted in groups of maximum 10 students. How you perform at the interview will become part of your admission materials, however there is no automatic advantage accompanying the interviews.” Interested? Submit a request form (ask the UCC at ucc@tes.ep.edu.tw) to : usctaip@usc.edu by Sept 24th.

Choosing careers skillfully is a challenge you will overcome by the end of your time at TES. Why not rise to it early by getting informed?

Mr. Julian Brown
University and Careers Counsellor

From the Assistant Head (Key Stage 3)

KS3 Students After School

Dear parents. Please can we stress the importance that all students who are not involved in ECA activities leave the site by 3.15pm. Students are not allowed to stay on site after this if unsupervised by a teacher for obvious safety reasons. As well as this students are not permitted to walk into the village and return with refreshments later. We appreciate your support with this and ask that arrangements are made for your child to be transported home at the correct time each evening.

Homework

Homework timetables were issued last week as a guide for students and parents. Please can I ask all parents, especially Year 7 parents, to ensure that students are not spending too much time completing homework tasks. Teachers have been asked to give a cut off time for the completion of tasks so students have an idea of how long they are expected to spend on a particular piece of work. It is fantastic that our students are so motivated to do their best on homework tasks however it has been brought to our attention that at times students are spending hours on tasks that could be completed in 30 minutes. Work – life balance is so important and time for rest and relaxation is essential. Please help to support at home to ensure students are completing all homework but doing so in a sensible amount of time.

Team Building Day

We were truly blessed by the weather gods on Team Building Day as Typhoon Kong – Rey threatened to wash the day out. As it turned out we were given a one day window on the Friday with no wind or rain and perfect conditions for the fantastic activities organised by the Heads of Year. The timetable was collapsed for all Year Groups in all sections for this annual event.

Key stage 3 students were involved in 3 different activities in 3 different locations and reports on the day are given below.

James Woodall

Assistant Head Key Stage 3

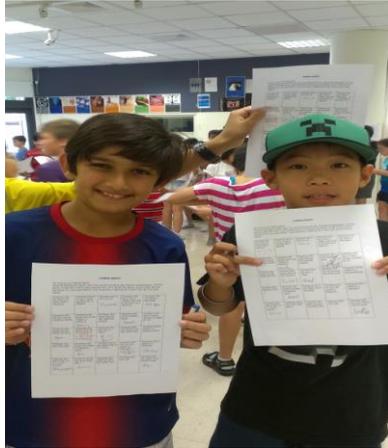
Team Building Day for Year 7s was an educational and enjoyable day for all. Educational because all students worked together on team problem-solving exercises such as designing an egg-parachute with minimal amount of material. This demonstrated the importance of planning cooperatively before implementing a solution. Enjoyable because so many students competed together in outdoor water-soaked relay races as well as playing an exciting game of Nerf dodgeball! Working together successfully is not always an easy task but it is something that encourages good communication and trust between classmates. On this day, Year 7s took a big step towards being a collection of effective and motivated schoolmates.

A reflection from Vanessa Kang Year 7

Team Building Day allows those who may not play well together on a daily basis to communicate and interact with each other. But in the eyes of students, it is simply a day of fun and meeting new friends.

Personally, my favorite activity of the day was the Human Bingo because it was a social game. This teambuilding activity allowed everyone to get to know each other in a fun way. I got to know lots more students just by playing this game, I meet many new schoolmates from the French and German sections too! I still have the sheet of Human Bingo at home and I will never forget what we did.

The students who previously may not have got on in the past will forget their differences and will work together in order to reach their goals. The day was really memorable and thrilling; I am really looking forward to this year.



Raymond Imbleau
Head of Year 7

Year 8 Yangmingshan Teambuilding Day Adventure

This year the British Section Year 8 and French Section 5eme cohort took to the stunning mountains of Yangmingshan National Park to enjoy a fun-filled day of teambuilding activities. We were certainly blessed with cool, comfortable and most importantly dry weather as tropical storm Kong-Rey skirted the northern parts of Taiwan just the day before!

Two students from Year 8 were kind enough to write about their teambuilding day experiences.



A reflection by Hani Sparks 8.2 JDU

For team building day the year eights went ALL the way up the mountain to Yangmingshan National Park. When we got to the top we were split into 5 groups; the Pigs, Cows, Chickens, Cats and Dogs. There were lots of teambuilding activities set up by the teachers. The whole point of the day was to get to know people you would not normally be friends with and to develop the 5 school values of Respect, Responsibility, Creativity, Participation and Perseverance.

Through the activities I saw all 5 of the secondary values in lots of different ways. The first game was where you had to lead people safely while they were blindfolded. I think this activity showed trust mainly because you had to trust the person not to hurt you or guide you into a bush! The school values it showed were responsibility and respect; you had to be responsible for the person you were leading round and not be silly and disrespectful to them.

Another activity that showed great secondary values was one where you had to work together to get a small ball around in a circle using cut out half pipes. This activity showed teamwork, perseverance and creativity. You had to think outside the box to come up with better ways to get the ball to go as fast as possible around in the circle, you also had to persevere and not give up even if you get a really bad time, try to beat the team that is currently in first place and change tactics if they don't seem to be working.

The activity that showed the most perseverance and creativity was the get out of the chains game. You had to get a partner and handcuff yourself to your partner. Once you were secure you had to try to break out! It seemed impossible but in the end we all managed to do it, the values perseverance and creativity are great values for this game because it is not impossible and you have to persevere but you also have to think creatively to be able to get out of the chains.

Lastly the Icebergs activity using 7 mats fostered lots of values. The goal was to try get a whole team over the “ocean” as fast as possible without falling in the “water”. This activity taught us perseverance, creativity, participation and responsibility. You had to get the whole team to participate on how to pass the mats down the line to get the next step and think of creative ways to get the whole team over as fast as possible even if you were losing you had to persevere you could still win the race on how well everyone participated responsibly and got the team to work together.

All the activities improved our ability to befriend new people and show off the secondary school values.



A reflection by Bo-Chyan Topham 8.1

We went to Yangmingshan National Park last Friday. It was a cloudy and warm day. We left school around 08:00am and walked to the bus station where we took a bus. After we got off the bus, we hiked for a few minutes until we got to the place for the activities. Once there, some of the classmates were already out of breath and sweating, at least I wasn't! While the teachers were preparing the activities, we took a photo and then split into animal groups by making animal noises. The groups were dogs, cats, cows, chicken and I was in the mooing one ... cows!

The activities began. The first one was the blindfold game which was about building trust. The second one was a ball game which focused on working together. The third one was the island game which was about working as a team. The fourth activity was a thinking game where we needed to use our head to solve problems. The last game was the pipe ball game. After we had done the activities it was time to eat. We all enjoyed our lunch, some classmates shared their food with each other and we all had a great lunch.

After lunch, we were ready for the last event, it was in a different location, so we walked there. The task was to find the teachers and answer the brainteaser they would ask. If we got them right, we would get a signature from the teacher. After 20 minutes, it was time to go back. We walked back to the bus station and took a bus back to our school. We got back to the school, we rested for half an hour, and it was time to go home.

I had a great day and the others had a great day too. The day was fun, interesting and we learnt a lot of things. I hope we can do this more often.



All in all, the students (and staff) enjoyed a wonderful day of challenge and growth as they developed and learnt key life skills such as cooperation, communication, participation and most of all respect for themselves, others and their environment.

Timothy Sing Key
Head of Year 8 & 9

Year 9 The Amazing Race Taipei

The Year 9's were split into 11 teams of 8 and headed off on a whirlwind tour of Taipei. There were 12 destinations, each with its own personal challenge as well as 10 food challenges on the journey.

The teams had to plan their route to get to as many locations as quickly as possible so maximizing their point scoring abilities. It required leadership, teamwork, planning as well as a lot of (healthy) risk taking. It was fantastic to see the groups gel as teams working with people

they usually do not work with and all 3 sections coming together to work as the European School.

The students and staff approached the day with great interest, enthusiasm and commitment and the goals of Team Building Day were met with every student really embracing the 'Secondary Values' of Perseverance, Respect, Responsibility, Creativity and Participation. Well done to everyone involved in the day.



James Woodall
Assistant Head KS3

It's Better to Talk

School counselling services are available on Tuesday 8am - 2.30pm, Wednesday 8am – 2.30pm & Thursday 8am – 3pm in room 1204.

Difficulties are inevitable. Problems can exhaust us and hinder us from enjoying our studies, relationships, pursuing goals and interests. Speaking with a counsellor can help.

You and your child can expect the counsellor

- To be safe, honest and trustworthy
- To listen carefully, be caring and respectful
- To be non-judgmental and not to lay blame
- To explore thoughts, feelings and behaviour
- To tell you about risks you should know about
- To support and help the teenagers to make changes
- To be sensitive to your family background and culture
- To be creative: talking, playing, drawing, writing and reading
- To act as an advocate for your teenagers and you when necessary
- To maintain confidentiality unless your child or someone else is 'at risk'

Students can make appointments with me by leaving a note in the referral box outside the office or see me during office hours. Parents can contact me on 8145-9007 ext.2604 or email:

jenny.hsu@tes.tp.edu.tw

Jenny Hsu
Counsellor



Titans Football 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 Monday and Wednesday 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 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