



TAIPEI EUROPEAN SCHOOL

台北歐洲學校

EUROPEAN SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWSLETTER

Edition 8.0 Friday 20th December 2013

From the Head of British Secondary and High School Section

Values Day

Values Day this year focused on our Secondary Value of perseverance. It was a great day and I was impressed by how the students actively participated in the activities presented. A special thanks to Mr Woodall and Mrs Papps and the Pastoral Leadership Team for their superb leadership in organizing the day. Please see later in this newsletter for detailed reports.

Student Council

Student Council elections were held on Values Day. Congratulations to Janice Liu who was elected by the student body as President of the Student Council for 2014. Janice has been a significant contributor to the Student Council for many years and I know she will do a great job in this critically important role. Thank you to outgoing President Vernon Lin for the work he completed in 2013. He has certainly raised the profile of the Student Council during his tenure as President. Vernon was ably supported by a busy and committed Student Council and I thank all members for their representation and support of students at the ESC.

Seasons Greeting.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. I hope all in the TES community have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you.

Thank you to all members of the TES community for the amazing support you have given me in my role as the Head of the British Secondary and High School. Living in Taiwan and working at TES is something that will shape and influence me for the rest of my life. The school goes from strength to strength due to the hard work of students, staff and parents. I look forward to reading and hearing about the successes of our amazing students 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,

Christmas well and truly got under way on Wednesday night with our BSHS Christmas Concert. The choir and orchestra delivered fine renditions of many well known carols to get us in the Christmas spirit, despite the difficulties we had in the week beforehand choosing which carols were to feature! Huge thanks as always to Chris Papps, Head of Music and Tara McNeil for leading this event. The Parents' Association were on hand to provide their usual array of refreshments including mulled wine and gingerbread which further added to the festive mood. The whole school Christmas assembly on Thursday provided us with another opportunity to flex our vocal chords with the whole school singing carols – it was a magic moment and a great way to end a busy Term.

As we approach the Christmas holidays I am sure I need not remind our H2 and H4 students of the need for a structured revision programme during the holidays. Examinations start on January 6th so they will hit the ground running when they come back to school after the break. Please find below guidelines that we have issued to students this week regarding the mock exams.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express my fondest best wishes to Stuart Glascott and his family as they depart the school for pastures both familiar *and* new in Australia. Mr Glascott's significant impact on the development of the British Secondary and High School is much appreciated by the whole school community. With his patient ears, thoughtful approach and absolute unerring commitment to the students and parents of this school, he has been a great role model to both staff and students alike. Myself and other members of the school leadership team feel we are in an excellent position to take on the challenges of the coming months thanks to his hard work, as we begin the recruitment process for a finding a replacement Head of the British Secondary and High School. Please see our website which will be updated during the Christmas break for my message to the British Secondary and High School students and parents in my position of Acting Head of Section.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Mock Exams in the BSHS – Information for Students and Parents

This document is designed to support the work of our students, teaching colleagues and school leaders in ensuring best practice relating to mock exams. Mock examinations are a permanent and necessary fixture on our school calendar for all H2 and H4 students as they approach the end of their respective IGCSE and IB courses. Mock examinations run for a two week period in January after the Christmas break. During this time, lessons are suspended for these students and when not in an exam students are expected to use their time to revise in extended study periods.

Mock exams provide students with an opportunity to:

- Have as 'real' an exam practice as possible using past IGCSE and IB papers from previous years
- Conduct revision leading up to and during the Christmas break and during the 2 week study leave granted during the mock examination period
- Revisit and consolidate course content covered earlier in the course that you may have forgotten

- Practise exam strategies as well as revising course content. The exam process can be a stressful one and this 'rehearsal' can help address nerves which can inhibit exam performance
- Reflect on your mock exam grades and with the help of feedback from teachers, set yourself meaningful short term targets for improvement before the end of Term 2 and the start of Study Leave

Mock exams provide parents with an opportunity to:

- Gain an accurate picture of your child's current attainment
- Celebrate successes and tackle areas that have been identified for improvement in feedback from teachers
- Support your child with their revision programme so that they are fully prepared not only for the mocks but also for the real exams in May/June
- Address any concerns you might have about your child's learning and their mock exam results at Parents Evening in February

Chrysta Garnett, Deputy Head

From The Music Department

The term has come to a festive finish with the very first ESC Christmas concert held on Wednesday night. A huge thank you to all people who contributed to making this event such a success. The Music leaders, H3s Stephanie Kao and Jolie Ting were thrown in the deep end and did a fantastic job of organising large parts of the event. You can read more about what they got up in the very first contribution to the newsletter from the Music leaders. As always the Music Department is very grateful to the ESCPA for support of their events, with the team stepping up to provide fantastic Christmas food and some particularly delicious Glühwein. Also, a big thank you to Art, Mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages and English departments for their contributions, some great student work on display and some poetry and readings. Finally thank you to all of the Music students for all of their hard work in the choirs and orchestra to prepare and rehearse all of the music for this event. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas.

Chris Papps
HOD Music

From the Music Leaders

This is our first entry as music leaders in the newsletter. We will be writing an article every four weeks or so to explain some of what we have been up to. Music Leader is a whole new position in our school's Music department and we are extremely pleased to be given this opportunity to practice leadership skills, perseverance, creativity and responsibility. The first ever Christmas concert was our initial challenge. We were overwhelmed by the fact that our first task was to organise the Christmas concert. Now, we understand the exhausted look of Mr Papps and Miss McNeil after every music event! Organising a concert is really hard and requires a lot of thinking and planning. A lot of unexpected things can happen during a concert. For example, we were expecting there would be five groups performing during the concert night but only three groups showed up. We had to find an alternative option to replace the gaps.





Fortunately, Allen Chang in H4 was willing to contribute his time and amazing skills to perform when there was no group performing in the MPR. There are a lot of performers that we would like to thank who contributed to making this concert such a success: Melody Cho and Sean Pai in H3 who practised really hard for their performance, the band comprised of Konrad Wang, Beatrice Blanc, Tim Cheng and Stephen Lien (who even tried to learn a different song in ten minutes in order to perform the second time!) and Audrey Lam and Elizabeth Lin in KS3 who performed beautifully. Thank you to all of them for such a great night.

After this Christmas concert event we found out that being a Music Leader is not all about telling people what to do and helping others, but it is also learning to receive helps from others and be thankful. Moreover, being Music Leader creates chances for us to meet new people, to talk to people we have never talked to and to learn from them. We believe that although the Music Leader position will look great on our college resume, the learning process through taking on such challenges is more valuable than the title itself.

Jolie Ting and Stephanie Kao

Second Semester of Peripatetic Music Lessons

The second semester of the Peripatetic Programme will start after Chinese New Year in Term 2. Students currently enrolled in the first semester of lessons who indicate they wish to continue for a second semester will be issued with payment and lesson details in the second week of Term 2. If your child does not currently take lessons and is interested in learning an instrument (guitar, violin, cello, piano, flute, clarinet) or voice, please have them see me directly for more information.

10 weeks of lessons

Lesson	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Make Up	Easter Break	8	9	10	Make Up	Make Up	Make Up	
	February			March			April			May			June			
Mon	17	24	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	*2*
Tues	18	25	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3
Weds	19	26	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4
Thurs	20	27	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	5
Fri	21	*28*	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6
!	No Lesson				**	Holiday			Make Up Lesson ^ If needed							

TES Annual Music Concert

Auditions were held last week for the ESC Music Concert. The competition was fierce, with over twenty soloists and small groups auditioning for a place in the concert. It was particularly pleasing to hear such a variety of performances and have a number of students audition for the first time. Thank you to all students for such a high level of prepared audition pieces; your performances were thoroughly enjoyed by the Music department.

You can hear the successful small groups and soloists, as well as the choirs, jazz band and orchestra perform in the 14th Annual Music Concert on the 24th of January from 7pm in the Phase II Atrium.

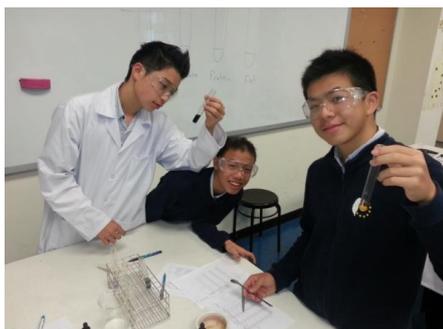
Chris Papps, HOD Music

Year 8 Science – You Are What You Eat!

Year 8 Science is currently completing a Biology unit on Food and Digestion. The students have been learning about the essential nutrients our bodies need, as well as how they are digested and absorbed into the blood. After bringing in a variety of food items, they set about testing these for different nutrients, including carbohydrates, sugars, proteins and fats.

Food tests involve reacting small samples of crushed food with distilled water, chemical reagents and in some cases heat. The main indicators of different nutrients are colour changes that take place. The students first conducted control tests on prepared solutions of starch, glucose, protein and oil to see what a positive test would look like. They then used these standards to compare with the results of their different foods, and were able to draw conclusions as to what nutrients were present.

To no surprise, the young nutritionists determined that potato chips are a good source of carbohydrates and fats, mentos candies are rich in glucose and eggs are packed with protein! It was a good thing the testing was done before lunch, because now we know that “we are what we eat!”



News from the Mathematics Department

H3 'Energizer' Maths Relay Race House Event

After lunch on Monday afternoon, all students from H3 gathered at the MPR to compete in what has become a bit of a tradition at TES, the H3 Mathematics Relay Race. A 'Mathematics Relay Race' involves students in teams of 3 (in their respective houses) and for a one hour period, they take turns to run a 50m 'circuit' to retrieve questions, run back to work out the solutions and then run the same circuit to get their answers checked. If correct, they get house points and the next question. There were 25 fiendishly hard problems to solve (without the use of a calculator, of course!), all done to the sound of Christmas songs from past and present, so although it was exhausting and challenging, it was most definitely fun and festive too! When the music stopped and it was all over, the overall winners were The Loyal Cobras (Michelle Yeh, Brian Shih and Kevin Wang - Bora) who scored an impressive 96 points from a maximum possible 125. The overall 'House' results were as follows:

4th Mistral 188 points, 3rd Scirocco 232 points, 2nd Bora 234 points, Winners: Marin 300 points



Here's one of the problems from the race that the students just could not get right:

Q: A farmer notices 10 large crows pecking away at the corn growing in her cornfield. She takes aim with a gun, shoots and manages to get one of the crows.

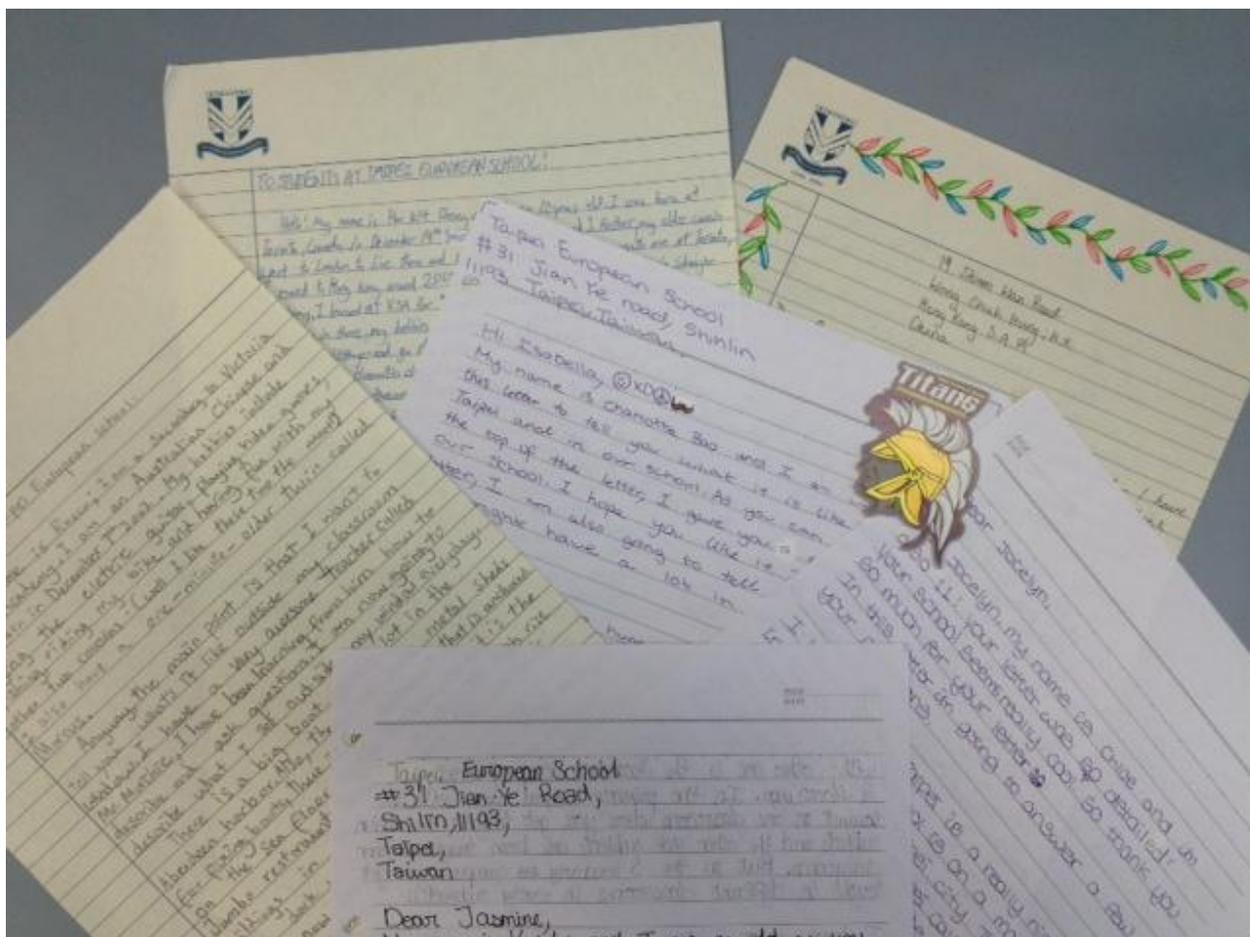
How many crows are now left in her cornfield? (email your answer to paul.lee@tes.tp.edu.tw)



The Mathematics department would like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas, those students in H1/H2/H4 who are preparing for mock examinations – work hard but enjoy some relaxing time as well.

Making Connections between Taipei and Hong Kong in Geography

Towards the end of term, the busy Year 7 Geographers have been further developing their understanding of their place in the world by looking at the lives of students from Hong Kong. As part of their growing international awareness, Year 7's received letters from fellow Geographers in Hong Kong. The two sets of students are sharing information about their cities, their schools and their lives in different parts of the world. In some ways the students are identifying the similarities and differences between the two places. Questions were asked about varied themes from "What do you have for breakfast" to "Which country are you from?". Our students have been replying by answering these questions and adding in some of the unique aspects of living in Taipei and also of attending TES as a school.



Mr Greaves, Head of Geography

From the Assistant Head (High School) Season's Greetings

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of Term 1! The last 17 weeks have been jam packed with lots of exciting activities happening both in and out of the classroom. It has been a pleasure to see students and staff make the most of the opportunities to get involved at TES. Yesterday's End of Term Assembly celebrated many successes of the past term. I was reminded of how lucky we are as a school to work with such dedicated and talented students. The highlight of the assembly was the whole school Christmas carol singsong – a lovely way to usher in the holiday period and say goodbye to 2013!

Today's Glee event, as always, was a spectacular display of talent... and more importantly, a lot of energy and enthusiasm! Congratulations to all four houses who put on a very entertaining show. An especially huge 'congratulations' goes to the House Captains who have shown a huge amount of leadership over the past weeks in the lead up to today's event.

Lastly, I would like to wish the H2 and H4 year groups all the best as they embark on the most intensive phase of their mock examination preparation. The mock exams provide an opportunity for students to practise ahead of the final IGCSE and IB exams, but they also give students the chance to show off all their learning up to this point in their course. We are confident that the H2 and H4 students will impress in the mocks just as they do day in and day out in classrooms across the school. Good luck H2 and H4!!

Season's Greetings to all our TES families. I hope you enjoy a happy and restful holiday break. I look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Where are they now? An Interview with TES Alumna Grace Tsai

It was my pleasure to interview Grace Tsai a former TES student who graduated in May 2013 with 43 IB Points – an outstanding achievement. She now studies Jurisprudence at the University of Oxford in Oxford, England.

S Papps: What have you been up to since Graduation in May?

Grace: After graduating, I went to India on a month-long missionary trip. I stayed at an orphanage and helped out in different slum schools. It really changed my outlook, and I now *really* appreciate hot showers. It was also a month away from my parents, which I think helped with my transition to university. I'd highly recommend an "eye-opening" trip for all graduates, as both the IB and university life can be "bubbles", insulated to a degree from the outside world.

After I came back, I decided *not* to do anything productive for the rest of my summer. (It was hard, but somehow I managed. This part of my summer I would not recommend.)

S Papps: Please tell me a bit about the course you are studying at university

Grace: I'm reading Jurisprudence (or just Law, since nobody uses the fancy name). The three-year course is almost entirely self-taught in the sense that most learning is done through reading. Law students are expected to do about forty hours of reading a week, with the remainder of the time divided up into essay-writing and staying sane. I have about one to two hours of contact time a week, though some other subjects have more.

S Papps: What inspired you to apply for Law?

Grace: A substantial masochistic streak. Oh, and a mixture of future employment prospects and interest in the subject.

S Papps: In what ways do you think studying the IB Diploma prepared you for your course at Oxford?

Grace: So far, the academic side of university has been about reading, note-taking, essay-writing, and articulating my thoughts during tutorials. I think all three, but especially the last two, are developed by the IB. Yes, all those oral presentations are actually useful. Yes, learning to structure an argument will definitely come in handy. (And don't forget all those citations.) Yes, juggling several assignments at once will prepare you for meeting strict deadlines. I also find that I'm not *completely* clueless when those doing sciences and other subjects talk about their work. It's a good feeling when a physicist gawks at you for knowing the equation for centripetal acceleration.

S Papps: What have been the most challenging and interesting aspects of your course?

Grace: The tutorials have been both. Tutorials are like classes but a lot more intense. For this term I've had them in pairs, and we use the week's essay as a jumping board for more in-depth discussion. It's been challenging because you're expected to turn up at tutorials having done the reading and understood it completely. The interesting part comes from the amount

of brain-picking that goes on during tutorials. Through discussion, you'll come up with ideas that you wouldn't have otherwise. After an hour with an expert of the field, I always leave having accessed, however briefly, a higher intellectual plane.

S Papps: What advice would you give to current IB students in relation to their studies?

Grace:

- If you need help, ask. You will never again have teachers so dedicated to helping you do the best you can.
- Don't start memorising until a few weeks before the exams — if you can, begin committing some things to long-term memory. There's a limit to short-term memory.
- Eat whatever you want. You deserve it.
- Try not to hate any subject or topic too much. There's nothing quite as difficult as learning something you despise.
- Get your EE over and done with. Ain't nobody got time for that.
- Lastly, don't be too hard on yourself. Give yourself free time when you need it. There's no use coming out with great grades and nothing else.

S Papps: What's one thing you wish you knew about university life before you got there?

Grace: Going to university and/or leaving home doesn't automatically make you an adult. Adult things are hard, and the transformation won't happen overnight. *Why are there so many forms?* Food is expensive. That tenth oven-pizza of the week doesn't taste so nice (cooking becomes an increasingly valuable life skill). *Forms for everything.* Certain decisions aren't so clear-cut anymore. You find yourself needing all sorts of things you never realised you needed, like bathroom mats and strainers and coat hangers. Bank accounts are hard. *Forms.* Don't worry, though, because most everyone else is on the same boat. Just don't pretend you know how to steer it when you're struggling.



Grace Tsai (center) with her Jurisprudence classmates at Oxford



Former students Grace Tsai and Brandon Hsiao speak at the 2013 TES Graduation ceremony

Sonya Papps
Assistant Head, High School



H4 MOCK EXAMINATIONS

Just when everyone else is relaxing over the Christmas holiday and when they really could do with a rest, H4 students will be preparing for their mock examinations.

As previously communicated, mock examinations are designed to give students an authentic exam experience with real IB questions. They happen in a busy fortnight and having one or two exams on one day will mirror what will happen in the real exams in May. Students will be given a chance to experience real IB exams that are marked using IB criteria and moderated by a team of teachers and, most importantly, what they receive back at the end of the process will be a set of meaningful targets to address over the remaining weeks before the final exams. These exams, their results, and the feedback students receive, will enable and encourage a range of meaningful conversations between teachers and students based on the assessment criteria. These criteria have been shared with students all the way through the course and they have been used by students and teachers regularly, but they really become a focus in the final term of H4.

Mock examinations are also really useful for parents as they give a snapshot of student performance in a situation that is as close to the real thing as it is possible to get. I will allow you to celebrate success with your child and to review targets with them.

A set of reports will follow the mock examinations (and these will include very specific targets) and there will be a Parent-Teacher Interview Evening very soon after. That will give you an opportunity to have a one-to-one conversation with each teacher about the progress of your child in each subject.

THE END OF A VERY BUSY LONG TERM FOR ALL

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all IB students on the commitment they have shown to their studies in this very long term. They are all looking very tired and in need of a break. H3 students have made a really positive impression with their teachers and I received such a lot of positive feedback from them. There have been incredibly successful events (the Group 4 Science Project, a variety of CAS activities and Tabitha campaigns, H3 participation in sports events to name a few) centered around the curriculum and everything else that supports it, and H3 students should feel a real sense of achievement at having started so well.

H4 students really do deserve a day or two off over the Christmas holiday before they start preparing for their mock examinations in earnest. I hope they feel in a much better place now that the Extended Essay and TOK Essay are out of the way. They have dealt with fairly relentless deadlines impressively on the whole and I hope they now feel they can cope with preparing for their mocks with a clear head and lots of balance (they must ensure that they sleep well, and regularly, and that they catch up on exercise as part of the mock exam revision programme).

My very best wishes to all parents and IB students for a very merry Christmas and a prosperous and happy New Year.

Darren Latchford
IB Co-ordinator

University and Careers Corner

CAREERS: H1 – Exciting work experience week

Next term in the second week, (13th-17th January) all our H1 students will be getting up early... but not to go to school! They are right now choosing a local company for their work experience placement. Their week at work should see them getting experience of the world of work. Most H1 students have now secured a placement, but a few are still on the hunt. **If any TES parents are interested in offering one of our H1 students a work experience placement please do contact me via email at ucc@tes.tp.edu.tw**

UNIVERSITY: H4 Season over, the H3 season begins!

It seems hard to believe that the young adults in H4 are already on their way out! I can report that most have completed several applications to universities around the world. Some early decision applicants are already getting offers, and the rest of the year group will be hearing back at various times in the Spring.

Winter 2014 is the ideal time for H3s to begin researching which course and which universities suit their aspirations. Those who aim smart are setting themselves up to land on the right spot in 2015.

There will be an information evening on the process of Uni applications at school in Term 3. Information will be sent to parents once the date is confirmed.

TAIPEI UNIVERSITY NEWS

British Universities-Tour

Registration is now open at www.UK-Unitour.tw for free personal interviews with admissions representatives from top UK universities (such as Bristol, St. Andrews', U. of East Anglia*, Goldsmiths *, Manchester, York) the British Uni-Tour organized by UKEAS on 11th October. You do not only visit, you **must register online** first. While these interviews do not guarantee a place; I encourage you to participate on January 11-12th at the National Taiwan University Convention Centre.

**These universities offer generous scholarships to high IB scorers*

US Uni-Tour ; this will not be interviews, but an exhibition. It will be held late February.

SAT strategy class by Princeton - any takers?

Princeton Review offers a SAT strategy course for ten weeks using our school facilities after lessons. **I would like to hear from parents who prefer that SAT prep is done on site at TES, and if ten families commit we can invite Princeton Review in. Please email ucc@tes.tp.edu.tw to express an interest.**

Julian Brown
University and Careers Counsellor

From the Assistant Head (Key Stage 3)

This is another bumper edition of the newsletter. It has been such a long and incredibly busy term and this is reflected in all that is being reported in this edition. Values Day was another

great success, yet it seems like a long time ago with the Christmas music concert, assemblies and Glee all taking place this week.

Students will be bringing their Ter1 reports home today, Friday. The report should give you detailed update of progress as well as targets for students in all subject areas. Please find time over the break to discuss the content of the report as a family. If you need any further information please feel free to contact subject teachers directly by school email.

The Key Stage 3 students have had a hugely successful term and deserve a well earned break over the Christmas period. There are a lot of very weary students who need to use these two weeks to recharge and recover.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff who have invested time and effort into the KS3 students both in curriculum time and outside in the ECA programme. There are so many opportunities for our students, as is reflected in the Sport section this week. This is only possible thanks to the dedication shown by our staff.

I would also like to publically thank Mr Glascott for all the support and guidance he has given myself personally, and my team of Pastoral leaders, over the past three and a half years. He has been hugely supportive to the team and as a result the Key Stage 3 students have benefitted. Myself and the Pastoral Team wish him and his family the very best for the future back in Australia.

Merry Christmas to all of you. Enjoy your break wherever you may be travelling and I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

James Woodall
Assistant Head Key Stage 3



Term 1 Completed ... Check!

The end of the first term is upon us as is the end of 2013! It has been a jam packed term with teaching and learning experiences that have both challenged and stimulated the minds of our amazing students in Key Stage Three. I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of the fantastic form tutors and PSHCE teachers for their dedication, care and professionalism throughout the term.

I would also like to wish each and every student, parents, faculty and staff a very Merry Christmas and a most prosperous and happy 2014. Rest well, eat well and we will see you again ready to take on Term 2!

Timothy Sing Key
Head of Year 8 & 9

Suit and Tie Disco

The Student Council organised another hugely successful student disco with 150 students attending.



Values Day 2013

It is that time of the year again, where the whole school unites to demonstrate one of our school's life-fulfilling and enriching secondary values- perseverance.

We started the day off with "Perseverance Art". Artists around the world may spend hours, weeks, or even months on producing a satisfactory piece of art. Undoubtedly, all art is a result of perseverance. Today, Mr Hill, the Head of the Art department, led students in creating land art. With the use of Taiwanese pebble stones and markers, students were instructed to illustrate one side, "enhancing and developing the art of nature", while writing an important event that is significant to them where they persevered and overcame on the other side. By doing this activity, students are encouraged to think about their past and possible future while already being challenged to make art out of an ordinary rock. "Sometimes we forget that we have the ability to overcome challenges. By making them think about their experiences, we can remind people that they have what it takes to overcome all challenges, by persevering."



Since today is Values Day, the school decided to take this opportunity to let us value our voice by voting for this year's student council president. We have four candidates, Janice Liu, Warren Hong, Kevin Wang, and Michelle Yeh, all of whom show outstanding perseverance. They have been campaigning for their chance to bring the school forward to the next stop with new vision, and start something that matters, for the past few weeks, which shows their commitment and perseverance. Janice Liu spoke about intentions to utilise students' visions of the perfect school to improve school facilities, expand the range of school merchandise, and involve non Student Council students in more charity outreach activities. Warren Hung focused on unity within the student body and expanding TES's international horizons. Kevin Wang explained his plans to increase student involvement in all aspects of the school, with suggestions such as live-streaming in-school competitions, starting a student publication and strengthening the Student Council's online presence. Michelle Yeh concentrated on the

Student Council's commitment to ongoing charity service projects, especially TES's donations to several disadvantaged children in impoverished countries, declaring her wish to involve more non Student Council students in charity outreach. Every speech was impressive and inspiring, surely showing the candidates' dedication.



Following that was the Pastoral Perseverance activity. Is there a difference between perseverance and endurance? Today, students evaluated the levels of perseverance shown by different people and in the end created a presentation of another example of perseverance not related to sports. This particular activity displayed non-sporting examples of perseverance to remind the students that perseverance is vital in many aspects of life. Teachers discussed the meaning of perseverance and endurance with students, prompting them to contemplate their own definitions of the word through examining the real-life examples of Malala Yousafzai, Stephen Hawking, and Brian Keenan, all individuals who battled crushing opposition and hardships to make a meaningful contribution to the world.

Into the afternoon's activities, the school designed three games for the students to explore perseverance. The first game was Beep Ball, in which students were placed in groups. In one group, students had to follow their sense of hearing as they pursued a beeping sound emanating from a goalpost. The task was completed after they successfully reached the goal post. In the other two groups, students were able to experience Beep Ball, as a member of Taiwan's world title winning Beep Ball team threw a beeping ball towards them and the blindfolded students tried to catch the ball. Many students enjoyed this activity, as it was not only unique and challenging, it also stretched perceptions of perseverance and gave students a sense of achievement as they overcame obstacles. This carried a strong message - if you persevere, you will eventually succeed.



The second game was Ice Ice Baby. Out of the many activities in Values Day, Ice Ice Baby is considered to be one of the more entertaining ones. In this game, students had to retrieve a penny from an ice cube. This could not be done alone, and teams had to work together to complete this mission. After this, the students wrote a poem/poster/song about what they learnt concerning perseverance.



Last but not the least, students participated in How Do We Stack Up, an activity in which students must work together to stack cups in a given pattern with no instructions and only a video for reference. Students persevered in attempting to find the correct stacking pattern, while also practicing their skills of observation and coordination.

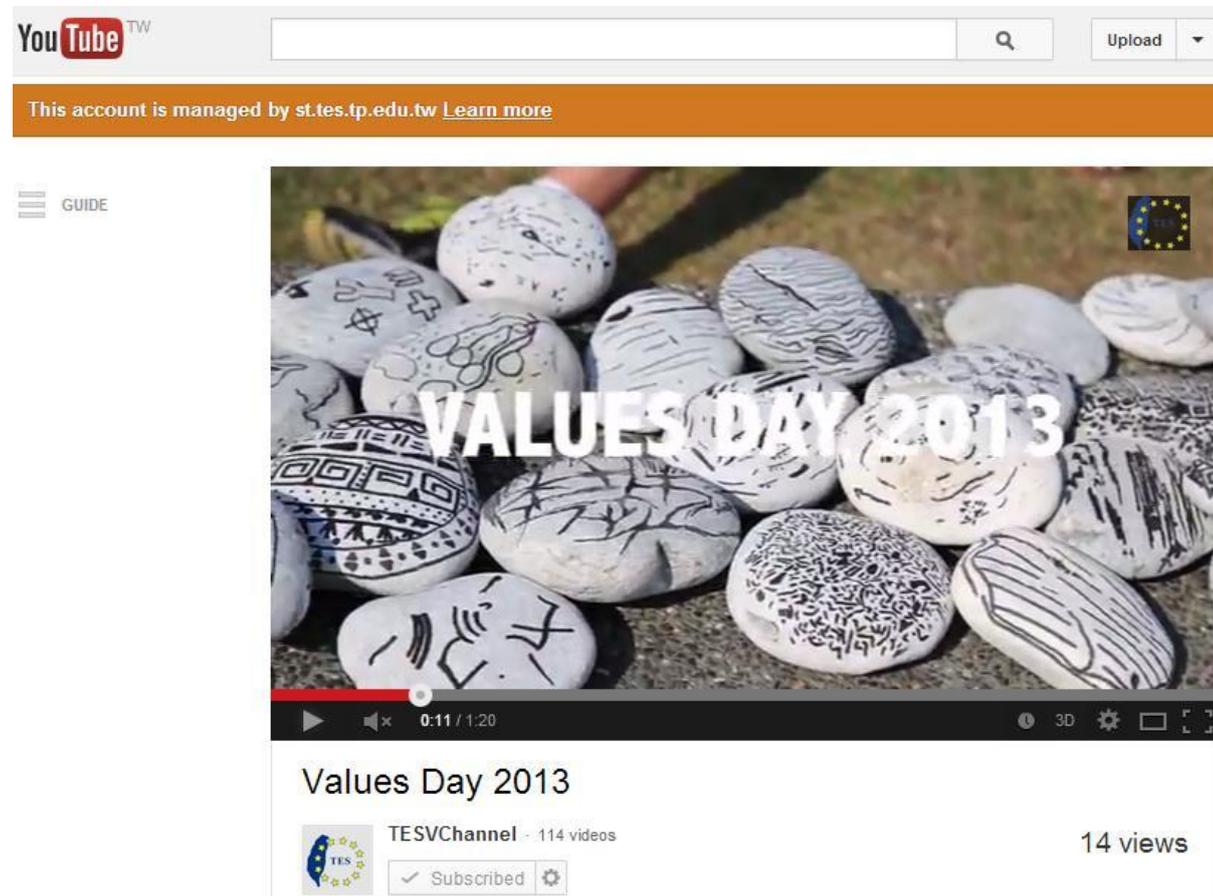
Meanwhile, the H4 students spent the day thinking about the demands and the creative opportunities of the second part of their TOK assessment, i.e. the presentation. The students have now completed the first part of the assessment, the TOK essay. The day was led by Mr Kenny, the TOK Team Leader, and he was supported by Ms Papps and Mr Labuschagne. In this way the school gave these students the space the plan and to persevere in their 2-year TOK course, one of the more challenging part of the Diploma course.

Before the day ended, the whole school had an assembly. We gave special thanks to the Taiwan's Beep Ball Team, we welcomed Vernon Lin, the student council president of 2013, to announce the result of the student council president election. All of us were just as nervous as the four candidates standing in front of the atrium. After a stunned silence, Vernon finally announced the name- Janice Liu. It resulted in rapturous applause. She is elected as the student council president of 2014 and she's earned it!

Edited by: Charlotte Lee, David De George and Victoria Boyden

Reported by: Jenny Li, Victoria Boyden, Yulin Huang, David de George, Charlotte Lee, Alvin Chang, Jade Tsui , Chloe Oani, Justin Liu, Ray Huang, Xuanlin Tham, Yuki Nogawa, Scarlett Pygott, Michaela Lintott, Charlene Chiu and Kevin Chen

Please follow the link below to watch a short video of Values Day 2013. With special thanks going to Charlie Barratt and Oliver Lin for filming and editing this video.



The image is a screenshot of a YouTube video player. At the top, the YouTube logo is visible on the left, and a search bar and an 'Upload' button are on the right. Below the header, a banner reads 'This account is managed by st.tes.tp.edu.tw Learn more'. The video player itself shows a video titled 'VALUES DAY 2013' with a thumbnail image of several white stones with black line drawings on them. The video progress bar shows 0:11 / 1:20. Below the video, the title 'Values Day 2013' is repeated. The channel name 'TESVChannel - 114 videos' is shown, along with a 'Subscribed' button and a settings gear icon. The view count '14 views' is displayed on the right.

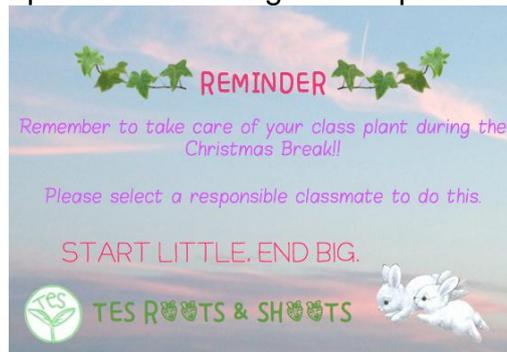
<http://goo.gl/FThtpl>

From Roots and Shoots

After receiving a Bronze Award for Eco-schools last year, Taipei European School has been striving to achieve the Silver Award for this year.

Up until now, Roots and Shoots have accomplished a wide variety of things such as creating a plant competition, developing an Eco Code, selling water bottles, the continuation of promoting vegetarian lunches and running a stall in the Taipei European School's Christmas bazaar.

Roots and Shoots have developed a plant competition, where every classroom receives a plant they need to take care of. Around Earth Day next year, each plant will be judged by how well it has been taken care of and also by how healthy it is. This will make students and teachers more aware of the importance of taking care of plants.



Roots and Shoots have developed an Eco Code proposal for the school, creating environmentally friendly rules and regulations for the students and teachers to follow. This enables TES students and teachers to become more environmentally aware and friendly which allows TES to have a smaller carbon footprint. The group will work towards launching the code school-wide next year.

Together with the Student Council, Roots and Shoots have sold water bottles to make Taipei European School a more environmentally friendly place. By selling water bottles Roots and Shoots promote the reduction of paper cups usage in TES and at the same time have students to stay healthy by drinking water.

Once a month, parents come together to produce scrumptious vegetarian food to promote healthy living. 'Vegetarian lunches' has been a very successful opportunity to have students and teachers have a taste of what healthy vegetarian food has to offer. Some of the ingredients used for the vegetarian lunches are from Taipei European School's garden. The food ranges from authentic Thai papaya salads to a mouthwatering apple crumble. So remember, if you want to try out the vegetarian dishes our TES parents have to offer, come to the phase 2 cafeteria!

Lastly, Roots and Shoots ran a stall during the Christmas bazaar. Here, Roots and Shoots sold vegetarian Thai papaya salad and organic tofu, different plants and herbs that could be used for tea, reusable hand-printed bags and self-made hand lotions and lip balms. This helped to promote Roots and Shoots and overall was very successful.

Have a green Christmas!

The Media Team
(Bor-Ren Hui, Shannon Jung)



Terry, Chair of the Eco-Schools Action Committee, preparing herbs from our garden for sale at the Bazaar.

The Roots and Shoots Team

From the Head of Sport

After the buzz of the U15 Fobisia Trips slowly fading away (Click or paste this link into your browser for the U15 FOBISIA Games Video cut by Chris Lu and Ivory Lee <http://youtu.be/NlroXFyTw7o>), our athletes attention are now back on the local TISSA basketball and softball season. With Y7/8/9s travelling to Taichung and Kaoshuing last weekend to compete in their end of season TISSA Softball tournament and coming back with lots of silverware.

This will mean the Y7/8/9's will start their football season as soon as we come back after the Christmas Holidays.

Middle School Football Schedule from 3-4:30pm

Y7 boys & girls on Tuesday's

Y8 boys & Girls on Friday's

Y9 boys & girls on Thursday's.

Lastly the U13 Fobisia Trials have been a great success with over 80 students trying out this year, the final squad will be announced on the last day of this term.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

A special focus on High School Basketball from the Sports Leadership Team



JVB Boys Basketball Captain

Sports Leadership Team Interview with Chris Lu

Q. Why do you love basketball so much?

A. I find it a really good team sport and it's always intense when we play

Q. Who's your role model in basketball and why?

A. My role model is Michael Jordan, because I really like his attitude towards basketball and towards sports and his perseverance.

Q. What attribute do you need the most to be a captain of a team?

A. I think it's having a calm mind and the ability to communicate.

Q. What advice would you give to the KS3 students when playing sport?

A. When one of the team members makes a mistake, you shouldn't be screaming at him/her, but helping him/her and telling him/her what to do next time. Just enjoy the sports and try not to scream at each other and help each other out.

JVB Basketball Season so far....



Hello, my name is Christopher Lu, and in this article I will be talking about our basketball season so far. We have played 2 games this season so far, one game was last Wednesday against TPCA. Our team started off very well and was leading by 4 in the end of first quarter, however during the third quarter TPCA had a 6-0 run and was leading by 5 till the end of third quarter. Although TES was down by 5, they remained calm and tied the game immediately, with less than one minute remaining. We were down by 2, but Howard Lin cuts in and gets fouled, he scored both free throws and tied the game. After TPCA's inbound pass, they had a turnover and we scored another 2 points taking the lead back with less than ten seconds left. TPCA players were panicking, having their ball stolen by Jacob Wu and they drop another two points. The game ends with a 34-30 victory and a great win to start the season off.

Our second game was against TAS one of the best JVB teams amongst the International schools. It was a very intense match, TAS focused on playing post moves inside, and took the

lead early on in the game. The teams tied in the first quarter, but under the great communication of the team and the change of defensive plan. TES took the lead back in the third quarter and ended the third quarter with a 7 point lead. However during the fourth quarter TES rushed the offense and created many turnovers. As a result, TAS grabbed many fouls and fast break points, this even lead to both of our centers fouled out. Thus, our inside defense was very weak and TAS took the advantage to grab the lead back and maintained it till the end, grabbing the lucky victory with a 2 point lead.

I believe that the season so far has been great! Everyone is trying very hard during training and we have been communicating during games. Although everyone was very depressed because of the game in TAS, I am very sure that we will get them back during the tournament ! In my opinion, this has been the strongest team I have been in so far, and I believe we will get the gold medal this year !

Written by Chris Lu.



JVB Girls Basketball Captain

Sports Leadership Team Interview: Irene Kuo

Q. Why do you love basketball so much?

A. It was two years ago when I was playing basketball when a basketball coach walked by and told me that I had a talent for basketball. She taught me some basic skills and soon I fell in love with basketball.

Q. Who is your role model in basketball and why?

A. I think my role model in basketball is Jeremy Lin. Its not because of his basketball skills but it is because of his attitude and sportsmanship on and off the court that makes him my role model. He doesn't brag about himself during or after games. He always gives credit to his team mates as well.

Q. What attributes do you need the most to be a captain of a team?

A. Hmm. I think to be a captain, you should be encouraging towards your teammates because if they mess up during a game, they may feel really bad and you will have to encourage them to play on. Also, if your team has lost a match, you will have to unite them and exercise co-operation in order to keep the team together.

Q. What advice would you give to the KS3 students when playing sport?

A. Teamwork and trust. Playing basketball is a sport that involves teammates to pass the ball, work together and trust each other. There may be some students who are over-confident and may not pass very often and for the other students who feel less confident about themselves, this could be a real issue as it may cause them to not play the sport they like because they may be afraid to go on the court or get laughed at by others. It doesn't have to be somebody else's opinion for you to join a sport. If you like a sport, join it and enjoy it.

JVB Girls Basketball season so far.....



The JVB girls' season started off with two friendly games; one home game against TCPA on December 4th and one away game against TAS on December 6th. Despite not having any practices this season, we were victorious in both games, with a final score of 29-19 and 26-22 against TAS. The Wednesday match against TAPA was intense during the third quarter; they caught up by 11 points which lead to a one point difference. During the TAS game, we were able to keep the lead right from the first quarter. Teamwork and co-operation is essential for games and was not absent in this one. We wish Mr. Woodall and the sixteen H1 girls luck as their season kicks into full gear after the Christmas Break.

Written by Irene Kuo



JV Girls Basketball Captain

Sports Leadership Interview with Melody Cho

Q. Why do you love basketball so much ?

A. Since I was yr 6 this was the best sport I have ever encountered. I can play well in this sport and I find it amazing how people are very into the game. Also I enjoy how people communicate during this sport to succeed."

Q. Who is your role model ?

A. I don't watch any NBA or International sports on tv, but based on players in school, it's definitely Rebecca Alice. she is really into it, and she is very passionate about basketball. Also before practices, she would go in the gym and practice alone. She is great at basketball and a great player.

Q. What attributes do you need the most to be a captain.

A. I believe it's communication, that you are able to assign tasks and toes during games."

Q. What advice do you have for the ks3 students?

A. I believe that they should build on their confidence. Some players might see players better than them and have low confidence because of that. But you should keep practicing, and once you find out you are getting better. You will gain confidence.

JV Girls Basketball season so far.....



As December starts, the exciting basketball season starts again! This year, the JV basketball team has been really hardworking during trainings. Although with everyone being so busy, we sometimes may not be able to practice with full team, we managed to get the most out of our trainings, especially the strategies of offense. Thanks to our new coach, Chin-lin, we've improved a lot. In both the games that we've played against GCA and TPCA, we won by about 20 points, which was quite encouraging. However, we definitely need to practice more in order to improve. For next year's tournament, we will need to continue develop our skills of applying some strategies to our basketball games. Let's do this TES JV girls!

Written by Melody Chou



JV Boys Basketball Captain

Sports Leadership Interview with Chris Chen

Q. Why do you love basketball so much ?

A. I play basketball in order to relieve pressure from the rigorous and challenging course of IB. I like to play basketball and think about what homework's do I have to do when I get home or when my next the course work is due? When I play basketball I want my head to be in the game and not to worry about anything else.

Q. Who is your role model ?

A. My role model is Yao Ming. A 7 ft 6 in (2.29 m) 310 lb (141 kg) professional basketball player in the NBA. He was originally from Shanghai, China. He is my role model because he is the first Chinese Basketball player to ever be in the NBA.

Q. What attributes do you need the most to be a captain?

A. You have to be a crucial or an important part in the team for your teammates to respect you , you have to assert yourself so that people will listen to you, and you have to really want to be a captain and love basketball very much.

Q. What advice do you have for the ks3 students?

A. Play lots of sport, to love the sport and play and train everyday if possible and you will be a to be a quality player.

JV Basketball Boys Basketball season so far.....



Our season so far has been great; we are currently 2-0 and are hoping to continue this streak throughout the season. We currently have two practices a week which are 3:00-4:30pm every Tuesday and Thursday.

Our first game was against GCA, which ended with a final score of 85-24 in favor to us. This was our first game and was a good chance for our coach AJ to see how his players perform in a game situation. I personally felt that our team chemistry still required work on but we were much more athletic than the opposing team which is the reason to our lead.

Our second game was against TCPA, this game ended with a score of 44-33 in favor to us. In the first and second quarter we trailed by almost fifteen points, which was very nerve wrecking for me, but with our TES spirit we persevered to eventually win the game. This game was very important to us because It showed that there are teams who still have the ability to beat us, we relied much more on team chemistry and getting open shots this game but most importantly everyone worked hard on defense and that is how we won the game.

In conclusion our season so far has been great, although the second game hadn't been a blow out win our team still learned a lot from it. I feel that our team is strong and athletic and if we can work hard to perfect our team chemistry we will have a good chance of ending this season well.

Written by Chris Chen



Varsity Boys Basketball Captain

Sports Leadership Interview with Jacky Chen

Q. Why do you love basketball so much?

A. I'm a very competitive person, so basketball is a good way for me to compete alongside my teammates against other schools or teams. I think i can learnt a lot from playing basketball, things like discipline and responsibility. It also helps you communicate better because you're constantly talking to your coaches and teammates about how to play better as a team.

Q. Who is your role model in basketball and why?

A. My role models would have to be some of the senior players that i've had a chance to play with in the past few years. I've learnt a lot from them by just being a part of their team and playing alongside some of the best that have played in TES; how they handle themselves on the court, and how hard they train to get better.

Q. What attribute do you need the most to be a captain of a team?

A. I think you need to take a lot of responsibility as the captain of any team. Its your job to make sure that everyone is doing what they're supposed to do, and keep the team under control. You also need to be willing to teach your teammates how to do things better, instead of getting upset at them for doing something wrong.

Q. What advice would you give to the KS3 students when playing sport?

A. Don't be afraid to play and try out for school teams. Playing with people older than you is definitely a good way to improve and gain experience. Also, it is important not only to train hard but also enjoy yourself when you're playing and make new friends.

Varsity Boys Basketball season so far....



The varsity team have been training 4 times a week in preparation for the upcoming tournaments at the end of the season. We have also had a few friendly games in the past few weeks. Currently, our record is 3 wins and 2 losses so far, with wins against Ping Dong High School (81-70), Guang Rong High School (73-43) and Grace Christian Academy (75-17). The two losses were both against the Chinese Cultural University.

Written by Jacky Chen Varsity

Notice about TES Titans Supporters T-shirts

Apologies for the delay on the TES TITANS Supporters T shirts and Polo's. There has been a problem with the supplier, but this has been resolved, so I hopefully shall receive them by the end of January 2014.

Middle School Softball Special

Y7 Girls Softball Team (Coached Mrs Thompson & assisted Maria-Beatrice Blanc/Christine Hsu)



Y7 Girls 2nd place at the TISSA Softball Tournament

Six am loomed cold, dark and wet; a most unpromising start to the Year 7 and 8 Softball tournament of Saturday the 14th December. But spirits undaunted, the hardy TES athletes boarded the buses, becoming progressively brighter (and louder!) as they approached Taichung, where lo and behold, a sunny, tropical day welcomed them.

Comments from the team;

'Arriving at MAC (Morrison Academy) everyone put their belongings down, and began practising for the games. Even when the games started and the food stalls opened, some teams like ours, kept on practising. After many hours, the competition was done, the medals were given, and many schools left on the bus' (Anon)

'I personally really enjoyed this trip because we made friends with ISIS and it was lots of fun talking, and competing with them, and it was a fantastic experience at MAC, so I think we should do this again sometime' (*Tau Halperin*)

'Everyone met at the primary school at 6:00am then took the bus for 2 hours all the way to MAC school in Taichung. It was so much fun and exciting but VERY tiring. After the awards ceremony, we all reached home at 7:00pm' (*Ellie Tarpy*)

'It was fun but really tiring and the food there was great; we didn't win but we had a really fun time' (*Jemmi Chan*)

'It was a lot of fun and we tried our best although we didn't win first, but at least we won second place' (*Sarahi Zuniga*).

'It was a really nice tournament, even though it was tiring. The food and new friends were great. We didn't win first place but it was a nice place' (*Jessy Lee*)

The team wish to thank their two H2 coaches, Marie Josephine (BB) Blanc and Christine, for their skills and enthusiasm.

Written by Y7 Girls Softball Team

Y8 Girls Softball Team (Coached by Mr Morris and assisted by Chloe Onai)



Y8 Girls 2nd Place at TISSA Softball Tournament

The first game that the Titans played during the tournament was against Bethany. For the first four innings, Titans managed to keep Bethany at zero runs and our team scored consistently, so all of us were in high spirits. However in the fifth inning Bethany suddenly showed their amazing batting skills and scored three points and notched three runs in a row. In the end, the Titans won the game by 8-3 and almost everyone had scored a run or made a sacrifice to help teammates get back to home base safely.

We knew that the second match against MAC Mustangs would be a lot tougher, as we had seen the team practice beforehand. When the game begun, the Titans started off quite well, but unfortunately we couldn't stop the Mustangs from stealing three runs from us. Everyone batted, but the Mustangs' fielding skills were very strong and we couldn't make a run in. One of our school values in our school is perseverance and that was what the Titans did. We persevered to the end without one person getting upset and scored a total of three points losing the Mustangs by six points.

Our third match was once again against Bethany, and it was the match deciding which team would go on to the finals. In the first couple of innings, the Titans batted well and we scored five points while the opposing team scored one. However, as the game went on, Bethany was

getting the hang of batting too and was narrowing the gap between the two teams' scores. Luckily we won 8-5 and moved on to the finals.

The whole team agreed that our last match was the most fun yet tiring against the almighty Mustangs. In the first five innings our team could barely score any runs while the Mustangs shot balls in all directions of the field, scoring many points. In the last inning we miraculously managed to score seven points. Everyone was over the moon even though we lost 10-12. No one was upset, no one was even unhappy. Everyone was cheering and laughing, jumping all around the Morrison Campus.

The day was tiring and a lot of us fell asleep on the way back home, but it was fun. Hopefully next season the Titans will be able to bring back a gold medal! Thank you to Mr Morris and Chloe for coaching us and helping us earn a medal at the tournament this year!!! (:

Written by Y8 Girls Softball Captain Hannah Kwuo

Y7 Boys Softball Team (Coached by Mr De lange & Assisted by Joie De Vie Hui)



Y7 Boys 3rd place in TISSA Softball Tournament

We all woke up to a cold and rainy morning in Taipei, definitely not wanting to receive a call from school to inform us of cancellation of the TISSA event. I was very excited to see all the coaches and the teams in good spirits, all set to go for end of season Softball tournament in Taichung on time at 6:15 a.m.

After our 2.5hours of our bus ride, we were received by beautiful sunny weather in Taichung.

We all were very excited and started off pretty well for our first ever softball tournament experience. It was great to see everyone cooperating as a team, even though for most of us it was our first time playing softball. The team faced some tough opposition, while greatly developing their skills. Everyone tried to the best of their abilities and, while we did not win all

of our games, we loved getting the chance to play this event. We had a close game against Mustangs (who won the championship) in our first set of innings of the day.

The most memorable part of our day was our battle to get the final place. We had an excellent first inning against ISIS for us being undefeated 4-0. It had got intense in the second inning when they managed 4-1. But what had built everyone's confidence by this time was lots of individual improvements and successes like of pitchers, shortstop, outfielders and high fly ball catchers, and "YES" we rolled pretty good to get to the 3rd place. We have been wanting to win a medal place. We are very proud of this win, of the efforts that we had put.

Written by Y7 Boys Softball Captain Dheeman Shahri

Year 8 Boys Softball Team (Coached by Mr Imbleau & Mr Neroutsos assisted by Eric Dubois/Ben Su)



Y8 Boys Teams Champions & 3rd place at TISSA Softball Tournament

Sweat rolled down the necks of 12 TES Year 8 Boys at MAC in Taichung on Saturday, December 14th. Our coach, Mr. Neroutsos and assistant coach Benjamin pitched really well on game day which gave us a real sporting chance to hit some long line-drives and homeruns. The first game against GCA ended in victory. The game was called by the umpire because of the mercy rule; TES was leading by more than eight runs, with the score of 13-5. TES A's second game against MAB ended in another success with the final score of 16-8. The last group stage game against KAS was another triumph with the final score of 12-4. TES won the right to the finals thanks to these three victories in the group stage. In the championship game, the boys were up against MAC Mustangs, another team who had the gold medal in its sights. TES batted first and the Titans got a two run bomb from the 'homerun-king' Brian Wu. The Mustangs came back mightily, and scored three runs to take a narrow lead. However, the Titans demonstrated perseverance and fought back, with the final score being 9-6, a real nail-biter. The Titans beat the Mustangs on their home turf which made the taste of victory even sweeter. Brian Wu, our clean-up hitter, hit five homers on the day, while Perry Lin knocked out four. The TES B Team did exceptionally well, too! Despite losing to MAC in their very first game, they came back with a vengeance to beat ISIS and MAK to

earn a place in the bronze medal game. There, they beat GCA 11-6, and won a well deserved bronze medal. In this breathtaking tournament for all of us.

Written by Y8 Softball Captain Keisuke Makino

Y9 Softball Boys Team (Coached by Mr Matthews & assisted by Alex Lin/Chris Lu/Howard Lin)



Y9 Boys 5th Place at TISSA Softball Tournament

On 14th December 2013, we went down to Morrison Academy in Kaohsiung for a softball tournament. We all gathered at Chi Shan MRT station, lead by Dr Matthews, we took the MRT to Taipei Main Station to catch the high speed rail to Kaohsiung. The train ride was an hour and a half long, and we arrived at Kaohsiung around 10 o'clock. Our first game was against MAC . Everything was going well until the last inning, we didn't notice that there was this '55minute' rule. What happened was we batted first, and when we were at the 8th inning, they beat us by 5 points. Just when we were about to chase these points back, the coach on the other team came and told us that 55 minutes was up so that meant they won.

The second game was the best one we ever had, and everyone that played will agree to that. We started off losing SISS by around 15 points, by the time we were in the middle of the game it started raining. That was an advantage to us because the pitch was slippery and the other team couldn't see very clearly in the rain; whereas we did very well taking our chances by beating them by 3 runs. This was amazing because at the start lots of our teammates started to get depressed and didn't want to continue the game. When, Ryoki, our last runner came back from third base, the sun suddenly came out of the thick clouds. Everyone was so happy, the sun came out meaning that we shall have good luck for the rest of the day.

In the end, we DID NOT come last, we tied 5th and 6th and ended the day back at Taipei Main Station where everyone was tired and worn out, all rushing home for a good night's sleep.

Written by Y9 Softball Captain Jimmy Yang

From the ESC PA

Dear TES Community!

The ESC PA dearly wants to thank all of you – Students, Parents, Teachers and Staff – for making our school such a special place! No matter what is going on – a Show, a Bazaar, a Concert – we can always count on your support and efforts. Last night at the Christmas Concert everyone who was present could really feel the special Christmas Atmosphere – thanks to Mister Papps and his enthusiasm it turned out to be an absolutely special event and all the audience enjoyed it! So for next year we can only say: keep it up and save the date!!!

We'd also like to once again express our thanks to Mister Stuart Glascott for his continuous support for the ESC PA. He will be off to Australia on Monday and he will be missed here around ESC!

Now we want to wish all of you a

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

聖誕快樂 新年快樂

Schöne Weihnachten und ein Gutes Neues Jahr

Joyeux Noël et bonne Nouvelle Année

Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo

Καλα Χριστουγεννα και καλη χρονια!

DOZO YOI OTOSHI WO OMUKAE KUDASAI



Tw'as the night before term break, and throughout ESC,

Not a creature was stirring, except for Iphi.

The students and staff had deserted the halls,

In hopes of soon shopping, out in the malls.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds,

So thought the parents but they were misled.

Iphi was reviewing her smartphone reminders
While humming a tune about red-nosed reindeers.
Iphi's reminders had so many meetings
Mostly forgotten, memories fleeting.
When what to her wondering eyes should appear
But miniature faces of those friends, to fill her with cheer.
She thought of the coffee morning that started the year
The ESCPA she chaired, oh my dear.
Autumn Festival was next; sell pizza, wine and cheese
Do again next year, the committee agrees.
Order the student council popcorn machine
Sort out the storage cupboard – now neat and clean
The Sports Club needs a proper name
The Titan mascot will lead TES to fame.
More decisions to make and minutes too
No secretary? Her patience is just about through.
The Christmas Bazaar – when Iphi is off to India
Where will we spend the money, not an encyclopedia.
While she's away the team must carry the ball
So she whistled, and shouted and gave them a call:
On Shu Lin, Masako, Mike and Betty,
On Chao Ching and Christel, Annette and Gabi,
Rian, Adrienne, Sharon, Vicky and more,
Don't be upset if I didn't name you (hard to rhyme) I implore
Everyone's work on the ESCPA
Is appreciated and welcomed in a most heartfelt way.
Now back to Iphi recalling the past,
The Christmas tree decorating arrived at last.
Feeding of multitudes at the Volleyball match
A few rough edges to work out, Activities committee please do attach
Ah but who is now taking the minutes
Sachiko volunteers, all are thrilled, you're my witness.
A wink of her eye and a twist of her head
Soon gave Iphi to know she had nothing to dread.
So the Christmas concert was last on the blocks
And a real Christmas spread we pull out of the box!
A wonderful show, sure everyone agrees
And a sad goodbye to the collector of fees.
Mr Glascott exclaimed, ere he drove out of sight –
Happy Holidays to all, and to all a good night.

Wording adapted by Brian Burrison

Photos from End of Term Assembly

