



# ESC Newsletter

Issue 3

October 2014

## Coming up this month:

- **3 & 4 November: Non-Pupil Days**
- **6 November: H3 Theatre Evening**
- **6 & 7 November: Andy Fletcher Talks**
- **29 November: Christmas Bazaar**

## Inside this issue:

- German Visitors** 2
  - ESCPA Corner** 4
  - University Counsellor** 6
  - Six Arts Academy** 7
  - Futurewise** 12
  - Sports News** 16
- And much more!**

## Welcome from the BSHS Head

Chrysta Garnett, Head of British Secondary and High School Section

Dear Parents

All kinds of ghouls and ghosts and things that go bump in the night have been occupying the school today in celebration of Halloween. Thank you for your support of this fun event today in encouraging our students to have some fun with fancy dress. Students (and lots of staff!) pulled out all the stops with their costumes. Photos will follow in the next edition of the Newsletter. Don't forget that this evening is the Halloween Disco and tickets can be bought on the door. The Disco runs from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Please note the finish time to ensure children are collected quickly at the end of the evening.

I am pleased to let you know that the School Calendar is now available in Google Calendar format on the BSHS page of the TES website [http://www.taipeieuropeanschool.com/bshs/page.php?page\\_id=388](http://www.taipeieuropeanschool.com/bshs/page.php?page_id=388)

This means you can now add it to your own personal/work calendar for easier access to key school dates. I hope you find this useful.



Last Friday evening saw the annual Pop Idol event to raise money for Tabitha Cambodia. Well attended by parents, students and staff alike, the event is a great showcase for our students' musical and vocal talents. There are always surprises on the evening and this year's Pop Idol was no excep-

tion, including a very popular teacher performance with our very own Dan O'Shea stealing a little bit of the limelight to close the event with an acoustic performance of 'Ain't No Sunshine'.

This week saw the inaugural ESC Sports Day held at the Taipei Arena. Around 400 students across all three sections took part in what I am sure will become a regular feature of our annual sporting calendar. Our gratitude goes to Ms Simmons and her team of willing volunteers who helped co-ordinate track and field activities. It really was a superb day and, again, another shining example of how wonderful our students are and also how supportive our parent community is of these whole school events. The ESCPA did a fabulous job of keeping us all fed and watered during the day.





Emmanuel Fritzen

**DAS**  
Deutsche Auslandsschulen  
International

Kultusminister  
**KONFERENZ**



## Important Visitors from Germany

Emmanuel Fritzen, Head of German Section

TES is a unique international school with three national educational programmes and an integrated high school programme, all under the umbrella of the Taipei European School Foundation.

Taipei European School Deutsche Section, as well as being a section of TES, is also an official German School Abroad within the network 'Deutsche Auslandsschulen International' (DAS). It receives government grants from the Federal Government and it is fully recognised as 'Deutsche Schule im Ausland' (German school abroad) by the Standing Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* (Kultusministerkonferenz, abbr. KMK).

In Germany, education and cultural affairs are the responsibility of the *Länder* (states). The KMK unites the ministers and senators of the *Länder*

responsible for education, higher education and research, as well as cultural affairs. The KMK is special in that there is no federal legislation for education in Germany, as the Basic Law does not give power to the Federacy to legislate on the matter, thus effectively creating cultural sovereignty within the *Länder*.

In order to avoid German schools abroad having to negotiate their standards with sixteen different Ministries of Education, the KMK appoints representatives who deal with the questions of the individual schools on behalf of all ministers and senators.

On October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the Deputy Secretary General of the KMK, Frau Heidi Weidenbach-Mattar, came to visit Taipei European School, in order to get a personal impression of how we manage to operate a German school abroad under the umbrella of

Taipei European School. She was accompanied by the Director of the Pedagogic Exchange Service of KMK, Herr Gottfried Böttger.

CEO Dr Weston, the Head of the German Section, the Chair and the Treasurer of the German Section Council, the Chair of the GS Parents' Council and the Primary and Secondary Coordinators gave a presentation on our school structure and answered the visitors' questions.

After this introduction, Frau Weidenbach-Mattar and Herr Böttger had the opportunity to tour the primary campus to witness how the three schools operate as separate schools with multiple integrated elements.

Frau Weidenbach-Mattar and Herr Böttger were extremely impressed with Taipei European School.



Herr Gottfried Böttger, Frau Heidi Weidenbach-Mattar and Herr Emmanuel Fritzen

## Message from the Deputy Head

Sonya Papps, Deputy Head

I hope all our students enjoyed a restful half-term break and are now rearing and ready to tackle the busy half-term ahead!

In the week after the break, we hosted two guests at the ESC: John Watson from Inspiring Futures and the widely acclaimed clarinetist Andy Ottensamer.

Mr Watson worked with H2 students on Futurewise profiling. The reports generated from the profiling process give students detailed information about their areas of strength and help guide conversations about IB subject selections and university applications. Mr

Watson will visit the school again in early March to conduct individual interviews with H2 students to further explore their profiles.

Andy Ottensamer, Principal Clarinetist of the Berlin Philharmonic ran a series of master classes with our own clarinet players on Wednesday. He took students through a series of challenging exercises, unpicking their technique and giving them guidance on how to improve their individual performances. It was wonderful to see these students extended and challenged by such an accomplished and well known musician.

Last week we welcomed Dan Grayson, a consultant specialising in US university applications. Mr Grayson was the Associate Director of International Admissions at Tufts University for eight years and now advises international schools and students on their US applications. A varied programme was on offer, with key sessions for students, parents and teachers. This visit represented a great opportunity for students to meet someone with inside knowledge and many years of experience of the University admissions process and we hope that all concerned found this a valuable experience.

## What do you THINK?

James Woodall, Assistant Head

No, it's not a typing mistake! 'Thinking' and 'Thinking Schools Accreditation' is a focus for our school as we prepare students to take on the IB programme and succeed in areas such as TOK. As a means of generating discussion and thinking across the school, we have introduced the *Thursday Think*.

Every form group will be given a statement to discuss on a Thursday morning. Discussions will take place in form time and lessons centered on this particular 'Think', with each class being required to give feedback by the following Tuesday.

The idea is to generate school-wide discussion around a certain topic, with students sharing ideas, points of view, opinions, etc. The first 'Think' was launched this Thursday. It would be good to have discussions at home over the weekend to generate some more opinions and ideas.



***If I swapped eyes with someone, would I see the world differently?***

**So... what do you THINK?**

## Academic Progress Reports

Daisy Rana, Assistant Head

All students in Year 7 and the High School have now received their progress reports.

The Year 7 students received a *Settling In Report* before the half term break. These reports are designed to inform you of how your child has settled into life at the secondary school during the first half term. We are delighted with the enthusiasm and ease with which the Year 7 students have adjusted so far and our Year 7 Parents Evening was a chance for us to share more detailed information with you on your child's progress and what they have been learning in their first few weeks of

secondary school.

Recently, all High School students also received their *Mid Term Reports* and we had the chance to discuss their progress and next steps with you during our High School Parents Evening, which was very well attended.

Whilst the *Settling In Reports* for Year 7 are mostly a supportive record of how a child has settled into secondary school, the High School *Mid Term Reports* have a different essential function to fulfil. One of the reasons why our High School students receive reports so early on in the aca-

ademic year is in order for us to set targets with your child in all curriculum areas, which will be crucial in determining their next steps to success. As the academic year progresses, these targets will become more self-reflective and we will be guiding students in evaluating their strengths and areas for development, leading to setting their own targets.

We are looking forward to working with you in helping your child to achieve their academic goals and hope you have found the Reports, as well as the Parent-Teacher Evenings, useful.

## ESCPA Corner

Jaime Chang, ESCPA



**Getting ready to race**

The ESCPA was involved in a couple school events this past month. As always, a big thank you to all the wonderful parent volunteers who devoted their time to help out at the Y9 Volleyball Tournaments last Saturday.

Titan's Football Club: New uniforms were distributed. We now have 39 players, one professional coach and three assistant coaches. The coaches are from Germany, U.S.A., Spain and Ghana. Any students still wishing to join the team are still welcome.

Our monthly Vegetarian Lunches have been well received by the students. They are offered on a first come, first served basis, so be quick to get in line! Thank you to Adrienne who prepared the vegetarian pasta in September; Junko and Chin who prepared the curry and rice in

October. If anyone is interested in showcasing his/her culinary skills, please contact Adrienne Goh at

[kam.foong@hotmail.com](mailto:kam.foong@hotmail.com)

Our next Casual Coffee Morning will be held on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 9:00-11:00 am at Wendel's (Tian Mu location).

This time we will invite the Year 6 parents to attend. An invitation will be sent out soon, so please mark your calendar in advance. It would be nice for everyone to get together before the Christmas holidays!

This year's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> November. Details on this will be coming soon.

Besides helping out with the school events and meetings, we also have fun too! Taking advantage of the good weather on one October day, a few parents

enjoyed a day out at the Waterfront Restaurant in Danshui.

And last week a group of parents intended to go on a hike, but unfortunately the weather wasn't cooperating, so it had to be cancelled. However, a future date will be planned when the weather is better.

The ESCPA Activities Committee worked really hard to prepare for the Sports Day. It was a great success and it was great fun watching the students having fun, not to mention our parents relay race against the teachers!

The ESCPA meeting minutes are now on the school website for those who would like to learn more about what we do.

A reminder of our next monthly meeting: Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> November, 9:00-11:00 am in the Conference Room at ESC. Please come and join us!



**Setting up Sports Day refreshments**



**We kept everyone fed and watered**



**Our Sports Day runners**

## News from the Student Council

Janice Liu

Although the new academic year has seen a new Red Team, one thing has remained constant and that is our relationship with Taiwan's Fund for Children and Families (TFCF). In addition to monetary support, the Red Team has been sending letters to the overseas children who we have been supporting for the last two years. Letter writing is often seen as an archaic form of communication. However, it is the only form of communication that the Red Team has with its children. It sometimes takes a whole four months for one letter transaction to take place, but the letters that we receive often show us that it is well worth the wait. Letters can often communicate something much deeper and intimate than advanced means of communication. Although email, instant messaging and Snapchat allow people to send information in a highly efficient manner, it does not give recipients something tangible,

something they can keep.

Recently we received a letter from one of our children, Meluleki Dlamini. Meluleki is a sixteen year old boy from Swaziland who enjoys playing football. Although Meluleki's father passed away during his youth, he is still exceptionally optimistic and aspires to be a doctor in the future. He is currently studying Grade 7 (Year 8) at the Mantjolini Soup Kitchen Neighborhood Care Point (NCP) and enjoys learning English. Due to the language barrier, Meluleki's letter was very brief and contained more drawings than words. However, this obstacle did not dampen his message. It was clear that he was very thankful for the support that he was getting. At the end of the letter, Meluleki signed it with a "Xie xie ni", which was both heart-warming and thought-provoking.

Communication through letters creates a physical link between

two people. Knowing that Meluleki wrote this letter and that his living hand glided across the paper in order to create the shapes and letters that eventually formed meaning, is something that technology cannot convey – a simple "Thank you" in Chinese sent from across the Indian Ocean resonates much louder than many emails that the Red Team has had to send through the course of our other projects. The letters that we have sent and the letters that we have received have shed light on the massive impact that something as simple as a letter can have and reminds us that it is not only monetary support that people need, but small little gestures like letter writing. The Red Team is grateful to be able to form these relationships, however faint, with children like Meluleki and can only reply with an equally grateful thank you in Zulu, "Siyabonga"!

## TES a Winner in A Teaching Moment in Time

Helen Gamble, Editor

In Issue 2 of the TES Newsletter, we were excited to tell you about the school's participation in the Times Education Supplement's *A Teaching Moment in Time* – an opportunity for our school to showcase to the world some of the exciting things that happen at school every single day. It was the first time a school in Taiwan had taken part and we were extremely excited when we found out that our very own Paul Wright was announced as one of the winners of an iPad for his contribution to the teaching moment.



**Paul celebrates with the class who shared their teaching - and learning - moment**

Paul Wright: "I had forgotten that there was a chance to win an iPad, but it was certainly a pleasant surprise. I enjoyed taking part, as did my students. It was a great opportunity to try something different with the class and to share it with the worldwide teaching community. I really enjoyed reading some of the other teaching moments."

<http://www.tes.co.uk/article.aspx?storyCode=6445465>



**Paul Wright, the proud winner of an iPad**

## University Counsellors Corner

### SAT and PSAT

Jack Shull, University and Careers Counsellor

TES is now an 'official' SAT Test Centre and the first SAT for the academic year was held on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Being a SAT Test Centre will benefit TES students, who are now able to sit the SAT in a familiar environment. On Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, twenty-five H3 students took the PSAT and they will have their PSAT results returned to them before the December break. The PSAT Score Report includes an analysis of the student's PSAT and will assist them to better prepare for the SAT. The SAT will be offered the first Saturday of November and December, the last Saturday of January and the first Saturday in May and June. On these dates, students will have the opportunity to sit for the SAT or SAT II Subject Tests.

#### SAT Advice

I am always asked by students and parents what is the best way to prepare for University admissions tests such as the SAT and ACT. Before I answer the question, I emphasise that the best indicator of a student's success in university is their high school academic record, which begins in H1. The idea is not only to be admitted to university, but also to graduate from university in three to four years. I am not an advocate of test prep courses, but for some students it can increase their test taking confidence and, at times, improve their score.

However, a student who takes hours and hours and weeks and weeks of a Test Prep course may be taking away time that should be devoted to their studies, extracurricular activities, community service and relaxing with friends and families.

To answer the question 'What is the best preparation?', I must respond that reading, reading and more reading is the best preparation. It is not necessary to read a one thousand page novel each week, but students could read *The Economist*, *Newsweek*, *Time* or any other type of current news magazine or news articles. In addition, taking practice SAT and ACT tests is excellent preparation. Students then become familiar with the test, such as the types of questions asked and the scoring process. It is not necessary to sit and take a three hour and forty-five minute practice SAT each weekend, but rather take one or two sections of the test and then self-score. There are many companies in Taipei and other cities that offer SAT and ACT test prep. If a family wishes to employ such a company, please do research the company and ask others who have used the services of such a company.

In conclusion, I would like to add that most students take the SAT twice. My recommendation is once during Term 2 or Term 3 of H3 and then again in October or November of H4. Universities want

to see all of the admissions tests taken and it looks very unusual if a student has started taking the SAT in H1 or H2 and then takes the admissions test five or six times. A student should plan their university admissions testing schedule so that it does not interfere with other exams they are taking, such as mock IB or end of term exams. As always, I am pleased to answer any questions concerning which university admissions test to take and when to take it.

#### Naviance

In the coming weeks, H1, H2 and H3 students will be registering for their Naviance account. TES recently purchased the Naviance program, which is used by thousands of schools throughout the world for career and university planning. The students will register and be given an introduction to the program. Naviance will be used by TES students throughout their high school years, as Naviance matches specific careers to career clusters and provides information and guidance to students. Naviance also encourages students to explore university options, as they are given valuable insight into the university admissions process, they can search for universities throughout the world and they will have university information readily available to them.

## Asia Pacific Six Arts Academy Launched at TES

Flora Sung, Head of Chinese Language and Culture

The Asia Pacific Six Arts Academy had its debut at TES from October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Organised by the ESC CLC Department and supported by the National Taiwan Normal University, National Taipei University of Education, Ming Chuan University and Asia Pacific Chinese Language Teacher Association, the event featured six types of learning activities in the framework of traditional Chinese scholarship: Relationship (禮), Music (樂), Martial Art (射), Chariot (御), Literacy (書) and Cosmology (數). We attempted to align the event with

modern educational concepts like inter-disciplinary learning, inquiry and open-mindedness. There were 126 participants from International College Hong Kong, British School Manila, Ruamrudee International School Thailand, Tanglin Trust School Singapore, International School Beijing, RDFZ XISHAN School Beijing and three aboriginal schools in Taiwan. Students fully enjoyed the rich experience of language learning in an authentic cultural context by working collaboratively with new friends that they just met from diverse Chinese-learning backgrounds.

The event was featured in the United Daily News on October 4, 2014:

[http://mag.udn.com/mag/edu/storypage.jsp?f\\_MAIN\\_ID=11&f\\_SUB\\_ID=327&f\\_ART\\_ID=538748](http://mag.udn.com/mag/edu/storypage.jsp?f_MAIN_ID=11&f_SUB_ID=327&f_ART_ID=538748)

You can also view the link below to enjoy some exciting moments with all of our participants:

<https://drive.google.com/a/tes.tp.edu.tw/file/d/0B7CnlZn64B42dHB5SEg3U0YtRUU/view>



## Science News

Nicholas Hardy, Head of Science



Year 7 scientists came up with their own experimental design to measure the rate of diffusion. In order to collect diffusion times for colder temperatures (which ended up taking over two hours), they came up with the idea of videotaping using laptop webcams so that even though class was not on, the experiment still was!

## Earthquake Challenge 2014 with H3

Robin Neroutsos, Physics and Science Teacher

On September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, four intrepid young Engineers from the H4 SL Physics class took part in the 2014 IDEERS Earthquake Competition, held at the Taiwan National University's National Centre for Research on Earthquake Engineering.

The team had spent the previous few weeks working after school to perfect their design and build a test model, under the expert direction of Mr Powell, who tried valiantly to decipher the forty-page rule summary. This all came to fruition on the day when, given a limited number of materials including wooden rods, elastic bands, string, paper and a glue gun, Team POW had six hours to construct a five-storey structure that would be able to not only support a minimum load on each floor, but also withstand substantial earthquake forces. With time ticking on and under pressure from the numerous other international teams, the tired group managed to stick their final pieces on just as the horn sounded to end Day 1.

Not only did the team have to be able to withstand an earthquake, they also had to brave the imminent arrival of Typhoon Fung-Wong on Day 2! Their structure was bolted to a massive shake table, along with forty other teams' buildings for the testing, which began at a relatively small acceleration of  $200 \text{ cm/s}^2$ . With each successive test, the acceleration was increased and the failed structures were removed from the table. The team was ecstatic when their building survived the first few rounds, as others crumbled around them! Finally, at a rate of  $700 \text{ cm/s}^2$ , the columns quivered, creaked, caved and came crashing down!

Overall, Team POW placed a respectable 21<sup>st</sup> out of 41 teams and received certificates for surviving up to  $600 \text{ cm/s}^2$ . Congratulations to Joelle Kwuo, Linus Lu, Anni Chen and Sean Pai on their outstanding effort and special thanks to Amit Agnani for his support and videography! They have all agreed to return next year as highly

paid design consultants and propel TES to earthquake supremacy!

Here's the link:

<https://drive.google.com/a/tes.tp.edu.tw/file/d/0B8BlhcYeePs4RVITNDZIdHotWXM/view>



## News from the English Department

### National Poetry Day

Thursday, October 2, the first Thursday in October, was National Poetry Day in Britain. The autumnal months, *as the leaves turn brown and nothing gold can stay*, are rich opportunities to record culture, whether physical or metaphysical. So, as a precursor to World Poetry Day in March, the Years 7, 8 and 9 produced some poetry of their own.

The Year 7s enjoyed going outside in the school grounds

to collect objects to inspire their poetry. They were asked to collect several objects and consider whether they had always been there or whether some external force had brought them there. Back in the classroom, the Year 7s learned about different poetry styles and were then asked to choose one style of poetry to write about their object. The results were extremely creative and were proudly displayed in the school atrium for all to see.

Meanwhile, the Year 8s came up with some interesting alternative ballads, whilst the Year 9s produced variations on Scottish poet Robert Burns's *To A Mouse*, the inspiration for John Steinbeck's *Of Mice And Men*, which they have been studying.

The day was an opportunity to share favourite poems and help celebrate the most creative of all the writing arts.



### Year 9 on Trial

This term the Year 9s have enjoyed studying John Steinbeck's classic novel *Of Mice and Men*. Set in California during the Great Depression, the story introduces the reader to two characters, George and Lennie, whose lives take a tragic turn. The story ends in a heart-breaking killing, but the reader is left to speculate

as to whether the act was justified and whether the killer will be brought to justice. The Year 9s were asked to consider these issues and were then tasked with staging a mock trial for the killer. Everyone in the class was given a part to play, from the accused to the prosecution, the defence and the witnesses. What ensued

was a rather unruly trial that nevertheless greatly entertained the judges, Mr Booth and Ms Gamble. At the end of the trial, the jury unanimously pronounced the accused 'not guilty', sparing George (aka Thomas Mor) the prospect of a long stretch in jail.





***"I found creating different shapes with specific areas (for each continent) quite challenging"***



***"We learned a lot of data for each continent, and there were huge differences between them."***

## News from the Maths Department

Louise Fung, Maths Teacher

### Maps and Maths: Year 9 World Maps Project

Year 9 students have been combining their mathematical and geographical skills in a cross-curricular project looking at world maps. Students applied their knowledge from recently studied topics such as area, volume, proportion and ratio, as well as geographical indicators, to create their own world maps. The results were fantastic!

Here are some reviews from the students:

Raghav Rasal 9.3:

*"This week in Maths, we have been working on a cross-curricular project involving Maths and Geography. We were given the assignment to map various geographical aspects and trends (like Internet usage, coal consumption, GDP and much more) on a world map; and we had to do this using our knowledge of length, area and volume.*

*What we learned:*

- *Working with people and cooperating with them.*
- *By researching, we learned many important facts about the world, such as: the GDP of countries and the population of countries.*
- *It encouraged us to merge two different subjects, which was definitely not an easy task!!*
- *Creativity was definitely a big factor, so we had to apply our imagination too!*
- *Finally, we honed our knowledge of maths and the world around us.*

*This project has been a great end to the half term and now we can look forward to more maths projects later on in the year!"*

Look out for future articles on how these maps will be used in their Geography lessons!



***"Collecting accurate information was quite difficult but very fun and interesting"***



***"I got creative with making different composite shapes for different areas"***

## News from the Maths Department

Louise Fung, Maths Teacher

### Year 7 Number Systems

Year 7 students have been studying number methods and building upon their knowledge of ancient number systems. They were given the opportunity to let their imagination run wild and have created their own number systems. Ideas ranged from an Easter Bunny counting system, to using musical notes for digits. We also had various counting methods for aliens in outer space!

Here are some accounts from the students:

*"I sat hunched over the coloured piece of paper with my group and tried to work out a pattern between the strange figures. There were many symbols from different systems and places including Mayan, Ancient Greek, Hebrew, Roman, Hindi and even Babylonian numbers. We later learned about the evolution of numbers and that the earlier systems didn't use zero, which meant that their systems were quite complicated with long numbers and lots of different symbols to remember. The real challenge was our homework: we had to invent our own number system! I experimented with different bases and not using zero and some students used the same place value and just changed the symbols. Everyone had a lot of creative ideas and stories about distant lands or tiny islands stranded in the middle of the ocean. The project was very challenging, but it was also really fun and satisfying when finally, everything just clicked."*

Noa Schmueli 7.3

*"In maths, when Ms Fung told us we were going to create our own number system, I thought it was going to be a really interesting project. We had to create our own way to write numbers, including a background history of the civilisation who used it. Mine was the Easter Bunny System. It was a system that instead of going up to ten, it went up to thirteen. 0 was an Easter egg, 1 was the outside part of one ear, 2 was one whole ear, 3 was two ears, and so on. I just kept adding parts to my bunny. My system was used by the bunnies living in a planet for bunnies. I think that it was a really good and fun project and I liked creating my own way to write numbers. I had a really good time doing it, and drawing bunnies. I also learned that there are lots of other ways to write numbers that are not the ones that we use every day."*

Ines Rodriguez Hsu 7.3

*"What if there were no numbers in the world? That is what Mr Sparks asked us in one of our lessons. Some said that there would be no money, no food; that we wouldn't be here; a lot of interesting ideas were mentioned. We then watched a video about the ancient times and how they used the number systems they created themselves. I found it fascinating that people in the ancient times would do such complicated maths just to get to their number systems. Our project was to create our own one. We would need to think about the symbols, pronunciations and patterns of maths. We all had lots of different ideas and were excited to get started."*

Jeni Liu 7.1

*"In my number system, I wrote a story about a world that existed in the past. In that world, people lived in the old way: they didn't have cars, phones, plastic bottles, or anything we often use now; they didn't even have a number system! I explained how it was to live if there were no numbers, and also how inconvenient it was. They would trade things one for one, but there was a problem, as things were not equal valued so people often had quarrels. So they created a number system. In the end, people lived in peace without any more quarrels because they could now trade things equally valued. This story explains why numbers are so important to our lives."*

Jade Chang 7.1





## Speed Dating in EAL

Ryan DeLange and Raymond Imbleau

In order to promote a culture of reading amongst our students, the EAL department organised a 'Book Speed Dating' lesson, where each Year 7 EAL student was asked to browse through books of several genres and then explain why 'I'm in love with this book.'

Laid out on the tables were books selected by both teachers and students, which were divided into five different genres: historical fiction, adventure, humour, horror and reality. After deciding on their three favourite genres, students were then asked to

move to each genre area for five minutes to peruse the books, choose one to explore further, rank it and write down why they thought their peers would find the book appealing.

All three EAL classes joined together and each student was tasked with introducing their book to classmates on a rotational basis, encouraging them to fall in love too. With each turn, the students practiced speaking about their book again and again. The students then switched roles and, at the end of class, each student was invited to select

their favourite book from the 'Book Speed Dating' experience and check it out from the library.

This reading and speaking activity was part of an overall campaign in the EAL department to encourage a love of reading books for its own merits and for its benefits as a language learning strategy. All EAL students set reading targets periodically and can win prizes (or even pizza!) for how much they read individually or as a class. Happy reading!

## Futurewise

Gavin Matthews, Head of H1 & H2

Our H2s will be spending much of their time this year thinking and worrying about the approaching exams. However, they will also be spending some time thinking about their more distant futures, as they are about to make choices that affect those futures. In March they will be selecting the subjects that they will be studying at IB and those decisions, in turn, will affect the course of their post-school lives.

Something that helps prepare them for these decisions is Futurewise, a programme designed to help young people be aware of their own strengths and personalities in making effective choices. On

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October, John Watson visited the school and administered an online psychometric assessment to the whole cohort of H2 students, which took about three hours in total. The assessment measures abilities, aptitudes and interests, as well as evaluating personality traits which can influence decision making. It is just the first stage in a long process that is intended to run until the 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday of each student.

The next stage in the process is that three expert consultants from Futurewise, including John, will visit Taipei again in March and conduct one-to-one interviews with each

student, focussing on the student's future. This consultation helps guide each of our students into making effective choices.

Of course, Futurewise is just one guide among many in a student's life – parents, friends and teachers are others – but these consultants have the perspective which results from working in over fifty countries, with wide experience of many university systems. They work hand-in-hand with Jack Shull, our own Universities and Careers Counsellor, in a process that will see each of our students into university and successful careers beyond.

**FUTUREWISE**

**FUTUREWISE**

## Year 8 and 9 News

Libby Bevin, Head of Year 8 and 9

As we come back from our first break, taking some time to reflect on the start of the year for our Year 8 and 9 students has highlighted what a positive start we have had. The students have all settled back into the school timetable and many of them have undertaken their first assessments for the academic year. Our focus for the term has been on the TES school values of *Respect* and *Participation*. We have been learning and discussing these in PSHCE and

form time with a spotlight on respecting ourselves and each other. Year 8 students have been learning about stereotypes, gender and anti-discrimination, while the Year 9 students have been considering the concepts of positive self-image, nutrition and healthy eating.

With the inaugural TES Sports Day on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October, participation has also become an important discussion. It is so valuable for our

students to be involved in a variety of the activities and experiences offered at TES. Participation teaches students how to be involved with different groups of people in different contexts and events such as the Sports Day showcase their skills outside of the classroom. This is the same for the school show *The Wizard of Oz* or *Pop Idol* or any of the many other upcoming events. It is through participation that we are able to discover our true talents.

## Year 7 Raised Garden Service Project

Raymond Imbleau, Head of Year 7

The Year 7s have a new addition to their vegetable and fruit garden: a brand new garden shed! The Year 7 cohort and the Year 7 Gardening ECA, run by Mr Hardy, literally laid the foundation for it. After school on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, the garden group first leveled the soil and gravel with rakes, spades and an industrial level. Then, we brought over many rather heavy interlocking bricks from Phase 1 in a wheelbarrow and laid them down carefully. With



the industrial level, we leveled it to ensure adequate run off

when it rains. Then we lifted the garden shed and set it onto the newly built brick foundation. We added some concrete steps to the front of the shed and placed some rounded stones, which we had from last year's Value's Day, around the shed to keep the weeds down. Some of the parents remarked to me that their child slept very well that Wednesday evening and so they should have! They should also be very proud of what they have built!

## Eye Dissection

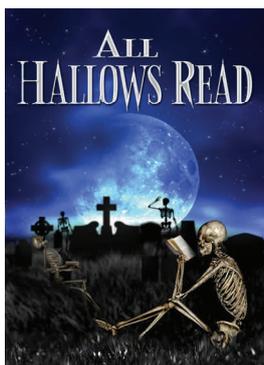
Anthony Cornes, Science Teacher

H2 Biology students are currently studying the topic of Coordination and Response. As part of this topic, students have dissected the eye of a pig to investigate the

structure and understand how the different parts of the eye function. Students were able to extract the lens, but not until they had squeezed out the aqueous humour. Watch the

video for highlights from the lesson, but be warned: viewer discretion is advised!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pqwf7Rp1hd0>



*"We make up horrors to help us cope with the real ones."*

Stephen King

## A Message from the Library

Angela Chang, Chief Librarian

### All Hallow's Read!

Science Fiction & Fantasy writer Neil Gaiman put a great idea up on Twitter years ago: "This year make Halloween All Hallow's Read." He suggested starting a Halloween tradition by giving someone you love a scary book on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October! We love this idea and would like to invite you to join us in reading a scary book during

the week of Halloween. Need suggestions on what to give/read? You can find a list of recommended scary books on our Libguide: <http://libguides.tes.tp.edu.tw/allhallowread> Happy Reading!

### Resource of the Month: JSTOR

JSTOR is an online archive of scholarly journals and prima-

ry source materials. It covers over one thousand academic journals and other scholarly content!

MyJSTOR account is required for accessing JSTOR. Please contact Ms Chang to learn how to create your MyJSTOR account.

<http://youtu.be/eOJYolzrdlk>

## History Library Guide

Ian Stewart, Head of History

Dear Year 7 Parents and Students,

Please follow this link to the TES Library Reading Guide for History in order to find books and other resources to enjoy outside of lessons.

The Library Guide is a one-stop resource for finding video clips, appropriate websites and books in the library on all things related to Year 7 History. My sincerest thanks to Ms Chang for creating this excellent resource.

Go to:

[http://libguides.tes.tp.edu.tw/esclibrary?\\_open=1](http://libguides.tes.tp.edu.tw/esclibrary?_open=1)

Year 8 and 9 library guides are being updated and will be released soon!

**POW Banquet**  
Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm  
Howard Plaza Hotel,  
Taipei  
NT\$ 1000  
Reservations required.

**Remembrance Day Service**  
Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>,  
busses at 9:15 for 11:00  
am start  
Former Kinkaseki  
POW Camp, Jinguashi  
NT\$400 for bus and  
picnic lunch  
Reservations required.

## History in the Community

Ian Stewart, Head of History

Over the past few years, TES have forged a good relationship with the Director of the Taiwan POW Camps Memorial Society, Michael Hurst, MBE. Several year groups within the school have had the opportunity to visit the Prisoner of War (POW) Camp in the north of the island and Michael has also shared his experiences with students during some insightful talks and discussions.

We are therefore honoured to promote the Society's annual Remembrance Day

events, which this year will be held with assistance from the British Trade & Cultural Office.

This year a former Taiwan POW will be returning for the event, as well as a number of POW family members from the UK and Australia.

Reservations for the banquet and the bus may be made by contacting Irene Yang at the British Trade & Cultural Office in Taipei:

Tel: 02 8758-2015 or  
email [rsvp.btco@fco.gov.uk](mailto:rsvp.btco@fco.gov.uk) .

The deadline for reservations

is 5:00 pm on Wednesday, November 5th.

Please book early to ensure your place at the banquet and on the bus. We hope many in the community will join in paying tribute to our veterans this year. For further details and information, please check the Taiwan POW Camps Society's website home page [www.powtaiwan.org](http://www.powtaiwan.org)



**SPECIAL EVENT • SPECIAL EVENT • SPECIAL EVENT • SPECIAL EVENT**

We have great pleasure in inviting all members of the TES community to two special events that will be taking place at our school soon.

We are honoured to once again be welcoming the distinguished speaker Mr Andy Fletcher to our school for two interesting evening talks. All interested members of our community are welcome to attend. No advance reservation is necessary.

Andy Fletcher is the author of four books and the Founder and CEO of *Life, the Universe and Everything, Inc.* He is a renowned international speaker and author, with a particular expertise in Theory of Knowledge. Since 1991, he has given talks in over 220 schools in 40 countries. This will be his fourth visit to TES. He first came in 2009 to mark the bi-centennial of the birth of Charles Darwin.

Whilst most of his talks are given around the subject of the Theory of Knowledge and his research in this area, he is excellently placed to talk about internationally mobile lifestyles and cultural issues, having grown up as a so-called Third Culture Kid himself and having taught Mathematics at the American School, Geneva.

For a taster of what his talks are like, visit:

[http://youtu.be/TcpMiCe3l\\_A](http://youtu.be/TcpMiCe3l_A)



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Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 6:30 pm, EPC Amphitheatre

### **Third Culture Kids & Education**

Mr Fletcher has given talks on this topic on two previous occasions at TES and these were very well received. As parents, we face numerous challenges when deciding to move our lives and careers abroad. But how do our kids feel?

What are the unique challenges faced by Third Culture Kids?

Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 6.30 pm, EPC Amphitheatre

### **Writing for Money**

In addition to being the author of four (self-published) books, Mr Fletcher has published around 200 articles and radio commentaries, along with contributing to other books and writing a monthly humour column. As such, he is ideally placed to talk about the opportunities, as well as the pitfalls, of writing and having work published.

Both talks promise to be extremely inspiring and we consider ourselves very fortunate to have the opportunity to listen to such a distinguished speaker.

*“I have just come from one of Andy's talks on the links between science and religion. It was entertaining, engaging and very funny - but better than this it was inspirational. [...] Andy is a wonderful guest speaker; I am moving schools this year and I will do my best to bring him to my new school.”*

Nick Alchin, UWCSEA Singapore

[Nick Alchin was also Chief Assessor for TOK from 2005 -2010 and currently holds the position of Vice-Chair of the IB Examining Board.]



## A Word from the Head of Sport

Kwok Chow, Head of Sport

It's been a great weekend of sport, with all our KS3 teams participating in the end of Season I TISSA Volleyball Tournaments. The participation levels were over sixty per cent for KS3 and more than sixteen volleyball teams represented the school. Thanks to all the coaches who worked tirelessly throughout the KS3 volleyball season; without their commitment and effort this could not have happened. Next weekend sees our High School students competing in their end of Season I tournaments. Remember, when you are playing sports: 'Winning is temporary, sportsmanship is permanent!' Go Titans!

### KS3 Volleyball Results 2014/15

Team	Coach	Location	Placing
Y7 Girls	Louise Fung	MAC Taichung	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup>
Y7 Boys	Paul Wright	MAC Taichung	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Y8 Girls	Wanda Snowfrost	MAC Taichung	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Y8 Boys	Francesca Simmons	AST Taichung	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Y9 Girls	Chinlin Huang	TES	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Y9 Boys	Raymond Imbleau	TES (Taiwan Bank)	3 <sup>rd</sup> place



#### Athlete of the Month

Anna Belle Sula is our Athlete of the Month for October 2014, for exceptional play throughout the tournament and always playing with a smile.



## Y7 Boys TISSA Volleyball Tournament

Match Report by Aidan Mayall (Vice Captain)

As the Vice Captain of the second tournament, I was extremely happy with our performance. Our serving was much improved, which made a difference. We scored 13 consecutive points in the last game, using three different servers. Our other strength was our digging, which was very good and we had a high success rate. Sean was amazing, diving many times to save the ball. However, next time I think we should improve on our choice of shot – sometimes we punched the ball. Also, I think in the second game we got too over confident and decided we could win without a fight, but ended up losing the 3<sup>rd</sup> set by 2 points.



Match Report by George Chang

In the tournament we were Year 7 Boys Team Two and we played four matches. In the first match we lost, in the second match we lost too, but in the third match we won. Unfortunately, we lost in the fourth match. In the first match we were a bit nervous, so didn't play well. In the second match we did a lot better by saying "mine" or "it's out the line". In the third match we won by setting and digging the ball up in the air. In the fourth match we lost but Quincy, who was struggling to serve, got the ball over the net twice (although in the second serve he stepped on the line so it didn't count). Things that went well: we never gave up and kept on practicing to serve the ball over the net. We improved on digging, setting and cooperation. Things we can improve on: I think we should work on communication by shouting "mine" and "it's out" because sometimes in the tournament we didn't say "mine" and we bumped in to each other. Also saying "it's out" because sometimes when it was going out we played ball and we just helped the other team to get a free point. I think it was a great experience to play in the tournament because it really helped to improve our game..



## Y7 Girls Volleyball

Match report by Jewel Lee and Anzo Lu (Year 7 Captains)

The tournament was an awesome experience for us. We tried our best and demonstrated excellent teamwork. Our teams did really well in serving over the net and, after the first two matches, we got more confident at shouting for the ball and participated more in the game. In one match we had to play against the other TES Year 7 teams, which wasn't easy but we had to be really competitive with each other. Unfortunately, we didn't win any awards, but we had a lot of fun and everyone tried their best. We are sure to win next year after the experience we had this year! Thanks to Miss Fung for coaching us and thanks to all the family and friends who supported us during the tournament.



## Y8 Boys TISSA Volleyball Tournament

Match Report by Jeremy Wu

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, the Year 8 Boys volleyball team travelled down to AST in Taichung. We arrived at 8:30 am and immediately had a match against MAC. We were disadvantaged due to the lack of a warm-up and missing out on practice, therefore we lost 26-24, 25-23. It was a close game, but we were not prepared, even though we tried our best. We had a long break after the first game and then played against MAK. They beat us too, but it was super close. The score was 25-19, 22-25 and in the sudden death we lost 15-10. Finally, we played against ISIS straight after the game. We lost again, which was really disappointing and unexpected, but it was closer than the previous games. We won 16-25 but unfortunately we lost the following quarters, ending up at 25-23 and 15-10. Overall, I think that if we had more time to practice and more communication and team chemistry on the court, we would have been far more successful. However, we enjoyed ourselves and special credit to all our teammates for being outstanding in the games.



## Y8 Girls Volleyball

Match Report by Helena Liu

In Year 8 Team 3, we unfortunately didn't win any of the three games, but we still had lots of fun. Everyone in our group worked as hard as they could, trying for every ball and shouting encouragements during the games. Our team members were: Elizabeth, Stephanie, Minna, Emily and me. It was fun and enjoyable for everyone in our team and everyone improved their skills in volleyball too. It was unlucky for us that we lost the match, but everyone in our team was very positive and supportive of each other. It was an unforgettable day and I can't wait for the next tournament in Year 9!



Overall Report by Coach Wanda Snowfrost

The TES Girls Year 8 Volleyball teams had a strong showing, placing 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> out of nine teams who participated in the Volleyball Tournament at Morrison Academy on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup>. Both TES 1 and TES 2 teams won every game in pool play, making it to the finals with MAK. TES 1 beat TES 2 with fine play exhibited on both sides. TES 1 then played MAK in a thrilling match that went to three games. TES 1 lost by a close margin in the first game, but came back in the second game to win 25-21, led by the strong serving and hustle of Jemmi Chan and Regina Liu. Both Renee Hsiao and Irene Dubois stayed composed under pressure and made some amazing saves to keep the ball in play, making for a lot of exciting rallies. Despite having bruises and sprains, Tzy Chen Huang and Ellie Tarpy courageously toughed it out with some fine play, while our seventh player, Chloe Chuang was out with a knee injury that occurred in an earlier game. In the third game, the girls battled MAK, scoring back and forth to a 14-14 tie. Unfortunately, MAK won 16-14. It was a heart-breaking game for the girls, knowing that first place had barely slipped through their fingers. Overall, the girls learned a lot of good lessons that hopefully will help them for next year's season.



## Y9 Boys Volleyball

Match Report by Brian Wu

The Year 9 Boys volleyball tournament kicked off on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Taiwan Bank gym up in Yangminshan. We had three teams playing for TES and it began at 8:30 am with Team 3 playing against Team 2. Facing our own teammates, whom we practised with every Friday, both teams showed no mercy. The match was pretty one-sided, with Team 3 winning 2-0. Team 1 was the next to play GCA and had an easy time going to 2-0. Not long after, Team 2 played KAS, which became an endurance match but, after the tight start, Team 2 was able to win 2-0. Team 3 then played MAC and there was a notable difference in skill and teamwork. In the end we lost 0-2, a bit of a disappointment for us. Then Team 1 played MAB and lost 0-2. It was also a one-sided game. Team 2 was up next against ISIS. The first set was totally dominated by ISIS. We managed to tie the sets 1-1 however and pulled off a victory in the end: 2-1. Finally, Team 3 strived for and reached the match for bronze against MAK. MAK won the first set but, after Mr Imbleau's encouragement and Team 1 and 2's cheering, all of the players on Team 3 focused and tried their best, which then led to our team winning the bronze medal. In this particular match, every single one of us contributed to our success, but specifically: Perry's excellent spiking, Brian and Timmy's remarkable serves, Douglas's outstanding blocks and, most importantly, our Titan team spirit.

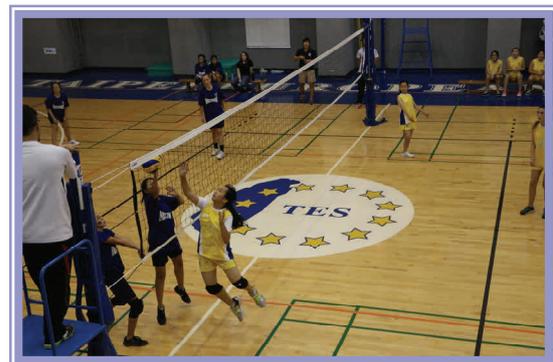


## Y9 Girls TISSA Volleyball Tournament

Match Report by Audrey Lam



It was a big day for our volleyball team. We arrived with positive spirits, although it was quite early in the morning. Our first game was against DIS and we won both sets. However, we were really nervous whilst playing. The second game for us was right after our first one, which gave us just a limited time for rest. We played MAK and our first set was really dangerous, causing us to panic, giving free points to them. Luckily, Molly served two phenomenal serves and we won the first set 28-26. The second set was less dramatic, but it still quite tough. Ashley served fantastically and lead us to victory. The third game was against GCA and we played well in the first half, but in the second half we didn't play as aggressively, giving points to GCA. In the end, we won both sets, meaning we would advance to the semi-finals. Our first semi was against MAB and it was really intense. We played three sets and, even though it was really close, we won two of them, sending us to the finals. We were both relieved and overjoyed at our achievement. While MAB and MAC were playing their semi, we were sitting at the edge of our seats, watching the points increase ever-so-slowly. The finals finally arrived and we were really nervous. We tried our best, but with hours of nonstop volleyball and the pressure of playing in the finals against MAC, we lost. However, we knew that it's not about winning but about having fun. We came second in the end, but we all knew we were winners in our hearts.





**SWIRE EUROPEAN  
SECONDARY CAMPUS**

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Our school has attracted regional and worldwide attention with its unique model for integrating German, British, French, and High School sections in terms of their curricula, administration, finance, buildings and facilities.

The Taipei British School (TBS), Ecole Francaise de Taipei (EFT); and Deutsche Schule Taipei (DST) began around 1990 in response to the needs of expatriate families with young children, living in Taipei. The schools soon realised that there was much to be gained by joining forces to establish a combined European campus. This would allow the schools to share some facilities and resources yet teach their own respective national curricula.

