



ESC Newsletter

Issue 10

May 2015

Coming up this month:

- 1 June: CAS Week
- 6 June: Prom
- 11 June: Awards Assemblies
- 12 June: Leavers Assembly
- 13 June: Summer Holidays!

Inside this issue:

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- And much more!

Welcome from the BSHS Head

Chrysta Garnett, Head of British Secondary and High School Section

Dear Parents

As another school year almost comes to a close, the British Secondary and High School celebrated the tremendous success of our departing H4 students last weekend in the 12th Annual High School Graduation Ceremony. Sixty five High School students graduated from TES this year – with fourteen of those students achieving the distinction of having studied with us for more than ten years; with one lucky young man having spent his entire schooling since the age of two with us. Each and every year group is special, but this group of students has made a particularly profound impact on the fabric and the culture of the school. They have demonstrated exceptional leadership, a collective innovative drive to make positive changes, as well as a remarkable capacity to keep smiling! We will miss them, but are

excited about the adventures they will no doubt embark upon in the coming years of further study at some of the world's top universities.

This year, Kevin Wang and Janice Liu achieved the honour of being nominated by their fellow students to provide the valedictory speech on behalf of their friends and fellow students. Mr Latchford our IB Co-ordinator spoke as eloquently as usual about the sixty five students whom he has grown to know individually over the course of the two year IB programme. His comments a fitting testament to the absolute privilege it is to work with the remarkable young people we have at TES. Thank you to all students, parent volunteers and colleagues who made this event possible.

With only three weeks to go until the summer break, the BSHS continues to deliver an action packed curriculum and

other rich opportunities... even in the remaining fifteen days of term. Our H2 students still have another three weeks remaining of their IGCSE examinations; our H3 students will embark on their CAS projects supporting charitable causes on island and in Cambodia; our H1 Geographers will visit Hualien on an IGCSE field trip; and we will welcome next year's new Year 7 parents and students to our school as part of our EPC/ESC transition process; but sadly say goodbye in our Leaver's Assembly to those students and colleagues who will leave us for pastures new. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all of them well in the next chapter of their academic and professional lives.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to another successful year in the British Secondary and High School.



Message from the Deputy Head

Sonya Papps, Deputy Head

The final IB examinations were sat last week and I'm sure I heard a collective sigh of relief as the H4s left the building. They have now completed their High School studies and when they next set foot on our campus they will do so as proud TES alumni. The H4 students were an absolute credit to our community throughout the examination period; turning up each day motivated and focused (and

looking very cool in their special edition Superman t-shirts). H4, congratulations on the completion of your examinations! We are very proud of all you achieved in your IB studies and we thoroughly enjoyed celebrating your graduation with you and your families.

H2 students still have another week of IGCSE examinations before they can kick back and enjoy their summer holiday. They're doing brilliantly and

keeping their energy levels high. It's wonderful to see students working together and supporting each other through their first ever examination season. Good luck H2 for the remainder of your exams – we're looking forward to some great results!

A reminder for parents that end of year reports will be sent home with KS3, H1 and H3 students on the last day of term (12th June).



Vegetable Fried Noodle Prepared by Adrienne



Fried Tofu Prepared by Shu

ESCPA Corner

Jaime Chang, ESCPA

When the big earthquake struck Nepal on April 25th, parents raised the question of how we could help the people of Nepal. On May 1st and 7th, the ESCPA Activities Committee quickly put together two lunchtime fund raising events and proudly raised a total of NT\$38,200. The amount might seem minuscule compared to the magnitude of damage Nepal

has suffered, but we hope it can make a difference.

As the school year will soon come to an end, we can say that we have had another great year! Thanks to all the parents who got involved. We could not have done it without you! For those who are leaving Taipei, we wish you all the best for your next journey ahead. We

will miss you! For those who are staying, we hope to see you back in the Fall.

Have a great summer! Be well and safe travels!



Peppermint Tea prepared by Mr Sparks, using Peppermint grown in the Roots and Shoots garden

News from the English Department

Claire Drag, Assistant Head of English

This year, members of the English Department have been running some ECAs associated with our subject area. In Term 1, Miss Bacon started the first TES ESC Creative Writing club for those budding storytellers amongst the students. This involved poetry, prose and biographical pieces and resulted in a great display at Christmas to showcase the creative talents of our young authors to the whole school.

Mrs Drag also began a Book Club for Key Stage Three pupils, which has been going all through the 2014- 2015 school year and culminated last week in the creation of a display 'book shelf' in the Phase 1 atri-

um. Students created a series of drawings depicting a pile of book spines, often including their favourite titles (see the picture for a preview) and are encouraging other avid readers from the school community to add to the wall of books by creating a spine of their own. Feel free to come and take a look at the book shelf display – Miss Bacon has been helping out this term and her artwork is excellent!

Another element of the Book Club ECA has been a shadowing project, where the short-listed titles for the Carnegie medal (an award for new writing published in the past 12 months for young people) are

read and we have discussions about our thoughts on the novels. There are different age categories and genres included so there's often something for everyone. Some book club members managed to finish their first choice in one night! Thanks to Ms Chang in the Library for her help with ordering multiple copies of the novels for us to enjoy.

Lastly, we are hoping to embark on an ECA trip too. This will be to the cinema in town, in our own time, to see a film version of one of the books we have read and loved. Why not think about joining a book club yourself next year?



Year 9 Visit to Prisoner of War Memorial

Ian Stewart, Head of History

Year 9 students who have chosen to study History at IGCSE recently visited the Jinguashi Gold Park Museum where prisoners worked during World War Two.

We took learning beyond the classroom and brought History to life by visiting the

Prisoner of War Memorial, Kinkaseki and the Jinguashi Gold Ecological Park Museum and mine. Mr Michael Hurst MBE, founder of the Prisoner of War Society Taiwan accompanied us on this visit and also visited TES to talk to all of Year 9 about World War Two in Asia and

the story of World War Two in Taiwan. He is a fascinating public speaker and a passionate historian 'at work' in our community and a supporter of TES. We were very fortunate to be able to give students the opportunity to learn from his expertise.





Music News

Chris Papps, Ashley Bousfield, Katy Ho - ESC Music Department

ECCT Europe Day Dinner Performance

Selected string players, led by Ms Shih-Shih Chen, presented their music talent at the annual ECCT Europe Day dinner on 14 May.



Year 7 News

Raymond Imbleau, Head of Year 7

Y7 Service Project

Many things are coming to an end at this time of the year at TES and it is with mixed emotions that I write about our raised garden-bed Service Project. As Head of Year 7, I have immense pride knowing that all Year 7s have worked so diligently throughout the year tilling the soil, weeding the beds and harvesting their crops! On the other hand, this will be their last month with their organic vegetable beds and they will soon have to pass on the garden torch to the current Year 6s. The Year 7s should feel a sense of comfort, howev-



er, knowing that the garden beds will be left in good hands with their new cohort.

Hopefully the Year 7 gardening



experience this year has not only produced lots of veggies, but a few new green thumbs as well! Next year, the new Year 8s are more than welcome to

join the Gardening ECA and share their knowledge of gardening with the Year 7s.

In preparation for the current Year 6s and the new garden location behind the Phase I cafeteria starting in August, we will move the compost bins next to our garden to help make the fertilisation process more convenient. This natural mixture of carbons and nitrogen will help fertilise the soil over the course of the school year and have everything growing well.

Reflection on Year 7

Shannon Chen, Year 7



My name is Shannon Chen and this was my very first year at Taipei European School; before that I attended a local primary school in Taipei. During this school year, I truly felt that TES is a lovely and unique school for so many reasons.

One of my favourite parts of the school is the library. You can easily find everything you might buy from a bookstore. Once I needed to find a book

for History class and I went to the library to ask for help. The librarian was very friendly and helped me find lots of relevant books.

The other part that I love about the Secondary Campus is the ECAs, especially the sports ECA, because we have tournaments at the end of the sports season and they are often out of town. All of the teammates had so much fun and got to

know each other much better during the tournaments. That's important for me since I am new to the school. We always had good spirits during the tournaments and encouraged each other, even when we were down by a few points.

In conclusion, I would like to say that I really enjoyed my first year in TES and I hope I will do even better next year!

Model United Nations

Ian Stewart, KS3 MUN Coordinator

The Taipei European School's Key Stage 3 Model United Nations club has been developing since its inception six years ago. The purpose of MUN is to create a formal forum for KS3 students to develop a range of skills in order to understand and try to resolve real world issues that the real United Nations contends with today. Students are designated a country to represent and a committee to work with in order to understand the challenges and rigor involved when trying to find solutions to the very real

issues in our world. Needless to say, students become very knowledgeable about geographical concepts as well as the histories of various countries. Furthermore, students develop a much deeper understanding of diplomatic, economic, social, cultural and environmental issues. They participate in formal debates and discussions that cultivate and boost their self-confidence, public speaking, and intrapersonal and interpersonal skills, thereby undergoing developmental learning experiences well beyond the confines

of the classroom. This goes to show that the process of helping learners develop their sense of 'international mindedness' starts well before the IB Diploma programme in High School.

The TES KS3 MUN club is a frequent attendee of the annual TASMUN conference held at Taipei American School and at an overseas conference, DIMUN IV, hosted by Dulwich College, Beijing. We asked two KS3 students to talk about their experiences at these conferences.



Celina Pan, Year 8:

After going to TASMUN and DIMUN V, I have discovered the delights of participating in Model United Nations. This is my first year in MUN and I have already come to adore it! I have grown a lot from participating in MUN. During my very first MUN lesson, I remember being at a complete loss as to what my seniors were even saying and being ready to just walk out and give up on MUN. However, I persevered with my MUN career and I am now most grateful that I have. During my MUN lessons and practice debates, I gradually understood what MUN was all about and how it worked. When I went to my first conference (DIMUN V), I was still a novice and didn't have the courage to make a speech. However, before I went to DIMUN, I had decided that since I had already

been, I would be a main submitter and give many speeches. Once I went to my committee room, I simply did my best every day of the conference. As a result, I gained self-confidence, was a main submitter, made many speeches and improved miles from where I was before the conference. After the conference, I discovered that I actually loved MUN and loved being the proud delegate of a country. I missed being a delegate very much and my friends and I continued talking in MUN style for days after the conference. My second conference (TASMUN 2015) proved much more difficult than my first. However, I treated it like my first conference and simply tried my best and ended up being a main submitter for a second time. I have grown from both conferences in my confidence in public speaking, my self-

responsibility and my self-determination. I enjoyed being a delegate and attending a conference very much. However, the thing that I enjoyed the most was meeting and befriending other people from the conference. I got to meet many new friends, many of whom I contacted today. After all, if you ask any MUN participant about their first conference, they would not be able to tell you about their first Point of Information, their first speech or even what topic they were debating, but they will always be able to tell you about the friends they met at the conference and the funny things that happened during their time there. I love MUN very much and will definitely continue my MUN career for many years to come.





Model United Nations (continued)

James Pan, Year 9:

Throughout this year, MUN has given me many remarkable and thrilling experiences I will never forget. When I first joined MUN at the start of this school year, I was rather nervous and unsure of myself as a delegate participating in DIMUN V representing the United States of America. However, in the first few minutes of the DIMUN V conference, I was able to quickly develop my confidence and skills, not only in speaking in front of a large crowd, but also learning new techniques in persuading individuals to see the benefit of our country's stance and have them support you in the conference. This, in turn, greatly increased my own confidence, as I was able to become one of the main contributors in the conference and gained many allies who all had their separate stance and belief on each of the issues. By the end

of the DIMUN V conference, I had made many valuable friends and learned from many of the more experienced delegates. I also achieved an award from this first conference, as the 'Most Diplomatic Delegate' in the committee. At that point, I



was sure I made the right decision in joining KS3 MUN this year.

Then came the TASMUN conference in April, where I was to represent the People's Republic of China in one of the toughest committees: Committee for Disarmament and International Security (CDIS I). In this conference, I faced many difficulties in maintaining my stance among

other delegates, due to the rather unique view that the People's Republic of China has on many of the more ethical issues such as 'The Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflicts'. However, I was still able to find some unexpected allies within the committee who later became some of my best friends and supporters within the committee. Moreover, in this conference, I also had the privilege to meet some delegates who had come

all the way from Afghanistan and I was able to ask them a few questions in order to understand about the unimaginable hardships and experiences they face in Afghanistan. Overall, I have learned many valuable experiences through MUN this year and I am looking forward to another year of MUN debating with other fellow delegates.

Alumnus Reunites with TES MUN Team at Yale MUN

Fabrice Laureti, MUN Coordinator

The Yale MUN conference which took place in Taipei last weekend was a huge success for eight H3 TES students: Roger Loh, Jade Tsui, Jenny Li, Harrison Wong, Stephen Lien, Christine Hsu, Tai An Chang and Daniel Lee. Roger Loh had the great honour of being selected as a Chair for the Arab League committee. Jade Tsui (H3) and Christina Hsu (H3) received individual awards for excellent participation in their respective committees and the whole TES team received an award for Outstanding Performance at the conference. Furthermore, Vernon Lin, a TES

MUN veteran and an undergraduate student at Yale, visited the conference to encourage and advise our team. Vernon will chair a committee in an MUN conference at Yale

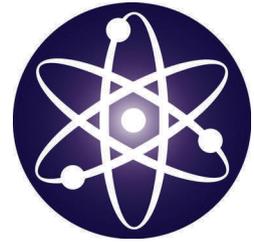
this autumn, continuing a MUN career which he embarked on in Year 9 at TES.



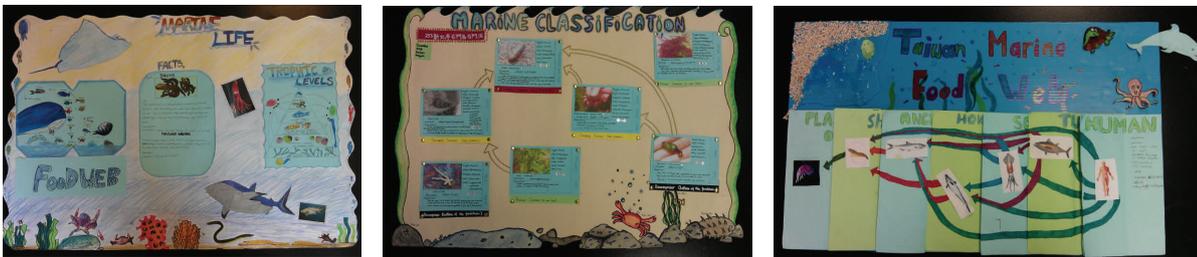
Science News

Nicholas Hardy, Head of Science

As part of their Oceans Day studies, Year 7 pupils were discovering about seashore ecosystems and organisms that live there to help explain their Ecology topic in Science.



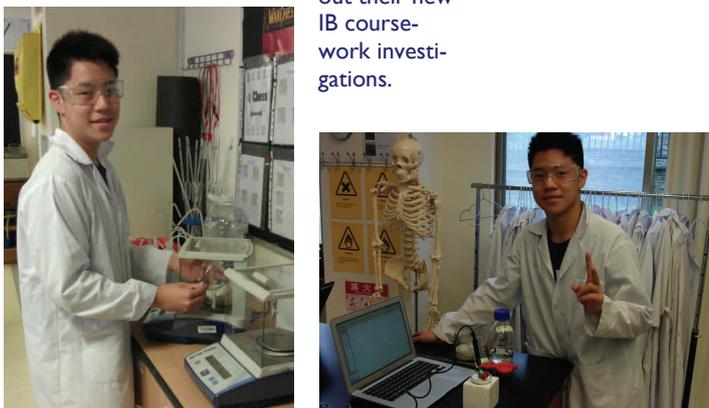
They later created posters to accompany some of their Oceans Day research.



H3 Biologists have been investigating the different pigments that make up chlorophyll as part of their Photosynthesis studies.



H3 Scientists have started to plan and carry out their new IB course-work investigations.



And of course we say 'Congratulations' and 'Good Luck' to all our H4 and H2 Science students in their IGCSE and IB exams.

University Counsellor's Corner

Where in the world are they going? Class of 2015

Jack Shull, University and Careers Counsellor

As the Class of 2015 heads off to new and exciting adventures, I want to congratulate them for being one of the 'best' classes I have ever worked with. I came in as the new Counsellor last August and quickly bonded with the dynamic, caring, talented, kind and friendly students in the TES Class of 2015. They are going to new destinations all around the world but will always be the TES Class of 2015.

University Locations:

USA 48%
United Kingdom 17%
Canada 15%
Asia 8%
Australia/New Zealand 7%
Europe 5%

Class of 2015 Post High School Plans

University 89%
Gap Year/Military 5%
Undecided 6%

Asia

Hong Kong Science & Technology (2)
Waseda University
Gap Year in Japan
Military Service in Singapore
Fashion School in Taipei
Tamkang University
New York University Abu Dhabi (UAE)

Australia and New Zealand

Australian University (2)
Auckland University

Canada

British Columbia Institute of Technology
University of British Columbia (2)
University of Toronto (3)
University of Waterloo (2)

Continental Europe

Science Po Paris
German University
CEU Dental School in Spain
Belgium University

United Kingdom

University College London
University of Bath

University of Glasgow

University of Leeds
Imperial College London
King's College London
London College of Communication
University of Arts London
University of Nottingham
Oxford University

United States

Boston University
Suffolk University
Princeton University
Cornell University
Pace University
Bryn Mawr College
Johnson & Wales University (Providence)
University of Richmond
Purdue University
Carnegie Mellon University (2)
Art Center College of Design (2)
California State Polytechnic University Pomona
University of California Irvine
University of California Los Angeles (3)
University of California San Diego (4)
University of California Santa Cruz
University of Southern California (4)



Harmony Home Service Project

Yuki Nogawa, HI

Since the start of Term 2, HI students have been discussing the problems caused by HIV/AIDS, as part of the lead-up to the annual HI Service Project. Firstly, the causes, consequences and treatments of this disease were explored during the PSHCE lessons and then in the week before Chinese New Year break, the Harmony Home project began.

Harmony Home is a non-profit organisation based in Taiwan, which helps provide for people living with HIV/AIDS and also gives a home to children whose parents are unable to care for them. Starting from February 5th, students went in groups of

roughly twenty people each week to visit the children's centre and to experience first-hand what this organisation is like. We fed and took care of the children, their ages ranging from babies in swaddling clothes to toddlers on the brink of entering kindergarten. (Those who were old enough were away at school.)

Of course, whilst one group went to Harmony Home, the rest stayed behind and began fundraising and campaigning for their cause. The year group was split into five different committees, which were expected to work together. Posters, flyers, and videos were created by the

Media and Awareness Committees, while the Fundraising and Action Committees spearheaded the events and sales. The Accountability Committee ensured that all money was accounted for and that the different committees were working well together.

Over the course of six weeks, teams of students organised donations (collecting near Taipei 101 and Xinyi District) and also bubble milk tea sales at TES during Friday lunchtimes. Thanks to the efforts of everyone in HI, we raised more than NT\$65,000 (and counting, since the project hasn't ended yet!)



Message from the Student Council President

Steven Liu, Student Council President

After an intense and eventful year, the term is slowly drawing to a close. This year, the Student Council members and executives have achieved so many great things that improved the school and benefited the student body in general.

Since the beginning of the school year, the Student Council planned to create a project-specific team which would specialise in a specific event or activity. We decided to prioritise the school disco, which is one of the main events that the Student Council holds twice every school year. Therefore, we started the first ever Dance Advancement Team. The team

came up with a brand new name, design, theme and approach for the school disco. These designs and ideas have been implemented into the most recent disco, which more than 100 students attended.

Every first break the Student Council sells food to the students. Some students prefer snacks in smaller portions and some prefer healthier snacks. Therefore, the blue team started the new snack stall, which sells healthy snacks and juice boxes besides the food sale. This provides a healthier and also very nutritious option for the students.

As the size of the school grows, the cafeteria becomes more and more crowded. To solve the issue of cafeteria congestion there is now a cafeteria committee working with the PA operating for the purpose of improving the cafeteria and alleviating the overcrowding.

We also hosted the first ever Saint Patrick's Day celebration at TES, with activities and a green dress code for spirit.

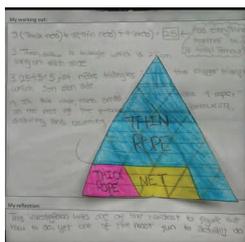
As the school year draws to a close, we wish the H2s and H4s best of luck for their exams and hope that the next school year will be even better than this year for the Student Council!



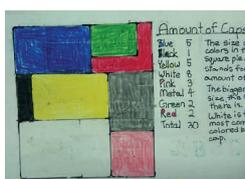
News from the Mathematics Department

Julie Dale, Head of Mathematics

Years 7 and 8 have been busy working on projects that focus on how they use the mathematics they have learned throughout the year and how they can *apply* this knowledge to real life situations. Year 7 students have been busy sorting through the data on the trash they collected at the beach and Year 8 have been linking Pythagoras' Theorem and Art. Below, two Year 7 students give us their reflections on the project:



**Triangle by
Chelsea**



**Square by
Patrick**

The Oceans Project

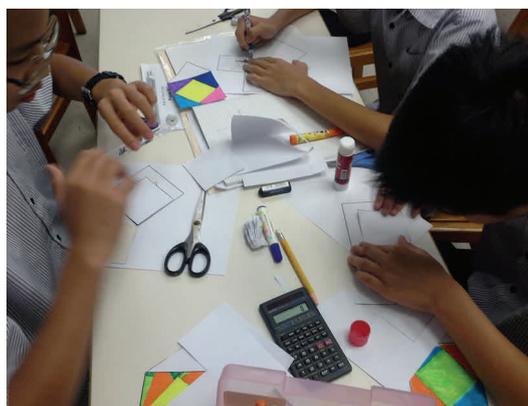
Jeni Liu, Year 7:

The Oceans' Project we are currently working on is a fantastic opportunity to let us show off our use of graphs and data and also we are able to learn even more about the beach we went to. This project was based on a cross-curricular field trip we went on to Shimen Beach, in the north of Taiwan. We collected rubbish and trash from the beach for three uses: 1) We were able to use it for our Art project, which was to build a model, 2) We could use Maths to collect data and use it for a project, and 3) We could clean up the beach for good.

Our Maths Ocean Project gave us a lot more freedom than other projects usually do. We got to choose three questions we wanted to investigate, show our working out, and present it in some way such as a pie chart or a bar chart. Then we would write a reflection on what we learned from this question.

We came up with the questions first and it was incredibly interesting to see so many different ideas in the air – people discussing and starting to think about how they would do

it. It was particularly noisy and everyone had their own ideas that they wanted to share. It was a great lesson and during the following lesson, we were given the task of finishing this project by doing our best.



Original suggestions on ways to present it came out, with such things as a square pie chart.

We were assessed on three different skills in our project: communication, area of mathematics, and calculation. Communication meant that you should be doing a lot of explaining and someone who just came over and read it should be able to understand what you are talking about. Area of mathematics is the way that you use formulas and creativity to your advantage. Calculation is based on how well you are able to calculate things and if they are accurate and mostly correct.

Overall, I think it is a fun pro-

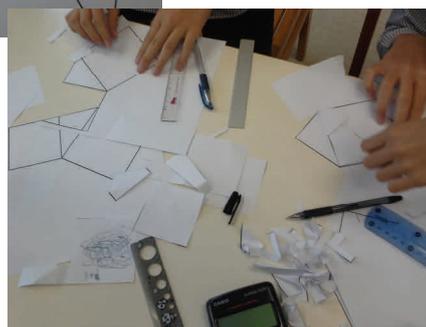
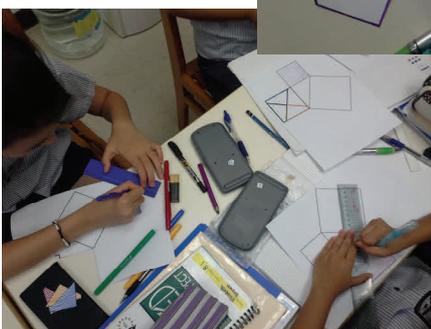
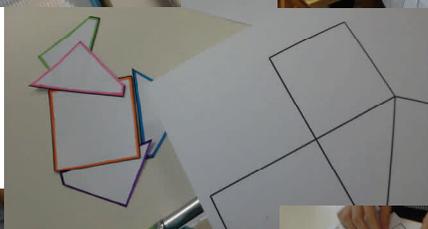
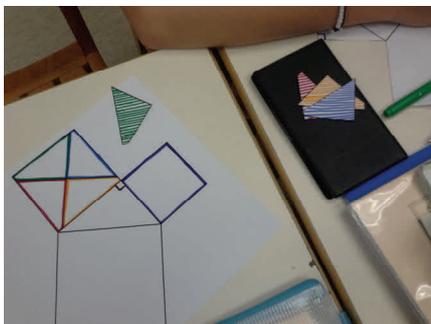
ject to be doing and gives us the opportunity to, not only think outside the box, but also to find out things we are curious about. We don't get to do this in a lot of subjects, so for me, I value the chance to be able to think differently, go in an entirely different direction and start working on maths.

Faris Weinrich, Year 7:

This term, students in Year 7 Maths classes were assigned a project to do with the rubbish we helped to pick up on the Oceans Day trip to Shimen

beach on the Northern coast of Taiwan. We had to write three investigation questions and show our Communication and our Using and Applying skills by solving the questions we prepared. We were given data from the rubbish we collected on our beach trip to help us on this Mathematical journey. Students in Mr Spark's Maths class showed great enthusiasm by creatively coming up with outstanding investigations, explained and presented neatly in the form of a journal. This is clearly shown by Aidan Mayall when he said: "This is a project in which we can really think outside of the box; it really lets us rack our brains for creativity – I like it."

News from the Mathematics Department



Graphing Calculators

All Year 9 students and parents should have received the following information this week about buying a graphing calculator for next year:

Cambridge IGCSE International Mathematics has been developed for schools offering an international curriculum. It complements the IB curriculum and reflects the way today's students like to learn: they will acquire a solid foundation of mathematical skills and learn how to develop strategies for solving open-ended problems. The course also allows students to develop and sharpen their investigation and modelling skills, and introduces them to the use of graphical

calculators - a necessary part of the IB Diploma.

We would like to ask for your support in making sure your son/daughter has a graphical display calculator (GDC) as part of their mathematics equipment at the start of the 2015-2016 academic year.

There are many GDCs on the market, but our preference would be that students have the device pictured on the right, which would be suitable for use right through to the IB examinations in H4.

Students will receive instruction in lessons based on this

particular model. The calculators are available for sale now from the Phase I office for NT\$5700 and we would suggest getting one and encouraging your son/daughter to start exploring the new functions on it. They will be expected to bring the GDC to every mathematics lesson in H1. Please note that the TI-nspire is also available as a CAS model, and this is *not* permitted in examinations so should not be purchased. Please contact Ms Dale at the school if you have any further questions.

[Link to website](#) is here for more information.



TI-nspire CX
(Texas Instruments)



Keep Up Your English

Grace Kennedy, Head of ASPIRE

Summer vacation is a wonderful time for everyone; however some students may struggle to actively practice their English language skills outside of the school environment.

Going from a regular routine of using English everyday in school to using it only on the odd occasion may make it difficult to keep up the impressive language skills they have acquired this academic year.

Here are our Top Tips for keeping English language alive over the summer.

Top Tips for Parents

- Encourage them to watch their favourite show, movie or sporting event in English. Hopefully they will enjoy the experience!
 - Select the English audio (with or without subtitles) of their favourite DVD.
- If your TV provider offers programmes in English, try it out! Maybe the rest of the family can join in the learning!
- Consider opportunities such as English language summer schools and weekend language programmes to keep those skills sharp.
- Ask your child what things mean in English, no matter the activity – cooking, walking, having a meal. Don't worry if you don't know, they will teach you!
- Encourage your child to regularly speak to others in English – visitors, other family members, etc. Using a mixture of English and Mother tongue may be helpful in the beginning.
 - If your child plays computer games, encourage them to do so in English.

Using some of these over the holiday period and any other times out of school will prove to be a great advantage to keeping their skills live.

Remember: Enjoyment is the key!

<p>Student "A" reads 20 minutes each day 3600 minutes in a school year</p>	<p>Student "B" reads 5 minutes each day 900 minutes in a school year</p>	<p>Student "C" reads 1 minute each day 180 minutes in a school year</p>
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1,800,000 words



90th percentile

282,000 words



50th percentile

8,000 words



10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school . . . and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)



Note: The ASPIRE department has a selection of English language magazines and some books that students are more than welcome to borrow over the summer.

On behalf of the ASPIRE department, I would like to wish you all a safe and happy holiday and we look forward to seeing you all again in August.

Disconnecting from our Digital Lives

Gavin Matthews, Head of H1 & H2

In recent weeks we have been focusing on 'Digital Lives' during H1 PSHCE time. It is safe to say that it is an aspect of students' lives about which both teachers and parents typically feel increasingly concerned. As a Head of Year, I have three main concerns about students' online experiences:

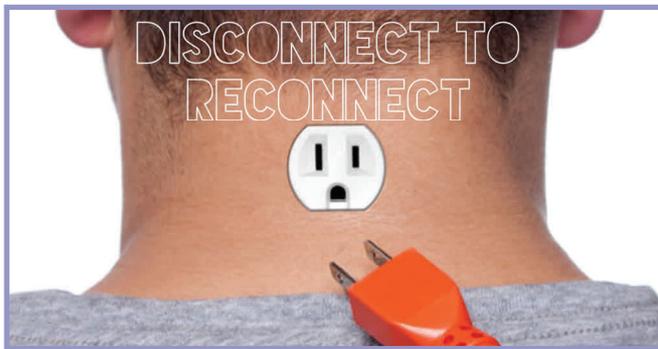
1. The sometimes damaging social interactions that arise from social media.
2. The sheer time involved in checking numerous applications, playing games, watching streamed shows, and other similar digital activity.
3. The future vulnerability which young people can expose themselves to when posting pictures and statuses that may be viewed in a different light in years to come.

We asked students for their honest reflections on their own digital lives and then posed a challenge to the whole year group: could they renounce their usage of devices for a whole week and then reflect on the process? Honestly, I expected that only a few – if any – would be willing to take part in this experiment, given that most teenagers seem as wedded to their devices as their own limbs. I was, however, very pleasantly surprised to find that 29 students were willing to try.

Many struggled during the week; some failed; others discovered the love that they used to have for other activities, such as reading or going to bed

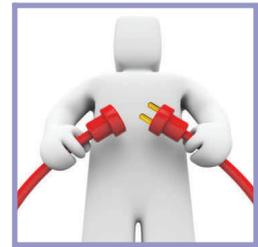
early. However, even those that could not make it through the week without cracking and opening Tumblr learnt from the process. The reflections were fascinating to read and quite a few of our students agreed to have the reflective pieces forwarded to their parents, which I hope led to some good discussions at home about the modern relationship with technology.

Here are some of the com-



ments from the reflective pieces:

- I think Disconnections is great as a practice for students. It helps me refocus on real life socialising and many talents I can't practice because of how much time I spend on social media instead. I started playing more guitar, more piano and drawing more. And that made me really happy. I don't regret joining this activity. I learned a lot from it.
- It's been quite a tough week for my procrastinating self. I slept earlier, read more books, finished my homework in record time, etc. Would I trade all those benefits for electronics? Yes. Youtube>sleep. But all in all, this was a great experience and one that introduced me to a healthier lifestyle.
- During dinner, I thought about something my mom says all the time, when I'm scrolling through my Facebook feed or refreshing the Tumblr page: "Why do you care so much about other people's lives?" and I realised, whether it be celebrity gossip, your friends' most recent Instagram photos, or who's rumoured to be dating whomever and which actor is confirmed to be in whichever new movie, it really cannot be less relevant to our lives.
- I often tell my parents that I don't have enough time to do what I should do and I told them that I didn't use too much phone. However, I found that I actually wasted a lot of time on my phone and I'm not lacking time anymore.
- It brought back memories of the time when I used to ask homework questions by calling people. I realised that by calling people, I can get a straightforward and clear answer instead of getting 'idk' and 'I'm not sure'. At first, I thought disconnecting would be boring, but it is actually pretty fun!
- I had forgotten what I used to do before I got into anime, and I think this week has really given me insight into how I should spend my time now. I've rediscovered a lot of things I used to enjoy last year but left behind as soon as I got into anime.



Graduation 2015

Darren Latchford, IB Coordinator

It was wonderful that so many parents and teachers were able to join us for the annual Graduation ceremony on Saturday 23rd May. Students looked splendid in all their finery and a good night was had by all. My sincere congratulations to all H4 students, who have achieved so much in the two years of their IB Diploma Programme. This was a year group of true friendship, collaboration and balance in the ways in which they approached their studies, service and the wider life of the school. I wish every student every success for their results on 6th of July and for their university lives at prestigious institutions in a wide range of locations. Thank you to all H4 students: for your kindness, your willingness to share, your academic successes and for the myriad contributions you have made. You'll be very much missed.



Graduation 2015



Graduation 2015



Graduation 2015





A Word from the Head of Sport

Kwok Chow, Head of Sport

I'm always happy when the Sports Awards come around, as it gives us the chance to celebrate student athletes who have performed and improved throughout a season of sports. Without sport, I would be a bit lost! It brings us together in ways nothing else can. The laughter on the train coming home from the recent Y9 Basketball trip to Koashuing is still ringing in my ears. It proves to me that it's not really about the winning, but all about sharing those moments through the journey we take as Team Titans.

Firstly, thank you to all the coaches who have given up their free time through endless hours of coaching. Thank you also to the parents who have supported our student athletes. Thanks to the TES community for all the support during the hosting of the U13 FOBISIA Games. And to all the student athletes who have represented the school with 'true sportsmanship' remember: "Winning is temporary, sportsmanship is permanent!" Lastly, a huge thank you to the Sports Leadership Team, who organised the Sports Awards this year. Below are the last tournament reports of the year and the Sports Awards. See you all next year and have a restful summer break.

Y7 Girls Basketball: TISSA Tournament

Report by Jeni Liu and Emily Staude (Team Captains)

This day was quite important for all of us on the Year 7 Girls Basketball team. Everyone was excited in the morning and happy that we didn't have to wake up too early like the boys who travelled to Taichung. As we headed on the bus to Morrison Academy Bethany in Taipei, we sat in confidence and were not worried because we had trained hard, thanks to Mr Imbleau, BB and Christine. We had faith in ourselves that we had a chance of getting a medal. However, when we lost our first match to Bethany (MAB), we lost a bit of hope as well. We didn't have much time to mope and sooner than we realised, we were on court again, playing ISIS Hawks. We did much better this time, lunging at rebounds, making crisp passes, blocking shots and shooting with professional precision. The game ended 22-4 in our favour. Like a basketball bouncing up and down, so too were our emotions fluctuating. We were back in high spirits. We then played MAC Mustangs, the eventual gold medalists. They were tough and we played hard! Who said basketball was a non-contact game? There were lots of fouls and one of us fouled out due to her aggressiveness. In the end, we lost a close one and were upset when Mr Imbleau announced that we were not going to advance to the semis. However, we cheered ourselves up knowing that we brought our A-game and could be proud of that. Overall, we know that our teams did pretty well, even though we didn't stand on the podium and receive that ever elusive medal. We are already looking forward to next year when we get another chance to prove ourselves!



Y8 Girls Basketball: TISSA Tournament

Report by Jessy Lee

On May 2nd, our Year 8 Basketball team went to MAC for a tournament. We met at the EPC at 6:15. Even though it was early, our team was very excited and nervous at the same time for the tournament. Our first game was with ISIS and we lost by two points. However, every member of the team stepped up and managed to do a superb job in their own role. After having a short break, we played our next game with KAS. We won by a big score difference, our defence was excellent and we didn't let them score more than twice. We scored about fourteen times. Next, we had a game with MAK. After that, we had a game with DIS, which we won. Our team came fifth overall, out of eight teams. However, we improved a lot since the beginning of our training. Everyone played their best, so we were really proud of what we had done, even though we didn't win a medal. Good job Titans!



"Even though we didn't win, we are still winners in our hearts"

Audrey, Y9

Y9 Girls Basketball: TISSA Tournament

Report by Hani Sparks

On Saturday, 5th May, the Year 9 Basketball team got up early to get the High Speed Rail to the TISSA Basketball Tournament in Kaohsiung. When the team arrived at Kaohsiung, we got straight into warming up for our first game at 9:15 against KAS2. We won our first game, using the skills and tactics our coach Miss Huang had taught us and that gave us the confidence we needed to make it through the day and help us in our next game. Our second game was at 12:00, so we had time to get ready. We also watched TES 2 play their first game and cheered them on. Our second game was against ISIS. The whole team played strong for the whole game and we won, which meant we had made it to the final! In the final we were to play against MAC.



We knew they were a strong team and it would be a hard game, but we went into it with our heads held high. By half time it was 5-5 and we were all very nervous. We had the other TES teams cheering us all the way, but sadly we lost the game 14-9. The team was very disappointed because the game was so close. But overall we had a fun and exciting day and our team showed great participation and teamwork – getting up when we fell down and keeping going with our heads high. The team would like to say a MASSIVE thank you to Miss Huang, because she is such an amazing coach and we all wouldn't love basketball as much as we do today without you being our coach. You are not just our coach but a friend. We will all miss you so much and hope you have fun where you're going.



Year 7 Boys Basketball: TISSA Tournament

Report by Austin (edited by Mr Duxfield)

After a lot of training and hard work, we were organised and prepared to win the Tournament. We trained three times a week – twice in the early morning (we all had to be at school by 6:00 am) and once after school. Thanks to our coach, Mr Duxfield, we had three offensive plays: Diamond, Zero and Motion Offense, as well as a defensive system: Help Defence. There were a lot of ups and downs during training, but in the end we still had tried our best in practices. We also had friendly matches with Bethany and our Year 8s.

Our tournament was in Taichung and we didn't know what to expect. In pool play of the tournament, the A team dominated all teams thanks to our coach Mr Duxfield giving advice and instructions and our superior skill level. We clearly had the most organised defence, leading to turnovers, fast breaks and easy baskets at the other end. One highlight included beating Ishou International School 65-10, despite playing all our bench players for most of the game. George was a standout weapon in this game and, after scoring many easy layups, Mr Duxfield pulled him off to limit the pain to the opposition!

Unfortunately for the B team, they didn't do as well as the A team. They battled through all pool games and, despite scoring reasonably well, they allowed the opposition teams too many easy baskets and didn't make it to the finals. Student coach, Mason, did a great job of keeping their spirits up and giving each player a chance to progress.

Before the final, we felt some pressure, since the other team was pretty skilful. To look at their individual skills, they looked very similar to us, with many players who could drive to the hoop strongly and a huge centre. We started slowly and there was a point where they were beating us by 10 points. We took a timeout, regrouped and remained calm. We focussed on defensive intensity and limiting our turnovers. We put them under a lot of pressure with our defence, which again lead to fast breaks. Austin was particularly effective in using his speed and tenacity to pressure the opposition point guards and create turnovers. Justin defended their big man courageously and was always a threat in the post. It was definitely a team effort however with every player, including all the bench playing a part in the final. When bench players came on, they maintained the intensity set by the starters and we never lost control or momentum. We quickly took the lead in the game and ended up winning convincingly by 49-29.

We were the champions! All the tough and harsh training was worthwhile. Honestly, we were proud of ourselves and I'm pretty sure that our coach was proud of us too. For the A team there were no losses. The B team, despite failing to win, never gave up and competed well in every game. Every player made great progress throughout the season and we worked well together as a team.



Y8 Boys Basketball: TISSA Tournament

Report by Mr Bullard

On Saturday, May 2nd, 2015, the Year 8 Boys Basketball team competed in a tournament in Tai-chung. It was a hot day and two of the games were played outdoors, but the boys worked hard and didn't let the hot weather interfere with their play. The boys won one game and lost two at the tournament. In the two losses, the boys competed and played hard, never giving up. The game the team won was very close and the boys were able to play great defence down the stretch to seal the victory against KAS. The team worked hard for the duration of the season and improved greatly. I think every player learned a bit about themselves both on and off the court this season. With hard work and practice, many of the players on this team can be solid basketball players in the future. It was a pleasure to work with them this season.



Y9 Boys TISSA Tournament

Report by Kristopher Chou

On May 2nd, TES Year 9 athletes went to Kaoshiung to compete in the TISSA Y9 Basketball tournament. We started this tournament with a pre-game against DIS on April 24th. We played on our home court, so we had a slight advantage. We won the pre-game without any struggle. Then on May 2nd, we started our day by meeting at Taipei Main Station at 6:00 am. We got on the train at around 6:30 am and left the station at 6:36 am. Everyone was struggling to find seats, but we eventually sorted it out before the train left. Half of the people on the train fell asleep, the other half were playing with their phone or playing cards together. It was a peaceful time before the games started. When we arrived at Kaoshiung, we immediately got onto a bus that took us directly to ISIS. We were glad to arrive there safely. Titans had a game as soon as we got there. We only had about 10 minutes of warm up time. Our first game was against KAS 2. We were nervous since it was our first game, but we still won. Our second game was against MAC. We were leading the game until the final minute. We made too many fouls by accident and we lost by one point. We believe that the calls were controversial. After this game, we played against ISIS. They were a tall team, but we eventually beat them. We advanced into the game for 3rd and 4th place. We were against MAK. After 36 minutes, we beat them. We, TES Titans, were 3rd place. On the way back, even though we were sad and tired, we enjoyed our last minutes as the Titan's Year 9 Basketball team.





Sports Awards
Most Improved and Most Valuable Athletes of the Year

Sport	Most Improved Athlete of the Year	Most Valuable Athlete of the Year
Y7 Girls Volleyball	Jewel Lee	Shannon Chen
Y7 Boys Volleyball	Francesco De Gan	Nicolas Lee
Y8 Girls Volleyball	Tal Halperin	Regina Liu
Y8 Boys Volleyball	Gene Weng	Bernard Yang
Y9 Girls Volleyball	Aoife Leane	Anna-Bela Sula
Y9 Boys Volleyball	Perry Lin	Brian Wu
JVB Boys Football	Ryoki Kuni	Shawn Lam
JVB Girls Volleyball	Anja Jung	Lute Durham
JV Girls Volleyball	Marie Beatrice Blanc	Irene Hung
Varsity Girls Football	Romy Arsenault	Alida Lilljequist
JV Boys Football	Jonathan Hsiao	Abdoul Sankara
Varsity Boys Football	Axel Queau	Abdoul Sankara
Y7 Softball Girls	Evelyn De Rienzo	Ava komons
Y7 Softball Boys	George Chang	Aidan Mayall
Y8 Softball Girls	Elizabeth Brown	Renee Hsiao
Y8 Softball Boys	Patrick Devlin	Justin Huang
Y9 Softball Girls	Claire Ko	Ashley Yeow
Y9 Softball Boys	Luc Pichot	Kei Sumiya
JVB Girls Basketball	Hani Sparks	Hannah Kwuo
JV Girls Basketball	Kimberly Chuang	Irene Hung
JVB Boys Basketball	Ryan Lin	Brian Wu
JV Boys Basketball	Jay Lee	Abdoul Sankara

Sports Awards
Most Improved and Most Valuable Athletes of the Year



Sport	Most Improved Athlete of the Year	Most Valuable Athlete of the Year
V Boys Basketball	Oliver Lin	Chris Chen
Y7 Girls Football	Evelyn Di Rienzo	Emily Staude
Y7 Boys Football	Scott Maxwell	David Lin
Y9 Girls Volleyball	Aoife Leane	Anna-Bela Sula
Y8 Girls Football	Lea Garnot	Renee Hsiao
Y8 Boys Football	Peter Lee	Jeremy Wu
Y9 Girls Football	Molly Di Rienzo	Hani Sparks
Y9 Boys Football	Kristopher Chou	Billy Skjonnemand
UI3 FOBISIA Boys Award		Brian Chiu
UI3 FOBISIA Girls Award		Jessy Lee
Y7 Girls Basketball	Sabrina Chang	Emily Staude
Y7 Boys Basketball	George Chang	Austin Tsai
Y8 Girls Basketball	Natalie Tioh	Jessy Lee
Y8 Boys Basketball	Neel Bhimani	Dheeman Shahri
Y9 Girls Basketball	Molly Di Rienzo	Annie Lao
Y9 Boys Basketball	Ethan Chan	Douglas Lee
Varsity Boys Volleyball	Kevin Wang	Vincent Wu
JV Boys Volleyball	Hank Kao	Jean Jacques Blanc
JV Girls Football	Ivory Lee	Alida Lilljequist
Touch Rugby	Rosh Ho	Harry Stokes
Cross Country Boys	Bryant Chang	Alida Lillequist
Cross Country Girls	Wilma Lilljequist	King Munn Cheah



Sports Awards

Athletes of the Year

Taipei European School 2014-15- KS3 Girls

Hani Sparks

Taipei European School 2014-15- KS3 Boys

Brian Wu

Taipei European School 2014-15- HS Girls

Irene Hung

Taipei European School 2014-15- HS Boys

Abdoul Sankara

Young Coach of the Year

Marie Beatrice-Blanc

Coach of the Year

Chin Lin Huang



Sports Awards





Sports Awards



Sports Awards





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