



# ESC Newsletter

Issue 19

May 2016

## Coming up this month:

- 4 June: High School Prom
- 8 June: Last Day of Term
- 9 June: Dragon Boat Festival

## Inside this issue:

ESCPA	3
IB Spotlight	5
Graduation	6
French Section News	9
Europe Day	10
Grease	18
Sports News	20
And much more!	

## Welcome from the BSHS Head

Chrysta Garnett, Head of British Secondary and High School Section

As another academic year comes to a close, there is real value in pausing to reflect on the year's highlights – its successes and challenges and what we can learn from them. The BSHS has had another very successful year and I'd like to share some of the highlights with you.

In August, Typhoon Soudelor marked the start of a 'whirlwind' year. Although our campuses were relatively unscathed, other schools in Taiwan were not so lucky. As is typical in our community, this hailed the beginning of fundraising efforts that raised over 75,000 NTD to help fund the rebuilding of the Atayal school in Yilan. Consequently, we were able to forge a new and powerful connection with the Atayal tribe that culminated in some wonderful highlights on the school calendar: the tribe's visit to the ESC on Values Day in November, as well as the very successful Year 9 reciprocal visit, when the Atayal community hosted our students for three days in May. We are hoping that this is the start of a long lasting relationship that allows us to share our resources, as well as our shared knowledge and understanding of the power of friendship across and within cultures.

Community spirit seems to have been a theme this year, and we were proud to host several high profile visitors, drawn to our school by our growing international reputation for excellence. In the Spring, we hosted delegates

from the best state schools in Singapore who were touring the region to investigate international educational practices. 12 leaders in education spent the day observing lessons and finding out how our commitment to providing educational excellence translates into our day to day practice.

We were also visited again this year by Dr Xiaoqing from the English Schools Foundation as part of the final phase of our CLC Curriculum Review. Hugely impressed by the developments we have undertaken to keep the programme relevant and articulated, Dr XP congratulated us on the innovative home grown CLC Secondary Resources that he noted should be considered 'a milestone on the school's journey towards linguistic excellence.'

As a top international school, it is also important that we receive regular re-evaluation of our global standard kite marks. The CIS/WASC 5 Year Evaluation visit provided us with a fantastic opportunity to showcase the work we have done since our last visit in 2011, for which we received a number of commendations, as well as suggestions for continued improvement. Our CIS and WASC visitors spoke warmly about our 'positive culture of student engagement that is supported by high quality teacher guidance and support' as well as our 'genuine commitment to internationalism exemplified by an impressive array of activities and initiatives

both inside and outside of the classroom'.

Our international identity is also felt powerfully by our students, not only in the obvious overseas excursions in which our students represent the school in many sporting, musical and academic tournaments, but also increasingly in service activities, integrated curricular projects, in the ECA programme, as well as of course in the nationalities of our students themselves. As one student said to me this year 'We have the world in our corridors' and this reflection serves as a positive reminder to a world increasingly afflicted by crisis that it is possible for our young people to live in harmony in a multicultural environment whilst having a very positive impact on the world around them.

As another successful year draws to a close in the life of our school, we have to say the inevitable farewells to our departing colleagues and students. Although distances may sometimes seem far, connections forged at Taipei European School are enduring and we hope that we continue to hear from our leavers about their future successes.

My best wishes to all students and families travelling overseas this summer. I wish you happy holidays and my deepest gratitude for your continued support of our school, and I look forward to welcoming you back in August.

## Message from the Deputy Head

Sonya Papps, Deputy Head

### Summer Holidays: Time to Rest and Recharge

As Term 3 draws to a close, students and staff are celebrating the year's many achievements, reflecting on lessons taught and learnt, and of course looking forward to the long summer holiday ahead! Over the past few weeks I've spoken to a number of students about the upcoming holidays and I've heard of plans for intensive summer camps, full-time tutoring programmes, packed revision schedules and a wide variety of extra lessons. The summer months do offer 'extra' time which can be used for extended study and for some there can be a temptation to continue working at full speed until the new school year starts in August. Undoubtedly there is some value in these activities and it

is encouraging to see such ambition in our young people. However, it is vital that, in addition to any work plans, students also have a good rest over summer, spend lots of time with family and friends, and get plenty of sunshine and exercise – these things will help set the foundation for academic success in the new school year. Current H1 and H3 students will have some work to do in preparation for the second year of their examination programme, however, teachers are taking a measured approach to setting summer tasks. These students will need a lot of energy to carry them through their examination year and so it is especially important they take some time to recharge this summer.

### BSHS Introducing PERMAH

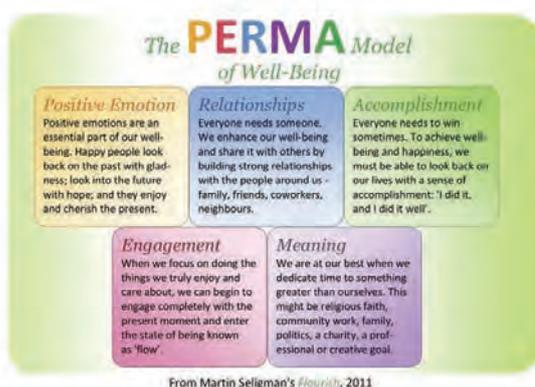
A growing body of research is confirming what many educators and parents have known intuitively for years; that academic achievement and personal well-being are intertwined and that a robust education addresses both. At TES we are committed to educating the 'whole child', which means that we value academic success and personal well-being equally. We want our students to achieve in their academic pursuits, but we also want them to

ple with rising levels of stress, anxiety and other emotional and mental health issues among young people, a PERMA model is being implemented by some of the world's leading progressive schools in order to address these problems. Beginning in August, we will use PSHCE lessons, assemblies and registration to start looking at PERMAH with our students.

Our aim is to educate our students on the importance of their well-being and the role it plays in their overall success. We want to equip them with the skills they need to tackle life's challenges and to **flourish**. We've decided to add an '**H**' to Seligman's original model because, in addition to the five core elements, our BSHS PERMAH programme will also explore the role of physical **Health** in our overall well-being.

We are excited about the PERMAH

agenda and look forward to engaging our students in rigorous learning about their physical health, psychological well-being, character development, building resilience and mental toughness and working to their strengths. More information about the BSHS PERMAH programme will be coming home in the new school year, with plans for parent information sessions already in the works – please stay tuned!



be happy and feel safe. This year, teachers in the British Secondary and High School (BSHS) have engaged in continued professional development around issues of well-being and its importance to academic and other life outcomes. By familiarising ourselves with the latest findings and knowledge, we are preparing to launch, in August, a BSHS whole school focus on a well-being, character and strengths education programme that we're calling PERMAH.

The PERMA model was designed by Psychologist Martin Seligman and focuses on five elements of psychological well-being: positive emotion, engagement, relationships, meaning, and accomplishments. As schools around the globe grap-

## News from the ESCPA

Anna Durmus, ESCPA

Dear ESC Community,

As you are reading this Newsletter, the countdown to the summer break will have started. I am sure you all will agree that the students and we, the parents, need a well-deserved break! This year was academically challenging for many kids, but the school has done its best to make it a fun school year as well, and we at ESCPA take pride in having made our contribution to the fun part.

The biggest event of the past month for the ESCPA was, undoubtedly, the International Food Fair, which was organised at ESC for the first time. It was a beautiful, colourful, delicious, lively event. About 100 parents from the British, French and German sections represented their 23 countries! Some parents from the Primary school came up the mountain to support their country or sent food to their respective tables. A huge Thank You from all of us at ESCPA goes to all the TES parents involved in this fantastic event. Many of you formed beautiful teams, whilst some of you were brave enough to proudly represent your countries alone – fabulous job, ladies and gentlemen! A very special Thank You goes to two TES Spanish teachers, Jesus Robla and Silvia Saez Ramos, for representing their country, not only through language, but also through food. I, personally, strongly believe in food diplomacy and know that the students were impressed by your participation! We have had wonderful feedback from the students and teaching staff and it made us feel very accomplished and proud! Please mark your calendars for the next year's International Food Fair on March 7, 2017! We are aiming to make it an even better event and do hope to see many more of you among us!

This year was very productive, which has made it possible for us to realise several important projects: as per ESC teaching staff request, the ESCPA is sponsoring a photographer for the Prom Night. We also donated 27,785 NTD to purchase costumes for the *Grease* show. And right now we are working with the school on getting technical specs and quotations to procure a food heating system for the Phase I Cafeteria.

ESCPA's other major involvements this academic year were the Sports Day in October, Carnival Day in February and all-year-round Vegetarian Lunches, organised together with the *Roots and Shoots* ECA and aimed at promoting a healthier lifestyle and raising awareness among the students on how we can decrease our carbon footprint by going vegetarian at least once a week. We will continue to promote these events during the next school year and do hope to see many of you among us at some or all of them.

We have also started a Second-Hand Uniform Sale drive to make a small contribution to the eco-friendliness of TES. If your child has grown out of his school or sports uniforms, or if he/she is starting High School next year and will no longer need a uniform, please consider donating them to ESCPA. We will have second-hand uniform donation boxes at the entrance to Phase I and Phase 2.

We still have some events lined up before school ends. As I write, the ESCPA is still busy preparing for the annual school show *Grease*. As per tradition, we will be selling food and refreshments on all three nights of the show. On June 6<sup>th</sup>, the ESCPA will be organising a Teachers' Appreciation Breakfast, and on June 9<sup>th</sup> ESCPA members and other ESC par-

ents will participate in the Dragon Boat Race and we sincerely hope to advance to the finals and report our success back to you in August! Come cheer for us and wish us luck!

We already have some dates for you to put in your agendas for the very beginning of the 2016-2017 school year. On August 10<sup>th</sup>, the new to ESC families are invited to the Newcomers Orientation. And on August 31<sup>st</sup>, the ESCPA will host its Welcome Coffee Morning. Please join us for a morning of fun, to meet and welcome new parents and to catch up with old friends. All ESC parents are invited to the Welcome Coffee and we will be happy if you can join us.

Finally, the end of a school year is always associated with saying goodbyes to wonderful friends as they move on to new horizons outside of Taiwan. This year we are bidding farewell to Iphi Spreter, a selfless Chair of the Parents Support Council, and ESCPA members Anne-Sophie Pichot and Maria Jaern, who move on to new exciting destinations. We will also dearly miss Nancy Kuo and Paige Lin, whose children graduate this year and will start college in the Fall. We wish you and your families a smooth relocation and settling in to your new homes.

To all the TES students who graduate from their Alma Mater, we wish you all the best with your transitions from high school to college and starting an exciting adult life. We are proud of you all!

Until we meet again in August,  
Your ESCPA



## Focus on Progress

Daisy Rana, Assistant Head



With the exam season upon us, we have been proud to see our H2 and H4 students rise to the challenge with confidence and energy. The exam room has been awash with Superman and Wonder Woman T-shirts, worn by the students to improve their exam prowess and to inspire them to 'attack' exam after exam tirelessly. As I write, the IB students are ei-

ther celebrating or catching up on sleep, having completed 97 papers collectively over an intense 15-day period, supervised by over 200 individual staff sessions. No longer will they hear the dreaded words "you have five minutes remaining". The IGCSE students, however, have another two weeks to go, followed by a long hot summer holiday without a revi-

sion guide in sight!

Meanwhile, our H1 and H3 students have been watching in anticipation as they await their turn next year, with examinations to mark the end of their IGCSE and IB courses.

Well done H2 and H4 – you have been super heroic and have done yourselves proud!

## News from the ESC Library

Angela Chang, Chief Librarian

The Summer Borrowing program for this year will take place from **June 1 to June 8**. Secondary students are welcome to borrow up to **7 books** and High School students can borrow up to **10 books!**

However, to ensure that our Library collections are complete, we'd like to ask that all

existing loans and payments for any lost books must be returned/paid before the Summer Borrowing program starts, that is **May 31<sup>st</sup>**. Your summer borrowing privilege may be restricted until all items are returned or replaced.

Please note that there will be no borrowing on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>

May, to allow time for the librarians to trace missing books and get the collection ready for summer borrowing. Don't wait until the last minute, return your overdue books now!

Have a nice break and happy reading!

# SUMMER BORROWING

## 2016 ESC LIBRARY

- Return or pay for all your library loans by 27th May 2016
- \*\*No borrowing on 30th and 31th May\*\*
- Summer borrowing starts 1st June 2016!
- All borrowed resources will need to be returned on the first day back to school, 15th August 2016

# Spotlight on IB

Darren Latchford, IB Coordinator

## A busy but rewarding term

I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to our wonderful H4 students who pulled out all the stops to get all of their internal assessments and externally-assessed work in, ready to be sent off to examiners. Of course, much of it was done during H4 and, in some cases, in H3 but I thought parents might like to know the sheer scale of the work that our students produced. Our students and teachers uploaded 380 e-coursework components and posted 117 conventionally-marked component portfolios. Our teachers also entered 735 internal assessment marks onto the system. Most heroically, though, our students wrote a staggering 1032 exam papers over a busy three week period, all of which were posted to the IB for marking. As always, our H4s have my admiration for their resilience and participation and my thanks for their part in the whole process running so smoothly.

As I write, our H4s are now looking forward to their transition day (Thursday 26th May) and Graduation on Saturday 28th May. The latter will, as always, be a special occasion, and I would like to thank everyone for their part in making this event so special.

## H3 CAS Week

Our H3 students will be involved in the CAS Project in the week commencing 30th May. Forty-one students will be heading to rural Cambodia to build houses for those in need, after spending the year raising money. The remaining students will be working with their local Yangmingshan community to engage in some student-generated ser-

vice. I am, as always, grateful to Mr Paul Lee, who oversees CAS, for his creativity in generating a more meaningful CAS experience for the students involved in his project and Mr Henri Labuschagne for all that he does in terms of fundraising support, making connections and leading the overseas Tabitha Cambodia trip. I am also grateful to all the CAS Advisers who help our students to get the most out of this exciting aspect of the Core - in many ways the part of the IB which teaches young people how to be good adults who care for others and look after own development. In the CAS leaders and advisers, our students are very lucky to have such dedicated CAS Champions to guide them to genuine personal development and fulfilment.

## Summer work

H3s will have a busy summer of completing early internal assessments, reading widely for TOK and, perhaps the biggest task of all, planning, researching and drafting their Extended Essay in time for the first draft submission deadline of 12<sup>th</sup> September. I wish them well on that — it is such a rewarding activity and they will really get a lot out of it. They are doing it away from school, though and that can be a challenge for some. I would be grateful if parents could keep an eye on their H3 sons and daughters to make sure they are busy. They should rest too, and do some holiday activities to recharge but, as the IB Learner Profile says, it is all about balance. They need, therefore, to keep the Extended Essay high on their summer 'to do' list so that they can keep chipping away at it and produce a first draft that is as close to what they consider

to be perfect as it's possible to get. Then their supervisors have something to work with and to offer constructive feedback on.

## Farewell

As this is my final Newsletter as IB Coordinator at TES, I would like to end this article by thanking you for reading my ramblings over the years. By the time you read this, I will have thanked the H4s (at Graduation) for all that they have contributed to the school and for how they have enriched my life as their Head of Year and IB Coordinator. The most wonderful thing about teaching is how much you learn and I won't forget the students I have had the privilege to teach and support at TES. I would like to thank the TES community as a whole for their generous support of me throughout my time as IB Coordinator. I am sad that I won't see our valued H3s graduate. They have made such a wonderful start to the programme and I know they will be successful in it and all that they do in the future. They have my heartfelt congratulations in advance of what will be a difficult yet rewarding H4. From what I've seen so far, TES is well on-track to producing yet another year group of whom it can feel very proud indeed.



# Graduation 2016



# Graduation 2016





## News from the Mathematics Department

Julie Dale, Head of Mathematics

### Graphing Calculators



**TI-nspire CX**  
(Texas Instruments)

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

*Cambridge IGCSE International Mathematics has been developed for schools offering an international 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 by making sure your son/daughter has a graphical display calculator (GDC) as part of their mathematics equipment at the start of the 2016-2017 academic year.

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

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

Students will receive instruction in lessons based on this particular model. The calcula-

tors are available for sale now from the Phase One 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.

### UKMT Mathematics Competition

We have had our best year ever in the UKMT Mathematics competition; in numbers we have awarded:

**45 Gold Certificates**  
**56 Silver Certificates**  
**39 Bronze certificates**

And, we have had:

**21 Kangaroo Qualifiers**  
**7 Olympiad Qualifiers**

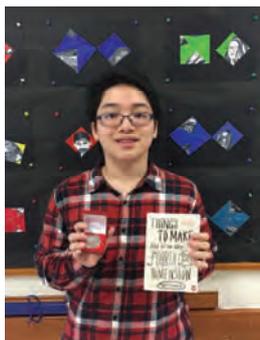
Amazing! These numbers don't even include the Junior

Maths Challenge, as the results are not out yet, but we are expecting great things from our junior mathematicians, especially from the 14 Year 6 students who joined us from the Primary school for the event.

Our Olympiad qualifiers were Alex Lee, Andrew Wu, Justin Liu, Ryoki Kunii, Leo Lin, Ryan Chang and Kevin Cheng and we are very proud of their achievements in such a chal-

lenging and distinguished competition.

Want to improve your problem solving skills? Join either the Junior or Senior Maths Problem Solving ECAs which will be running next year!



**Alex Lee**



## French Section News

### L.A. in Taipei

One of the aims of the French Section school development project is to build closer ties with other French schools abroad – to take advantage of the opportunities afforded by being part of a network of 494 schools in 136 countries to our students’ advantage. The International School of Los Angeles (LILA) has been a partner school for the French Section for the past three years.

In April 2014, the first wave of LILA students came to visit Taipei and to stay with TES host families. That particular group of LILA students were the school’s first Mandarin students and coming to Taipei gave them a chance to experi-

ence Chinese Language and Culture first hand, adding meaning to their Mandarin learning experience. Last Spring, a group of TES students paid a return visit to L.A. – soaking in popular American culture with visits to Universal Studios, Hollywood, the Staple Center, etc., but also with time to reflect on their future and their ambitions for post-secondary education during a guided visit of the UCLA campus.

This April, it was LILA’s turn to send some of their Mandarin students to Taipei for 10 days. Once again, they stayed with TES host families and, once again, their days were jam-

packed with everything Taipei has to offer. They took Mandarin, calligraphy and yoga classes, visited temples, toured the hot springs in Beitou, learned how to tie-dye with natural dyes and most memorably went river-tracing with their host partners, who soon became their firm friends.

On the last night, during the pot luck at EPC, TES students could be heard whispering with their American partners about what they hope to see in Los Angeles in Spring 2017 – sun, sea, surf, the Lakers and “some of the finest post-secondary institutions California has to offer,” added Mr Vesseau.



### La nuit du c0de – Come c0de with us

May 14<sup>th</sup> 2015 was an important date in the French Section calendar, as it marked the beginning of what is going to be a beautiful adventure. On that night, from 8pm to midnight, a motley crew of French Section, British High School and French School of Tokyo students and teachers convened in the EPC staffroom for a night of coding and fun! Not two things that you thought would go together maybe, but you’d be wrong! Those of us who dropped in that evening to have a look at what we thought would be eminently nerdy goings-on were stunned by the conviviality, team-work sociability and good times that had taken over the teachers’ room.

Scratch was this year’s programming software of choice and the challenge was to create

an innovative, imaginative and functioning video game in the space of four hours – as a team. Snacks and soft drinks were guzzled and pizzas were gobbled as tasks were split



between teams, bugs overcome (or not), frustrations met, problems solved and ambitions scaled down to something more manageable until midnight when the coding stopped (and a certain BSHS competitor was heard cry out “But we need at least another day to finish this!”)

The next day, the French School of Tokyo students and their FS host partners went to the Futureward Makerspace at Tatung University where they got creative all over again, but this time in a more traditional manner – crafting wooden boomerangs – while the *Nuit du c0de* jury tried and tested the games in a search of a winner. The final result was a tie between the *Terminale* students from Tokyo and the French Section’s own *1ère S* class.

We’re already planning next year’s *Nuit du c0de*, working on how to make it bigger and better – other French schools in Asia would like to take part and we’re wondering if it’s something TES Primary pupils might be interested in. *Aprem du c0de* (coding afternoon) anyone?

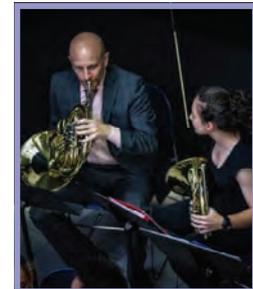
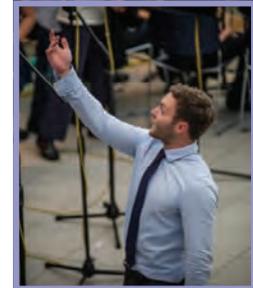
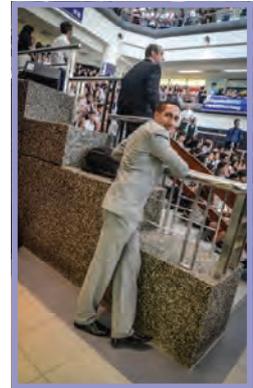




# EUROPE DAY



# EUROPE DAY





## Class of 2016 University Destinations

Jack Shull and Eric Swan, University and Careers Counsellors

When the Class of 2016 walks across the stage on May 28<sup>th</sup> to receive their TES Diplomas, it will mark the end of their high school careers. It's now time for them to celebrate their university acceptances and, thanks to all their hard work, the Class of 2016 had many excellent offers. There are 73 students in the Class of 2016 and their post High School plans involve moving on to the following countries and continents.:

**USA 30% UK 21% Canada 11% Asia 13% Undecided 11% Gap Year 8% Europe 5%**

The Class of 2016 applied to universities in 13 different countries and to 187 Different Universities:

**US 81 different universities**  
**UK 41 different universities**  
**Canada 7 different universities**  
**Hong Kong 5 different universities**



Australia, Austria, China, France, Japan, Germany, Italy, Singapore, Switzerland and Taiwan are some of the other countries students applied to, or will apply to once they receive their IB results in July.

The University of California universities were the most popular, with the University of California San Diego having 23 students apply, 10 accepted and 4 students who will attend.

**Canada** 

The University of British Columbia was the most popular Canadian university, with 11 students applying and 5 who will attend.

**In the UK some of the conditional offers were for:** 

King's College London	11 offers
UCL	9 offers
Birmingham	8 offers
Edinburgh	7 offers
Imperial	3 offers
Warwick	2 offers
Nottingham	2 offers
LSE	1 offer

**Hong Kong** 

7 students applied to the University of Hong Kong and 4 students were given conditional offers.



**In August an updated list of University Destinations will be published on the TES website.**

## Year 8 Spanish Class Visit Eddy's Cantina

Francesco de Gan and Ishaan Hiranandani, Y8

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of April, Ms. Saez and Ms. Frost's Year 8 Spanish classes went to Eddy's Cantina in Tianmu to practice their knowledge of what they had been studying, food and restaurants, as well as to taste the delicious food of the cantina. The two classes, along with Mr García, took buses down the mountain to Eddy's and, once there, they were ready to start tasting the excellent food. But

before that they met Eddy and had a short chat with him in Spanish. The two classes started to devour their meals, while Eddy went around assuring himself that the quality of the food was high. This was a great experience for both classes, because they both tested their Spanish knowledge with the fun Eddy and ate wonderful and scrumptious food, such as enchiladas,

quesadillas, chips with salsa and tacos. The meal at Eddy's then concluded and the students walked back to the EPC along the river. With their stomachs full of exceptional food and their minds filled with memories of a new experience, they were ready to return home, thinking "What an amazing lunch we just had."



## Young Historians learn about Taiwan's P.O.W.s

Celina Pan, Year 9

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, the Year 9 students that chose History as one of their IGCSE options and H3 IB historians went on a trip to Jinguashi, where Michael Hurst, the Director of the Taiwan P.O.W. Camps Memorial Society, told us about the lives of prisoners of war in Taiwan during the Second World War and showed us around many interesting and meaningful sights. We visited the P.O.W. Memorial

Wall, the Eternal Flame of Peace and Remembrance Sculpture, the Taiwan P.O.W. Memorial Tree, the Kinkaseki/Taiwan P.O.W. Memorial and much more.

While on the trip, we also got the chance to go into one of the old mine shafts that the prisoners worked in during their time in Taiwan. Keeping in mind that their circumstances were much worse than our own, it gave us

a chance to see just how terrible the P.O.W.s lives were.

Director Hurst also knows a lot of ex-P.O.W.s and told us many interesting stories about them while showing us some artefacts that had belonged to P.O.W.s. It was a great and memorable experience that was fun and gave us the chance to learn History in a unique and engaging way.



## H1 Geography Trip to Hualien

Ashley Yeow and Anita Loh, H1



For this year's Geography trip, the H1s were lucky enough to have the opportunity to experience beautiful Hualien. During five days and four nights, the H1 team plus five teachers and two amazing tour guides, explored the sites that Hualien has to offer like the famous Taroko Gorge, beaches, azure rivers and the bustling city itself.



We split into two groups to complete the different activities. On the first day we did a river and tourism study. During this study, we learned about the various characteristics of a river. We first needed to complete a cross section, which involved getting into the river and taking measurements at different points to work out both width and depth. This was followed up by working out the river's velocity and gradient. This really brought all of the things we had been studying in class to life. We then moved on to a tourism study, during which we had to complete many surveys and questionnaires. This was an enjoyable task, as we got to stop and eat food at some of the many restaurants along the way.



On day two, we did a hike of Taroko Gorge, which was a fantastic experience as we

were walking through the largest marble gorge on earth! The scenery was breathtaking, our two guides were really informative, and our teachers were also chipping in with lots of geographical information.

Day three was a beach study. Again this was putting into practice what we had learned in the classroom. We had to take a beach profile and, although we found this a little bit difficult to start off with, we were able to complete it with some guidance. We also measured wind speed, wave height, infiltration rate and much more.

Our fourth and final day was spent river tracing. This was a great experience. We started in what is known as the 'mini gorge', which was extremely impressive as the steep marble cliffs towered above us as we traced the river. Some parts, including climbing a waterfall, were very challenging, but both of the guides and our friends helped us to overcome this. When we finally reached the end point of the trace, we were not disappointed – it was a massive plunge pool with clear blue water and many rocks we could climb up and jump from. This tested many of us, not least our

teachers!

The evenings were great fun too, with many things on offer, like bowling, basketball, batting cages, and even the cinema. All this was after we had all been out to eat together at Salt Lick, Dos Tacos or the night market.

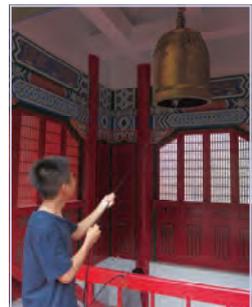
Throughout this trip we created many close bonds and fond memories. Some of us even conquered our fears, whether it be heights or water. Everyone was eager for what the next day had to offer, despite the fact that most mornings were spent clinging onto the hotel duvets!

This trip provided us with the invaluable experience we needed for our exams in a year's time. We were able to visit many historical ruins and trails that date as far back as the Japanese colonisation and we even learned a bit about the history of Taiwan.

Although some of us took stones home, others took more intimate items, such as mosquito bites or a few reckless cuts and bruises. All in all, it was an experience we all wouldn't hesitate to repeat.



# H1 Geography Trip to Hualien

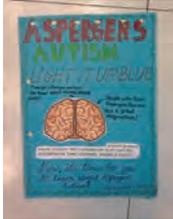




## Autism Awareness Posters

Grace Kennedy, Head of ASPIRE

As part of our 'Light It Up Blue' day, Year 7 students were asked to create a poster to highlight Autism Awareness. The students did a fantastic job, showing great creativity, as well as having some useful tips for others on how to interact with people who have autism. Here are some examples of their wonderful work.



## Harmony Home

Michaela Lintott (Awareness Group) & Ashley Yeow (Media Group), HI

For their service project this year, the HIs were asked to help out a non-profit organisation called Harmony Home, which aims to help adults and children who are living with HIV/AIDS and in desperate need of care. The organisation was founded in 1986 and it began taking in HIV positive children, mothers and elders who were unable to find treatment for their condition. As part of the project, the year group was given the opportunity to go to the Muzha branch of Harmony Home and visit the children, mothers and babies who are currently being taken care of there.

The students were split up into different groups which specialised in different aspects of the

project, so that we could be efficient with our time. The groups that we had were the Action, Awareness, Fundraising, Accountability and finally the Media group. Each group played a vital role in raising money for the charity. At the end of the term, we will donate all the money that we have raised to Harmony Home, along with other items such as milk powder, diapers and second-hand clothes and toys.

During the trip, students were given time to play with the children or document the invaluable events that were taking place. Some children grabbed on to the student's shorts with their tiny hands and followed them around the place. Other kids scribbled colourful draw-

ings and gave them to the students as cards. Some were happy to just sit in our laps and enjoy a small cuddle. It was an amazing experience for us, as it educated us on HIV and how strong these children and mothers are by not letting this bring them down.

Thanks to the Parent-Teacher Association, the HIs were kindly given a stall for the Summer Fair. Going with the theme of 'Beat the Heat', we sold shaved ice, milkshakes and smoothies, as well as providing multiple games at a very affordable price. Thanks to everyone who visited our stall and for supporting our work with the Harmony Home organisation.



## Model United Nations



Recently our school participated in two major local MUN conferences. HI went to Taichung and KS3 students, along with a few H3 students, went to the Taipei American School MUN. Here are some accounts from students who participated in these conferences.

### Nila Ravindran HI:

For someone who had never heard of MUN before coming to TES, the experience was thrilling and yet totally nerve-racking. Representing Kyrgyzstan in the Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Committee, I was involved in debating the issue of increasing global broadband access, a subject I had never given much thought to before. It was pretty daunting to lobby with countries including the United States of America, Germany and Russia, especially

since I was representing a country many don't even know actually exists. However, it was pretty fun, as the other delegates were all nice and professional. Being on task was not always easy, but thankfully we had the Chairs to guide us. Fortunately, our resolution passed. The most memorable experience, though frightening, was probably when I was called up to the podium to speak on the resolution as a whole; an experience for which I was not at all prepared. There were about 50 people in the room

who were all just staring at me. I managed to keep calm and speak in favour of the resolution in order to convince my fellow delegates. I have learned to be more confident from that experience. On the whole we had loads of fun throughout the conference. Although TAIMUN just ended, I am already looking forward to the next MUN conference in the hope that I will be given the chance to attend.

### Cassi Maa, 7.2:

MUN is all about the representation of your country and telling the other countries about your country's point of view. This was my first time attending MUN and TASMUN. When I woke up on the first morning of the conference, I felt my heart beating rapidly, I was so nervous about the debate, wondering if I could even speak in front of so many people.

The debate began with our first resolution. Numerous delegates were enthusiastic, raising their placards (country name signs) to make a speech or to ask a Point of Information (a question that you want to ask about a speech or resolution). However, I was just sitting on my chair anxiously, unsure of what to do, until the Chair passed a note to me that said "Hi there, need help with any-

thing? Feel free to ask me. Try your best, speak up more." I felt really embarrassed, so I decided to make a speech. Then another note from the Chair said "Hey! You haven't spoken much today. Need help?" I felt frustrated so I raised up my placard and the Chair chose me to speak. There were butterflies in my stomach as I carefully walked up to the platform. This was probably the most intense part of this conference for me. Later on, when I went back to my seat, a Chair note came and it said "Excellent job with your speech! I'm glad that you were encouraged to give your first speech!" I felt like I was in heaven.

There was another part that I felt was entertaining. In our committee, we finished debating on our resolution early so the Chair had an idea of doing a fun debate, where the delegates

became Chairs and the Chairs became delegates. We debated the question of strengthening policies against excessive deforestation and unsustainable palm oil production in Southeast Asia. One delegate claimed "We should cut down all the trees so we won't have any deforestation anymore."

I really appreciated how the teachers and students put so much effort into this and I will never forget about it. Moreover, I learned one important lesson from this experience: if you don't try something, you will never know if you like it or not.

**HI students at the American School in Taichung for the annual Taiwan Model United Nations conference.**





RYDEL  
ANNOUNCING  
May 7-8, 9  
May 5, 6, 7  
May 8 @ 2 PM  
@ 1:30 PM  
GR

# DELTA PRESENTATIONS





## A Word from the Head of Sport

Kwok Chow, Head of Sport

It has been a tremendous year that culminated in the fantastic Sports Awards last week. I have witnessed so many emotions over the year which can only be brought on through playing sports. The highlight this year for me was seeing the elation of the Varsity Boys Basketball team finally beating TAS and becoming TISSA champions for the first time. Also the joy of the JV Girls Basketball team becoming TISSA champions and the sheer perseverance of the Y8 Girls Football team winning their TISSA tournament.

I want to thank all the coaches this year for all their tremendous hard work and inspiring their teams to participate and succeed. I would like to thank the parents for supporting the sports programme, whether it's waking up at 5:30am so they can drop off their son or daughter for morning training or just coming along to support, it's so appreciated by myself and the coaches. Also thank you to the sports leaders who organised this year's Sports Awards with great endeavour.

There was a new award this year: the Sports Hall of Fame. This was awarded to athletes who have served the Taipei European School Sports Programme by displaying the characteristics of a sporting champion: participation in all sports; coaching and inspiring the younger students at TES; respect for coaches/referees and their peers; displaying perseverance and a 'never quit' attitude; being humble and always seeing the best in others; having a contagious work ethic, attitude, and commitment to a greater cause than their own gratification; lastly, they are 'scrappy' (someone with drive and a lot of talent, someone who never gives up)! These students epitomise the characteristics of a Sporting Champion and will be the first students to enter the Taipei European School TITANS Sports Hall of Fame. The honour went to Irene Hung, Marie Beatrice Blanc and Marie Josephine Blanc.

## Athletes of the Month



**Sports Hall of Fame winners  
Irene Hung,  
Marie Beatrice  
Blanc and Marie  
Josephine  
Blanc.**

## Coach of the Year

David Lin



## Varsity Girls Football

Report by Alida Lilljequist and Josephine Blanc, Coached by Francesca Simmons

The JV Girls Football team met at 6:00 am at the EPC to go to ICA in Taichung. It was a long and hot day. Since it was the very last tournament for most of the players in the team, Ms Simmons said, "It doesn't matter what place we get, all I wish for you all deeply is to have fun and play the game of football."

Our first game was at 9:00 am against IIS. The game started off slow for us because all of us didn't have our heads in the game yet, but just 15 minutes into the match, the energy level kicked in and we started scoring goals, ending with a win of 5-0 to TES.

We had a long rest between our first and second match, so by the time our second game against KAS started, we were all refreshed and ready to go again. We started off strong, scoring goal after goal, ending the game with a 11-0 win.

We knew that the second two matches coming up were going to be the hardest two, so we would have to sharpen up in order to win. "Play to your strengths and you will win this game because you're the strongest team here." At the start of the game we were all nervous and all we did was just boot the ball without even thinking about it. But after a while, we calmed down and started passing to each other, playing amazing football. Towards the end of the game, Hani dribbled the ball from the top of the goalie box towards the goal and shot an awesome shot right in the top corner of the goal, scoring the winning goal of the game, ending with 1-0 to our school.

Not only did we have a strong attack, but our defence was also solid and strong throughout the whole tournament, as barely anybody got through to our goalie, Molly, allowing her to only touch the ball five times a game at most.

The last game was against MAC, which would be our last game of the tournament. We were all very stiff because our legs had already started to hurt when we were warming up, but as soon as we got moving and got focused, we all felt ready to 'work our socks off'. Throughout the entire game, the ball was on their side of the pitch. We kept attacking and shooting from all sorts of angles and ways but the ball just didn't go in the goal. We played real football like a team – it felt like we had played together since forever. Everyone kept persevering all the way throughout the whole game and we never gave up. During the last couple of minutes of the game MAC got a free kick. However, due to the grass being very uneven, the ball went completely past us into the goal, which was the very first time Molly touched the ball during the whole game. This unfortunately led to a loss for TES with 0-1.

Due to the tie between TES, ICA and MAC, the total number of goals scored throughout the entire game had to be counted to know what the end result would be. TES scored the least amount, putting us in 3rd place for JV Girls Football 2015. Despite the lack of practices we had during the season, out of all the teams there, we were the most skilled and strongest team at the tournament. It was a well-deserved 3rd place and very unlucky that the one time MAC was on our side of the pitch they scored, but we were all so proud of what we had achieved.

Thank you to Ms Simmons for all her effort in coaching and believing in us, as well as the whole team for playing so well and persevering till the very end! We couldn't have asked for a better ending to the last football season!





## Y8 Girls TISSA Tournament

Report by Amber Herwegh Vonk

The sun, bright and hot, shone as we boarded the bus heading to Morrison Academy Taipei, the air buzzing with excitement for the eventful day ahead. We started off, already sweating in the heat, with passing and dribbling, occasionally pausing for breaks.

For Taipei European School Team 1's first match, we had to play Morrison Academy Kaohsiung. Although we tried our best to get a head start in the tournament, it resulted in us losing, but only by a relatively small amount. The match was incredibly well played by both teams, but ended with a rather unfortunate outcome for us.

For our second match, which would decide our fate whether we were to stay in the bottom pool stages or not, we played Kaohsiung American School. This is when things really came together for us and we started to play like a team. We hustled, played tough defence and made a lot of steals which rattled our opponents play and helped us get a big win.

We happily advanced in the pool to play the host school, Morrison Academy Taipei. The match started with us achieving a head start, thanks to many skilful layups from Shannon Chen and Jewel Lee. Then, as the game progressed, our Titans team scored many more baskets – which led to us gaining on the other team. However, Morrison Academy Taipei soon caught up, and we were edging on them overtaking us when a three-pointer was basketed by one of our own teammates, Chelsea Kuys. Soon, the rest of the team caught the adrenaline. We were full energy and were quickly surpassing the 15-points mark, aiming for 20... But then the whistle blew and the game stopped, our team overjoyed at the prospect of victory. We then congratulated the other team, and moved on to play our next game which was back to back.

Still pumped with energy from our previous win, but without time to recover, we progressed to taking on MAC's incredibly strong team, where we sadly lost, therefore kicking us out of the league.

As the day came to an end, we were all sweaty as we packed on to the bus after a long, hard day of constant running around. Even though we didn't achieve what we originally aimed for, the competition was still a great experience and helped us grow in many ways – skill, experience, and teamwork. We congratulated each other on the skilled moves performed by our team mates, and also on what we had achieved as a wonderful team. Despite the fact that we had aimed for top 3 in the league, we were still content with what we ended up with – 4<sup>th</sup> place.

This experience helped us so much, and it was such a fun time just competing with other fantastic teams and playing with our friends.



## TES 2 Girls Basketball

Report by Wanda Frost

The Year 8 Girls Basketball tournament was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April at Morrison Academy Taipei. Our TES 2 team consisted of new players and although we made some mistakes, we learned from them, gave it our all, and got better in every game we played. Our student coaches Irene Kuo and Ivory Lee were very knowledgeable and really helped us to know our best positions on offense and defence and they gave us a lot of good coaching advice and encouragement. By our last game against Kaoshiung Academy, things really started to gel and we began to make effective passes and shots to the basket started to fall in our favour. Although it was a close game, in the end we lost. Overall, however, we were all pleased with our progress and felt we had made an excellent effort as a team. We hope we can build upon the things we learned to help us be even better next year!



## Y9 Boys Basketball TISSA Tournament

Report by Jeremy Wu

The TISSA tournament this year for the Year 9 Boys was a huge success. Even though the season this year was really short and a game was reasonably short, only playing 2 quarters with a non-stopping clock with some weird pool divisions, we still performed well. Everyone persevered and tried their best and that is what made the tournament enjoyable.

We started the day by meeting at Taipei Main Station in the morning full of passion, dedication and hope of becoming the champion this year. We took the high speed rail to Kaohsiung, where the tournament was taking place. Then we took a bus to IIS and marched into the school with confidence. We settled down and started to warm up. Our first game was against AST. We dominated throughout the whole game, with point after point. We beat AST 15-7 with our heads held high. The second game was against IIS where everyone was as confident as they were in the last game. We started out well, with a lot of fast breaks and good team plays. We beat them as well, with a score of 14-10. The next game was against DIS and it was tough. We lost to them in our practice game, but we didn't back down. They were aggressive and we were aggressive. However, they outscored us with their brilliant shooting, which led to our first loss of the day. Everyone was exhausted and tired after that game, but we had another game coming up soon after against KAS. We didn't have a good break and had to set foot on the court once again. It was really tiring and tough during the game; we were demotivated and tired, but we didn't give up and kept playing like we always did, which led us to a win again with a score of 18-9. Finally came the game that would decide our position against the strongest team there, Kuei Shan. The game started and everyone hustled and dived for the ball, but with their height, they got a lot more rebounds than us, which led to them scoring more than us, and eventually we lost our last game. Nonetheless, everyone had fun and it was a brilliant experience for us where everyone tried their best and after all, that's what matters the most right?





## Year 8 Boys Basketball Tournament

Report by Dylan Bullard

This year the Year 8 Boys Basketball team set a goal of getting better throughout the course of the season. Games early in the season highlighted the need for better passing, finishing around the basket and boxing out. The team lost twice to TAS and once to KSS during the regular season, but never stopped improving.

The team got off to a good start in the tournament before meeting KAS. The boys led the game until the end when KAS took the lead and then went on to win the game. The loss set up a must-win game with KSS to end pool play. A loss would mean the end of the season for TES, while a win would send the team into a semi-final match against rival TAS. TES started out quick and took the lead. They were then able to hold on for a victory which avenged a one point loss to KSS only a few days before the tournament. This set up an epic match with a TAS team that had beaten TES twice in the regular season.

TAS got off to a quick start and built a lead up of 10 points. TES did not, however, give up. Steadily they chipped away at the lead. During the final minutes of the game, TES was able to overcome the point disadvantage and took the lead on a free throw. Solid defence and rebounding allowed TES to punch a ticket to the finals, a rematch with KAS.

In the final match, TES gained the lead early but was unable to hold on as fatigue set in. KAS won the match and the championship while TES claimed second place in the tournament. The season was a success. Improvements were made by every player. This is clear in the big tournament wins that avenged season losses and helped to make the Year 8 Boys Basketball season a success.



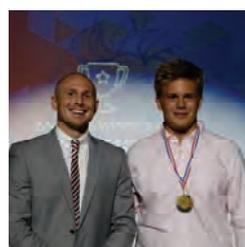
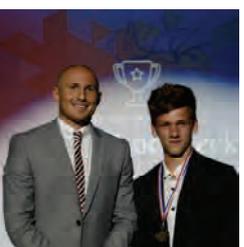
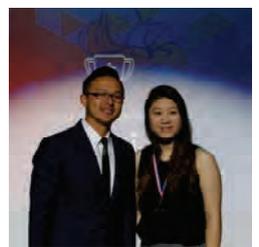
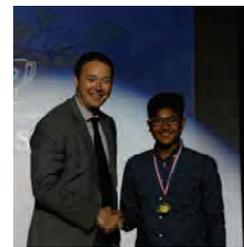
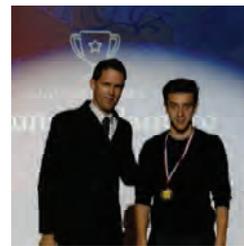
## Sports Awards Winners 2015/16



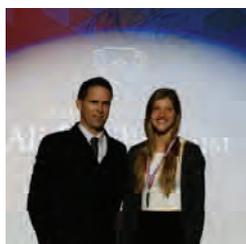
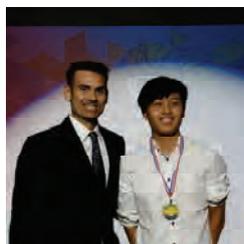
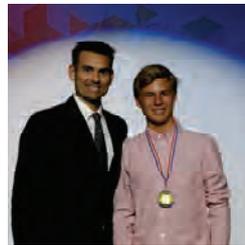
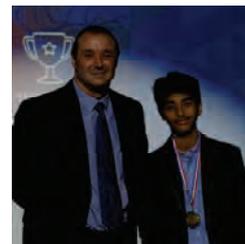
<b>SEASON 1</b>		
<b>Teams</b>	<b>Most Improved Player of the Year 2015/16</b>	<b>Most Valuable Player of Year 2015/16</b>
Y7 Girls Volleyball	Katelyne Chuang	Virginia Yu
Y7 Boys Volleyball	Ian Frost	Chris Lin
Y8 Girls Volleyball	Evelyn Di Rienzo	Emily Chang
Y8 Boys Volleyball	Francesco De Gan	Shubh Lashkery
Y9 Girls Volleyball	Shannon Peng	Jemmi Chan
Y9 Boys Volleyball	Bruno Cadamuro	Bernard Yang
JVB Boys Football	Vatsal Savani	Bo-Chyan Topham
JVB Girls Volleyball	Molly Di Rienzo	Annabella Sula
JV Girls Volleyball	Ivory Lee	Ellen Cervell
V Girls Volleyball	Natalie Yu	Irene Hung
JV Boys Football	Rishab Bamb	Junyoung Yoon
Varsity Boys Football	Belor Stockhecke	Charlie Wikstrom
U15 FOBISIA Boys Award		Douglas Lee
U15 FOBISIA Girls Award		Hani Sparks
<b>SEASON 2</b>		
<b>Teams</b>	<b>Most Improved Player of the Year 2015/16</b>	<b>Most Valuable Player of Year 2015/16</b>
Y7 Softball Girls	Evie Wickham	Katelyne Chuang
Y7 Softball Boys	Takero Dannoue	Ian Wengmann
Y8 Softball Girls	Helena Nuttall	Emily Chang
Y8 Softball Boys	Xin Ray Penland Obrien	Shubh Lashkery
Y9 Softball Girls	India Lilienthal	Jemmi Chan
Y9 Softball Boys	Dheeman Sharhari	Bernard Yang
JVB Girls Basketball	Jemmi Chan	Hani Spark
JV Girls Basketball	Alida Liljequist	Irene Kuo
JVB Boys Basketball	Tom Wikstrom	Nicholas Lin
JV Boys Basketball	Curtis Chen	Ethan Chen
V Boys Basketball	Howard Lin	Jim Lu
<b>SEASON 3</b>		
<b>Teams</b>	<b>Most Improved Player of the Year 2015/16</b>	<b>Most Valuable Player of Year 2015/16</b>
Y7 Girls Football	Alsion Tsai	Leonna Lee
Y7 Boys Football	Alexandre Cheyroux	Ganirou Sankara
Y8 Girls Football	Sofia Pellandini	Emily Staude
Y8 Boys Football	Justin Chen	Gil Golan
Y9 Girls Football	Shuyi Lee	Chloe Chuang
Y9 Boys Football	Peter Lee	Bernard Yang
U13 FOBISIA Boys Award		Shubh Lashkery
U13 FOBISIA Girls Award		Emily Chang
<b>SEASON 4</b>		
<b>Teams</b>	<b>Most Improved Player of the Year 2015/16</b>	<b>Most Valuable Player of Year 2015/16</b>
Y7 Girls Basketball	Katelyn Chuang	Virginia Yu
Y7 Boys Basketball	Ben grigsby	Chris Lin
Y8 Girls Basketball	Annemieke Exton	Shannon Chen
Y8 Boys Basketball	Kaz Lai	Justin Chen
Y9 Girls Basketball	Renee Hsaio	Chloe Chuang
Y9 Boys Basketball	Brian Huang	Jeremy Wu
Varsity Boys Volleyball	Justin Liu	Chris Lu
JV Boys Volleyball	Alpha Jr Wu	Nicholas Lin
Varsity Girls Football	Anita Loh	Alida Liljequist
TES 2015-16- HS Boys Athlete of the Year		Charlie Wikstrom
TES 2015-16- HS Girls Athlete of the Year		Irene Kuo
TES 2015-16- MS Girls Athlete of the Year		Jemmi Chan
TES 2015-16- MS Boys Athlete of the Year		Bernard Yang
Coach of the Year 2015/16		David Lin
Young Coach of the Year 2015/16		Hani Sparks



### Sports Awards Winners 2015/16

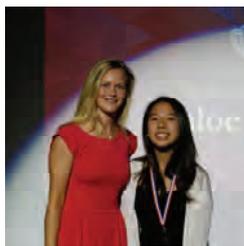
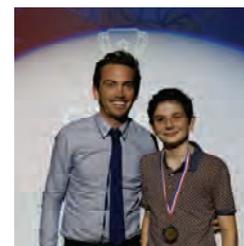


### Sports Awards Winners 2015/16





### Sports Awards Winners 2015/16



### Sports Awards Winners 2015/16





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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.

