



ESC Newsletter

Issue 20

August 2016

Coming up in September:

- Team Building Day
- IA Hike
- CAT4 Testing
- Clive Leach Visit
- Y7 Reports
- Art Trip
- FOBISIA Music Festival Hong Kong
- Mid-Autumn Festival

Inside this issue:

Senior Management Team

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Projects around the school

Sports News

Welcome from the BSHS Head

Chrysta Garnett, Head of British Secondary and High School Section



Dear Parent

A warm welcome back to the start of another year at the ESC. As always, it is a delight to see the school come alive again at the beginning of the new academic year with students, new and old, energized and excited about the year ahead. Our new 'Face to Face Time' initiative, with devices not allowed from 7.30 – 8 am, that was piloted last year has been a huge success already. I am delighted that all three Sections are committed to encouraging our students to connect with each other in conversation at the start of each day. The Atriums are filled with the sound of laughter and chatter in the mornings rather than an eerie silence and the blue glow of mobile phones, which has been a refreshing change at the ESC from recent years! In the British Secondary and High School, the summer of 2016 saw our H2 and H4 students achieve fantastic success. Last year's H2 students, who have by now already moved

onto the challenges of the IB Diploma, managed to achieve our best ever IGCSE A*-C pass rate of 96%. Not only did they manage to accumulate more IGCSE grades than ever before, they did so by achieving the highest number of the top grades than we have seen in the last three years. An impressive 55% of all grades received were in the upper grade range of A*/A. Nine students in total achieved straight A*/A grades which represents a phenomenal achievement. We are very proud of our H2s and their academic record. The knowledge that they have acquired and the skills that they have honed will stand them in great stead for the challenges ahead in the next two years. In the IB DP years, we saw our highest number of students achieve the full IB Diploma than in any previous year. The IB Diploma is a world recognized accreditation that prepares students perfectly for the rigors of undergraduate study and we were thrilled to see so many students graduate with the full Diploma this year. Of the 67 full Diplomas, 37% of them were Bilingual Diplomas which is testament to the incredible linguistic talents of our students. Those also included 7 students who achieved the accolade of securing 40+ total points. The month of September promises to be action packed

with numerous visitors to the school. We have already hosted Jonathan Taylor an e-safety expert who met with each year group last week and shared some important advice for them on how to manage their social media profiles effectively. Do talk to your child about what they learnt and help them maintain a positive online profile. Later this month we are also delighted to host Clive Leach for our 'Positive Education' Week. Clive will be working with all year groups on developing resilience, managing stress and developing character strengths as part of our whole school commitment to wellbeing. Dan Grayson, former Tufts Admissions Officer will also return to ESC to provide guidance for parents and students on the US College Admissions process. More information on all of our visitors can be found in this Newsletter. Your support and presence as always is appreciated an open evenings and information sessions. Next date for your diary is Sept 6th for our BSHS Curriculum Information Evening for parents of students Year 7 – H4. I look forward to seeing you there.



Sonya Papps

Welcome back!

Sonya Papps, Deputy Head of the British Secondary and High School

BSHS Positive Education Week: 12th-15th September

Preparations are underway to for the British Secondary and High School's Positive Education Week. Beginning the Week of 12th September we will launch our new TES BSHS PERMAH model of well-being as well as our new PERMAH Core programme. For the past year Deans and teachers have been learning about positive education, well-being and the skills our students need in order to flourish, both academically and personally. We are excited about our learning and we are keen to take PERMAH to our students and parent community!

Clive Leach, executive coach and positive education expert will join us for the week. Each

year group from Year 7 to H4 will have an active seminar with Mr. Leach where they will learn about a variety of PERMAH themed topics including: The Five Ways to Well-being, character strengths, mental toughness, mindfulness and peer coaching. We will begin to think about what it means to lead a happy and fulfilling life and how we can develop the skills needed in order to achieve this universal goal. Year 8 and H1 will have extra time with Mr. Leach as the PERMAH programme will be a particular focus for these students in Core this year. We are very excited about our plans for Positive Education Week and the launch of our PERMAH

programme which promises to engage students in rigorous learning about their physical health, psychological well-being, character development, building mental toughness and working to their strengths.

*Please note that a very special session for ESC parents titled **“Resilient and Resourceful Young People: Learning how to flourish and be their best!”** will be held on the evening of **Tuesday, 13th September in the EPC Amphitheatre**. Please see the attached flyer for more information about the session and a letter to parents will be sent home soon.

Key Terms:

Positive Education: The use of research and knowledge from the field of positive psychology to inform the teaching of well-being. The goal of Positive Education is to help students reach both their personal and academic potential.

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. We've decided to an 'H' to Seligman's original model because, in addition to the five core elements, our BSHS programme will also explore the role of mental and physical health in our overall well-being.

The PERMAH model of Well-Being

Flourishing at TES



Adapted from Martin Seligman's Flourish, 2011

The Five Ways to Well-being:



Positive Education and PERMAH - key viewing:

What is Positive Education?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i92eh8sx45w>

Building Character Strengths

<http://www.letitripple.org/films/science-of-character/>

Shawn Achor and the Science of Happiness:

https://www.ted.com/talks/shawn_achor_the_happy_secret_to_better_work?language=en

Welcome from the Assistant Head - Assessment, Reporting and Progress

Daisy Rana, Assistant Head



Daisy Rana

The excitement of a new academic year at Taipei European school is in the air and our new Year 7 students have made a flying start. Attentive, motivated and energetic, they are model students both in and out of the classroom.

Therefore our team of Year 7 Form tutors have the delightfully easy task of preparing the 'Settling in' reports which are unique to Year 7 students. These brief reports aim to provide an early snapshot of progress, both academically and socially and shall be distributed to parents on Friday 23rd September during school time.

Closely followed on Tuesday 27th September is the Year 7 Parent-Teacher meetings which kick start the cycle of Parent-Teacher meetings for the year. This is a great opportunity for you to meet with each of your child's teachers individually and to discuss the learning activities and progress being made by your child in each subject.

At TES, we value highly the balance between academic and personal well being. To this end, all students will have the opportunity to engage in structured learning conversations throughout the year which allow each student to meet with either a member of the Senior Leadership team, their

Form tutor or another mentor who will guide your child in the thinking process needed to set ambitious yet realistic academic and personal targets. This highly successful approach to target setting takes place on an ongoing cycle for all students throughout the school with proven success.

We look forward to supporting you and your child this year as we move through your child's learning journey together. If you have any queries regarding the cycle of reporting or Parent-Teacher meetings, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Welcome from Assistant Head - Student Welfare

James Woodall, Assistant Head



James Woodall

Welcome to the 2016/17 school year. As ever it has been a very busy start to the year for the Pastoral teams and today (Friday) is team building day. All 600+ students from all sections and staff are involved in activities both on and off campus. We have the Masterchef, the Amazing Race and the Apprentice competitions all taking place as well as an IB induction and fantastic Team Building activities for Years 7 and 8. We hope the weather cooperates and the students all have a positive

experience working in teams with their peers. The Year Deans have worked extremely hard to put the activities together and I am sure they will be a great success.

The Pastoral team has grown this year with us now having a Dean for each Year Group. This is a very positive step and will further enhance the support we can offer to our students.

The Deans are:
Year 7—Mr Raymond Imbleu
Year 8—Mr Ian Armstrong

Year 9—Mr Neil Harris
H1—Miss Antonia Burrows
H2—Dr. Gavin Matthews
IB Coordinator—Mr Hamish McMillan
Deputy IB Coordinator—Mr Ian Stewart

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the Deans directly by email. I look forward to meeting many of you at the information evening next Tuesday

Year 7– Welcome to the Secondary Campus

Mr Raymond Imbleau, Year 7 Dean and Transition



Raymond Imbleau

My name is Raymond Imbleau and I am the Dean of Year 7. This will be my fifth year as Head/Dean of Year 7 and as always, I am very excited about my year ahead with the new Y7s. I met the majority of our current Y7s last year in Primary during our transition days and I am looking forward to getting to know all Y7s well in the weeks and months to come. The jump from Primary to KS3 can be a seamless transition but there is an increase in the amount of teachers that they see each day as well as an increase in the amount of homework. That is why the

Year 7s have started with the 'Homework and Organisation' unit in their CORE studies, formerly known as PSHCE. They are learning the importance of utilising their homework diary in every class, writing down in detail what they have for homework each day, as well as opening their diaries up when they get home and making a plan to complete their homework each night.

In CORE, the Y7s are then going to study Healthy Living, Friendships and Family, Internet Safety, Puberty and Per-

sonal Hygiene, Study Skills, as well as work outdoors in the raised garden bed Service Project. The gardening is also linked to our TES PERMAH model of well-being where we want our students to be actively engaged and focused on the things that they care about, and after speaking with them, it is clear to me that we have many green thumbs in our year and that they have a keen interest in protecting our planet.

I look forward to meeting all Y7 parents on Tuesday September 27th.

Welcome from the Dean of Year 8

Mr Ian Armstrong, Year 8 Dean



Ian Armstrong

My name is Ian Armstrong, I have joined the TES team from the UK, having worked at Adams' Grammar School, in Shropshire, for the past 10 years. I enjoyed being a form tutor for 7 years and in my final 3 years, I was the Head of Webb house, which involved overseeing the pastoral care for over 200 pupils aged 11-18, as well as supporting 9 form tutors across the Key Stages. I take on the new role of Year 8 Dean, which I am

really excited about! The pupils are great and seem very driven to succeed and year 8 is one of those years that if they can get into good habits, both in the classroom and with their extra-curricular exploits, it will stand them in good stead for the journey ahead, which promises to be tough but rewarding. I have a great team of form tutors, who bring their own mix of experiences, which will be

invaluable as the pressures of the year crank up. The Team Building Day will be the perfect platform to get to know the pupils a bit more and I really hope that the year group can gel together and start to share a common goal with enjoyment and hard work engendering everything that we do throughout the year.

Welcome from the Dean of Year 9

Mr Neil Harris, Year 9 Dean

I would like to welcome back our Year 9 cohort to their final year in Key Stage 3 and also our intake of 13 new students this year. The year ahead will provide some exciting opportunities for our students to flourish, inside and outside the classroom and prepare them for the academic rigor of our high school program.

Year 9 is the year in which we focus on academic writing skills in our week long project 'ARTICUL8'. Students will be given a week in which to write their first extended academic essay on a cross curricular topic of the student's choice. They will each be assigned an individual teacher as a mentor and will learn how to structure their essays and use correct academic referencing. This also provides our students the opportunity to ex-

plore areas of interest and start creating that positive digital footprint, which is so important in modern society, through their research, final essay and digital blogs.

We have a fantastic pastoral team of form and Core (PSHCE) teachers who are working tirelessly to help develop our students thinking skills, life skills, promoting healthy habits and mindfulness; with the PERMAH model of Well-Being at the heart of everything we do.

Year 9 is a very exciting year for excursions and service projects. Our team building day 'the Amazing Race' will allow our students to split into teams to explore the sights sounds and tastes of Taipei and complete a number of challenges that promote teamwork and working outside their comfort zones. Our

service project this year is a cross cultural exchange with the Attayal tribe in Nantou. This is a wonderful and fully immersive residential trip where our students experience, first hand, the traditions and culture of the Attayal tribe; whilst promoting our mission statement of being a European school within a Taiwanese context.

Knowing this cohort of students well and seeing the amazing work ethic, commitment and community spirit that is synonymous to TES, I am extremely excited for the year ahead. I look forward to seeing all of the individual and team successes both in and outside the classroom and helping to facilitate an environment which will allow our students to flourish in the year ahead.



Neil Harris

Welcome from the Dean of H1

Ms Antonia Burrows, H1 Dean

A very warm welcome to our H1 students as they embark on an important year in their academic lives and begin their IGCSE courses. School uniforms cast aside, they are already looking the part of high school students!

This year should certainly feel like a fresh start for our H1 cohort: new form groups, new courses and new faces. Indeed, about a quarter of the year group have joined us from abroad or from other schools in Taiwan. I am sure they will be welcomed in the

warm and friendly manner so characteristic of TES.

It is a time of adjustment for many, as our students adapt to the raised bar and unfamiliar challenges of the IGCSE programme. I have no doubt, however, that this year's H1 group will take it in their stride. As always, form tutors, subject teachers and I are all ready to provide the support and guidance students need to get off to a good start.

Academics aside, TES life will continue to be as varied and

vibrant as always for the H1s. September will see students competing in our *Masterchef competition as part of Team Building Day*. Later in the year, we look forward to *Work Experience Week and the Harmony Home service project*, both of which are hugely rewarding for students.

I am confident the H1s will throw themselves enthusiastically into all areas of school life and I look forward to sharing their successes in what is sure to be a busy and eventful year.



Antonia Burrows

Welcome from the Dean of H2

Dr. Gavin Matthews, H2 Dean



Gavin Matthews

For our H2 students, exams always loom very large in any preview of the year, which is of course as it needs to be. For their teachers, their form tutors and their Year Dean, the exams also dominate the year. There will be revision sessions, lessons on how to approach exams and revision, preparation for mock exams, mock exams, analysis of mock exams, and many other forms of IGCSE preparation. We have now developed a system of monitoring and intervention that enables us to help all of our students achieve their potential. But all Year Deans acknowledge that there is so much

more to healthy and flourishing students than academic achievement, and this may be more true of the H2s than any other year group. Precisely because it is the first time that these students have faced public exams, it is so important that they achieve balanced lives within this year. This is why we are introducing a focus on PERMAH within our core and tutorial times this year. PERMAH stands for positivity, engagement, relationships, meaning, accomplishment and health, and we are hoping that it will help our stressed students to understand that a key path to academic success lies in focusing

on the non-academic elements of their lives. Aside from their mocks and final exams, our H2 students will also be thinking about their IB choices this year, helped in this process by Jack Shull and the helpful UCC team, and Hamish McMillan, our new IB Coordinator. It is a full year and - with exam leave - a short year. Our H2s need to have started August by hitting the ground running. It is the job of their tutors, teachers and Year Dean to ensure that the hectic nature of the year is enjoyed rather than endured, celebrated rather than feared.

Welcome from the Dean of H3 & H4

Mr Hamish McMillan, H3 and H4 Dean, IB Coordinator, TOK Coordinator



Hamish McMillan

Hi, my name is Hamish McMillan I am the International Baccalaureate Coordinator and H4 Dean with responsibility for Theory of Knowledge. This year is an extremely important one for H4 students as it will culminate in the IB examinations. I would like to see our students continuing to work collaboratively this year and support each other through the IB Diploma. This year we will be looking for opportunities to connect with TES Alumni to give their experiences having received an IB Diploma education and how that has contributed to their life beyond secondary school.

The IB Diploma programme develops an number of aca-

ademic and personal skills; central to the Diploma is the Learner Profile, a set of stated personal characteristics that are encouraged to be adopted by students. Caring is one of those characteristics, caring for oneself, caring for others and caring for the environment. I would like to see caring continued in our school with students willing to share their experiences with each other for mutual benefit. Current H4 students and past pupils are an extremely valuable source of information to those following through in H3, they have been through the stress points, seen the benefits of an IB Programme and have insight into the IB across subjects. Valuable lessons that can be learned from their

knowledge so we will be providing opportunities for reflection and sharing of IB student experiences that will help both "teacher" and learner to grow.

The International Baccalaureate Organisation hopes to achieve it's mission statement of making the world a better place through education and to foster a lifelong love of learning. Exhibiting the Learner Profile characteristics will make their school experience a positive one for our students and set them up well for University life and beyond. I am looking forward to working with TES students and families on their IB Journey.



Welcome from the University Counsellors

Jack Shull and Mark Ryan, University and Careers Counsellors (UCC)



Jack Shull

The UCC is rapidly expanding and now has two full-time counsellors as Mr. Ryan Jordan has joined Mr. Jack Shull in the UCC department. Mr. Jordan is coming from Yew Chung International School (YCIS) in Beijing where he had been for five years as a university counselor and IB coordinator. Prior to this, Mr. Jordan worked in admissions at a US University. Mr. Shull and Mr. Jordan are a team and will share responsibilities and duties in all aspects of university and careers counseling.



Ryan Jordan

Mr. Jordan has students in H3 and H4 who have last names beginning with A to Lam and Mr. Shull has students who are from Lee to Z. In H2 Mr. Jordan is responsible for A to Liao and Mr. Shull Lin to Z and in H1 Mr. Jordan has A to Lee and Mr. Shull Li to Z. We are always available to visit

with parents and please email for an appointment if you wish to see us.

Wednesday, August 31st Mr. Shull and Mr. Jordan presented to H4 students and parents 'The University Application Process.' The goal of the presentation was to explain the university application procedure and the responsibilities of the student, their counselor and parents. In addition we discussed the details regarding college essays/personal statements, recommendation letters, and most important deadlines. Mr. Shull and Mr. Jordan have begun H4 individual conferences to discuss with each student their university plans and university choices. They are always available for individual family conferences to discuss the university plans or academic issues for all stu-

dents at TES.

Mr. Daniel Grayson a university consultant will be return to TES on September 8th to present to TES students and parents. We are excited to have Dan back as he brings a wealth of information from his years as an international admissions counselor at a very selective US university. The morning of the 8th from 8 to 9 am Dan will be presenting a program to primary school parents at the EPC and then is at the ESC with a morning coffee for ESC parents at 10:00, sessions with students and teachers during the day and then a parent and student presentation at 6:30 pm in the ESC. Please plan on joining any or all of Dan's presentations.

Welcome back and we look forward to an exciting school year.

News from the Secondary and High School Library

Welcome back to a new school year and, like always, the library has new books to greet our students back to school! Please return all your summer borrowing loans before you take out any new books. Year 7 students are welcome to return the books borrowed from the Primary Library to the Secondary Phase I Library.

Over the summer, the library staff had been working hard on registering textbooks so that students can borrow textbooks from the library when school starts. Please take good care of the textbooks and return them to the library when you no

longer need them.

Besides, we are glad to inform/ remind you that parents are also very welcome to borrow books from our library. Parents can borrow up to 5 books for 2 weeks. Don't forget to return them on time as parents will be charged for NT 5 per day for overdue!

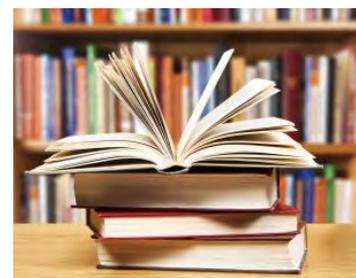
Want to know what we have in the library? Need more information about the library services? Check our online catalog at <http://library.tes.tp.edu.tw/oliver>. You can find our new arrivals list, recommended reading list for Year 7 and eve-

rything the librarians would like to share with you from the links on the homepage (Libguides).

I look forward to seeing you in the library. If you have any question or suggestions regarding the library services, please feel free to contact the library staff at extension 2191 or 2192.

Happy Reading!

Angela Chang
Chief Librarian



School Counselling Services - It's Better to Talk

Jenny Hsu, School Counsellor MNZAC

Welcome back to the new school year. School can be an exciting and happy place, but life in general may be stressful and challenging. Counselling is a talking therapy and can help us explore what's happening in our current life and also what's happened to us in the past in order to change the way we are thinking, feeling or behaving. School counselling gives that extra support to help students make the most of their time at school.

Confidentiality

School counselling is a confidential service and I will check with students, parents or carers before passing on information onto others. Confidentiality will be maintained unless legal requirements, e.g. child protection legislation, override it. Nor will confidentiality be maintained where someone may suffer serious or potential harm from information being withheld.



Jenny Hsu

Parents and students can expect the School Counsellor

- to be respectful and keep confidences
- to listen carefully and not to lay blame
- to include parents where this is helpful
- to be safe, caring, honest and trustworthy
- to explore thoughts, feelings and behavior
- to tell you about risks you should know about
- to support and help the child to make changes
- to be sensitive to your family background and culture
- to be creative - talking, playing, drawing, writing and reading
- to act as an advocate for you and your child when necessary
- to refer you and your child to other people and organizations
- to liaise with other agencies concerned with the well-being of students

School counselling hours in room 1204:

Tuesday 08:00 – 14:30

Wednesday 08:00 – 14:30

Thursday 08:00 – 15:00

Referrals can be made by students, staff and parents. Resources are also available to meet the diverse needs. I welcome questions or comments and am looking forward to a great year.

You can contact me on: Phone 8145-9007 ext.2604. Email jenny.hsu@tes.tp.edu.tw





'Resilient & Resourceful Young People Learning How to Flourish and be their Best!'

Taipei European School
Tuesday 13th September 2016 at 6.30pm

Positive Psychology, the science of 'what makes life worth living', is being applied in schools through Positive Education programs designed to develop optimal functioning, well-being and resilience in whole school communities.

Fresh from speaking alongside Sonya Papps at the first **Global Positive Education Festival** in Dallas we are delighted to welcome international organisational coach **Clive Leach** for this exciting presentation. Clive will share the latest school-based approaches in building mental toughness, strengths & character that are relevant for all children & young people to help them transition successfully through school and life. These approaches are also good for parent well-being too!

Clive will also draw on his extensive experience applying evidence-based programs and tools through the design and delivery of Positive Education programs with leading international schools across SE Asia, China, Europe & the UK. This includes his ongoing work here with us at TES.

This valuable and unique session will be interactive, empowering and fun. It has the potential to have a meaningful and positive impact on the personal, academic and professional success of your children and yourselves!

Clive Leach is a Global Representative for the **International Positive Education Network (IPEN)**. He is a certified **Realise2**

Strengths Assessor & **MTQ48 Mental Toughness** practitioner and is a former Head of Community Education Services in the UK where he is now based. For further information please visit:

www.cliveleach.com



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Leadership Development

Clive Leach, M.Org. Coaching





Welcome from the ESCPA

Anna Durmus, ESCPA

Greetings, dear TES Community, and bonne rentrée to the new and returning families! We hope you have had relaxing summer vacations and are back to school with new ideas and replenished energy.

We have loved seeing so many of you at the Welcome Coffee Morning on August 31st. Meeting new people and getting tons of information always feels overwhelming at the beginning, but we hope you were able to make new friends and have received useful information from the TES staff.

We, at ESCPA, have bid farewell this summer to several wonderful members who have relocated overseas and whose children have graduated last June. It was hard to say "good bye" to these hard-working people and we wish them and their children all the best wherever they are. On the other hand, we have welcomed several new members, including the new ESCPA Chair, Dora Moepps! Please join us in welcoming them whenever you see them at the

TES events.

The European Secondary Campus Parents Association (ESCPA) is a group of volunteer parents from the cross-section of the British, French and German Secondary and High Schools. We meet once a month to discuss how we can help ESC with school events, enrich students' life and improve school facilities as needed. Participation in the ESCPA is open to all the ESC parents and we welcome you to join us, either as a committee member or a volunteer at events.

The last year ESCPA has supported a wide range of TES events, the highlights of which are the Sports Day, the International Food Fair, Christmas concert, Annual School Production and Dragon Boat Race. With the funds we have raised we have sponsored costumes for the Grease show, organized Carnival Day where all the secondary students and ESC staff were treated to delicious crepes, sponsored a Pizza Party and a Bowling Party for the House

Points and Ipoints winning teams, raised students awareness of healthy eating by offering them samples of delicious Vegetarian lunches on a monthly basis, showed our gratitude to ESC faculty and staff by organizing the Teachers Appreciation Day, just to name a few.

But none of the above would be possible without your support, our fellow ESC parents. If you have free time that you would like to contribute to the ESC events, while having fun with friends, please join us at the next ESCPA Meeting at 9am on September 23rd, at Yangmingshan campus. Or be on a lookout for the sign-up sheets to volunteer at numerous school events, the first one, Autumn Festival, being just a month away!

We hope to meet many of you this school year and share magical and precious moments together!

Your ESCPA





ESCPA Coffee Morning



ESCPA awarding Bora House a Pizza Party for the most House Points 2015-16



ESCPA awarding MARIN House a Bowling party for overall House of the Year 2015-16



Victory for TES at the Dragon Boat Festival 2016



Alumni Always Welcome!



Alumni from the Class of 2015 visiting from the UK, Hong Kong, USA and Canada

Willkommensgruß vom Schulleiter der Deutschen Sektion

Emmanuel Fritzen, Schulleiter Deutsche Schule Taipei (Head of German Section)



Emmanuel Fritzen

The new academic year has started. On the secondary campus we could welcome two new teachers and a good number of new students, including the young ones, who came up from the primary campus into Klasse 5.

The main challenge for the German Section in first semester will be the inspection

to be carried out in the first week of November, 2016. One officer from the "Central Agency of German Schools Abroad" (ZfA) and one representative of the "Standing Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs" (KMK) will come to Taipei for a five days' visit in order to get an insight into teaching and learning, business

structures, staffing and organization of the German Section.

I am looking forward having another successful academic year following good traditions of cooperation of the three sections at ESC.

With warm regards

Emmanuel Fritzen



Our New ESC GS Staff

Matthias Jackisch, PE and German Teacher

Home is where someone feels well. After being in this country for four weeks now, we - the Jackisch family - can proudly say that we already feel like home. The lovely, helpful people, the great food and the beautiful nature really made it easy for us. Originally we are from Leipzig, the Bach town, where we worked as teachers.

At TES, I will be teaching German and P.E. at the Secondary Campus and will train children for Fobisia sports competition. My wife, Dania is going to support children in learning German at the Primary Campus and in Kindergarten. Our two girls will attend first and fifth grade at German section.

We are happy to be part of TES, a melting pot of so many nations and languages. TES prepares children in a playful way in order to become global citizens with intercultural knowledge - a feature that will gain even more importance in the future. We are looking forward to assist and guide your child in their learning processes and to share that with you. Feelfreetocontactus!



JeroenAffolter, Science Teacher

I am happy to have joined the community of the German Section. My name is JeroenAffolter and I am 31 years of age. After six years of research in the field of microbiology I decided to become a teacher. After my teaching course I have taught for three years at a small international school in Turkey as science teacher. I am looking forward to spending the next few years in Taipei and I am looking forward to working with our students, parents and the new colleagues!





Section Française

Mot de bienvenue du Chef de la Section Française

Jean-Yves Vesseau, French Section Head



The French section is looking forward to the 2016-2017 school year. For the first time, some of our students will graduate from TES with a French Baccalauréat. It is going to be a special year for those students. The "Bac", as it is nicknamed in France, is a very demanding programme with students attending up to 37,5 hours of classes a week

(and that does not include homework and all those Saturday mornings exams!) The teachers will support them every step of the way and we wish them good luck to get the best results! The opening of the terminale class (H4 equivalent 4) is another sign of the growth of the French section. With 92 students on the ESC campus

today, our presence has become more visible and we are happy to bring a bit of a French touch to YangMing-Shan. We are looking forward to working with our colleagues from the BSHS and the German section to give our students and families the most exciting learning environment.

Our New ESC FS Staff



Jean-Yves Labouche, Maths Teacher

Hello! I am Jean-Yves and I am teaching math in middle school and high school at the French section. I spent the last three years in Seattle, and before that, I spent four years in South Korea, teaching in French schools. I am very exciting to be back in Asia and to join TES fantastic team!



Pascale McMillan, English teacher

Two weeks ago I nervously joined the EFL team. Since then I have enjoyed meeting the French and German students from the lower and upper secondary sections. My name is Pascale McMillan, originally from New Caledonia but lived and taught in Auckland, New Zealand until recently when I moved to this lovely city of Taipei with my husband and daughter. I am looking forward to new experiences both inside and outside the classroom. I wish to thank the whole of TES community for being so welcoming, and making me feel so much at ease now.



Véronique Bouteille
French teacher



Julian Gonthier
Economics Teacher



Javier Gonzales Donaïre
Pastoral Care Assistant

Our New ESC BS Staff

Gemma Abel, ASPIRE Teacher

Hello, my name is Gemma Abel and I'm a Learning Support Assistant, supporting students across lots of different subjects. I'm originally from London, UK, and I've been living in Taipei for the past year, teaching English at a private language school. I've really enjoyed exploring Taiwan, especially getting out of Taipei to see more of this beautiful island! I'm really looking forward to getting to know everyone at TES.



Ian Armstrong, PE Teacher and Year 8 Dean

I have been teaching now for just over a decade; I trained at a school in Walsall, just outside Birmingham in the UK, before getting a job at Adams' Grammar School in Newport, Shropshire. I taught PE and games and was a form tutor for 7 years, before applying for a Head of House role that came up. The house was named after captain Matthew WEBB, who was the first recorded Englishman to swim unaided across the English Channel in 1875. The house colour was green, which works out well, as I am now part of Marin house at TES, so I won't have to change my entire wardrobe to suit! I am 36 years old and I am married to Colette, who works in reception in the Primary Campus. We both love traveling and are really looking forward to exploring Taiwan and the neighbouring countries. From our short time here, Taiwan is a wonderful place, with friendly, honest people, who are always helpful and incredibly neat and tidy. The food is great; I am particularly impressed with the dumplings!! The scenery is lovely, with particularly delightful views from the top of Taipei 101 and Yangmingshan; I am also mightily impressed with the outdoor lifestyle, the abundance of large swimming pools and my wonderful work colleagues, who have made us feel extremely welcome in such a short space in time.



Nicola Bingham, Art Teacher

I have always had a real passion for Art and since studying it extensively at University, I have come to the conclusion that through teaching I am able to share this love every day to have a positive effect on others'. There is nothing more rewarding than seeing a student really open up and grow through learning Artistic processes and creating their own personal responses. From refining basic motor skills and coordination in the early years to creating complex compositions, Creative skills are essential in a well-rounded individual and provide balance to an academic timetable.

'Man paints with his brains and not with his hands' Michelangelo.

I began my secondary teaching in the U.K, working in Wales and England for four years. Prior to this, I worked as a self employed Art Worker for the local council, teaching both children and adults. My dream was to work in an International School. I have taught in Asia for five years; Thailand and China.

When I am not teaching, I enjoy exploring the island, meeting new people and finding more adventures. I like to draw and paint in my free time. Swimming and scuba diving provide escapism for me. I can't wait to see more of Taiwan. I love how the island has



Holger Hilbig, Economics & Business Teacher

My name is Holger Hilbig and I originally hail from the city of Augsburg in Germany. I graduated in Economics and Philosophy and worked for more than 10 years in international auditing, financial consulting and business management before embarking on a teaching career. Before joining TES I taught at international schools in Thailand and PR China. When not working you'll probably find me with a book in my hand or running shoes on my feet. I am looking forward to teaching Economics, Business and Theory of Knowledge at TES and exploring Taiwan.



Our New ESC BS Staff



Amy Hruska, Geography Teacher

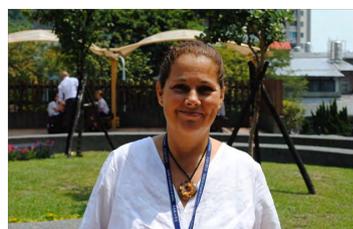
Arriving in Taiwan to teach at Taipei European School has been a very friendly and welcoming experience, both at school and in Taipei itself. My teaching career over the past 8 years has taken me to a number of interesting and varied schools and locations, including the UK, El Salvador, Italy and Ethiopia, to teach Geography at all levels from KS3, to IGCSE, to the IBDP and 'A' Level. Each place has been unique in its own way, with spectacular travel and learning opportunities and of course, rich in its Geography! I am very much looking forward to exploring Taiwan, exchanging experiences and ideas with new colleagues and teaching enthusiastic students from Year 7 to H4 at TES. Thank you to everyone for the warm welcome!



Ryan Jordan, University and Careers Counsellor

After spending the past five years counseling in an international school in Beijing, China, I am extremely happy to join the TES family. Prior to that position, I spent five years in admissions at a US university. I've also lived in Thailand and England. In my spare time, I enjoy playing guitar, hitting the gym or the trails, and taking photos on my journeys. Looking forward to exploring Taipei, the mountain, and the food!

Tina Kamei, English and Supply Teacher



I am originally from London, U.K. my husband is Japanese and we have three grown up sons and one daughter. I left the U.K. to work as an English teacher in Spain and then moved to Tanzania East Africa where I taught Psychology, ToK and English at an IB International School in Dar es Salaam. I was also the Extended Essay Coordinator. I am passionate about all three of my subjects and keen for my students to become independent learners, thinkers and orators who will be able to have a positive impact on an extremely versatile and volatile world. I have been in Taipei since last November and absolutely adore the Island, my three most favourite things are the people, the mountains and shaved ice. I am so excited about working at TES as its ethos and essence run close to my heart as an educator and it will be wonderful to be part of the school as it expands, matures and grows alongside its students.

Hamish McMillan, IB & TOK Coordinator and Geography Teacher



Hi, my name is Hamish McMillan I am the International Baccalaureate Coordinator and H4 Dean with responsibility for Theory of Knowledge. I am really pleased to have come to beautiful Taiwan with my family and to Taipei European School, both are places with outstanding international reputations. Like some of the other new Staff members this year, I have come from New Zealand where I was also an IB Coordinator at my previous school. I have been involved in education for over 25 years as a Geography Teacher, Head of Department and IB Coordinator. My interests include travelling and exploring new places, food and I also enjoy swimming. I am married with one daughter who attends TES and one son who has been through the IB Diploma and is currently studying in Switzerland. I am very much looking forward to working with the TES community.

Our New ESC BS Staff

Anna Robertson, English Teacher

Hi, my name is Anna Robertson and I'm originally from New Zealand. I was born and raised in the North Island but first taught in the South Island at a large country school. I have since taught in Istanbul and have moved here from three years of teaching in Beijing. Coming directly from Beijing, my first thoughts on Taipei is that literally it is a breath of fresh air. After spending so many years in a very flat and metropolitan city, the hills and greenery of Taipei makes me love it already. The friendliness of everyone in TES and outside in the wider community makes me excited to be living here and I can't wait to see what the future months and years hold.



Mark Ryan, Mathematics Teacher

Hi Everyone. My name is Mr Mark Ryan and I am new to TES. I am a mathematics teacher and in the past I have also taught IB, chemistry. I am originally from Australia and have taught in Australia, Brunei and then Japan. I decided to get my apartment up on the mountain near school and i am really appreciating the beautiful mountain scenery, and enjoying walking to and from school. What I have noticed about Taiwan so far is that there are many similarities to Japan, such as a lot of the same products in the shops. And of course the Taiwanese people are very welcoming, and compared to Japan the level of English is much higher. Over the next few months I am looking forward to really getting to know my students, and doing what I can to help them flourish.



Jonathan Sherman, Music and English Supply Teacher

I'm Jonathan Sherman and I come from Boston, USA. Having taught in Asia for over 5 years, I decided to base myself in Taiwan, as I find the country and its people to be wonderful. My academic and professional background is fairly diverse - I have previously worked in the USA, Turkey, Colombia and China in political consulting, international relations, mining, research, management and, of course, education. My interests are in musical, visual and literary arts; creative and interactive coding and programming; politics, sciences, philosophy and education; and sports and adventure. I am currently pursuing an M.A. in Digital Music and Media Composition with University College Cork.



Garry Thin, Music Teacher

Taiwan - I love it!! My name is Garry Thin. My wife Phyllis and I are from New Zealand and I am pleased to be able to add another 'kiwi' to the Music Department! Most recently we have both been teaching in beautiful Brunei Darussalam on the Island of Borneo at Jerudong International School, a school not too dissimilar to TES. As well as having a passion for music education, I love singing, musical theatre, and choral music and I am looking forward to working with the Yangmingshan Chorus and the newly formed Show Choir. I am excited to be here in Taiwan as it has some of the best food I have tasted in Asia, the people are so friendly and helpful, and there is a huge amount to do here!



Our New ESC BS Staff

Esther Wainwright, Drama & English Teacher and Gifted & Talented Coordinator



Before becoming a teacher, Esther worked in theatre as a lighting and sound Technician for theatres across Manchester. This allowed her to appreciate all different theatre forms and approaches to incorporate into her teaching. She worked in UK schools as a teacher of English, Drama and Technical Theatre for five years before moving to The British School, Malaysia in 2014, and recently to TES. In addition to Drama, Esther has taught English Language and Literature to IGCSE standard across all year groups in Secondary School. Esther directs her surplus energy to climbing, trekking and mountaineering.

Paul Warren, Science Teacher



I am Paul Warren and I've come to the TES to teach Biology and Science after teaching in the Philippines and the UK. After a very warm introduction by the school it has been great to meet some of the students over the first two weeks. I've also been struck by the fantastic views available on the commute to and from the Secondary Campus. My personal interests in Biology are mainly centered around Ecology. Having the Yangmingshan National Park right next to the school is a wonderful resource to help with the teaching of Ecology. As well as teaching I am really looking forward to coaching the Junior Varsity football team this year

Gavin Winter, Science Teacher



I am not actually "new" to Taiwan or Taipei European School. I have lived here since 2003, when I started my ten years of full-time service to TES as a Science/Physics Teacher. Now, I am returning after only 3 years away to work part-time in the Science department. My favourite thing about Taipei is that it is now very much my home, and about TES is how little the best bits of it have changed since I last wrote this introduction 13 years ago!!

Unseen Poetry Presentations with H2

English Department

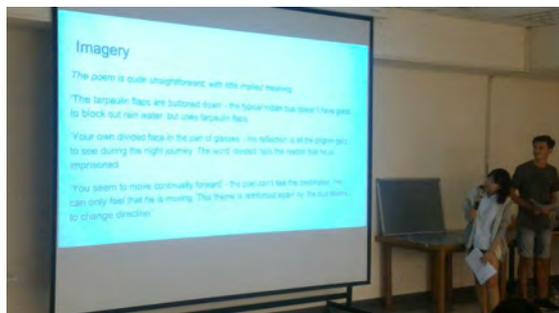
H2 students studying IGCSE World Literature were challenged to lead their own learning in response to the fourteen texts in the *Songs of Ourselves* poetry anthology that they are analysing for May 2016.

Often English teachers will need to trawl through many poems for study independently in class and this can be quite limiting where students will need to make their own connections with texts for the better marks. This is usually best facilitated by plenty of discussion and debate at least in the classroom. As our current H2 cohort are a very capable and experienced group of students in the analysis of poetry, the emphasis was on them, in small groups, to create presentations on one of the poems to their peers across the 70 plus cohort. Quite a daunting task!

Over the first five weeks of term the whole cohort have been learning from each other on Tuesday mornings in the MPR and often their interpretations have been more vivid and explanatory for their peers than what the teachers may have delivered!

H2 students will also have an unseen poem or extract from a prose story for examination for World Literature, so this makes the exercise especially beneficial as students are approaching these poems unseen, receiving interpretations from their peers as a full year group and then revisiting the poems each week with their class teacher. The discussion and debate will continue online on Google classroom sites and other online communities, right up till May and following the Mock examinations in January where further full year group sessions take place on poetry and other components of the First Language English and World Literature examinations.

Often the study of literature is very subjective and the constant support and discussion around the texts, reinforces this point and hopefully allows for a freedom of interpretation in the final examinations.



Group 4 Project - Cooking Up A Storm!

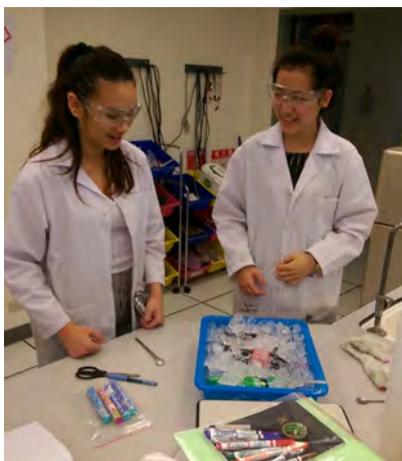
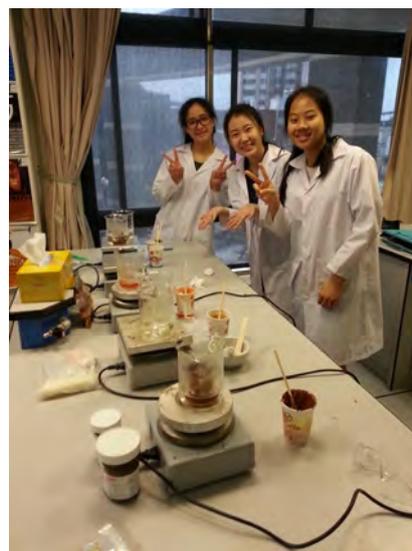
Science Department

Late last term, the now current H4 students were hard at work in the labs “cooking” ! Yes, that is correct – cooking! This was the creative theme that the entire year group decided to investigate for their Group 4 Project.

The Group 4 Project is a compulsory part of the IB Sciences programme that involves students working in multidisciplinary teams to research a topic and report their findings. Students worked in small groups that included Biologists, Chemists, Physicists and Sports Scientists to come up with research questions on this imaginative topic and carry out tests to verify their hypotheses. The aim of the project is to give students the opportunity to demonstrate team work, perseverance and self reflection in a problem solving situation.

The range of experiments and tests that emerged was truly inspiring and showed both the scientific curiosity and innovation of our TES students. From testing the melting points of chocolate, toxicity of disposal chopsticks, the level of anti-oxidants in palm oils, the elastic strength of cooked noodles to the sturdiness of container structures and the best way to cook instant noodles, students spent over 10 hours on their investigations. The culmination of the event was the presentation of their results in once again very unique ways, displaying artistic and technological talents. Who would have thought a talking giraffe and hippopotamus could explain the surface tension of cooking solutions so eloquently!

Overall, the project was a great success, and the students enjoyed the challenge of coming up with original scientific ideas. Whether they eat more instant noodles in the near future is another question open for debate!



News from the Mathematics Department

Julie Dale, Head of Mathematics

Year 7 Marshmallow Competition

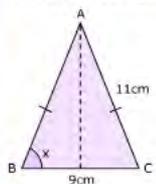
For their first mathematics class on the secondary campus, the year seven students were given a challenge: to construct a freestanding structure with only dry spaghetti, string and tape to support a single, fluffy marshmallow. The teams of year seven students took on the challenge in very different ways. Each approach required group discussion, collaboration and creativity using logic and prior knowledge. All this is the root of mathematics!



MyiMaths - Guidance for Parents

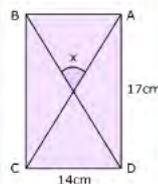
Work out angle x . Give your answers to the nearest whole number.

ABC is an isosceles triangle, with $AB = AC$.



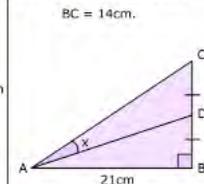
$$x = \text{ }^\circ \quad [2]$$

ABCD is a rectangle.



$$x = \text{ }^\circ \quad [3]$$

ABC is a right-angled triangle. D lies on BC, and $DC = DB$.



$$x = \text{ }^\circ \quad [4]$$

Trigonometry - missing angles

Markit

If your child is in Year 7 to H2 they have been registered on to the maths website www.myimaths.com. This should help them to structure their maths work and enable you to see how they are progressing. Your child has already been given a letter explaining how to access the materials at home. You can see all their results by clicking **MyResults** and track their results by level by clicking MyLevels. There is a system of traffic lights for each of the tasks to indicate how successful your child has been.

If a **green light** appears next to a topic, they have good skills in this area.

If an **amber light** appears they still have difficulties.

If a **red light** appears they need to go back and relearn the topic. Try the lesson again or get them to ask their teacher for help.

It will also tell you which questions your child could and couldn't do, how many times they have attempted the worksheet and when they last tried it. We hope you will find MyiMaths a useful extra resource. As well as completing the tasks set by the teacher your child can play mathematical games, study additional topics, revise for exams and complete investigation tasks.

Graphing Calculators

All students in the High school (H1 to H4) are now expected to have a **graphing calculator** for use in their Mathematics lessons. If you don't have yours yet, the TI-Nspire version is available from the phase 1 office.

The calculators do cost more than a regular calculator but they are an integral part of the high school Mathematics programme. Here is some more information (see education.ti.com for more details):

Questions Parents Ask about Graphing Calculators

1. What is a graphing calculator?

A graphing calculator is a learning tool designed to help students visualise and better understand concepts in mathematics and science. It allows students to make real-world connections in a variety of subjects. As they gain a deeper understanding of the material, students acquire the critical thinking and problem-solving skills they need to attain greater academic success.

2. Why do teachers use graphing calculators in class and recommend them for home use?

Students experience proven academic advantages when using a graphing calculator in the classroom and at home. Independent studies indicate what many teachers know from experience - that the use of graphing calculators helps improve the mathematical skills of students and their attitudes toward mathematics.

3. Is a graphing calculator just an answer box?

No. Graphing calculators require students to apply their understanding of a concept in order to effectively make use of it. A graphing calculator gives students the ability to take an active role in how they learn.

4. How will a graphing calculator help my child understand maths and science better?

A graphing calculator can help students build the skill sets to perform better in mathematics and science. It challenges students to work out mathematical problems by visualising them. When students can see expressions, formulas and graphs on screen, they are able to explore concepts and make connections that lead to a deeper understanding.

5. In what classes can a graphing calculator be useful?

Graphing calculators can be used in Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Statistics, Business, Economics and Finance.

6. Can my child use a graphing calculator on tests?

Yes, in many instances. Teachers will expect students to use graphing calculators on in-class tests. Graphing calculators are required on IGCSE and IB Mathematics examinations.

7. Can my child use a graphing calculator on the SAT* and ACT?

Yes. Graphing calculators are permitted or even required on SAT*, ACT, PSAT* and AP* exams.

8. Do I need to buy a new graphing calculator every year?

No. A student can use the same calculator from H1 to H4. Most TI graphing calculators, for example, come with upgradeable features and sizeable memory. Helpful programs and applications can be downloaded to a graphing calculator, just like a computer.



Spotlight on IB

H3 & H4 IB Induction, Focus and Team-Building 2016

H3 IB Induction Week allowed students to learn more about the key aspects of IB study as they begin their journey through this highly respected and rigorous high school programme. Students had an introduction to all parts of the CORE of the IB programme, namely CAS, TOK and the Extended Essay. University and College applications were also considered with presentations from Mr Shull and Mr Jordan.

The second 'Team Building Day' encouraged students to try different activities, develop new skills, apply some of the IB learner profile attributes and get to know their classmates who they will be working closely with for the next two years by participating in a wide range of workshops delivered enthusiastically by the H3 form tutors and CORE team.

Thanks go to Mr McMillan, Mr Lee and Mr Kenny, Mr Shull and Mr Jordan and the rest of the H3 CORE team for planning and delivering thought-provoking sessions. This certainly gave the students some useful perspectives on the IB programme and life beyond.



H4 Beginning the new year and Team Building

H4 students have settled quickly into the new year, on Monday morning of week 3 students were given an opportunity to work on their Extended Essays during an EE focus session. It was very pleasing to see people using this time to progress their work, some taking the opportunity to liaise with their supervisors. The Extended Essay is a compulsory part of the IB Diploma programme that develops skills students will use at tertiary level and beyond. Mr Stewart and all of the IB supervisors have been doing a great job supporting and guiding students as they write their essays.

The Team Building Day was an opportunity for H4 students to engage in collaboration and cooperation. They attended sessions in which helped students:

Refine their understanding of academic honesty, correct sourcing of material and the principles of referencing. These skills can be applied to Internal Assessments and Extended Essays but are also important beyond secondary schooling. Students were also able to consider other important aspects of the Diploma core, mindfulness in respect to being balanced, with Mr Laureti and Mr Jordan, and given the opportunity to work on a pressing Internal Assessment task, their Extended Essay or their university applications, with staff support; Mr Shull and Mr Jordan.

Ms Papps provided an opportunity to learn some new techniques in speaking and speech making ahead of their upcoming oral assessments. These skills will be a very useful addition to the student toolbox.

H4 also took part in a range of fun activities under the heading of 'collaboration and competition', in which they had to use their critical thinking skills and team ideas to solve some interesting physical problems.

A great day was had by all. For me it was wonderful to see students who've been together so long working towards their goals, enjoying each other's company and getting some much-needed balance. My sincere thanks go to Mr Stewart, Mr Shull, Mr Jordan, Mr Laureti, Ms Papps, Mr Mowbray, Ms Wainwright, Ms Hruska and Mr Lee for their creative ideas and meticulous planning in putting together this exciting programme.





A Word from the Head of Sport

Kwok Chow, Head of Sport

It's been a very busy start from week 1 for sports at TES. The U15 FOBISIA squad to Manila and the new Student Sports leaders for 2016/17 have been selected. The Y7/8/9 Volleyball teams are already training for Middle School Sports. The High School Sports have also started with Girls in Volleyball and Boys in Football. We also have selected the Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball teams who will be traveling to Singapore to compete in the annual Pacific Asia Youth Cup, more news next month!



The U15 FOBISIA squad proudly holding their letters of congratulations!

U15 FOBISIA Squad 2016/17 Manila

Gene Weng
Daniel Chang
Brian Chung
Chris Liu
Brian Huang
Ken Huang
William Liu
Sidney Liu
Bruno Cadamuro
Jeremy Wu
Ian Frost

Peter Lee
George Cheng
Austin Tsai
Dheeman Shahari
Kaz Lai
Katja Thomas
Chloe Chuang
Tzy Chen
Emily Stuade
Jewel Lee
Sophia Pellandini

Heloise Morrizon
Jemmi Chan
Natalie Tioh
Evelyn Di Rienzo
Renee Hsiao
Sarah Yamamoto
Emily Chang
Ting-Jen Kuo
Chloe Lin
Megan Wu

Message from the Sports Leaders

It's a new year for sports at Taipei European School, and the sports leader team are more than excited to help organise, coach and lead the athletes at TES. Among the sports leader team, we aim to help and support the rising athletes in our school community. We're always approachable and are happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the sports department.

The students involved in the 2016 - 2017 sports leader team are Charlene Chiu (H1), Renee Hsiao (H1), Jemmi Chan (H1), Natalie Tioh (H1), Bernard Yang (H1), Ken Huang (H1), Alexander Fermin (H1), Yu-Ting Chen (H3), Anja Jung (H3), Nidhi Mehta (H3), Jennifer (H3) and Mason Lee (H3).

Some new changes that will be happening this year includes a new sports leader website. We aim to provide an easily accessible platform for all students, parents and teachers. This website will hopefully enhance your experience of the sports seasons, as you'll be able to access the schedules, photos and articles more easily. The website will constantly be updated and should be ready in no time under the domain TESitans.com.



Sports Leader Executives: Yu-Ting Chen, Mason Lee, Anja Jung, Nidhi Mehta

Sports Leaders: Bernard Yang, Ken Huang, Alexander Fermin, Charlene Chiu, Renee Hsiao, Natalie Tioh, Jemmi Chan, Jennifer Li



**SWIRE EUROPEAN
SECONDARY CAMPUS**

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Fax: 555-555-5555
E-mail:



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.

