



# ESC Newsletter

Issue 27

May/June 2017

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## Welcome from the BSHS Head

Chrysta Garnett, Head of British Secondary and High School Section

Dear Parents

As this is the final Newsletter missive from me, I would like to take it as an opportunity to say goodbye and thank you to the entire school community for all your contributions to the British Secondary and High School over the years. It is with a sad heart that I leave TES after five years as it has been the most interesting and professionally rewarding period of my career so far. TES is something I feel very fortunate to have been a part of and is an experience that I will never forget. I have worked with such dynamic and inspiring students, dedicated staff and engaged and energetic parents along the way. You are all what makes TES what it is! As I write, we have just celebrated a monumental moment in our school history as we have officially 'broken ground' on our old sports' pitch to being the construction process of building Plot 3. You have no doubt already seen the fantastic designs of this new phase in our school's development, and I am sorry that I will not see the vision realized. It has been an honour to be involved in the design consultation process and a very rich learning experience. The construction programme is in safe hands with the same construction company that oversaw the EPC construction and I will watch the developments with keen interest from the UK. This has been another year of innovation and development in the BSHS as we prepare for yet more students joining us on Yangmingshan next year. Remodelling work will be underway during the summer months to create new classroom space and specialist teaching rooms so that we will be well equipped for our new arrivals in August. As our student body grows, our numbers of dedicated staff also increases. But sadly we

must also say goodbye to some integral members of our team this year. Our fondest farewells and best wishes will go with: Julie Dale, Chris Sparks, Jack and Connie Shull, Adam Taylor, Geoff Newton, Antonia Burrows, Gemma Abel, Vlad Plosinjak, Anthony Cornes, Susannah Potter and Daisy Rana and Michael O'Neill, all of whom will leave their own indelible mark on the school. My thanks to those staff for their support and commitment to our students during the course of their tenure with us. We also say farewell to many families and students too who continue their adventures overseas and we urge you to keep in touch with us.

This is a bumper summer edition of the Newsletter with many articles celebrating the wonderful work we have done this term and indeed over the year. In particular I draw your attention to: photographs of our stunning school show 'Oliver!', information for High School parents about our revised TES High School Diploma; and our usual plethora of exciting projects, trips and achievements at ESC this year.

Goodbye and best wishes,  
Chrysta Garnett, Section Head





## News from the ESCPA

Anna Durmus, ESCPA

Dear ESC Parents,

Our Secondary Campus seems quieter without the H4 classes, and H3 students look more mature and grown up, as if they feel the new responsibility of being the biggest around the Campus. For me, it definitely feels like a countdown to the summer break, with all the exams put behind us!

June must be the quietest and saddest month in the school year, compared to May, the busiest, most stressful time of year for the Seniors and their parents. But May was a great month to also thank all the ESC teachers and staff for their hard work, countless hours, care for students and love they bring to the Secondary Campus. And to show our gratitude, ESCPA organized a "Staff Appreciation Breakfast" on May 5. Many ESCPA members gathered together to serve a delicious breakfast to all the ESC teaching body and staff and said Thank-You to them. The recognition was highly appreciated by all the invitees.



May also brought a very important event for the ESCPA future – an Open ESCPA meeting to wrap up all the wonderful activities and events we have supported and organised in 2016-2017 school year

and elect the ESCPA Officers for 2017-2018 year. We thank Dora for leading ESCPA this year and welcome Sunny Foehr- Huang as the new ESCPA Chair for 2017-2018!



Another project ESCPA members were busy with in May is updating an outdated version of the ESCPA Governing Procedures. We brought it in compliance with today's ESCPA principles. The last step before the new Governing Procedures are put in effect is to get it cleared by the TES Legal and Compliance Officer. Once we get the green light from her, the new Governing Procedures will be posted on the ESCPA website for all the parents to get familiar with them.



Our Cafeteria committee was busy keeping both Cafeterias an enjoyable place to be at. They also visited the caterer's Taoyuan facilities to select new Menu items for the next school year. Thank you, Masako and Cafeteria Committee, for all

your efforts and hard work! We are now looking for a new Cafeteria Committee leader, as our dear Masako Kunii steps down from her position the next year. So please consider volunteering for this position if you are passionate about food and cafeteria operations, and care about what and how our students eat.



The monthly Vegetarian Lunches were in full swing. March featured the most delicious Korean food, which was so popular that we ran out of it within the first 20 minutes of serving. Thank you, MJ and Ann, for preparing this delicious and healthy food, and Riyan for supporting us whenever you are in Taiwan. And April brought us exquisite Japanese food, graciously prepared and served by Tomoko, Yuka and Shizuka. Thank you to all of you, too!





The culmination of this successful school year at the TES Secondary Campus was, undoubtedly, the School Show “Oliver”, involving over 100 students and staff from Cross-Section of the school, numerous months of rehearsing and preparations under Ms. Bracken’s leadership. In fact, the popularity of the show was so high that all the four shows were sold out! The cast was brilliant, musicians impeccable, and ambience fantastic. Our own ESCPA member Nathalie Huang has been busy preparing costumes for the show; decorations are being made, and millions of details discussed. Per tradition, ESCPA sponsored the show t-shirts and rendered support by serving food, drinks and cakes on all four show nights. ESCPA would like to thank Mike and Dora, who were in charge of organising the ESCPA’s support, as well as numerous volunteers, both students and parents, who put in countless hours to bake, come and serve. Your support is priceless, and we wouldn’t be able to pull it off without you!



ESCPA has also decided to sponsor the French Section’s annual Bowling and Pizza party, as well as improvement of Study Areas in both Phase 1 and Phase 2, as requested by the ESC Student Council. We will also be happy to provide a present for all the members of the winning house of the year.



And the last wonderful event of May was a beautiful and emotional Graduation Night on May 27, where our brilliant H4 and FS Terminale students were awarded their Graduation Diplomas and received the best wishes and blessings for the new chapter in their lives. ESCPA was honored and happy to support the event and shared the joy with our



dear ESCPA members whose children graduate this year. ESCPA is bidding a farewell to two of our most dedicated parents: Shu Lin and Adrienne Foong. Shu’s son, Berkay, and Adrienne’s daughter, Elaine, both go to study in the UK. And Adrienne will return to Malaysia after spending many years in Taiwan. We will miss you both, Shu and Adrienne, and do hope to see you again somewhere in the world!

Please join me in wishing the best of luck to all the TES 2017 graduates, who have already been accepted or are waiting to be accepted to the world’s most prestigious schools around the globe, and are about to start the new adventures in their lives.



I wish you all a peaceful and enjoyable summer with your families. If you are leaving TES and Taiwan, all the best at your new destinations. If you are staying and returning back to school in August, until we meet again. Stay tuned for the ESCPA Welcome Coffee in August! We hope to see many of you among us to make the new academic year a happy, successful and memorable!



Your ESCPA

## Dragon Boat Festival 2017

Camilla Harris, Staff Team Coordinator

With a team of 21 members of staff from both from Primary and Secondary campuses and across the three sections, we were ready for the challenge of the Dragon Boat race 2017. The team felt good after only having three practices together and were pumped to complete the race in a good time. Getting to the starting position was a challenge in its self but once we were there, we were raring to go. We didn't have the best of starts but once we got going we were at a good speed. Unfortunately, the Carrefour team were too strong for us and managed to grab the flag before us. Our spirits were still high and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves! Here's to Dragon Boat Festival 2018!





## News from UCC

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



As the IB exams come to an end, so begins the transition of another group of students from secondary school to university. With this comes increased levels of uncertainty and anxiety. There are several steps that students and their parents can be doing prior to leaving, including booking flights early, updating emergency contact lists, contacting the university for the move-in date, checking your passport expiration date, and packing all essentials.

However, it takes more than a plane ticket and check-in luggage to successfully transition from one home to the next. The UCC Office has been working with H4 students over the past few months on preparing for their next step. During Graduation week, we concluded the transition programme, which covered topics such as re-involvement, culture shock, stress management, mental health, and consent as well as included an alumni panel which featured three former Taipei European School students speaking about their current university life. The students were able to ask questions about student life, transition to university, housing and more.



Taking a chapter from David Pollock's *Third Culture Kids: Growing Up Among Worlds*, the University and Careers Counselling office at Taipei European School have been working with students on their transition to their tertiary options, along with creating a RAFT. This process is used to help students (and parents) transition healthily, wherever that is. Here are the steps to creating a RAFT:

**Reconciliation:** This is about making things right with people before you leave. If you find it too difficult to do in person, write a letter of forgiveness and then throw it away. Try not to bring any hard feelings with you to your new destination.

**Affirmation:** Let people know how much you appreciate them. This list can include friends, siblings, parents, classmates, and teachers. Don't forget about the secretarial staff! Tell these people how much they meant to you by sharing stories and take these memories with you.

**Farewells:** Say goodbyes to people and places. Visit and take photos of all of your favorite places in Taipei (including the milk tea shop in the village). If you are leaving your family, make sure to spend some quality time with them. This includes your siblings and pets!

**Think destination:** Prepare for the next place. What will it be like? What is the weather like? What about the local culture? Do some research online, looking for the best foods and activities of the city or country to which you're moving. Don't forget to talk to people who have lived there.



Students are recommended to find a balance with their academic lives. Getting involved in clubs and organisations is one of the best ways to feel connected with a university or college. Eating healthy, drinking plenty of water, exercising, getting enough sleep and taking time to enjoy life (playing or listening to music, walking, or practicing mindfulness) are ways that students can help reduce stress.

However, transitioning to a new country along with the stress of attending university, finding balance in their academic and personal life as well as the change in culture can be challenging. All of these can create an overwhelming environment that is sometimes difficult to overcome alone. Know that universities have resources for students, but it is up to them to reach out. If they are having a difficult time adjusting, missing home, feeling sad or overwhelmed, we suggest to reach out to someone at the university. These services can range from stress check clinics and mindfulness sessions to crisis consultation and full counselling sessions to help manage symptoms of anxiety, depression and stress.

Remember to take the time to build a RAFT, and in doing so you will help ensure a safe and successful transition into your new home!

## Farewell from Ms Daisy Rana

### Focus on Progress

As I bid farewell to TES and Taiwan, my thoughts are drawn to all the inspirational students that I have worked alongside over the past 5 years.

In my capacity as Assistant Headteacher, I have had the privilege of following the success of many of your children as they move through the years and have always been astonished by the determination, diligence and sheer hard work that so many of our students exhibit in order to succeed.

Having tracked and analysed the academic progress of your children over the past 3 years, I have come to realise that success comes in many shapes and sizes. For IB students, success may look like a perfect 45 points, for IGCSE students it may appear as a string of A\* grades and in the younger years, level 7 seems to be the golden number. However in reality, success is a very personal measure and no matter what the final result may be, it is the achievement of that individual that must be celebrated.

The staff of TES are expert in the art of reflection and have passed this quality to the students over the years. Your children are now skilled in setting personal goals and reflecting upon their progress themselves. These are valuable life lessons which we hope they shall continue to refine well beyond their time at TES.

More important than academic achievement is personal growth. As teachers we are in the enviable position to guide and nurture a child's personal development. So the satisfaction from seeing a usually timid student stand tall and speak with confidence to an audience of parents, far outweighs the academic grades that he may accomplish.

It has been my absolute pleasure to see the growth in your child both academically and personally over the years and I would like to thank all the parents who have supported me in my role since I joined

TES five years ago.

As my husband and I move on to an international school in India, we wish you and your children all the very best for the future.

TES and Taiwan has been a wonderful home for the past 5 years and one that has made an indelible impression on our minds forever.

Thank you and farewell.

Daisy Rana



## The TES High School Diploma (with effect from August 2017 for new H3 students)

For those students whose needs are not met by the IB Diploma, there is an opportunity to graduate from TES with the High School Diploma. The High School Diploma will be awarded in conjunction with either the full IB Diploma, or in conjunction with an IB 'Courses' programme, depending on the individual academic pathway of each student.

The newly designed TES High School Diploma has taken into account the accepted global standards of High School Diplomas offered by High Schools around the world, and is comparable to, although not identical to, similar High School Diplomas offered in other international schools. The High School Diploma has been under review, and has been approved by the BSHS Section Council and ESC leadership teams in order to give it more credibility and ensure that it meets international education standards and is viewed by some institutions as been proof of a broad, balanced and high quality educational experience and attainment.

Whilst British Secondary and High Schools do not generally offer High School Diplomas in the UK, we recognize that a significant number of TES are international students with many seeking university places in the United States. As the requirements of the TES High School Diploma will be rigorously applied, it is possible that this award could allow some students to access some universities and colleges. Our University and Careers Department are happy to provide further advice on this as required. If a student is awarded the TES High School Diploma it demonstrates that they have passed a good level of high school education to a good standard.

Subject Requirements      Course length (in years) during High School education, ie from H1 to H4

English	4
Mathematics	4
Humanities	4*
Science	4*
Second Language	4*

\*\* (could be reduced to 2 or 3 years if special Courses provision is made upon family request and with HS approval)

### ***Please note the following important points***

#### **For students new to TES:**

Consideration of their previous academic history will be taken into account and decisions made on a case by case basis. This applies to students joining the BSHS from the French Section.

#### **For students who complete the BSHS & GS Integrated programme at H1&H2 and then join the IB Programme:**

IGCSE - 5 A\*- C is generally a benchmark requirement and/or a pass in the Mittlerer Bildungsabschluss mit Berechtigung zum Übergang in die Qualifikationsphase der gymnasialen Oberstufe or, a pass in the Realschulabschluss.

#### **For students who follow the French baccalaureate programme (H3 and H4 equivalent):**

Students who meet the stated requirements will receive a TES High School Diploma. Please make important note that this certificate does not equal to meeting the French Baccalauréat requirement. Students must take the French national exams (the Brevet and French Baccalauréat) to be able to satisfy the national requirement from the French Ministry of Education.

#### **Other Points:**

A minimum of 5 IB Courses must be studied for the two year IB programme in order to qualify for the TES Diploma. No more than one Grade 2 can be awarded in any Courses programme.

Creativity, Activity and Service in H3 & H4 - are an essential requirement of the TES High School Diploma.

A minimum attendance rate of 80% is required. Special circumstances eg. bereavement, documented illness etc will be taken into consideration.

Alternative provision for those students to fail to achieve these benchmarks will be a 'Certificate of Completion' to indicate that the student fulfilled some aspects of the above criteria but may not have been able to fulfill all of the TES HS Diploma requirements. A certificate of completion acknowledges that the student completed a programme of study at TES to the best of their ability.

*NB: Any award of the TES High School Diploma is made at the discretion of the Head of the BSHS and the BSHS Council.*

## Kendo ECA

Paul Wright, Psychology Teacher

For the second year Kendo has ran as an ECA at ESC, where this year 16 students opted to participate. The sessions are lead by a well qualified former Taiwan national champion.

Kendo is an activity that combines martial arts practices and values with strenuous sport-like physical activity. Kendo (剣道 kendō, lit. "sword way") is a modern Japanese martial art, which descended from swordsmanship (kenjutsu) and uses bamboo swords (shinai) and protective armour (bōgu). Today, it is widely practiced within Japan and many other nations across the world.

A typical Kendo session starts with paying respect to the dojo (phase 2 atrium) by taking off shoes and socks as well as bowing to the coach. A whole body warm up ensures using short swords (木剣 bokkens) to help ready the muscle for action. A demonstration is given along with instructions on how to perform a new skill. Students practise either individually or in pairs and are given individual feedback to help improve the technique, all the while relevant vocabulary is taught along with necessary discipline when using shinai. Each student has the opportunity to demonstrate the newly acquired skill by attacking the kendo dummy.

The session is then finished in a similar style as the beginning with a warm down and paying respect to the coach.

The atmosphere for each lesson is positive, warm and respectful with the coach injecting a good dose of humour.



Left - Ean Chuang practising an attack (瓦扎 shikake waza)

Right - Albert Gesk and Erik Hisao wearing Kendo bogu (剣道博古) prepare for shikake waza

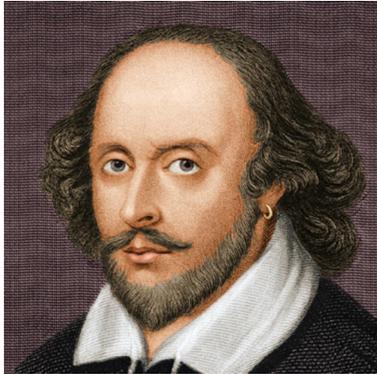
## English Department News

Falling somewhere between Tetris and Scrabble, the software for the vocabulary building game on Literacy Planet, allows students to move a 'sticky' counter into a space to create a word. This is then replaced with another so that the student can, in three minutes, create a bank of words which translate to points. This was an initiative launched by FOBISEA and in to which TES entered as one of a number of participating schools. Students were able to use their gaming know-how and apply it to this competition, in which we produced 2,855 words, with our Year 8s achieving number 3 on the leader board! Well done to all those that took part and let's see if we can't achieve that coveted number 1 spot next year.



# Shakespeare Day

Chante Yeung, Year 7 Student



More than four hundred years have passed since Shakespeare's departure from the world, yet even today, his name is spoken among millions, his fame imprinted on the many pages of history. His face on textbooks, his playscripts retold and rewritten again and again. But what is it that makes him so memorable, for his stories to be passed down and unforgotten for centuries?

On April the twenty-fourth, the Year Sevens and H3s were presented with a wonderfully colourful cake to celebrate the four-hundred and first Shakespeare Day. It is a well known fact that he died on the same day he was born, so in a way, we were praising the advent of Shakespeare as well as his achievements before death. And to talk about achievements, William Shakespeare sure has many to tell. Shakespeare was known as the greatest writer of the English language. His plays, the most famous of which include Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, and Macbeth, are rewritten and performed by people everywhere throughout the years. One of his tragedies, Othello, was acted part by part by the H3s on Shakespeare Day. With more sensible actors come the handling of more sensible themes, for Othello includes the dangers of jealousy and deception, and a mention of suicide.

The Year Sevens, who are better suited for lighter topics, were given

A Midsummer Night's Dream to work with. This play by Shakespeare is a comedy, and focuses on the development of love. One English class wrote soliloquies, putting themselves in the story and opening another perspective as an original character or Puck, the mischievous fairy. Eight other students had been selected to act out a portion of A Midsummer Night's Dream, and they did very well on portraying the characters, especially the part when the protagonist falls in love with an ass!

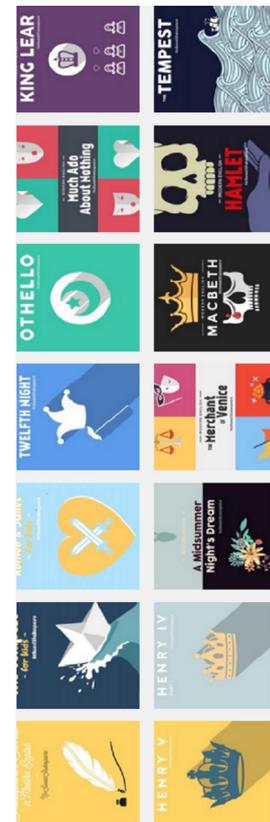


Shakespeare, in addition to his writings, contributed immensely to the usage of words in the English language. In writing his plays, he created many new words, many of which are still being used commonly nowadays, such as 'champion', 'lonely' and 'dawn'. This list continued to grow up to more than seventeen hundred, for Shakespeare was quite the person on changing verbs into adjectives, connecting words, adding prefixes and suffixes, and creating words wholly original that make from no sense to the best fitting words we use today.

Of course, Shakespeare did not envisage his own works being put up on screens in the twenty-first century. Neither was he educated in what we would now call human psychology today, yet it was he who created one of the first and most psychologically complicated characters in Hamlet. It was the connection to ideas and events that were popular in Shakespeare's time that

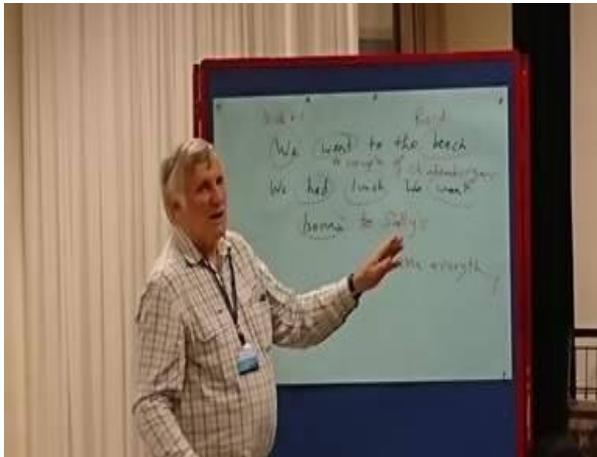
made the plays so successful then, and as the experience of love, loss, betrayal, war, humour and tragedy continue to take part in our lives, his plays will still linger within people even in modern times.

One might sit in a drowsy afternoon lesson, hoping Shakespeare never existed or brought with him a whole new set of "thee"s and "thy"s to remember. But it was he whom English owes an entire portion to, it was he who created characters that held emotions and charisma, it was he whose works are able to bring out the best and the worst in humans, and most importantly, it was William Shakespeare whose name we still remember today, and his works which remained praised and unforgotten for four hundred years.



## John Marsden Visit

Lindsey, Sabrina and Sine , Year 9 Students



On May 9th, all of the TES Year 9 students were lucky enough to experience a wonderful teaching session presented by John Marsden. John Marsden is a famous Australian author who has written many famous books including the series 'Tomorrow when the war began'. The much celebrated 'Tomorrow' series was also adapted for film in 2010. During his presentation to us, he was engaging and funny and had us hanging off his every word. He gave us ideas on how to give life to our characters in our writing, and how some story writing techniques might be useful in some scenarios in real life. We learned a lot from his visit.

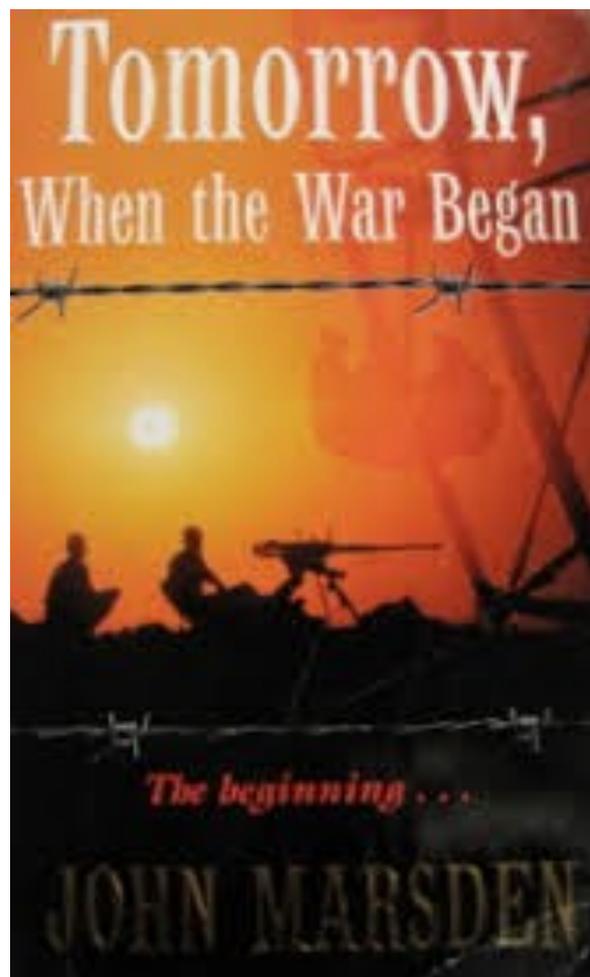
Mr. Marsden told the students at the start of the lesson that he would be talking about the students and not about himself. This was very important, because this meant that he was interested in our learning and what new topics we could still learn about. Mr. Marsden explained his experiences in his past school, and how he learned from other teachers to become a better teacher himself.

Mr. Marsden really opened up and told the students the most important way to create an exceptional writing piece. Mr. Marsden gave us great tips and tricks for getting a higher level and how to achieve better writing techniques. This visit really helped us Year 9 students think in a different way and really understand the concept of writing a remarkable piece.

One of the most intriguing topics we had the pleasure of learning from Mr Marsden was about status in life and how it's relevant for writing a story and even relevant to use in some scenarios in reality. We learnt what kind of status we should be in when we are in different situations in life, such as if you are a CEO of a huge company, your status has to be high in order to have control over your employees. However, if you would

like to be more social and to make more friends to keep you company, using a low status approach to situations will be suitable as you do not want to show any arrogance or be overpowering. This was extremely helpful as it is vital for us to prepare in life in order to interact well with people and learn how to react in different encounters. Other than the tips on life, Year 9 were also lucky enough to hear how status can have a really huge impact on writing a good piece. The status example really helped us think about our own past writing and how we can improve on it. Mr. Marsden also helped us visualize by acting the different status examples with us.

We were extremely privileged to be able to experience and listen to this great author give us tips on both life and literature. It was a huge honour for both students and teachers for him to come and visit. It would be absolutely lovely for him to come and visit us again.



# Library News

Angela Chang, Chief Librarian

## Our first-ever UNLIMITED Summer Borrowing program will start from **June 5 to June 14!**

Everyone who has returned or paid for their current loans is entitled to borrow books over summer. The librarians have prepared a Summer Reading Ideas Libguides for tweens, teens and adults! You are also welcome to post your recommendations on the padlet board at the bottom of the Libguide page to share what you have read and enjoyed with each other!

2017 Summer Reading Ideas Libguide: <http://libguides.tes.tp.edu.tw/esc2017summer>

Taipei European School Library / LibGuides / 2017 Summer Reading Ideas / Summer Reading Fun!

2017 Summer Reading Ideas

**Summer Reading Fun!**

- Ms. Chang's Picks - English Books
- Ms. Rouhaad's Picks - French Books
- Ms. Cha's Picks - German Books
- Ms. Chang's Picks - Chinese Books
- Reading Lists From Other Reading Sites

**TES Library Catalog**

Do we have this book in our library? Ask Oliver!

**Oliver**

- Oliver OPAC
- Search for a book in our catalog

**SUMMER READING RECOMMENDATIONS 2017**

Research showed that students who read over summer have **better performance** when they are back to school. However, it's not the only purpose we read in summer, we read because it is **fun!**

In this **Summer Reading Ideas** Libguides we made lists of books that we have read and would like to recommend to you or that we think might be of your interest.

Want to read your own picks? Not a problem at all!! Share what you are going to read with us- leave your reading ideas on the padlet below!!

**Happy Summer Reading!!**

Angela Chang · 3m

**Summer Reading Suggestions**

Please recommend ONE, only one, awesome book to your friends to bring with them for summer holidays! Don't forget to tell us your name and roll class!

- The Amazing Story of the Man Who Cycled from India to Europe for Love**  
A true story!
- Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library** by Chris Grabenstein.  
Highly recommended by our former Primary Librarian Ms. Eleanor so I am going to read it this Summer!
- Sauveur & fils**  
Ne vous laissez pas tromper par la couverture de ce livre: Sauveur n'est pas un cochon d'inde mais un psychologue. Et ce nouveau roman de Marie-Aude Murail en 3 tomes est addictif!
- Eleven Rings - Phil Jackson's Biography. Awesome for basketball fans and coaches.**  
Jared Duxfield, PE department.
- The Wall Around Us**  
Novel by Nova Ren Suma  
Highly recommended by Ms. Katy Ho
- Le Voleur d'ombres, Marc Levy**  
C'est un livre émouvant et agréable à lire.  
Anne Dubois, 2nde

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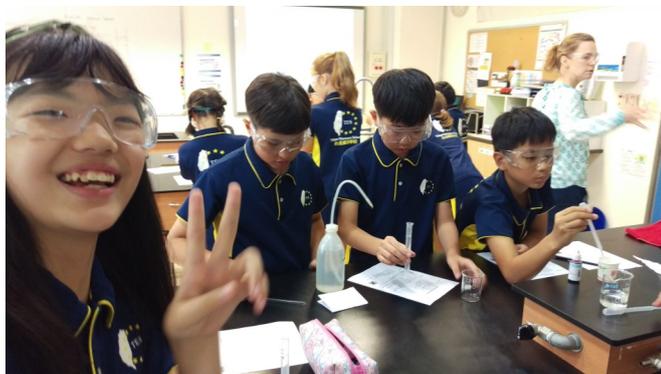
Have a nice break and happy reading!

## Year 6 to Year 7 Transition Day

Raymond Imbleau, Dean of Year 7

On March 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, the Year 6s came up to the Secondary Campus for the second and third transition days and participated in exciting and engaging taster lessons in Geography, English, P.E., Science, Art and Drama. I believe these 2 full days up on their new campus should truly prepare them for August when they arrive here at the ESC as new Year 7 students. The students were not only given taster lessons, but they were given sound advice as well. Mr. Shull, university counsellor, gave three pieces of advice: read, read and read more. Mr. Woodall, Assistant Head of British Secondary and High School Section, spoke about the importance of being healthy by getting a good sleep every night, getting some form of exercise most day as well as not spending too much time on computers at night. I will reinforce these ideas in Core in Term 1 next academic year.

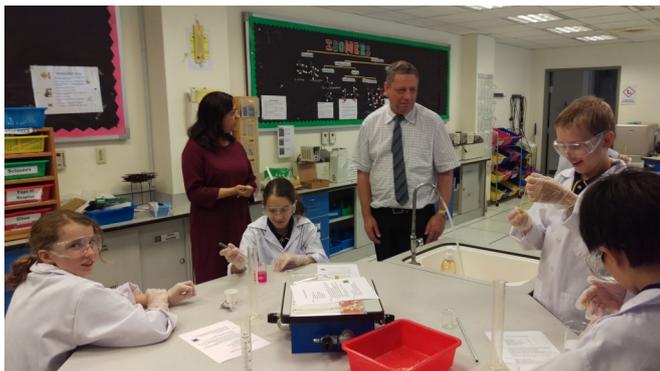
During Parents' Open Afternoon, Year 6 parents were given an enlightening PowerPoint by our TES Student President and Vice-president Mason Lee and Sherry Chen on how students can lead a happy and balanced life at the ESC. Noah Woodall also presented to the parents and he spoke about how the school musical "Oliver" really helped him feel more comfortable and confident speaking in front of a large audience. He recommended to parents that their child join the school musical next year as he grew as a person because of his many wonderful experiences preparing for and acting in the musical.



### Summer Cheng's Reflection of her transition experience

*What's the first thing that pops into your mind when someone mentions secondary school? Probably overwhelming quantity of homework, back-breaking exams, detentions from strict teachers, etc. But what most fail to recognise is that there are positives that make pupils' hard work and exhaustion worth it. During my taster lessons, I glimpsed at what it feels like to be a Year 7 and I'll be full of energy and eager to learn, enthusiastic about every hour next year. 6 years I have prepared for this transition, never before giving much thought of what it really feels like to be standing right there on the secondary campus, anxiety and excitement flooding over me as I ready myself to take my first step towards the future.*

*Everyone has to face change, which isn't necessarily a bad thing. Secondary school gives young students a chance to become independent, responsible, organised and learn to do what is right. In all my years in the Primary Campus, I have looked forward to the new experiences secondary school provides us; my few visits have shown me the warmth and support that lies within the heart of the student body, and the teachers whose first priorities are to teach us all they know and make our brains whirl. "Don't fear change, embrace it," Anthony J D'Angelo once stated. Now, I embrace my future.*



## Model United Nations : TES shows girls' power.

Fabrice Laureti, MUN Coordinator

This year, TES has been lucky to see three of its students being selected for chair positions: Maya Golan at TAIMUN, Sherry Chen and Celina Pan at TASMUN. Three girls with the tough responsibility to manage a committee. They tell us about their experience in their own words.

*Honorable parents, fellow students and most esteemed TES staff, this student is incredibly privileged to have been able to pursue a fruitful career in MUN at TES. When she stood, hands visibly trembling with fear, behind the podium for the first time, this student had no idea that three years later, on April 29th 2017, she would be holding a gavel and chairing CDIS at TASMUN VIII. Looking back, this student can wholeheartedly state that MUN allowed this student to develop her socializing and debating skills greatly. Furthermore, this student has enjoyed every moment of all six of her conferences. She always had a lot of fun and never failed to meet many other delegates, a lot of whom she is great friends with and is still in contact with today. She fully embraces every opportunity to be able to step out of a school setting and enter the world of the United Nations as a delegate speaking in their formal terms, which is demonstrated in this article. MUN has provided a great source of many precious memories for this student. Her first speech, the exceptional courage that it took to make that speech, the moment that she was handed her new chairing gavel, the first time she vetoed a clause in the Security Council, the first time she was nominated for a superlative, the great improvement that this student made over the course of three years and most importantly, the friends that she met during her conferences. All of these are memories that the student will remember for a long time to come with fierce pride and infinite fondness. This student looks forward to more future endeavours in MUN. Thank you.*

*Celina Pan*

*Honorable readers, fellow students, and most esteemed parents, After five years since joining MUN, I will be ending my MUN career from where I started – TASMUN. This time, however, I will be in the role of a chair, instead of a delegate who doesn't even know*

*what the basic debate procedures were. Both experiences were just as rewarding and just as nerve wrecking to someone who prefers to keep to herself. Although I would like to think that I was not as terrible at MUN as I remember, I have to say, the contrast between the quality of delegates from TES now and TES when I started MUN is apparent. The KS3 students were all much better than I was during my TASMUN conference as a delegate, which shows the only increasing quality of MUN and passion towards MUN in TES.*



*TASMUN has made me realise the importance and impact of MUN towards our future. A guest speaker, Salam Kadan, explained the significance of MUN to her, and stated how it has changed her view on herself as an Israeli Muslim woman. It was because of MUN that she changed her career from a chemist to a human rights activist, and created the Salam Centre for Peace, where she sends students to MUN conferences around the world to become global citizens.*

*I still have a long way to go to become what others call a good delegate or chair. This conference has opened my eyes to chairing, which is something I did not consider as something difficult, or something that requires great skill. I mean, chairs just write chair reports and repeat a few lines right? Wrong. I realised after a rocky first day of chairing that chairing requires leadership skills,*

*patience, and resilience, as well as the ability to find a balance between authority and affability, which I am still struggling with.*

*As this is most likely my last MUN experience in high school, I would like to thank all the MUN directors who have accompanied me on my way, and MUN directors who are creating even more chances for the year groups younger than me. Despite not being able to join MUN next year, I have identified my weaknesses during the conferences, thus I hope to take these findings and use them as a compass to guide me to become a better leader, speaker, and global citizen. Thank you.*

*Sherry Chen*

*After having been a delegate for 3 years, I had the opportunity to apply for a student officer position for a domestic MUN conference. As I had no prior experience in chairing, the preparation required in the months leading up to the conference was new to me, as I have only been required to come prepared as a delegate. Being in an authoritative position was challenging at first; however, after talking to the delegates in my committee I felt eager to debate on a currently urgent issue with a group of engaged international students. The quality and depth of the debate surpassed my expectations and the interest demonstrated by each delegate in solving said issues was inspiring. During the conference, I interacted with a wide range of people, including advisors, fellow student officers, and hundreds of delegates which was a change to having only been involved with a single committee previously. I also learned about the tedious and frustrating efforts in handling such a large scale event, thus reminding of all the hard work put into making both this conference and the conferences that I have previously attended run smoothly and successfully.*

*Maya Golan*

## History News - World War II in Asia

Jade Chang, Year 9 Student

Year 9 Student Jade Chang interviewed Maths teacher Mr Mark Ryan who shares a very personal family connection with World War Two in Asia.

1. You must have heard about the stories of your uncle during your childhood, what is your memory of your uncle? Have your family ever talked about your uncle's POW camp story?

*Yes I have many memories of my uncle from my childhood. He freely talked about his experiences as a POW, he tended to downplay how harsh it was and also got a lot of enjoyment from telling us about all the pranks they played on the Japanese. For example when they were building a wooden bridge on the Burma railway they secretly built into it matchboxes full of termites. And they had a funny nickname for each Japanese guard.*

2. As far as you know, why and how was he captured to the POW camp?

*My uncle and all the other Australians were captured at Singapore due to British military incompetence. Singapore was a very important defensive fortress but the British primarily imagined a naval attack by a European power. Their Eurocentric view of the world caused them to be unprepared for a land attack by an Asian power (Japan).*

3. Can you briefly tell us how your uncle suffered in the POW camp?

*One of the main causes of suffering and death was disease caused by very poor diet and inadequate food with very few vitamins.*

4. Your uncle's POW camp story must impact / influence your family in some way, can you tell us how?

*Hearing about my Uncle's stories made me more interested in history; when you can find a personal connection to historical events it makes them come alive with interest.*

5. After the war, your uncle's POW camp experience must have created some trauma, how did get over with the trauma? Or did he never get over with it? Has he ever re-visited the POW camp in his life?

*It took him some time to recover, but by the time I knew him he was recovered and had a good job and family. One thing he never did was see himself as a victim. Also he didn't hold any grudge against the Japanese people or ordinary Japanese soldiers (who he said were treated almost as bad as he was). The one group he didn't like was the old Japanese officer class that had Samurai mindset.*

*Yes he later revisited many of the camps that he stayed in. He also went on a talk show in Japan to discuss his experience. However there was one problem with the talk show, he was answering questions in Japanese but in Japanese language there are various levels of politeness. Because he learned Japanese in a POW camp the vocabulary he learned was always the crudest, least polite possible way of speaking. To him it was just normal Japanese but to the host it came across as very rough language.*



## TES does TED Talks

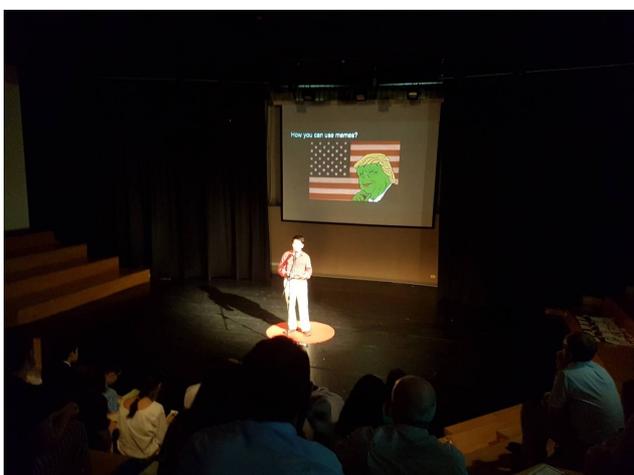
Esther Wainwright, Enrichment Programme Coordinator

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, TES was proud to present the first ever TED talks to be given by students of the High School. What started as an idea to stimulate the Enrichment Group, ended with an evening of inspiration and passion, in which five students were selected to present their talks to a wider audience.

TED, which stands for 'Technology, Entertainment, Design' is a non-profit organisation devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks. TED was founded in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged, but nowadays covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues — in more than 100 languages. The increasingly popular talks are viewed and shared by thousands via the Internet.

The TES students' talks all addressed the topic 'Chasing our Passions', yet the subjects varied from Yuko Nogawa's *What's so good about passion*, to Ryan Chang's *Entrepreneurship*, to Faris Wienrich's *Artificial Intelligence*, to Alex Lee's *Memes*, and finally Kevin Chen's *The Power of Learning Languages*. All five talks were extremely thought-provoking, as was evidenced by the Q&A session after each talk, which could have gone on a lot longer if time had allowed. Audience members, consisting of parents, staff and special guests, were astonished by the confidence and knowledge with which each student delivered their talk. Indeed, Special Guest Speaker Mr Tim Berge of ICRT Radio stated that he found it hard to come up with words to follow such eloquent speakers.

Since the beginning of the year, we are very proud of the students' achievements and hopes that the popularity of TES does TED will increase following this first successful evening, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.



## Science News - Year 6 Transition Day

Yoko Tsai, Acting Head of Science

In order to help the process of transition from Primary to Secondary school, three Induction Days were organised for the students. The Science focus transition day was taking place during the second Induction Day. The purpose of the Induction Day was to give the Year 6 students the opportunity to meet members of the Science teachers and to taste a typical Science lesson. This year all the Science teachers were involved in planning and teaching in order to make the transition a great experience for students. During the taster lesson, students were introduced with laboratory safety rules and followed instructions to make silly putty (slimes).

### Silly Putty Experiment

#### Apparatus:-

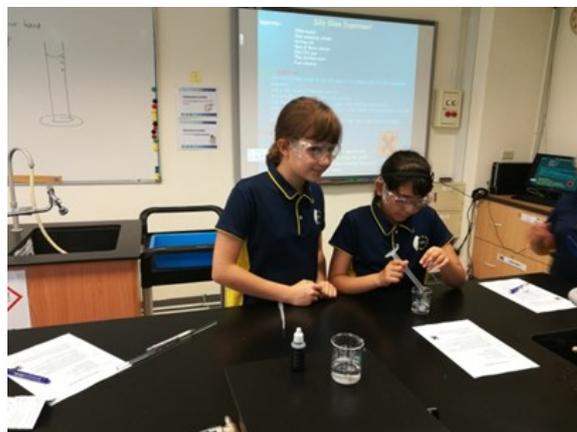
100 ml beaker  
25ml measuring cylinder  
Stirring rod  
10 ml of Borax solution  
10 ml PVA glue (clear glue)  
30 ml distilled water  
Food colouring

#### Method:-

- 1) Add the 30 ml distilled water to the 10 ml PVA glue (clear glue) in the beaker and stir until completely dissolved.
- 2) Add a few drops of colouring and stir
- 3) Measure 10 ml of the borax solution.
- 4) Add the borax to the beaker very slowly while stirring continuously. Make sure it is mixed up fully.
- 5) The liquid in the beaker will miraculously turn into "silly putty"
- 6) Return the 'silly putty' to the beaker after use.
- 7) Wash your hands thoroughly.

#### Safety:-

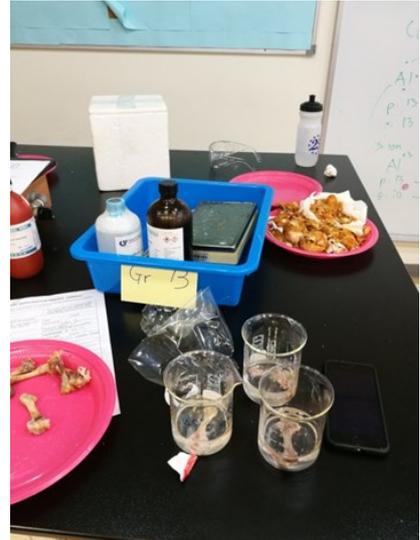
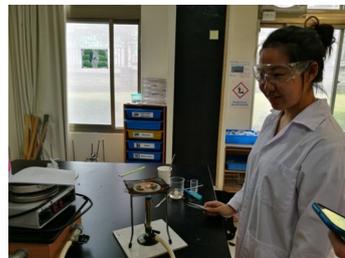
Dangerous chemicals  
Safety goggles to be worn  
Take care not to ingest any of the ingredients.  
Do not touch your face after handling the putty.  
Wash your hands thoroughly after handling the putty.



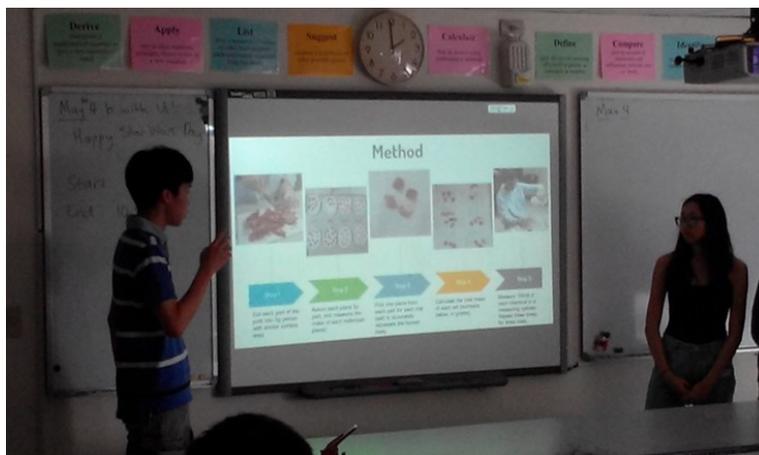
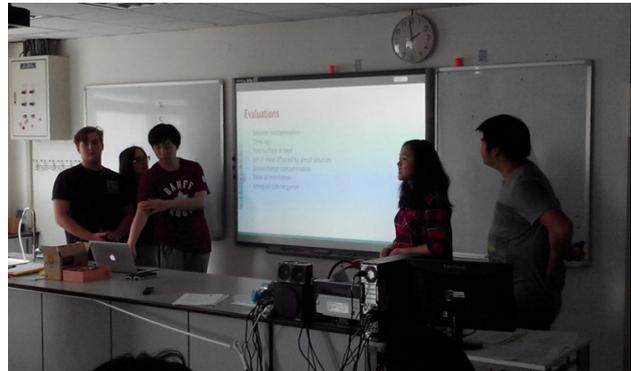
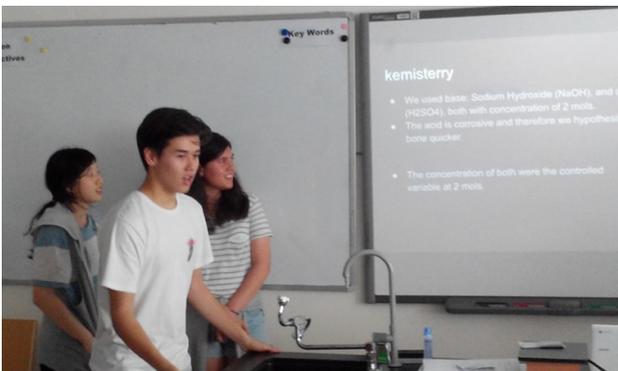
## Group 4 Project

The group 4 project is a collaborative activity where students from different group 4 work together on a scientific or technological topic, allowing for concepts and perceptions from across the disciplines to be shared. The group 4 project also allows students to appreciate the environmental, social and ethical implications of science and technology. The theme for this year is the **Crime Scene Investigation**. The students were allocated 10 hours to complete the project which includes planning, action and evaluation. They then presented their findings for their group 4 projects in their chosen formats.

### ACTION



### EVALUATION



## Year 7 Camp

Erin Lo, Year 7 Student



On the last Thursday of school, the whole British and French section Year 7 students went on a 2 days - 1 night residential trip. The day before, I was extremely excited and pumped to start the trip because I was looking forward to unforgettable memories we were about to make. Finally, the morning arrived; I went to school as usual, but with an extra delight and cheerful mood. To start with, we went on the city bus to the Yangmingshan, and hiked approximately 20 minutes to our cabin. After we calmed and settled ourselves down, we began to start our real hike. Although it felt like it was endless and everyone was exhausted, we still had a lot of fun exploring the area, and discovering loads and loads of plants that we've never seen before. As it started getting darker, every single one of us was starving. So in an orderly fashion, we started the Master Chef event. It started up to be a little messy and chaotic, but at last; it was well organized. My group made sushi and it was delicious.

At around 7 o'clock, the sky was almost completely dark, and we started the campfire. All of us sat around the fire in a circle. Later on, we sang some repeat after me campfire songs which I enjoyed and had a lot of fun. At last, we went back to our cabin and rested for the next day. Finally, the sun rose, we went to have breakfast and started the TES Got Talent. I was extremely nervous and my heart was beating so fast. Some danced, some sang and some performed skits. It was great fun!



## Year 8 Paiwan Tribe Visit

Ian Armstrong, Dean of Year 8

Virtually the whole of Year 8 went on a residential trip east of Kaohsiung, to get to know a bit more about the culture and heritage of Taiwan, through a local tribe, who live and operate down in the south of the country. It was an early start, but (almost) everyone was on time, to jump on the HSR from Taipei at 6am on the Thursday. An uneventful journey culminated in a bus ride from Zuoying to the Paiwan tribal area. Unfortunately the recent bad weather meant that the tents couldn't be put up outside, so we traipsed back to the community center and set up camp under the awnings in town.



The rest of the day was spent eating food and learning about some local traditions, from making traditional head gear out of plants, to hearing about how they farm the land and catch food and also having a go at archery too. It was a fascinating insight into their lives and we finished the day with a fashion show and the chance for some of the pupils and staff to try on traditional Paiwan clothing.

Despite it being a long day, it was a restless night, which went into an early morning and the start of the full day of activities; a large portion of which involved hiking up Mount



Taiwu and back down to the tribal area, covering more than 12km, with a few stops to admire the stunning scenery and enchanting wildlife along the way, from butterflies, to worms and a few mean-and-moody looking spiders too! The students learned a bit more about the coffee culture in the area too.

Back at the tribal area, we spent the time making traditional bracelets, with the help of our local guides, and also preparing some unique foods that we would be eating later. In between munching our delectable treats, we learned a traditional song and dance, which we later performed with the Paiwan tribe.

As night settled in, the camp area was alive with the calls of the wild and only a minimal amount of lighting, it was a special moment to watch the Paiwan tribe perform their song and dance and then for our students to join in and show their appreciation for allowing us to be a part of their lives for a few days.

That evening was a bit more subdued, but the students were able to speak to the Paiwan tribe and exchange contact details, in the hope



of forging links for the future. The next morning was spent tidying up and preparing for the journey back to Taipei. We said a fond farewell to our hosts and travelled back via a coffee plantation, where we learned a bit more about the processed and what it takes to make that perfect cup!



Our final journey took us back to Taipei after a fun filled few days. The Year 8s were a credit to the school and seemed to thoroughly enjoy being taken out of their comfort zone and experiencing a different way of life. The students that translated *all the speeches and worked hard to ensure that the non-Mandarin speakers were able to understand all that was happening* were Euan, Daphne,

I'd also like to thank the staff that gave up their time to help support what was a most enjoyable, although tiring, 3 days, Mr Woodall, Ms Robertson, Ms Wainwright, Ms Hruska, Ms Lin, Ms Lee and Ms Juan were all great! Much appreciated!







## Year 9 Atayal Tribal Service Project

Noa Shumueli, Year 9 Student

The sun shone high above as the bus full of Year 9s drove up the winding slopes of Ruifang, passing through Jioufen and finally arriving at our destination: Jinguashi. Kindly accompanied by Michael Hurst, the Founder and Director of the Taiwan POW Camps Memorial Society, we left the bus and stepped into the Jinguashi Gold Ecological Park. The view surrounding us was stunning - wooden structures and red ruins tracing their way down the looming mountains in the distance. Mr Hurst - who had already given us a fascinating introduction and background about the involvement of Asia in WW2 - told us about the unbelievably horrifying conditions and treatment of the Prisoners of War in Taiwan during the Japanese rule.

The memorials, mines and artifacts made the stories real and alive as our voices echoed in the dark mines. We learned how the prisoners were beaten and humiliated, and we stood in silence in respect for their sacrifice and suffering. The combination of the stories with the fact that we were there - stepping where the starving soldiers stepped, tracing their names on the wall inscribed in their honour - touched me personally, very much. The trip was heartbreaking and yet a very essential part of our learning. It connected what we learned in class - from textbooks, from presentations - with a place we've now been in, and with people we've never met. The beauty and the history behind Jinguashi will always remain in our minds. As Mr Hurst said: we should forgive but never forget.

We Will Remember.









## TABITHA trip in Cambodia

Jennifer and Yu-Ting, H3 students

We woke up early in the morning, excited to be heading to Cambodia. With 42 students in the team, gathering together, boarding on the plane, and heading towards the hotel was not easy. Cambodia was different than what we pictured. The roads were very wide with no traffic lights, most houses were small with only four walls and a roof, and their transportations were all very basic with some woods and very few roofs. It is absolutely amazing to see the world from another perspective and to reflect on our lives from it.

To show our support for building the first Women's Hospital in Cambodia everyone, including the boys and teachers, painted their nails in fancy colours. Janne, the founder of Tabitha, told us the history of Tabitha in the 1970s. In the afternoon, we visited the killing field and prisoner museum. The sites of where the educated Cambodians were kept, and the skulls of the victims were unbelievable. Luckily, we didn't experience their history, but merely hearing their stories about losing family members and feeling insecure everyday, we genuinely felt depressed and heavy.

When we arrived in the village, everyone was buzzing with excitement. After a little demo from Mr.Labu we were ready to start building houses. We soon learnt that the process of building houses would be demanding and tedious. Nailing the wall of the houses was especially challenging. Luckily we had brilliant villagers and contractors who helped us throughout the whole process. After a few crooked nails, smacked fingers and muddy bodies each group managed to complete two houses, 13 houses in total.





## French Philosophers

Jean-Yves Vasseau, Head of French Section



Studying philosophy is something unique to the French education system and something that sets French schools apart from others. It is a subject with an element of mystery surrounding to it, as one that is studied solely during the final year of *lycée* (high school) – although in the French Section we also offer an introduction to philosophy to our 1ère students (penultimate year of high school). It is a subject that gets column inches in French newspapers when the month of June and the French Baccalauréat Philosophy exam looms. It is a subject with concepts and methodology that are hard to get your head around at 17 years of age. In some respects, that difficulty has become the symbol of the rigorous and demanding nature



of the French Bac. Every French person has rubbed shoulders with « philo » and though some might have less than happy memories of the encounter, our philosophical studies remain etched in our minds. As adults, philosophy now seems less mysterious and we turn to it occasionally to help us in our decision-making. In a world where the abundance of information paradoxically leaves little room for reflection, it is more important than ever to have access to intellectual



tools that can help us think for ourselves. Learning philosophy at school is a considerable advantage for our students when it comes to developing their critical thinking.



Philosophy, by its very definition, does not provide any easy answers. Instead it stimulates students' ability to intelligently question knowledge and things that are taken for granted.



Two years into our Philosophy programme at the French Section, we were delighted to welcome Martin Legros, the Editor-in-Chief of *Philosophie Magazine*, to meet and debate with our *lycée* students. Mr Legros explained to our *lycéens* that the objective of *Philosophie Magazine* is to take a step back from current affairs, to take time to linger over events and to form an opinion. Some of the topics touched on during the discussion were the future of the human condition in a robotic world, and the Philosophy exam for the French Bac - described by Mr Legros as "terrifying and fascinating"! It was an invigorating, intelligent and enlightening discussion. Michel Serres defines the youth of today as the Thumbelina generation; they do everything with their thumbs. Philosophy seems like a world away from the world of clicking and scrolling that surrounds our teenagers. Nonetheless, and maybe all the more so, I believe that philosophy is more important and useful today than ever and I am delighted that the visit of such a prestigious visitor to TES allowed us to shine a spotlight on that most unique of French high school subjects.

## Ambassadeurs en Herbe 2017 a Paris

Irene Dubois, HI Studnet

### AMBASSADEURS EN HERBE 2017 À PARIS / BUDDING AMBASSADORS 2017 IN PARIS

*Ambassadeurs en Herbe* (Budding Ambassadors) is an ambitious project organised by the AEFÉ (Agency for French Education Abroad), inviting over 500 participants from 84 cities and 59 countries to debate. This year, the fifth for the project, was the first time the French Section joined in along with 99 other French schools. This year's theme was 'Olympic values' in order to promote Paris's candidature for the Olympic Games 2024.

Since our school is located in the Pacific Asia zone, the French Section team first debated with French schools from Bangkok, Hanoi, Ho-Chi-Minh, Jakarta, Shanghai and Beijing in March. Each team was composed of 5 participants: three speakers who deliver arguments and ideas, a moderator who animates the debate by asking questions and finally a mediator who concludes the given topic. Five finalists from the different schools were chosen to form the Asia-Pacific zone and to go Paris to meet up with other participants from other zones. I was selected as the best 12-14 year-old speaker and to represent our zone for more debates waiting for me in France!



We spent four days in Paris at a hotel near the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and on the first day had dinner with the nine other delegations from all around the world. The next day, we went to the CNOSF (French National Olympic and Sport Committee) where the debate's rules were announced: 100 participants were divided into 5 committees (culture and education, differences, international relations, ethics, health) meaning that there would be only one participant from a zone in a committee. I was in charge of the cultural part along with my 9 other partners and I had to present our zone and Taiwan's tradition and educational systems as they related to Olympic values. In the end, the mediators made some general suggestions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in front of CNOSF deputies, in order to share the youngsters' point of view with them.

The whole preparation and process meant we were exhausted at the end of our stay, however, we were still happy to have the opportunity to meet 3 great French athletes: Gévrise Émane, Michaël Jérémiasz and Marie-Amélie Le Fur.

### THERE'S SOMETHING MORE THAN JUST AEH

The best thing I experienced at AeH is new friendships. The people I met in Paris and in Jakarta were really friendly; they're not regular friends but international ones! I really appreciated that this project was more human than pedagogic, although it only lasted for a few days. I felt connected to students from other French schools, which is something very rare and precious not only for the school itself but for myself, so I still keep in touch with them. I would like to thank everyone who helped me through this whole project : The French Section for participating, Mr. Gonthier for the preparation, my Taipei team (Elaine, Giselle, Anne and Abdulrahman), Teams in Jakarta (especially the Hanoians who were very close to us), Mr. Cassagnes for organising and accompanying our Pacific Asia Team (Théo Lefebvre, Mariana Gitz, Basile Gourgues and Mathieu Delavictoire) in Paris, the teams in Paris and finally, the AEFÉ, for making this world small, just like a family.

## Coding in the French Section

A woman who has just given birth is asked if her newborn is a boy or a girl. She replies yes. Get it ? Approximately 18 months ago, the French Section launched its first coding event — La nuit du c0de (c0ding night) with the support of the TES IT department and the French Office in Taipei. Our aim was to propose coding activities to our students that went beyond the school curriculum and to emphasise our status as an innovative school, innovation being one of the five themes of our School Development Project. The first nuit du c0de took place almost a year ago and the atmosphere was electric. Thanks to the work of FS Secondary Maths teacher, Mr Kauffmann (you can blame him for the joke at the opening of this article...) the nuit du c0de is now a staple in our calendar and in that of French Schools throughout the Asia-Pacific zone.

This year, on Saturday the 20th of May, the French Section hosted teams from the French schools of Hong Kong, Beijing and Tokyo for the second edition of La nuit du c0de. Over 50 collège and lycée (middle and high school) students, working in teams, took over the EPC staffroom from 5pm to midnight. The challenge: to create a playable video game from scratch. On Sunday morning, they all returned, along with the jury to test the games and at midday to award the winners. It was an intense, highly productive, massively enjoyable and educational weekend – one we will be repeating and expanding next year!

Coding is one of the fields that will be crucial for our students' futures, which is why we are increasing the number of such projects on offer at the FS. This term, for example, our 3ème class worked on a robotics project (see Vincent Divisia's article) as part of their interdisciplinary week (EPI) while the 4ème class were working with our partners in Tatung University at their Fablab to create an ecologically sustainable city of the future using Minecraft. The FS has also reviewed its Technology curriculum in secondary to include more coding and these actions are yielding positive results already: one in six of our secondary students qualified for the semi-finals of the international programming challenge Algoréa: a truly stunning achievement.

We will continue on this path and hope to have even more programming and coding opportunities to offer our students in the future. In the meantime, back to the programmers' joke, which illustrates that coding is, for the most part, a question of language and well, that suits us down to the ground in the multilingual French Section!

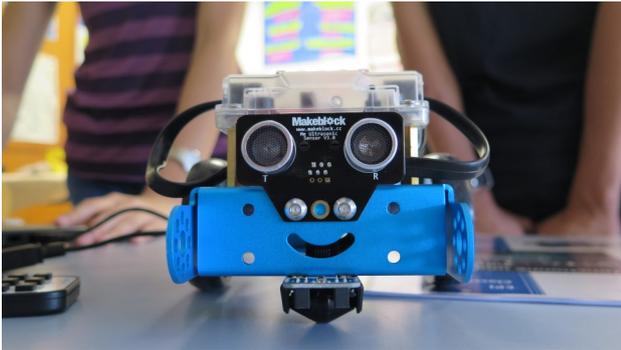


## Robotics

Vincent Divisia, HI Student

Back in January, the French Section introduced you to a new development in the college curriculum, *Enseignements Pratiques Interdisciplinaires (EPI)* or Interdisciplinary Teaching.

The objective of EPI is for students and teachers of different subjects to work together on common projects, with the aim of helping students realise that the competencies and skills they acquire in one area can be transferred to others. Twice a year, regular teaching in our 5ème, 4ème and 3ème classes is suspended, so that an EPI week can take place; students work with a number of different teachers on interdisciplinary projects that interest them.



Vincent Divisia from 3ème took part in the robotic EPI.

The EPI was based around the theme of the autonomic car, and consisted in building and programming robots called mBots for them to drive around a small city designed with black lines.

The two subjects in this EPI are technology, for the programming of the robot, and mathematics, to understand the programming platform's algorithms. Students were expected to make a fully automated robot that would drive from a location to another destination, while taking charge of all problems a normal car would face, like turning on lights when entering a tunnel, stopping when encounter an obstacle, etc.

To do this, we worked in groups of 2 or 3 students. One of the keys to success was teamwork. Every student contributed to the finalisation of this project. Another key to success was to master the programming platform and, more importantly, programming itself. Because every problem encountered could almost only be due to a malfunction in the programme. This is where most of students had difficulties. It often took a long time for us to figure out where the problem was, since we are not programming experts, but when the problem was solved, we could enjoy a little moment of satisfaction before we continued working.

I personally think that this EPI was a good experience for all the students who took part, since we could face and solve problems that most engineers will encounter in the near future.



## Music Department News

Chris Papps, Head of Music

Wow! What a busy year it has been in the Music Department this year. I don't believe the Music Department has been involved in as many performances both inside and outside of TES as they have been this year. May and June were no different with events right up until the end of the year. The production occupied the whole department for most of May, with Mr Thin leading some great musical performances on stage by some talented ESC students. Mrs Harris somehow managed to maintain the high performance level of the Chamber Choir with most of the group on study leave and not at school, with a very successful performance at Graduation! The second iteration of the String Quartet were expertly guided by Ms Shih-Shih Chen to three excellent performances at various end of year functions, on two occasions performing up to an hour of music.

The Music Leaders have also had a highly successful and extremely busy year, with some significant achievements. A bit well done to Jody Calpito, Jessica Lee, Jennifer Li, Jason Lung and Jimmy Yang for all of their commitment, enthusiasm and handwork within this programme.



I would finally like to make special mention of the leaving H4 students who have been heavily involved in the Music Programme in their time at the ESC. We wish you every success in the future.

The Music Department would like to thank all of the students who have been involved in Music ECAs this year, as well as all of their parents who have supported their musical activities!! Have a safe and enjoyable summer holiday.





## Drama News

Rowena Bracken, Head of Drama

This term, the school community was able to enjoy one of the highlights on the school calendar – the secondary school show. This year the Drama department once again decided to stage a musical production and the famous West End musical *Oliver*, set in Victorian London, was an apt choice as the British Section celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Last year's production of *Grease* was going to be a hard act to follow and doing justice to a musical production as famous as *Oliver*, which ran for over 2500 performances since it was first staged in 1960, was going to be no mean feat. Yet the months of hard work and hours of rehearsal time certainly paid off as, once again, the cast, musicians and crew – over 100 students in total – put on an astonishingly professional show. One audience member described it as "like being on Broadway."

The audience were certainly moved by what they saw over the four performances – not only to laughter and sometimes to tears – but also by the sheer professionalism of our student body. Mrs Bracken, Head of Drama, stated: "I am incredibly proud of every person who took part in the show to make it a success. From the stunning music played by the orchestra to the energy and commitment shown by the cast, the slick set changes, fantastic costumes, intricate props and outstanding set made this show a show to remember. The response from the audiences has been overwhelming. It was a truly magical way to bring the three sections of the secondary school together. Those involved will surely treasure this experience for years to come."





**On May 10th HI IGCSE Drama students performed 4 plays.** This performance evening was a huge success and the audiences were treated to a wide selection of excellent plays. ‘Mediocrity’ by Anton Krueger was the first play. The cast captured the absurd humour and gave an energetic performance.

The second group performed a mystery play called ‘Sorry Wrong Number’ by Lucille Fletcher. The cast told the exciting and humorous tale of a man plotting to kill his wife. The misunderstanding, and rapid dialogue was highly entertaining.



Next came another mystery play called ‘Wait Until Dark’. This version shows the interaction between Suzie and Gloria as they desperately try to hide a mysterious doll that is possibly the reason behind a murder which took place. Both Orla and Krishi captivated their audience with their exceptional portrayal of a young upbeat teenager and a blind women.

The last group performed the wonderful story of a young passionate teenager who desperately wants to get the role of Lady Macbeth in her school show. Each of the characters share their perspective of Lilly and her desire to be the lead. The cast did a fantastic job at acting out this highly entertaining and fun play.

## A Word from the Head of Sport

Kwok Chow, Head of Sport

So another year of sports at TES ends, it was our most successful season ever in TISSA as we topped the league table for medals, winning 9 Bronze, 8 Silvers and 7 Championship Gold medals. Our Middle school students finished their season with basketball and performed with great perseverance and grit. This year we held our Sports Awards at a new venue with over 300 people attending and having Quincy Spencer Davis III (first overseas basketball player to play for Taiwan national team) as a guest speaker.

Link to Sports Awards Highlights Movie-

<https://drive.google.com/a/tes.tp.edu.tw/file/d/0B-OpH98tk8OnMIIDeDFWNWRqUkk/view?usp=sharing>

Link to whole sports awards movie

[https://drive.google.com/a/tes.tp.edu.tw/file/d/0B\\_CBued8nMTVdWNQczjwcVZpUVk/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/a/tes.tp.edu.tw/file/d/0B_CBued8nMTVdWNQczjwcVZpUVk/view?usp=sharing)

It was a great success with over 70 awards given out to the 190 nominated athletes that evening. Lastly a huge thanks to the coaches, parents and support staff of TES for making this year such a great one!

Go TITANS!!!



### **Athletes of the month- Sports Leaders for organising the Sports Awards 2016/17**

Yuting Chen, Nidhi Metha, Mason Lee, Anja Jung, Charmaine Chiu, Natalie Tioh, Jemmi Chan, Renee Hsiao, Ken Huang, Bernard Yang, Alex Fermin



**Action shot of the month**

Guests and students applauding the TES Coaches

### Y7 Boys TISSA Basketball Tournament



#### TES Team I Report - Brian Chuang

On a rainy Saturday morning, we arrived at the EPC with our sports equipment ready to go to a basketball tournament. We got onto the bus which was waiting outside the front gate. The bus journey was a long and boring ride, most people played with their phones and listened to music. When we arrived there, we walked up to the upper gym and started practicing for around an hour. The whole gym was for us to practice, some people played 3 on 3's while some did individual practices. Since the B team got to play first, we got our minds settled for the upcoming game against MAC.

For our first game, our opponent MAC had massive cheering going on due to their home court advantage. However, we still gave our full effort into the game but our team were not warmed up enough so we didn't do well. The score was close but we still lost. This first game taught us a

big lesson - teamwork, some people did not pass the ball when there were great chances. We watched the opponent's game against another team, to observe their strategies, in order to beat them the next game.

The second game, we got MAB ahead of us. We knew the other team well from the friendly matches we have had. We especially locked their best player, so we wouldn't lose points easily. At the start, the score was tight, one basket after another. We weren't fired up until the second half, Joseph scored some long range shots as Boris made some brutal assists. As time passed by, we expanded the lead. Everyone put in absolute effort and showed brilliant teamwork. Our team kept fighting until the final whistle blew, we cheered for ourselves for our first victory of the tournament. After the results came out, we had to fight for 3rd place against the second place from the other pool which was KSS B team.

Right before the game, Mr. Duxfield changed the game plan to get more effective on both offense and defense. Knowing that it's the last game of the tournament, everyone was fully prepared for the game. During our warm up time, everyone concentrated like a team that was ready to win. The game started out fine, with each team scoring back and forth. Our team became aggressive on defense, marking our own man, our terrific defense made us the leading team. It proved that "Defense is the best offense". While the clock ran, we were more and more certain of our victory. The referee blew the whistle, announcing the end of the game. We stood in a line, shaking hands with our opponents and saying thanks to the referee and the opposing coach.

Everyone was tired after the game, so we don't really want to wait the medal ceremony, but our dedication was worth it. Although we went home without a medal, but we went back with a heart of victors.

### TES Team 2 Report

That day was a very sunny and rainy day. Everyone met at EPC and we took the bus for about three hours. Then we arrived at Morrison Academy in Taichung. We got there first so we immediately went to change to our team shirts. Then we took a warm up. Then the teams started to come in and suddenly the gym were full of people.

Our first game was against KSS A team, it was a tough game since we didn't have much practice. Also, KSS could be one of the strongest teams to beat. We tried our best but we got a big difference in score. After the first game, we were all sad so our coaches, Mason and Curtis, cheered us up and told us to take a break. Then we watched our school's boys A team play and they won. Then our second game started. We were against IIS but we still didn't get a good score, because we were focusing on the score that we can't concentrate on our game. Then we got lunch.

Then our last game started. Mason gathered all of us and told us to cheer up and have fun. So we all tried our best to defeat MAB. We did the best we can but we still lost. Then we were disqualified from the tournament. At last, we realized that we can't let the score bother us and having fun is the most important part in the tournament. That is also the reason why we want to play basketball.

By Martin Lee & Evan Chen Y7

## Varsity Boys TISSA Volleyball Tournament

The day started at 6:00 at Taipei Main Station, where the team traditionally grabbed a few bites from McDonald's to eat on the High Speed Rail headed for Kaohsiung. We arrived at Kaohsiung at 8 and got to KAS' new sports facility at 8:30, and we prepared for our first game at 9:30.

Our first game was against ICA, the reigning two-time back-to-back champions of the TISSA Varsity Volleyball Tournament. The game started off in our favour, with us leading 9-6, but as they got into their rhythm our lead quickly slipped away and the first set ended 25-16. The second set started off evenly, with the teams exchanging point for point, but unfortunately it also ended badly, with us losing 25-13. With them clinching the second set, our first game ended in a loss of 0-2.

Our second game was against KAS 2, and even before the game, we knew that it was going to be easy. It was a quick two set sweep, with us winning the first set 25-15 and the second set 25-18.

Our third game was against MAK, and if we won this game, we would advance to the semifinals, but if we lost, our tournament would be over. After a long break for lunch, the team was tired and a little lethargic. We went into the first set unprepared and consequently, they won the first set by a staggering amount of 25-15. In the second set, the game started off with the teams exchanging a few points, with no team pulling ahead, but after a few more points they started gaining momentum and pulled ahead. The score was 20-12 and we were in a state of panic. It was our turn to serve, and future K-Pop star Howard Hsu served 9 times in a row to rally us from behind and miraculously, we were ahead by 21-20. They broke our momentum by forcing a mistake and the game was tied 21-21. We exchanged a few points until a deuce at 24-24 then another at 25-25, and another one at 26-26. They scored a point and then a floating serve caught Evan Liu (super famous libero, add him on facebook) off guard and he received the ball OUT, causing the set to end 26-28 and the game 0-2.

Written by Curtis Chen, H3



## Y8 TISSA Boys Basketball Tournament



On May 13, the Year 8 Team A boys (Henry Chu, Ian Frost, Benjamin Liang, Jack Li, Chris Lin, Eric Shan, Jacky Shen, & John Wang) played in the TISSA tournament and we were coached by Mr. Chow. We were very excited to take 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the tournament. Our first game was against MAK. We played well beating them easily. In our second game we played AST and we won. Our third game against KAS was a lot closer. There was 20 seconds left and we were losing by one. We got the ball and passed it to Henry Chu. He took a shot and was fouled. He had two shots and everybody was very nervous. Henry handled the pressure well and scored two in a row; we were so happy. When KAS got the ball and we played defense, we were worried they were going to score. Luckily they did not score then the time was up and we were all really happy. We all congratulated Henry for scoring those two free throws. Our next game was against ISS where Chris Lin made a buzzer beater 3 point shot that allowed us to win by seven. Finally, we went to the championship game against TAS. They were the toughest team we played. Although I was scoring points as our big man in the middle, TAS had two other big men that played very tough. We stayed in the game, but in the end we lost by 7 points. Still, we were happy to take home a 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophy and hope next year we can have a chance to get gold.

Written by Ian Frost Y8

## Y7 Girls TISSA Basketball Tournament Report



This basketball season was personally my favourite ECA, the A team and the B team achieved a lot from the beginning of April till the end of the TISSA tournament. Early in the morning, we went to tai chung to win all the hard work throughout this season, that morning the A team had our first game vs MAC and the B team vs KSS. Luckily the A and B team beat them by a lot. In between each game we relaxed to gain back our energy. While the other teams were playing we cheered on. Unfortunately the B team lost their last game against Bethany. By the end of the 30 minute games, the whole basketball team got two achievements, trophies, Gold and Silver medals and glory. We all worked hard in each match. Although some girls got injured, they still continued playing. Lynne and Elizabeth both got two points on the LAST SECOND, when they did that me and the whole TES, year seven basketball players started jumping up and down with excitement that they had just won one more game. Although, we couldn't stay to be handed our prizes, we still enjoyed the whole day and the cheering. I would like to thank all of the girls who worked hard to get their position in the first and second awards. I also want to thank the coaches, Mr. Imbleau and Mr. Armstrong for helping us to get to this level and making all the matches and tournament happen.

Written by Lisa Pellandini Y7

## Y8 Girls TISSA Basketball Tournament Report



On the 13th of May we arrived at MAB for the year 8 girls basketball TISSA tournament. When we arrived, we immediately started to warm up and were keen to play. We started with some drills to help organize the team and to improve our passing and shooting skills. Our first game was against MAK, the sharks. Our coach, Ms Frost encouraged us to try our best and made sure we were clear of our strategies. As the first game of our day, the team got off to a great start. Good defence made it difficult for the sharks to score, and caused many turnovers, while great teamwork on offense allowed for plenty of scoring opportunities. Our game resulted in a 30 point difference against the sharks. This was a great win for our team.

Our second game was against MAB and the game decided whether we would be in the finals. We repeated our warm up and our coach helped us improve our offense strategy and explained to us different skills to help us on our offense and defence. The game started tightly, at the end of the first quarter MAB led by a

few points. It was a good close game played in an excellent spirit between titans and MAB. Both teams always played a very competitive game with the lead changing several times over the duration of the match. We were evenly matched but on this occasion MAB won with a one point difference but prevailed with consistent moves up the court and good shooting which then resulted in a win for MAB. It was a close match but unfortunately in the last few seconds when a player on our team shot the final winning basket it was overturned by the referee due to traveling.

Despite our loss against MAB, our final match determined whether which team would result in third place for the tournament. The mustangs had many strong individual players on their team but that didn't stop us from playing our best. Although we lost our previous match, we were really beginning to come together as a team. Our team was using one another well, and was really trying to attack the basket strongly. Our team had a very tough match with the mustangs, with only

7 players and were always going to be up against it. The mustangs were a tall team and we needed to adapt to playing taller players. All up, we played extremely well, we tried our best and made it a great match.

Although we did not win a medal that day, one thing we did accomplish was that we learned how to work as a team and really improved on our teamwork and individual skills. From the start to the end of our basketball season, our team showed a major improvement. Despite the fact that we didn't win, during the tournament we never gave up, we were defending strong, if we lost ball, we worked hard to get it back, this resulted in a strong performance in the TISSA tournament. Our passing and cutting through the key was fantastic, our defence was also strong, that allowed us to get lots of intercepts and fast breaks up the court. We played our best against all our opponents which led to making it a great tournament.

Written by Leanna Lee

### Y9 Girls TISSA Basketball Tournament



On Saturday morning, the yr9 girls basketball team met at Taipei Main Station. The mood was light and everyone was chatting amongst themselves. We have arrived in Kaohsiung after an hour or so and headed to KAS. The girls were early with MAB and shared a friendly conversation. As the first game drew closer, our team was buzzing with excitement, but also nervous. We had some practice drills and the first game started. We had gone against Kui Shan school, the champion team. At the start, the team was confused and didn't understand the formation completely, however as the game developed, we had played fiercely and had began to catch up the points. In the end, we had still lost. Despite the first defeat, we recovered and played the next team, Morrison. The game escalated quickly and we had scored many points, winning the first half. Perhaps it was the nerve that had dawned on us: won this or go home, that made us lose focus and eventually fouling the other team multiple times. They had caught up with us and finished with one point ahead. There were some argument with the referee but eventually we had accepted our lost. The girls were devastated, but soon cheered up with an afternoon lunch. Overall, I believe the tournament was successful, even if we didn't win, because we had learnt just as much as we lost.

Written by Jewel Lee Y9

## JV Girls TISSA Football Tournament Report



The day started with a beautiful Saturday morning, we all arrived around the same time feeling excited to play, our team were made out of a mixture of H1's and year 9's which made everything more exciting. Our first game had started, everybody played well, the ball was going up and down the pitch everybody was doing their best, and finally we got a goal in.

We celebrated but we knew it wasn't the end of the game, so we played to our best and finally the whistle, the game had ended and we won. We all went to break thinking about our next game.

The day went on, the games were 25 minutes a half so everybody was tired, even so we still played and enjoyed the games. We ended up tying a game and losing one. Even after losing and tying a game we didn't let that get the best of us, we fought our hardest for the last game and ended up tying with another team again. We ended up getting third but in our hearts we got first.

Written by Evelyn Di Rienzo Y9

## **TISSA Varsity Girls Football Tournament Report**



It was early morning and we were all charged up to go to Kaoshiung and play our best; for many of us it was our last time playing in this team. We reached KAS with high spirits and started our first game. Our first game was against MAC - the strongest team in the tournament. We all knew it was going to be a tough game and we were right, it was such a tiring game especially because it was obvious that MAC had played 11-a-side games a lot of times in the past and their technique was extremely systematic. We were trying our best to defend them but unfortunately, we lost that game. Our next game was against IIS and fortunately, we won that game and that lifted our spirits after we lost it in the previous game. It was a great but tiring and sunny day and we ended up coming 3rd overall with 2 losses and 1 win. I look forward to playing with this team again in the future.

Written by Nidhi Mehta, H3



### Sports Awards Winners of 2016/17

Season 1 Teams	Coaches	Most Improved Player 2016/17	Most Valuable Player 2016/17
Y7 Girls Volleyball	Hannah Brooks	Kelly Chang	Sonja Chi
Y7 Boys Volleyball	Mark Ryan & Raymond Imbleau	Zachary Potter	Noah Woodall
Y8 Girls Volleyball	Anna Robertson	Leonna Lee	Daphne Wu
Y8 Boys Volleyball	Alice Juan	Benjamin Liang	John Wang
Y9 Girls Volleyball	Wanda Snowfrost & Rob	Angela Chen	Tiffany Lin
Y9 Boys Volleyball	Hamish McMillian & David Bracken	David Lin	Evan Liu
JV Girls Volleyball	Jared Duxfield	Yuki Nogawa	Rene Hsiao
Varsity Girls Volleyball	Ming Chien Li	Hannah Kwuo	Ellen Cervell
JV Boys Football	Paul Warren	Franky Tsai	Nicolas Lin
Varsity Boys Football	Kwok Chow	Mason Lee	Sean Mullins
U15 FOBISIA Girls Award	Kwok Chow		Sofia Pellandini
U15 FOBISIA Boys Award	Kwok Chow		Daniel Chung
Season 2 Teams	Coaches	Most Improved Player 2016/17	Most Valuable Player 2016/17
Y7 Girls Softball	Anna Robertson	Veronique Chiu	Felicia Chang
Y7 Boys Softball	Mark Ryan	Ethan Tsai	Noah Woodall
Y8 Girls Softball	Hannah Brooks	Mila Peters	Holly Saminiego
Y8 Boys Softball	Jon Booth	Benjamin Liang	Josh Liu
Y9 Girls Softball	Ian Stewart	Noa Shmueli	Helena Nuttall
Y9 Boys Softball	Ian Armstrong	Anderson Hsu	Aidan Mayall
JV Girls Basketball	Jared Duxfield	Allie Hei	Renee Hsiao
Varsity Girls Basketball	Alice Juan	Ashley McMillan	Irene Kuo
JV Boys Basketball	Ming Chien Li	Tom Wikstrom	Jeremy Wu
Varsity Boys Basketball	David Lin	Brian Wu	Abdoul Sankara

### Sports Awards Winners of 2016/17 – Continued...

Season 3 Teams	Coaches	Most Improved Player 2016/17	Most Valuable Player 2016/17
Y7 Girls Football	Raymond Imbleau	Erin Lo	Lynne Shinozaki
Y7 Boys Football	Ian Stewart	Denyon Huang	Noah Woodall
Y8 Girls Football	James Woodall	Leonna Lee	Katelyne Chuang
Y8 Boys Football	Jon Booth	Jayan Chang	Rion Shitokane
Y9 Girls Football	David Bracken & Hamish McMillan	Alice Fohr	Katja Thomas
Y9 Boys Football	Neil Harris	Patrick Kuo	Shubh Lashkery
U13 FOBISIA Girls Award	Kwok Chow		Leanna Lee
U13 FOBISIA Boys Award	Kwok Chow		Noah Woodall
Season 4 Teams	Coaches	Most Improved Player 2016/17	Most Valuable Player 2016/17
Y7 Girls Basketball	Raymond Imbleau & Ian Armstrong	Imogen Balley	Lisa Pellandini
Y7 Boys Basketball	Jared Duxfield	Ethan Tsai	Joseph Huang
Y8 Girls Basketball	Wanda Snowfrost	Leanna Lee	Daphne Wu
Y8 Boys Basketball	James Woodall & Kwok Chow	Brian Su	Ian Frost
Y9 Girls Basketball	Alice Juan	Tiffany Lin	Jewel Lee
Y9 Boys Basketball	Ming Chien Li	Evan Liu	Arsalan Mir
JV Boys Volleyball	Alice Juan	Ethan Chen	Nicolas Lin
Varsity Boys Volleyball	Ming Chien Li	Vic Vandenbroucke	Christopher Lu
JV Girls Football	Ian Armstrong & Kwok Chow	Krishna Mehta	Evelyn Di Rienzo
Varsity Girls Football	Paul Warren	Sarah Schmidt-Koschella	Yu-Ting Chen
Girls Cross Country	Adam Taylor		Lina Schenk
Boys Cross Country	Adam Taylor		Vincenzo Italia

### Sports Awards Winners of 2016/17 – Continued...

Special Awards	Head of Sport	Sports Personalities of the Year
Taipei European School 2016-17 High School - Sportswoman of the year	Kwok Chow	Irene Kuo
Taipei European School 2016-17 High School - Sportsman of the year	Kwok Chow	Abdoul Sankara
Taipei European School 2016-17 Middle School - Girl Athlete of the year	Kwok Chow	Emily Chang
Taipei European School 2016-17 Middle School - Boy Athlete of the year	Kwok Chow	Shubh Lashkery
Coach of the Year	Kwok Chow	Ming Chien Li
Young Coach of the Year	Kwok Chow	Nidhi Mehta
Sports Hall of Fame	Kwok Chow	Irene Kuo
Sports Hall of Fame	Kwok Chow	Abdoul Sankara





### H4 Graduation - Class of 2017





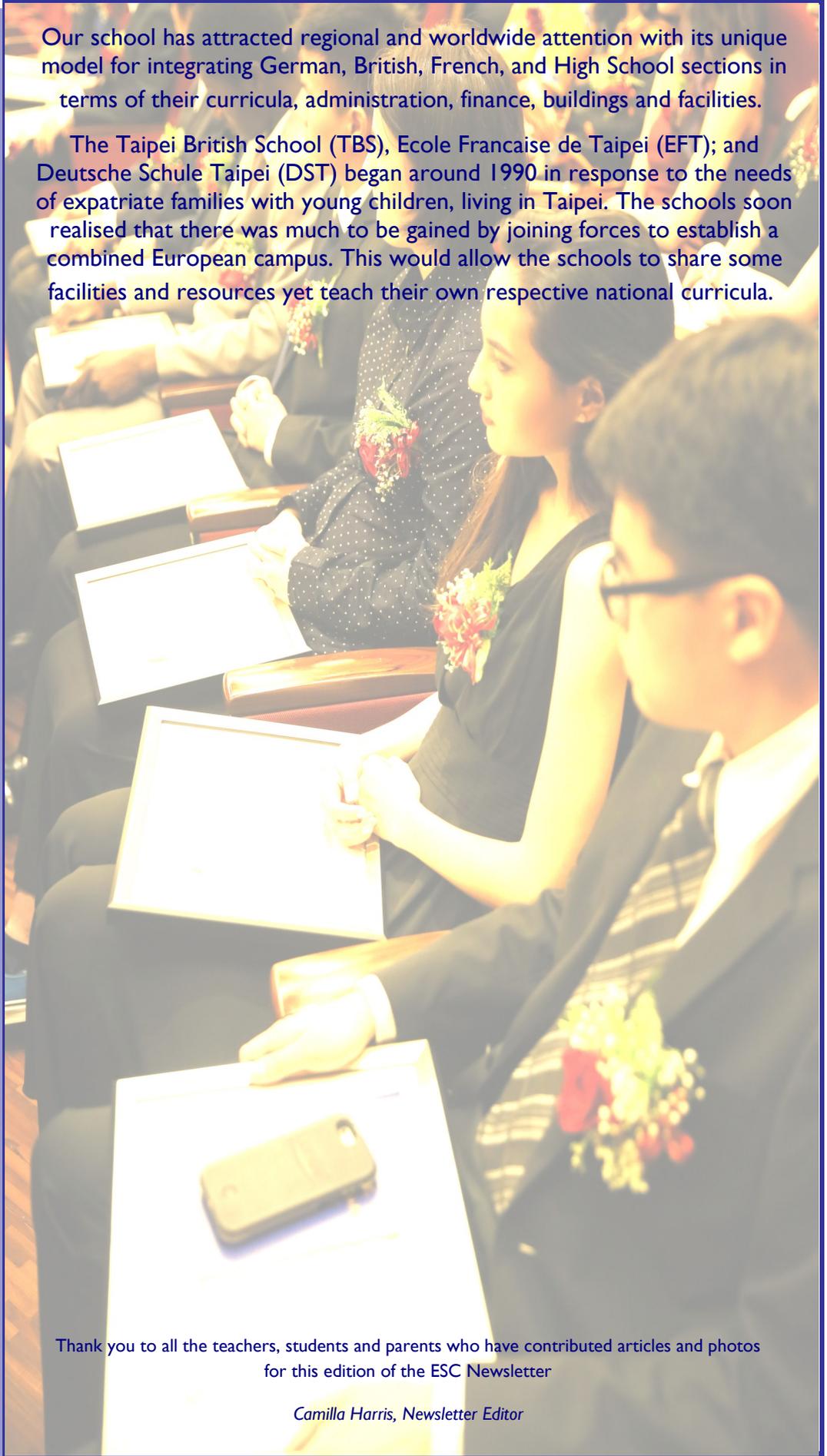


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Our school has attracted regional and worldwide attention with its unique model for integrating German, British, French, and High School sections in terms of their curricula, administration, finance, buildings and facilities.

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.



Thank you to all the teachers, students and parents who have contributed articles and photos for this edition of the ESC Newsletter

*Camilla Harris, Newsletter Editor*

