

# This Week at TBS!

Dear TBS Family,

I am writing this at the end of our first day of on-line learning and I want to thank all of you for your help and support in this transition. Myself and our Primary and Secondary Leadership Teams have been joining classes across the school seeing the impressive input by our highly adaptable teaching staff to keep learning happening – no matter what.

This weekend I was back watching football. I have to explain that outside of school I have no interest in football whatsoever. However, when it comes to supporting our young sports people, I always make the effort to be there to provide moral support and shout encouraging words from the sidelines. A few weeks ago when our under 11s were playing at MES in the BSME games I took along some cut up bananas and oranges that I had bought and not used and they were eaten up very quickly. I had not realised the impact this had made until a football practice earlier in the week when some of our young footballers asked if I would be bringing bananas and oranges again this week. Immediate Instashop order was made and I turned up for the BSME Under 9 game ready. When I arrived, one of our players assured me that I was in for a great morning of football – and he was right.



**Before the matches full of hope**

## You Don't Want to Miss Out on...

**Week beginning 10.12.23 - Presidential Elections: lessons online for full week**

**18th Dec - Y1 Concert at 1pm**

**18th Dec - Y2 Concert at 3:30pm**

**19th Dec - Y3&4 Concert 3:00pm first performance**

**19th Dec - Y3&4 Concert 5:30pm second performance**

**21st Dec - Last Day of Term 1 – 1200 finish for all students**

**8th Jan - Professional Development Day for all TBS staff - Staff only**

**9th Jan - First day of Term 2**

**17th Jan - KS1 Phonics and Maths Open Morning for parents**

**Please use below clickable links for faster access**

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Four games were won without losing a single goal: we made history and our Under 9s took the winning spot for GEMS TBS. What a display of teamwork and creative football alongside great sportsmanship. Thanks to all the sports parents out there who make such events happen and to our GEMS TBS PE Department for their tireless work to inspire these young learners. The future of football at GEMS TBS is safe in the next generation – and bananas and oranges are on the list for every match!



**At the end as worthy winners**

## Parent satisfaction survey

Once again, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to those who took the time to complete our Parent Satisfaction Survey. Your commitment to our school community is greatly appreciated, and your involvement has a direct and positive impact on the education we provide to your child and all our students.

If you have any further thoughts, suggestions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We value your input, and your continued engagement is essential in our mission to provide an excellent educational experience for your child.

Thank you for being a valued member of our school community.

## Winter Fair

With GEMS TBS being used as a polling station for the Presidential Elections and lessons being online for the week, we have rescheduled our Winter Fair to Wednesday, 24th January allowing our enterprising students time to work on their business plans, product designs, marketing, market research and production! They will still be entering the Tiger's Den at the start of the new term.

## A Visitor in Red

Every year we have been very lucky to have a very special visitor dressed in red visit our younger classes in the last week of this term, we are hoping that this year will be no different. To help our children understand how truly blessed they are and that not all children are as lucky, I would like to encourage the whole GEMS TBS family to go shopping to buy a toy for a less fortunate child. The gifts should be wrapped and labeled whether it is for a boy or girl as well as the age range. We will then distribute these gifts with children in need in Egypt and our neighbouring countries.

# A Message From Ms Rachel Hardwick, Head of Primary

Dear Parents,

Last week ended with our colourful Festive Jumper Day and FS1 celebrated Teddy's Birthday (as part of their topic of Celebrations). Much festive fun was had and children looked amazing. Thank you to parents for supporting children with their outfits.

We have also been busily preparing for the upcoming concerts for Years 1-4. I hope to see many parents there to appreciate the efforts of our talented students with support from our wonderful teachers. Later in the year, there will be opportunities for all other year groups to perform on stage to an audience.

As you aware, we are online learning due to the school being closed for presidential elections. However, I would still like to invite parents to join me for a workshop about Primary Reports. You should have received an email with a link to join me for this online on Tuesday 12th December at 9:00am.

As we are winding down for the Winter break, may I congratulate students on their resilience during online learning and for all of the events we have enjoyed this term. I hope that everyone enjoys a restful and relaxing Winter break.

Thank you!

Warm regards,  
Rachel Hardwick



# Focus on Primary

## Y4 - Exploring Sound, Maya Culture, and Podcasts

Year 4 has been buzzing with excitement as our students delved into a variety of engaging projects across different subjects. In science, the students embarked on a fascinating journey into the world of sound. They explored the inner workings of telephones and even had the opportunity to create their own string telephones in class. Through this hands-on experience, they gained a deeper understanding of how sound travels and the mechanics behind communication devices.

Furthermore, the students conducted an investigation on soundproofing, exploring ways to muffle sound. They observed and tested various materials to determine which ones were most effective in reducing sound. This experiment not only strengthened their scientific inquiry skills, but also fostered a sense of curiosity and discovery.



In the Maya unit, our students immersed themselves in the rich cultural heritage of the Maya civilization. They learned about the significance of Maya headdresses and had the chance to create their own, proudly decorating them as they delved into the traditions of this ancient civilization. Additionally, the students explored the importance of Maya masks and showcased their creativity by crafting their own unique masks, gaining a deeper appreciation for the artistry and symbolism behind these cultural artifacts.

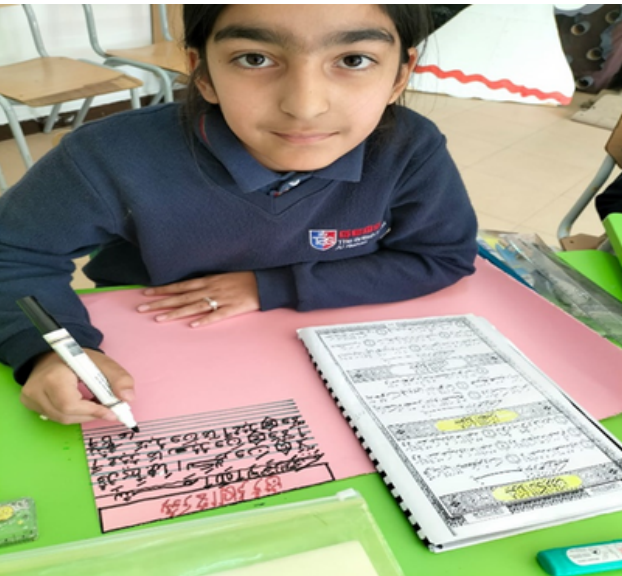
In computing, our students have been introduced to the world of podcasts. They are learning about the purpose and impact of podcasts, and are now in the process of recording their own podcasts in groups. Each group chose an important topic. This project not only enhances their digital literacy skills, but also provides them with a platform to express their thoughts and ideas in a meaningful and engaging manner.

We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm and dedication our Year 4 students have shown in their learning journey. Their creativity, critical thinking, and collaborative spirit continue to shine through in all their endeavors.



# لغتنا العربية

تستمر حصص لغتنا العربية وتستمر معها الأنشطة ولا نمل من محاولة ابتكار كل جديد لجذب طلابنا كما أعدكم بالعديد من الأنشطة القادمة إن شاء الله كما أرجو من طلابنا الاستعداد لاختبارات منتصف العام في يناير القادم وفقكم الله جميعا .



# A Message From Mr Daniel Centeno, Head of Secondary

Dear TBS secondary Community,

We hope this newsletter finds you in good health and high spirits.

During the past week I have been extremely impressed with many students, especially in Years 7 and 8 during the online lessons showing self-discipline and a desire to achieve. Well done.

As we delve into the first round of the International Advanced level module examinations in less a months time, we want to shed light on a fundamental aspect of your child's education—self-study—and its paramount importance, especially for our Sixth Form students (Year 11 and 12).

## **The Power of Self-Study: A Gateway to Academic Excellence**

In the dynamic and challenging landscape of Sixth Form education, self-study emerges as a key determinant of academic success. As our students approach the final stages of their school journey, they not only need to grasp the content delivered in class but also to deepen their understanding through independent learning. To achieve top grades, it is important that student's self-study the same amount of time they spend in the classroom: for the A-level students and iGCSE students (Year 10) 2 to 3 hours per night and KS3 (7 to 8) 1.5 hours per night.

## **Developing Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills**

Self-study is more than just reviewing notes and textbooks. It fosters the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Encouraging your child to explore beyond the confines of the classroom empowers them to think critically, analyze information, and approach challenges with confidence.

## **Enhancing Time Management and Responsibility**

One of the most significant advantages of self-study is its role in honing time management skills. As our Sixth Form students prepare for higher education and professional life, the ability to organize their time effectively becomes indispensable. Self-study instills a sense of responsibility, preparing them for the rigors of university and beyond.

continued....

# A Message From Mr Daniel Centeno, Head of Secondary

## Preparing for University and Future Challenges

The transition from school to university is a critical phase in every student's life. Embracing self-study now will not only contribute to academic success but also equip our students with the resilience and adaptability needed for the challenges they will face in the future.

## Practical Tips for Encouraging Self-Study at Home:

- 1. Create a Dedicated Study Space:** Designate a quiet and comfortable space at home for focused study sessions.
- 2. Establish a Consistent Routine:** Help your child set a study schedule that aligns with their natural rhythm and includes breaks for relaxation.
- 3. Encourage Goal Setting:** Guide your child in setting short-term and long-term academic goals to maintain motivation.
- 4. Provide Resources:** Ensure your child has access to relevant textbooks, online resources, and supplementary materials.
- 5. Foster a Love for Learning:** Cultivate an environment where curiosity is celebrated, and learning extends beyond the classroom.

We invite you to engage in conversations with your child about their study habits and goals. Together, let's support them in building the foundation for a successful future. As always, our dedicated teaching staff is here to assist and guide your child on their academic journey. Should you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you for your continued partnership in shaping the future of our students.

Warm regards,

Sincerely,

Mr. Daniel Centeno  
Head of Secondary



# The International Award of DofE Training Camp

We are thrilled to share some exciting highlights from our recent sleepover camp at TBS, where participants took their outdoor skills to new heights! Over the course of the camp, our enthusiastic participants had the opportunity to immerse themselves in a range of activities designed to foster independence and build essential life skills.

One of the highlights of the camp was the practical grocery shopping exercise, where participants were given the responsibility of buying their own supplies. Armed with a shopping list and a budget, they navigated the aisles, comparing prices and making informed choices. This hands-on experience empowered them to make smart decisions and understand the value of money.

The camp also provided a platform for honing culinary skills and embracing the joys of outdoor cooking. Under the guidance of experienced instructors, participants learned the art of grilling, mastering the techniques and flavors that make outdoor meals memorable. From marinating meats to perfecting the art of the grill, the participants unleashed their inner chefs and savored the results of their efforts.



Safety is paramount in any outdoor adventure, and our camp ensured that participants were well-versed in first aid training. Through interactive sessions, they learned how to respond to emergencies, administer basic medical aid, and provide support to those in need. Equipped with this knowledge, they gained confidence in handling unforeseen situations and became valuable assets in any outdoor setting.

Navigating through unfamiliar terrain is a skill that every adventurer should possess, and our camp offered comprehensive navigation training. Participants were taught how to read maps, use compasses, and plot routes. It was truly inspiring to witness their growth in confidence and ability to navigate with precision.

While the camp focused on essential life skills, we also made sure to include plenty of opportunities for recreation and team building. Participants engaged in various sports activities, fostering camaraderie, healthy competition, and a sense of accomplishment. Additionally, they were tasked with setting up their own sleeping spots, learning how to pitch tents, create shelter, and make the most of their surroundings for a comfortable night's rest.



Here's to many more adventures and valuable experiences that await each and every one of our DofE participants!

# Commercial Studies

Welcome to the commercial studies newsletter, I am pleased to announce that our exam classes are working well through the syllabus content and skills in preparation for their mock examinations in early February. I have been suitably impressed that our students and teachers have put themselves in a positive position. Please remember that: "Success is the product of daily habits not once-in-a-lifetime transformation." James Clear, Atomic Habits. Doing the basics, coming into school every day prepared, completing class and independent learning tasks can really help students meet their full potential. Year 11 and 12 is not the time to lose discipline, with university placements at stake.

"I never took a day off in my twenties. Not one." – Bill Gates, Co-Founder of Microsoft Corporation. Let us not forget a key contributor to success: discipline and good positive routines.

Year 10 are now currently studying Human Resources and motivation, and I have been very pleased with the Business Students' attitude, in class. A great reflective tool was what motivates us? Do the theories of Herzberg and Maslow relate? Where do you want to be in two years' time, what University, what country, how many qualifications will you have? To round up: "Work like hell. I mean, you just must put in 80- to 100-hour weeks every week. [This] improves the odds of success. If other people are putting in 40-hour workweeks and you're putting in 100-hour workweeks, then even if you're doing the same thing, you know that you will achieve in four months what it takes them a year to achieve." – Elon Musk, Co-Founder of SpaceX, Co-Founder and CEO of Tesla Motors, and CEO of Twitter.

Make sure you get in your needed sleep though guys!  
Commercial Studies students please bear all of this in mind, for our last push before the end of term and an even more positive productive 2024!

Best Regards,  
Christopher Stock

# Real life Maths

According to some people, maths is just the use of complicated formulas and calculations that won't ever be applied in real life. But maths is applied in almost every aspect of life. Maths is everywhere. Maths will appear through every subject studied at school, from measuring quantities for a science experiment to identifying patterns and shapes in art. Physics, chemistry, economics and accounting are all based on maths.

It doesn't stop there. Most days we are faced with problems that require us to apply some form of maths. We might use our maths skills without even realising it.

Maths improves the cognitive and decision-making skills of a person. Such skills are very important in sports, for example, to make the right decisions for a team.

Have you ever wondered how a computer works and how easily it completes every task in a proper series of actions? The study of computer applications is impossible without maths. Concepts like computation, algorithms and many more form the basis for different computer applications.



Playing video games is one of the favourite activities for children. Here, they must learn about the different steps and techniques to be followed to win a game. These are mathematical skills. Problem-solving skills are some of the most important skills needed to be successful in life. Such skills help us in making the correct decisions, whether professional or personal.

With all this in mind, we try to link maths teaching to real life whenever possible. Recently, students in year seven used the ruler-drop reaction test to measure their reaction times. They were then able to use statistical analysis to find out who had the fastest reaction times and whether reaction times varied according to the time of day or week. Members of 7C are pictured here.





# Life after TBS

It was delightful, at CUCD-TBS (Career and University Counselling Department), to facilitate UCAS tailored workshops, in collaboration with Global Study UK, during our Career Lessons. Our Y11 students gained insights into studying abroad and website/app navigation, while our Y12 students had the opportunity to confirm their application status and explore new features.



Boost your confidence on aptitude test day by preparing in advance! At CUCD-TBS (Career and University Counselling Department), we provide dedicated support for students in finalising their early admission applications and navigating online GUC/GIU aptitude tests. Be well-prepared, be less anxious! Many congratulations to all our TBS students – they all passed first time, what an achievement!





# Our Week in Photos

