

# This Week at TBS!

Dear Parents,

I trust that you have all had a restful weekend. Many of you have been asking about AI writing tools such as ChatGPT and what this means for education today and the future. I have used an AI writing tool for a parent guide to keep you informed: As AI writing tools become more prevalent, it is important you to be aware of their potential benefits and drawbacks.

Here are a few things you, as parents need to know:

1. AI writing tools can be helpful for students who struggle with writing. AI writing tools, like grammar checkers and essay generators, can be particularly helpful for students who struggle with writing. These tools can provide feedback on grammar and syntax, suggest improvements to sentence structure, and even generate whole paragraphs or essays based on a given prompt. However, parents should encourage their children to use these tools as a supplement to their own writing, rather than a replacement for it.
2. AI writing tools are not perfect. While AI writing tools can be helpful, they are not perfect. They can make mistakes, and they may not be able to recognise certain nuances of language or cultural references. Parents should encourage their children to use these tools as a starting point, but to always double-check the suggestions and recommendations they receive.

3. AI writing tools can be a form of plagiarism. Some AI writing tools, particularly those that generate whole paragraphs or essays, can be a form of plagiarism if not used properly. Parents should emphasise the importance of creating original work and discourage their children from relying too heavily on these tools.

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

End of Term 2-13th April

Start of Term 3-24th April

TBS Book Week -24th – 26th April

Character Day - 26th April

Sinai Liberation Day Public Holiday-  
27th April

Labour Day Public Holiday-30th  
April

Health Week-18th June

End of Academic Year- 26th June

4. AI writing tools can be expensive. While some AI writing tools are free, many require a subscription or purchase. Parents should research the various options and prices before deciding which tool to use.

5. AI writing tools are not a replacement for human feedback. While AI writing tools can be helpful, they are not a replacement for human feedback. Parents should encourage their children to seek feedback from teachers, tutors, or other trusted adults in addition to using AI writing tools.

Overall, AI writing tools can be a helpful resource for students, but they should be used responsibly and as a supplement to their own writing.

## Ramadan Food Drive

Thank you to all of you who have already brought in food items for our student led Hands to Hearts food drive for Ramadan. In Early Years, we have a tree on display with labels naming a variety of food items. Our youngest students will be choosing a label with their parents and then bring that item into school so they can understand the contribution they are making.

Thanks to our Student Led breakfast and lunch café before Ramadan selling delicious Egyptian foods, they were able to buy the equivalent of 100 additional bags of rice to share with those in need.

**Please donate as much or as little as you wish from this list:**

- **Rice**
- **Sugar**
- **Tea**
- **Lentils**
- **Dried Beans**
- **Pasta**
- **Dates**

**Nuts**  
**Qamr El Din**  
**Oil**  
**Canned Beans**  
**Tomato Paste**  
**Coconut**  
**Raisins**

# CIS University Exploration Day

Our Y10, Y11 & Y12 students enthusiastically participated in CIS's (Council of International Schools) virtual University Exploration Day, on Tuesday 21st March 2023.

CIS virtual exploration days typically include approximately 50 to 80 universities from around the world, where students can connect directly with university admission officers to learn about university life, degree choices and admissions processes. Students can text, and video chat, with representatives and learn about what can be expected at university.



It was great to see so many of our students benefiting from this touch of a button opportunity.



# Challenge of the Pharaohs 2023

Already many of you have already been sharing your family JIT plans as part of this years Challenge of the Pharaohs – here is a reminder of how you can get involved and make a change:

This year the Challenge of the Pharaohs is not only for our schools but invites you, our TBS families, to get involved too. Developed to highlight the UN Sustainable Development Goals 12 and 13 (Responsible Consumption and Production and Climate Action) the challenge asks you to think of Just 1 Thing (JIT) that you can change in your daily lives that will make a change. Ask your child about this year's challenge as they were talking about it in school last week. Read more about how you can get involved as a family by clicking this link.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1au3cNCLsCKB33qoWfPjNPbnU\\_QXO\\_juo/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1au3cNCLsCKB33qoWfPjNPbnU_QXO_juo/view?usp=share_link)

## Pre- loved Uniforms

The TBS Senior Leadership Team's JIT focuses on 'Pre-loved Uniforms'. Our children grow so quickly needing new uniform items yearly or even every term. Often the items are still in very good condition and could be reused. We have all had 'hand-me-downs' from older brothers, sisters or cousins but here is an opportunity to reduce the amount of new uniforms being bought and share within our TBS family. We ask you to bring in those pre-loved yet still wearable and freshly laundered uniform items that your children have grown out of for other children to reuse.

You have two options:

- Attach your name to the uniform items with the cost for sale (50% of retail) and this will be returned to you when sold.
- Donate the proceeds of the sale of your uniform items to our TBS charities. rom

Thank you for your support in our SLT JIT.

## Life Values based events

In addition to our Food Drive we are also launching two new in-school events. One is our Holy Quran Recitation Celebration initiated by our Islamic Education Team encouraging students of all ages to memorise and recite specific verses of the Quran. The other is our Bible Stories Showcase initiated by our Christian Studies Team. Students will be invited to retell stories they have been studying and talk about the lives of some key people. For both events, the verses and stories selected focus on life values.



# TBS Updated Assessment Policy

Please click link to read our updated TBS Assessment Policy which outlines the many different assessments used throughout the school, how we feedback to you, how we use data to inform learning and our target setting process.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kKh9g0gBavRHG8ReU8iM9WqHUGE9g6rZ/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kKh9g0gBavRHG8ReU8iM9WqHUGE9g6rZ/view?usp=share_link)

## Academic Calendar for 2023-24

Please click here to view and download the term dates and holidays for the next academic year.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yZvNn\\_C1aEk9K63qYgZrW8M2rJKjATrb/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yZvNn_C1aEk9K63qYgZrW8M2rJKjATrb/view?usp=share_link)

## Attendance Policy Reminders

Thank you to everyone in supporting TBS in prioritising the need for all students to be On Time In School everyday. To continue to focus on this we have updated our Attendance Policy which you can read in full.

[Attendance Policy- updated Nov 2022 Final.pdf - Google Drive](#)

## Dress Code Reminder

Every morning as your children enter school we monitor their uniform to ensure that they are in keeping with our TBS Dress Code. Thank you for your support with keeping jewellery at home and for taking note in regards to facial piercing.

We would ask for your continued support ensuring that all students attend every day in the correct uniform items. Only TBS branded sports items should be worn on PE days. Only TBS branded jumpers, jackets, shirts, tshirts and trousers should be worn on non-PE days. Please note that sports shoes are only acceptable on PE days.

If your child comes to school wearing non TBS uniform items, we will call you and ask for your support to ensure the correct uniform is worn from now on or to bring in the uniform item for your child to change.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping up our TBS Dress Code Standards:

- All children to attend school in the TBS uniform at all times. This also includes suitable footwear.
- All long hair must be tied back at all times. This includes boys with longer hair.
- For girls, small stud earrings can be worn. Nose rings are not acceptable at any time.
- Jewellery is not allowed and should be left at home to avoid any loss or damage.
- No smart watches

# Parent Satisfaction Survey Feedback – You said, we listened

From your comments in our Parent Satisfaction Survey, you overwhelmingly agreed that, as a school, we do listen to your concerns and suggestions. Your feedback from this survey are much value by us and for the following weeks I will be sharing some of your comments and suggestions from different topics and how we are acting on them. In our last newsletter we focused on Preparing Students for the Future. This week we are focusing on Arabic and Religious Education

We are committed to listening to your feedback so we have your perspective as a parent. Here are some of your comments about what you feel we do well in this domain:

- Arabic and Islamic teachers have a secure knowledge of their subjects.
- Relationship between the teacher and my children is really good, they are always willing to help and advise

With our new Head of Arabic in place this year, we have already seen a marked difference in our student's Arabic Language skills shown in the January Ministry of Education Examinations results with 100% pass rate.

We will continue to work on these aspects to support your children:

- Continuing to develop our Arabic as a Foreign Language to give our international students the ability to communicate effectively and learn about Egyptian culture.
- Provide professional development for our Arabic teachers to ensure the best teaching methodologies are embedded
- Explore online learning platforms such as Bravo Bravo to support Arabic at home
- Integrate primary topics across all subject areas
- Host more events highlighting Arabic language and culture

## Ramadan Timings at TBS

Following feedback from you, our TBS parents as well as parents from our sister schools, the timings for GEMS schools during The Holy Month of Ramadan will be from 845am until 2pm.

## A Message From Ms Rachel Hardwick, Head of Primary

Dear Parents,

Our Early Years students put on a heartwarming performance this past week to celebrate and show their love for their mums during our Mother's Day Celebration. The children sung songs in both English and Arabic and showed great confidence performing on the stage. Thank you to all of the mums who were able to attend.

We have also begun our Ramadan adjusted timetable. Please ensure that you read all school communication to be aware of such logistical changes. We also appreciate parents sharing this information with others when appropriate to keep all of our community informed.

In the Primary school there has been a rise in children bringing in trading cards (such as Pokemon cards). Unfortunately, this has caused some disagreements between children as there are misunderstandings about who cards belong to once traded. At the moment, we will not ban the cards completely as we recognise that the children really enjoy playing with them. However, I would appreciate if parents could discuss with children the potential disagreements that could arise and we will monitor in school also.

Thank you for your continued support.

Head of Primary  
Rachel Hardwick



# Focus on Primary

## EYFS

### EYFS article for Newsletter – Part 3

Carrying on from our previous Newsletter, The EYFS Team will continue to explain the “Three Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning” part 3.

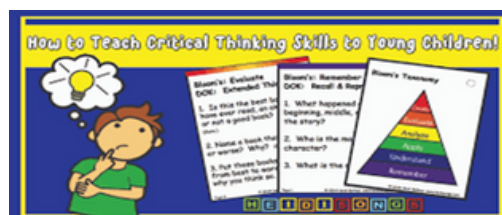
We are all aware that children have great minds and to enhance this, we can help them become even more powerful learners through the following three characteristics:

- Part 1 - playing and exploring - I investigate and experience things, and ‘have a go’.
- Part 2 - active learning – I concentrate and keep on trying even when I encounter difficulties. I enjoy achieving.
- Part 3 - creating and thinking critically – I am learning to develop my own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.



In this week’s Newsletter, we will continue with Part 3, “Creating and Thinking Critically” put in simple point form:

- I take part in simple pretend play, e.g. I might use an object like a brush to pretend to brush my hair, or ‘drink’ from a pretend cup.
- I can sort materials, e.g. at tidy-up time, I know how to put different construction materials in separate baskets.
- I can talk about my learning. I think about my progress as I try to achieve a goal. I check how well I am doing.
- I am learning to solve real problems, e.g. to share nine strawberries between three friends, a strategy I might use is to put one in front of each, then a second, then a third. Finally, I might check at the end that everyone has the same number of strawberries.





# Music -Progress in Violin Learning

We are proud to report excellent progress being made by our Key Stage Two students in their violin learning. The hard work and dedication of both students and teachers have led to some striking developments in their skills.

Originally, our plan was that by the end of this term, students would be using their second finger, but we are delighted to announce that in some classes, we are already progressing to using the third finger. This advancement opens up a much broader repertoire of music and hopefully, by the end of the year, students will be able to give some excellent performances.

Some parents have already received audio recordings of their children performing as a class, showcasing the progress made by each student. We hope that as students continue to show progress, we will be able to share more and more of these exciting developments.

The dedication and hard work of both students and teachers have paid off, and we are incredibly proud of the progress being made in our Key Stage Two violin learning program. Keep up the excellent work, and we look forward to seeing the many more outstanding performances in the future.

## لغتنا العربية



كانت الأيام الماضية غامرة بالأنشطة المختلفة في حصص اللغة العربية فقد احتفلنا مع تلاميذنا بعيد الأم الغالية عماد كل أسرة وأيضا بقدوم شهر رمضان المعظم وتعليق الزينات فرحا بقدومه وشوقا لصيامه ولم يؤثر ذلك على سير حصصنا والتدريس الأكاديمي للمناهج كل عام وأنتم بخير كما شرعنا في مسابقة القرآن الكريم التي تقام خلال الشهر الكريم أعاده الله علينا بالخير واليمن والبركات .



# A Message From Mr Nigel Wilsonlock, Head of Secondary

Dear parents and students,

We had a relatively smooth transition to our Ramadan Timetable with our students and staff quickly adapting to the changes. Staff have planned their lessons to make the most of the shorter lesson time and will keep to the planned schedules of their Long Term Plans. As you know we have many external exams in May and June and need all the time we can get to prepare students to perform to the best of their abilities. Good performances come from those who prefer the best – the luckiest students in exams also appear to be the best prepared!

At the beginning of last week, we completed our twelve days of Mock Examinations, although we will continue with our Arabic exams from Thursday 6 April until Wednesday 12 April. For the first time we will also be conducting mock examinations with Y12 students to better prepare them for their final exams in June.

The earlier mock examinations will give teachers and students vital feedback for them to know what they have done well in and where they need to add more preparation. This is formative assessment – the assessment ‘forms’ actions to improve. A summative assessment is one that ‘sums’ up the learning over a course and gives a final grade. You will know these as IGCSEs, AS and A Levels.

Kind regards and Ramadan Kareem!

Kind regards  
Nigel Wilsonlock  
Head of Secondary

# Focus on Secondary

## Secondary Pastoral

Please continue to donate to our Ramadan Food drive, we are overwhelmed with the generosity from our community, we will be happy to receive donations until the end of this week. Thank you for making a difference. In keeping with the spirit of Ramadan, our student leadership team organised a special Ramadan day selling a variety of Egyptian national foods. All proceeds raised from this event was donated to The Ramadan Food Drive initiative.

The well-being of our students is an important part of being an effective learner. PASS (Pupils Attitude to Self and School) helps identify learners who may be held back by factors such as a lack of confidence, motivation, or connection to school. By uncovering how students feel about themselves and school, we can give them the support they need to thrive. It is crucial that our students understand the importance of completing the PASS test honestly and openly to achieve their true potential.

## KS3

As we enter the holy month of Ramadan, it is a time of fasting and prayer for Muslims around the world, and it is also a time for reflection, compassion, empathy, and generosity. In last week's assembly our students shared the benefits of fasting, self-reflections and setting goals. Students have also been participating in a whole school charity event (Ramadan Food Drive) where everyone in the TBS community will donate food to those in need.

To reinforce the atmosphere of positivity, festivity and celebrate our students' academic and sports achievements, certificates were given out to students from all year groups during this week's assembly. A special mention to TBS sports superstar Mahmoud Hossam who was exceptional in the Athletic and Swimming events during the EEP Cup.



## KS4

In our weekly assemblies, we are consistently encouraging good behaviour and proactivity through our reward system. We believe that our students will do more than expected when they feel appreciated and acknowledged. This week, certificates were handed out for best academic performance, and for displaying GEMS Jewels of Kindness among our Year 9 and Year 10 students.

The assembly had a festive spirit as we celebrated Mother's Day as well as the start of the holy month of Ramadan. We encourage all families to participate by donating to our Ramadan food drive. Please remember, even the tiniest act of kindness will make a significant difference.

We also acknowledged our MUN participants who went above and beyond during the GEMUN conference that was held last week. Our students made us all proud of their achievements. TBS has earned two awards for best delegates and three honorable mentions among all participating schools. Way to go TBS!



## KS5

As we approach the exam period for our Key Stage 5 students, it is important to acknowledge the hard work and dedication that they have put in over the past two years. However, it is also crucial to ensure that they are fully prepared to take on the exams and perform to the best of their abilities.

One key aspect of this preparation is developing effective study skills. We encourage all students to review their study habits and make necessary changes, such as setting specific goals, creating a study plan, and utilising active recall techniques. It is never too late to adopt better study habits and see improvements in your performance.

With the stress of exams looming, it is important for students to learn stress-beating strategies that work for them. Some ideas to explore include mindfulness and meditation, exercise, talking to trusted individuals, and creating a positive environment for studying. We encourage students to find what works for them and prioritise self-care during this time.

Finally, we want to remind our students that while these exams are important, they are not the end-all-be-all. It is perfectly okay to not achieve perfect grades, and there are always alternative paths to success. We support all our Key Stage 5 students and are confident in their abilities to navigate this challenging time with success. Good luck to all!



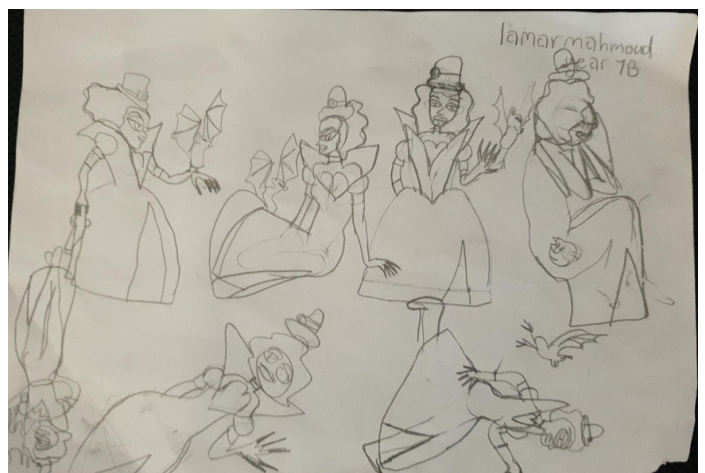
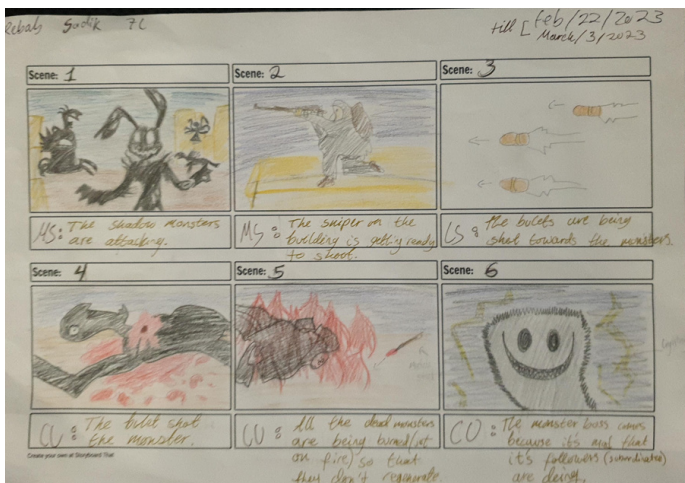
# English Department

Now that the mock examinations are complete, the next few weeks, we will take the opportunity to review, adjust and to reflect upon the outcomes of the assessments. The students are aware of the areas of strengths, and they now have a focus to work on to be better prepared for their final exams. The English department strongly advise students to engage with reading books, newspapers, or magazines. The exposure to reading will enhance the student's vocabulary which can only help them in their upcoming exams. If any student would like advice on a novel then come and see any of the English team.

Year 8 have recently completed the novel *Boy in the Striped Pajamas* which was received well and sparked a great interest in the events of WW2. Year 7 have been learning about myths and legends, and are now looking at fictional excerpts, exploring hidden meanings and working towards analyzing texts.

## ICT

Students in year 07 are working hard on their gaming project, completing storyboards, plotlines and experimenting with unity and Blender.



## GEMUN Conference recognition:



**Nour Mansi - honorable mention**



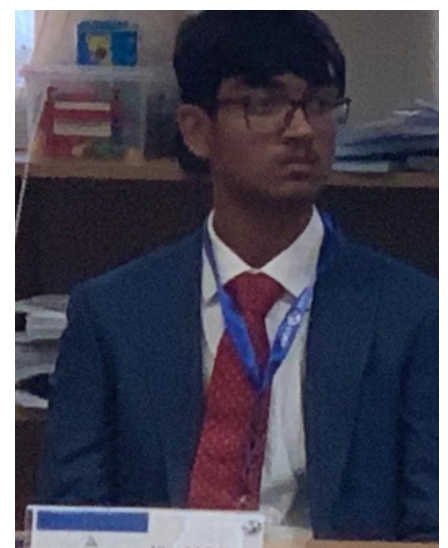
**Omar Abbas - honorable mention**



**Abdullah Mandil – honorable mention**



**Nagham Sharaf – best delegate**



**Omar Khan – honorable mention**



# EEP Cup Champions

A massive congratulations to our TBS sport stars who at the recent EEP Cup. They displayed GEMS jewels of Kindness along with teamwork, resilience and respect. we are so proud of you. Go TBS Go!

## Athletics



**Mahmoud Hossam-4 gold**



**Karen Tamer-gold (4x100m relay)**



**Kenzy Shamel-gold (400m)**



**Ahmed Said-silver (4x100m relay)**



**Mikey Ridler-silver (4x100m relay)**



**Aliyu Abubakar-silver (4x100m relay)**



**Farida Tarek -gold (4x100m relay)**



**Anglena Atef-gold (4x100m relay)**



**Adam Basiouny-gold**



**Farida Mahmoud-gold (4x100m relay)**

# EEP Cup Champions

## Swimming



**Mahmoud  
Hossam-3 gold**



**Ahmed Said- silver**



**Sara Saif - Bronze**

## Basketball

### U14Boys won Silver

- U14 Boys – silver
- Mohamed Diab
- Karim Sherif
- Bard Eddin
- Nabil Hesham
- Yehia ayman Ismail
- Georgios Styllanos Siganos
- Amr Mohamed Sayed
- Adam Mohamed Mahmoud
- Ahmed Said
- Boshouy Talat



# Our Week in Photos

