

This Week at TBS!

Dear Parents,

Although I have many favourite places in Cairo, one of my most favourites is walking through the last remaining gate on the southern wall of the old city – Bab Zuwayla. With twin minarets rising from round towers this is one of Cairo's most iconic monuments. Build in 1092CE during the Fatimid times, the gate leads onto the main thoroughfare of markets and a maze of interconnecting streets to Al Muizz Street. You can climb the 72 steps to get amazing views of the surrounding streets, minarets and the Citadel. Outside of Bab Zuwayla is the Tent Maker's Soukh, the only remaining medieval covered market. The place to go if you want a custom made canvas tent but also for hand made carpets, rugs, cushion covers and more. At the moment the soukh is full of the brightly covered materials for the upcoming holy month of Ramadan. If you have not been to this area, it is a must – make sure you buy some falafal from one of the many street sellers to enjoy as you wander around.

February is feeling cooler

For those cooler mornings, we will be directing our youngest learners straight into classrooms rather than gathering on the field. We will continue to monitor the air temperature and weather throughout the day to make sure that our students can play safely.

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

Road Safety Week- 5th – 9th Feb

Parent Workshop on Internet Safety (Primary Focus)-7th Feb

Random Act of Kindness Day - 14th Feb

Mid-term Break - 23rd February – 5th March

EYFS Mother's Day Celebration- 8th March

Student Led Conference Day for Whole School and Parent Workshops (no timetables lessons) - 12th March

Maths Day – 14th March

End of Term 2 –13th April

Partnerships with Top Universities in Egypt

We are delighted to announce that we have established strategic partnerships and exclusive agreements with prestigious universities in Egypt to further support our students' next step as they graduate from TBS. The Universities that we currently have a partnership and offer our TBS students tuition discounts include:

- University of Hertfordshire
- Universities of Canada
- Universite Francaise d'Egypte
- British University in Egypt
- Future University in Egypt

So good to know that as your children grow with TBS we are there to support them beyond graduation and the next stage of their learning journey.

Hair Lice

Although an ongoing issue throughout the year, with the cooler weather and many children wearing hoods and hats we are seeing a rise in cases of hair lice. To help prevent this spread I would like to remind you of our school uniform policy that long hair must be tied back at all times. We will be reinforcing this message during the next weeks so we ask for your support to ensure that your daughters all have hair tied up and have additional hairbands should they need them.

Drop and Go

Thank you to all of you who have already put this into action and it is lovely to see our youngest students proudly saying goodbye to you as they leave their cars and walk into school independently.

Keep in mind that either myself or Ms Rachel are at Gate 4 in the mornings in addition to our TBS Security Team to welcome children to school and help them from cars if necessary. Our class teachers for FS1 to Y2 are also on the field to welcome their classes. Saying a 'Good Goodbye' in the car and encouraging your children to enter the gate alone is a great way to show that you trust them and support their self-confidence – make sure you say goodbye with a smile on your face, no matter how you feel, as your growing children head into school.

TBS Updated Assessment Policy

Please click [here](#) 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.

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

Parent Satisfaction Survey

Thank you to everyone who took the online Parent Satisfaction Survey last term. We have now received the feedback and are delighted to report that our Net Promoter Score (NPS) which is a culmination of your contributions has risen from -28 last year to +15.

Uniform Shop

We are delighted to welcome our uniform suppliers, BTM, back on campus on Sunday 12th, Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th February. Their onsite shop will be open from 0830am throughout the day. They will be bringing their full range of winter clothing options including jackets for our older students.

A Message From Ms Rachel Hardwick, Head of Primary

Over last week and this, we are focusing on Road Safety Awareness in the Primary school. Children have been reading a story about a character called Super Bob – this is based on the true story of a child who sadly lost his life due to a road accident and presents the dangers in a child-centred and effective way. I am really happy to see children presenting their projects and thoughts about this important topic.

On Tuesday 7th February, I will be hosting a workshop on 'Parenting in the Digital World'. This coincides with 'Safer Internet Day.' Through research on this topic, I was startled by some statistics regarding internet usage of children in Egypt around the world. Digital technologies provide exciting opportunities within education but it is important that we, as educators and parents, understand the risks in order to keep our children safe.

Many of you use Education City for homework every week. However, we have been recognised for three children who have been working particularly hard. In FS1, FS2 and Year 2, Yahia Abozeid and Adam Girgis are currently practicing various skills within Pick and Play for Mathematics, whilst Adam Gadalla is practicing English, and all of these students are making excellent progress! These children have received certificates for their efforts.

I would like to also take this opportunity to remind parents of uniform expectations, particularly with regards to hair. It is the season where hair lice can be prevalent so all longer hair should be tied back neatly. When a child is well-presented with their uniform, they arrive to school ready for a productive day of learning.



Focus on Primary

Year 4's journey with Charlie and The Chocolate Factory!

Happy New Year!

We start the new term refreshed, energised and ready for the learning ahead! In Maths, the Year 4 mathematicians have been learning how to multiply and divide along with correspondence problems and using efficient methods to multiply. During the English lessons, students have used their journalistic skills to write a newspaper report about a fictional TBS Robbery! Students can confidently recall features of a newspaper and can apply their prior knowledge to writing in the third person and the past tense.

Electricity has been our topic throughout our Science lessons. Students used the disciplinary core idea of using evidence to construct an explanation as they learn that charge movement through a circuit depends on the resistance and arrangement of the circuit components.

Fairtrade has been our focus in Topic this term. Students learned the importance of Fairtrade, and the impact the system has to ensure workers' rights, safer working conditions and fairer pay. With this knowledge, Year 4 created leaflets and a Fairtrade board game.

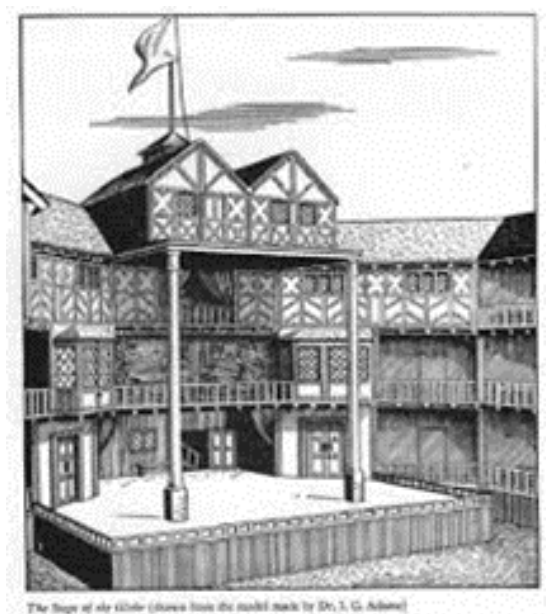
In assembly this week, students learned about road safety, and Superbob's rules for crossing the road; never play with a ball by the road, never run into the road between parked cars, and always check before you step onto the road.

Finally, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory has been our year group reading text. The students are enjoying the book and will be completing various activities about the text in class and for homework. We are thankful for our TBS parent partnership and look forward to the learning journeys this academic year.



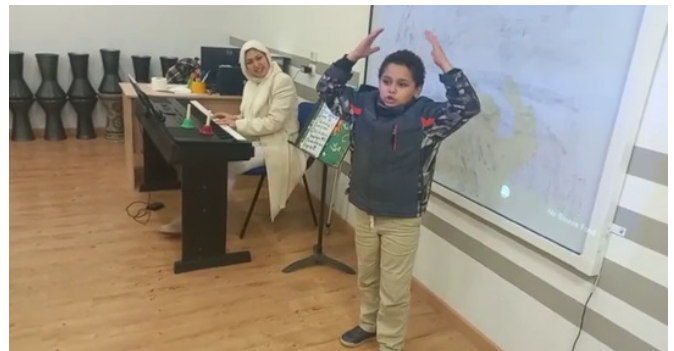
Year 6

Year 6 have been delving into the world of Shakespeare through studying Macbeth and also exploring his life and times in Thematic Learning. They have been having fun trying out their acting skills while at the same time taking an in depth look at the plot and characters of the play. This has been backed up by finding out about how Shakespeare's plays were performed during his lifetime at the Globe Theatre in London. The students in Year 6 have started taking their reading skills to the younger members of the school by going in to visit children in Year 1. They have made one trip, with another planned soon. Electricity is the Year 6 topic in Science this half term. The students have been looking at pioneers in the field of Electricity, such as Benjamin Franklin, Joseph Swann and Nikolai Tesla and have been sharing their knowledge through some excellent power point presentations. Some students have also given informative presentations on Shakespeare too so, whatever the subject, Year 6 have been demonstrating some great research skills.



Music

In KS1 , we learn how to love and appreciate our Body by singing the song I love my Body.



A Message From Mr Nigel Wilsonlock, Head of Secondary

Dear parents and students,

This last week we had a focus on e-safety in both a Parent Workshop and Assemblies. E-safety is now a necessity in modern lives and demands that we take sensible precautions to keep safe, just as we would crossing the road or cooking on a BBQ. There are six main areas of concern and each is huge in its own right.

- Identity theft
- Malicious software – malware
- Cyberbullying
- Inappropriate content
- Scams
- Online predators

There are steps we can take to keep ourselves and families safe in each of these areas. The most important way of teaching all this to our children is by modelling good 'netiquette' and showing good behaviours. Decide what you want your child to do and then show that you do it too!

The first step in establishing good behaviours is to begin and sustain conversations around e-safety, therefore, when issues occur our children know where to go for help and support. Communication is the cornerstone of all good relationships.

In our parent workshop we discussed the use of contracts to clearly outline the expectations we have over the use of connected devices and the internet. There are good examples online and can be easily tailored to your needs.

We wouldn't give our children the keys to a brand-new sports car and expect them to use it wisely and without incident, yet we often give expensive smartphones freely and without any rules for use. Retaining ownership and 'loaning' the device provides more control over use.

Setting parental controls on the device or via Apps, also allows for collaboration and the setting of good limits to use. There are plenty to choose from – try a search on Google! These allow the setting of time limits, blocking of sites, passwords and if necessary, contacts. As the child develops maturity and independence these can be relaxed, but only if you are happy good habits of use are present.

Adolescents are looking for independence and a sense of belonging as they develop their identities. Being connected to the internet can help, with our support they can explore this playground without it being a jungle.

If you need help and support please reach out and ask us. We may not know the answers but together we can find a way to support you and your child.

Have a good weekend but get some good conversations and contracts in place.

Nigel Wilsonlock
Head of Secondary

English

The last three weeks the students of year 7 and 8 have got further into their novels. Year 7 are intrigued by the dystopian novel *After Tomorrow*, they are relating to the book which has remnants of the strange covid times we lived in. This novel is exciting, unusual, and thought provoking. What will happen to Matt and his family? Ask your son/daughter what they have read so far. Ask them to summarise the first two chapters for you. Or, ask them “what ten items from the home would you keep safe from raiders?”.

Year 8 in contrast have been combining learning about World War 2 through a fictional novel, *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*. The combination of history and fictional character has been met with success, and fascination. We are working towards a student diary entry from the perspective of the boy. Please ask your son/daughter to tell you what they have been reading about. You could ask them to “explain what the father was like, and whether you liked him”.

TBS – GEMS INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME AY2022-2023 (Y11 & Y12, ROUND 5 – FEB 2023):

The Y11 & Y12 students have a fantastic opportunity, this February 2023, to enhance their character and build their CV & Career skills through our TBS GEMS internship programme. Internships are a way of helping students understand the relevance of academics in relation to what it takes to be successful in the workplace. Without this vital connection, many students may not comprehend why basic life skills are important or know how complex a job can be.

February's internship programme is to take place during February Half Term (Sun 26th Feb 2023 – Thurs 2nd Mar 2023) in some of the most popular career fields and prominent companies; IT – Networking (Talaat Mostafa Group), IT – Technical Support (Talaat Mostafa Group), Marketing (Regina & GEMS Education), Banking (QNB Bank), Teaching (The Littlest Lamb Association), Finance (EFG Hermes), Technology – Network Security (Aman), and Hospitality (Kempinski Hotel).

At TBS GEMS, we continue to add new internship fields for the benefit of our student's, and we are eager to continue receiving positive student feedback on this successful launch.

Limited spaces available!



Our Week in Photos

