

This Week at TBS!

Dear Parents,

Can you believe that March is just around the corner and with it our mid-term break. Although for most of us it will be a time to spend with families and even travel, for many of our Senior Students it will be a time to experience work as part of our Internships Programme. This unique programme allows our eldest students the opportunity to experience the world of work and spend time learning about different business sectors they might not have considered as a career path.

For me, I am travelling to Abu Dhabi to the British Schools of the Middle East Conference. During my time in Dubai, I was an active member of BSME as a country rep and supporting developing Professional Development opportunities for member schools. In the years since I left Dubai the BSME has continued to grow and support many more schools in the area. This year I will proudly be representing TBS. The conference runs from 28th February to the 4th of March with an array of guest speakers, workshops and opportunities to meet fellow principals.

The theme of this year's conference is 'Designing a Brighter Future: Educating tomorrow's global citizens'. Inspirational guest speakers include Sir Clive Woodward OBE, Matthew Savage, Professor Dr Ger Graus OBE, and David Harkin.

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

Parent Workshop: Formative and Summative Assessment – Why?
(Although Primary focus, open and relevant to all TBS parents) - 21st February at 8am

PS and FS1 End of 'Animals' Unit of Learning dress-up-23rd February

FS2 End of 'Once Upon a Time' Unit of Learning dress-up-23rd February

Mid-term Break from end of day on 23rd February and return to school on Sunday, 5th March.

Mock Exams for Y9-12 students - Starting 5th March

Parent Workshop (Although Secondary focus, open and relevant for all TBS parents)- 7th March

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

Start of Arabic, SOS and Religion exams for February, Y4-12 (not including Y9) - 13th March

EEP Sports Tournament (Football, basketball, athletics and swimming) -12th -16th March

- Sir Clive Woodward is best known as the 'Winning Head Coach' and Team GB's Director of Sport. He will be talking about the DNA of a champion explain the key characteristics of peak performance and how to coach students to perform to their best.
- Matthew Savage is a former principal and the architect of #TheMonaLisaEffect. He will be challenging the conference focus on wellbeing and equity in schools. As well as a keynote speech, he will also be leading workshop sharing some school's stories of success.
- Professor Ger Graus is an iconic figure in the field of education but is also known for being the first global director of KidZania as well as the Children's University. He will be challenging the conference to consider what are we, as educators, trying to achieve? Who for and why?
- David Harkin is the founder and CEO of 8billionideas which teaches students entrepreneurship, career education and life skills. He is now involved in creating a long-term vision for education in the UK and promoting High Performance Learning. He will be sharing his passion for developing education and learning through his key note, 2034: My Hopes for Education.

In addition to the Key Note speakers, many BSME principals and heads of schools will also be leading workshops and sharing their passion for developing learning and success stories from their own learning journeys.

Whether you are travelling or staying in Cairo, have a restful and fun break.

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

Student Led Conferences

You will be receiving an email this week about our Student Led Conferences for the whole school on Sunday, 12th March with a booking link for all of your child's teachers after the break. As part of our commitment to our students being at the centre of discussions about their learning and progress as well as next steps, all students will be expected to be at appointments with you. Although there are no lessons on that day as our teachers will be meeting you and your child individually, learning will continue with tasks being set on our VLE. If, for whatever reason, you are not able to book a meeting for this date, please contact your child's teachers to arrange a meeting at a suitable time for you. This year, in addition to your meetings with class and subject teachers, we will also be running a range of Parent Workshops covering the range of topics from our workshops so far this academic year.

The Ultimate Race For Schools

Many of you will remember this very special event from last year and I am hoping that we will have an even bigger TBS family going this year. It will take place on Saturday, 18th March from 9030am when the whole EEP community will run for charity. There will be a 1km run and a 5km run followed by lots of fun family activities – a great day out for the whole family. This year all proceeds will go to The Egyptian Food Bank supporting those less fortunate and in need. Tickets are 200LE for students and 100LE for adults.



Email technical Error

Due to a technical error we apologise that many of you received emails from our sister school about an event organised by their French Department. Be assured that our very own TBS French Department are also organising an event which will be later this academic year. To avoid any potential confusion should this happen again, please note that any emails sent from us regarding school events always have our school name in the header.

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.

TBS Hands to Hearts Earthquake Appeal

Thank you to everyone who got in touch at the weekend following our message asking for contacts who can help us get the much-needed aid to both Syria and Turkey. Already we are quite overwhelmed by your generosity and will keep accepting donations for the coming weeks.

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. This week our focus is on the topic of Communication. Getting the right balance of communication in a school is always a challenge. Although we want to keep you informed there is always the danger of oversharing which can lead to confusion. 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:

- You update us with everything by sending emails which is a positive thing
- Communication, which is extremely important for me in the first time to school with FS1 kid. Now I can say I feel comfortable sending my little girl to school
- Putting much effort in communication and updating parents regarding school activities
- The regular meetings organised by the school and Principal Jane on a regular basis throughout the year are gratefully received by parents, as well as the school's weekly report that is sent to parents every Monday.
- Your ways in communicating and solving problems; we tried these during this short time; and your responsible staff dealt with professionalism
- Smooth communication through digitalised platform
- Listening to parents' voice and well-considered, for example, we have Coffee Morning every week
- Holding permanent meetings with parents to talk about what is going on in the school constantly, and to listen to the opinions of parents in the educational and psychological aspects of students, and work as much as possible to activate them in the school.

We are all very pleased that the work we have done to ensure the ongoing development of our channels of communication, there were some of you who were frustrated by certain aspects. We hear you and will focus on these areas:

- Reports that are specific to every child with next steps given
- Quick response time to any concerns whether academic or pastoral
- Awareness of who to contact if parents need support or guidance on a specific topic
- Be aware of the number of emails sent so we do not miss the really important ones
- Quick response time to help with school programs that we cannot access

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](#)

HIAMUN Conference 2023

Model United Nations (MUN) is an academic simulation of the United Nations that aims to educate participants about current events, topics in international relations, diplomacy and the United Nations agenda. The participants role-play as diplomats representing a nation or NGO in a simulated session of a committee of the United Nations, such as the Security Council or the General Assembly. Participants research a country, take on roles as diplomats, investigate international issues, debate, deliberate, consult, and then develop solutions to world problems. More recently, simulation of other deliberative bodies, such as the United Nations Security Council, has been included in Model United Nations. During a conference, participants must employ a variety of communication and critical thinking skills in order to represent the policies of their country. These skills include public speaking, group communication, research, policy analysis, active listening, negotiating, reaching consensus, conflict resolution, note taking, and technical writing.

We were delighted that twenty of our TBS Secondary students were delegates at the Hayah International Academy MUN last weekend. Our delegates had been attending MUN workshops and ASAs in preparation for this prestigious event. They have taken part in open-minded discussion and debates regarding key issues faced globally allowing them to voice their opinions and raise awareness on various topics that will enable them to recognise their roles and responsibilities as global citizens. All of those teachers who supported our delegates were immensely impressed at the way they contributed to the different forums they attended and the amount of research done about their nominated countries. Whether co-sponsoring resolutions or amendments, sharing points of information or negotiating with fellow delegates, all those teachers who were there with them were very impressed and proud of their achievements at their first event. These twenty inspirational students from Years 9-12 will be participating in another MUN in March. They are very excited about using their newly acquired knowledge of the procedures of MUN to support other first time delegates.

Parent Workshop

Thank you to all of you who came to our combined 'Coffee and Parent Workshop' last week. We were discussing our amazing brain: how we learn, what can we do to keep our brain healthy, optimum learning environments and how to take control when either we, or our children, 'flip our lids'. Please click here to view the slides from this workshop.

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Following on from our previous Parent Workshops focusing on internet safety, I have found a TikTok Guide for parents that you might find helpful. Click here to download.

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Our next workshop will be led by Ms Rachel and will discuss the use of Formative and Summative assessment at TBS. Although this has a Primary focus, it is relevant to all parents as the same assessment tools are used across the school and data analysed in the same way to impact learning and teaching. Back to our usual timings of 8am on Tuesday, 21st March.

Drop and Go

Can I ask that we be considerate when dropping off at Gate 4, particularly in the mornings, that we do not block any of our neighbours cars. You may be parked for just a few minutes but I am sure you can appreciate how frustrating that can be for those parked in the designated parking bays.

In addition, can we suggest that you try a 'Drop and Go' at Gate 4 to help both the with flow of traffic and the developing independence of your children. 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.

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.

March is still 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.

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.

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A Message From Ms Rachel Hardwick, Head of Primary

Last week, Year 1 enjoyed the first trip of 2023, with a visit to Arty Science Farm. Children learnt about planting and growing as well as meeting some interesting creatures. They also enjoyed learning about the process of making Pizza.

Myself and Mr. Michael (from the Secondary School), have begun training in how to teach the children how to use some exciting resources. Lego Wedo, is a resource used for teaching robotics and programming. Arduino is a resource which extends this further by incorporating concepts from engineering and electricity. Further to this, we will be training the teachers to use the technology regularly in the classrooms.

Last week was also Kindness week, where small acts of kindness were celebrated. We are reminded that kindness is not about grand gestures but more the everyday behaviours, which I am happy to say the children show on a regular basis. Our TBS community has also demonstrated this care and kindness by donating items for the Syria and Turkey Earthquake appeal. Thank you to all of you who have donated to this cause.



Focus on Primary

Y3

This term the children have started out learning about extreme environments. An extreme environment is a habitat considered very hard to survive in due to the extreme temperatures.

The children have learnt about animals that have adapted to a wide range of conditions in fantastic ways. The children have been very excited and eager to research and tell us facts about an animal of their choice. There have been amazing and mind-blowing models created by children to show us their choice of extreme environment. We are very proud of all the children who have created and assembled their models during this topic and a huge thank you to the parents who supported their children at home.

Additionally, the children have displayed a great awareness during road safety week. We read 'Super Bob tells off parents' to engage the children in road safety and to give them advice on how they can keep safe whilst crossing the roads. The children created postcards to tell their parents to keep them safe.



Y5

In Term 2.1, Year 5 students had the opportunity to explore a diverse range of subjects, developing their skills and knowledge in English, Maths, Science, and Thematic/Topic. In English, the students focused on explanations and persuasive texts, gaining valuable experience in communicating their ideas and opinions through written form. They learned to analyse different text types, and engaged in creative activities to build their writing skills.

Maths was another important focus of Term 2.1, with students expanding on their foundational knowledge of basic arithmetic, and learning advanced techniques to solve complex problems involving multiplication, division and fractions.

Science was a highlight of the term, with the Earth and Space theme capturing the students' imagination. They enjoyed hands-on activities, such as making paper mache planets, which allowed them to deepen their understanding of the solar system and its planets. Thematic/Topic also provided an excellent opportunity for the students to learn about the role of water in our lives and the environment. They explored the properties of water, its various uses, and the impact of human activities on water resources.

Overall, Term 2.1 was a stimulating and engaging time for Year 5 students. They were challenged to think deeply and creatively across a range of different subjects and topics, developing valuable skills that will serve them well in the future. We look forward to seeing how they will continue to grow and develop as they progress on their learning journey.

EYFS

The EYFS Team will be explaining the “Three Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning” over three parts.

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 start with Part 1, “Playing and Exploring” put in simple point form:

- I understand that my actions influence the world, so I want to keep on exploring.
- I am learning to plan and think ahead about how I will explore or play with objects.
- I might talk to myself or use visual aids such as pictures while I am playing to help my thinking. For example, when doing a jigsaw, I might whisper under my breath: “Where does that one go? – I need to find the big horse next.”
- I can make independent choices.
- I bring my own interests and fascinations from home into my setting. This helps me to develop my learning.
- I respond to new experiences that you introduce.



A Message From Mr Nigel Wilsonlock, Head of Secondary

Dear parents and students,

I would like to thank you all for your kind donations in aid of our collection for the victims of the Turkey/Syria earthquake. We will be continuing into next week, so please keep sending items. We are arranging delivery and will update you as we go.

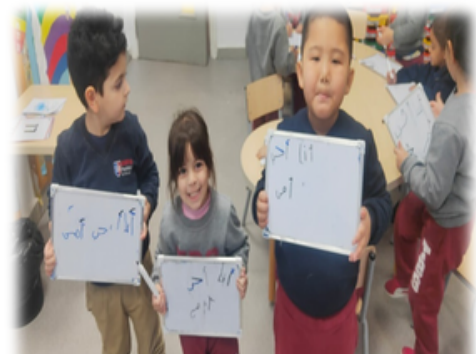
This coming week we will be forming an interview panel to review the applications of students who have applied for our three types of scholarship. This allows us to fairly compare applicants and ensure criteria are met for the awards. I am sure our candidates will be nervous, even though we will do what we can to settle nerves. In a coaching situation we would recommend reframing the anxiety or nerves as excitement. This then allows us to see the situation in a positive light and prepare appropriately. Having interviews is a necessary part of modern professional life where we work in a meritocracy. I always advise students and teachers to prepare as if they were exams. Work out what questions you might be asked and then think and practice your answers. Others can be asked to keep asking you questions! If you can't think of a suitable answer, you know where you need more preparation.

Good preparation leads to better performance and a perception of 'good luck'.

Nigel Wilsonlock
Head of Secondary

لغتنا العربية

كان لنا في هذا الأسبوع فرصة عظيمة في زيارة معرض الكتاب وشراء وسائل تعليمية ستغير الكثير في حصص اللغة العربية حيث ستجعل الطلاب أكثر شغفا بحصص اللغة العربية كما يدأنا في الاستعداد لاختبارات شهر فبراير وفق الله طلابنا جميعا .



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 one of the most important skills needed to be successful in life. Such skills help us in taking 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.



Kindness Week

Kindness Week is a celebration of all the ways we can become a positive influence in each other's lives. Even one small act of kindness can mean a great deal to somebody. Participants from across the world come together to perform acts of kindness. The sole purpose of this week is to focus on the positivity that surrounds us every day. It's a week to learn, teach, and share our kindness with others. A few health benefits of this week:

- Helping others feels good. ...
- It creates a sense of belonging and reduces isolation. ...
- It helps to keep things in perspective. ...
- It helps to make the world a happier place – one act of kindness can often lead to more!

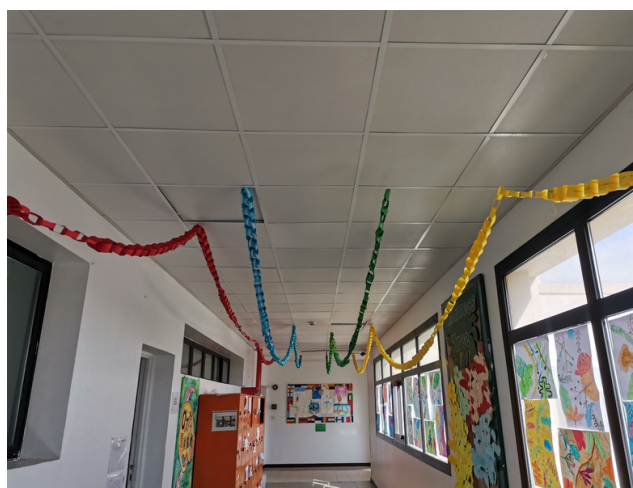
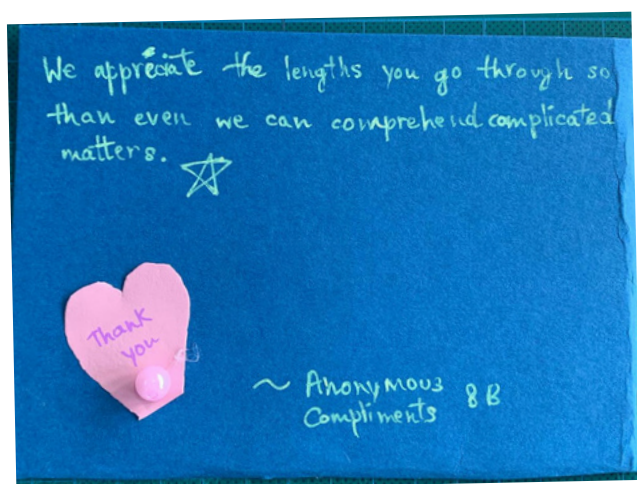
·The more you do for others, the more you do for yourself

In TBS, we designed a Kindness Tree, and invited our secondary House Teams to help it bloom with flourishing quotes of kindness. Sekhmet House got very competitive and filled our tree with heartwarming Kindness words.

We also ran a House challenge, to create the longest chain of kindness, made from collected “acts of kindness” from every House. And again, Sekhmet scored the longest.

We are very proud of our student role-models.

Be the reason someone smiles today.



HIAMUN Conference 2023

Twenty of our students from Year 9 – Year 12 attended a four day MUN Conference at Hayah International Academy. The MUN is a safe platform with the purpose of discussing key issues faced by global societies. These discussions facilitate the sharing of different perspectives and ideas while promoting individuality and allowing participants to become a part of something much bigger than themselves.

The UN Charter is built on four pillars upon which we all stand: Peace and Security; Human Rights; the Rule of Law; and Development. However, it also signifies the importance of societies in providing stability and strength, enabling growth, and allowing individual identities to grow and flourish.

As part of the preparation process our delegates had to understand the resolution format along with points and motions. The research that took place from our students for their opening speeches was truly incredible, stating facts and evidence in support of their chosen country, ready to answer questions and debate with other delegates.

TBS students truly grew and flourished during this conference, they met new friends and made fantastic memories.

To say how incredibly proud, we of our students is an understatement.



“We can change the world and make it a better place. It is in our hands to make a difference”



Our Week in Photos

