

This Week at TBS!

Dear Parents,

Spring is definitely in the air with trees and bushes showing new growth and even some colour. After this week we have only one more until we come to the end of Term 2 – where has all the time gone, seems no time since we came back after the New Year.

A huge thank you to all of our TBS community for the donations for our annual Ramadan Food Drive. In addition to your kind donations, our Student Council and Student Leaders raised additional funds from their sale of Egyptian breakfasts and lunches before Ramadan. Yesterday our Senior Student Leaders sorted and counted all your donations and went shopping to purchase any additional items such as oil, sugar and salt to ensure that all our Ramadan Bags have everything needed to cook healthy meals during this month and beyond. TBS is more than One Family as we extend our commitment to the wider community.

I am an avid reader and although I would much rather be reading a 'real' book my Kindle is my constant companion. I particularly like that on Kindle you can download a sample of the book, the first few chapters, to give you a chance to see if it captures your imagination.

Recently I joined a Book Club. Every month we select a genre and we all chose our own books which we can share and discuss at our meetings. Last month the genre was Autobiographies. Not a particular favourite genre of mine but I was recommended to read Sir David Attenborough's autobiography: Life on Air. Unavailable on Kindle, I did find it on Audible (an alternative way to join books by having them read to you!) and read by the author himself. This amazing man has been involved in radio and television for over 70 years and pioneered natural history programmes as we know them. What a range of books club members had chosen: one member had the Arabic translation of the autobiography of Russel Pasha, a British man who worked with the police and security forces here in Cairo in the early 1900s – the book is out of print in English.

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

The one choice that I went on to read and would recommend is a memoir called Eye Can Write. Not strictly an autobiography as the author's mother had written part of it, Jonathon Bryan a 12 year old boy with severe cerebral palsy tells his story of being able to learn to write using only his eyes. This truly inspiring story led to a campaign called Teach Us Too calling for all children, even those with the most profound learning needs and communication barriers, to be taught to read and write. This book is a harsh reminder that just because a child is apparently non-verbal or non-communicating they must not be considered non-thinking, non-feeling or non-understanding. Well worth a read – let me know what you think.

External Examinations

Congratulations to all our students who took the DELF exams last weekend. These students were part of a French ASA and have worked very hard to take this exam set by the French Ministry of Education.

We have now started the season of external examinations both with Cambridge and Pearson Edexcel Examination Boards.

Good luck to all our candidates.

Security reminder

Every month our TBS Health and Safety Committee meet to review any concerns and plan further initiatives to ensure our school is a safe place for all. This month we have been focusing on Security. We would like to remind you to wear your yellow lanyard with your ID at all times when coming into school. If you have lost either your lanyard or ID, please let us know and we will reissue a replacement. Remember that you can also request a yellow lanyard and ID for any other adults who may be dropping off or picking up your child. Please be patient with our Security Team as if you are not wearing your yellow lanyard and ID they will ask you to sign in and produce picture ID – even if they know you. This would mean those of you entering from Gate 4 to come to Gate 1 – please support us in making TBS a safe place for all.

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 Arabic and Religious Education. This week we are focusing on After School Activities, Facilities and Financials.

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 these domains:

- The festivities and activities create an excellent general atmosphere
- Better range of ASAs to suit my children – French is good addition
- General maintenance on the building is acted upon in a timely manner
- New screen and sound system in the hall is a great initiative
- Thanks for the sun shades in the EYFS play area so they can play all year round
- New EYFS climbing frame is a great improvement and my children love telling me about the games they play on it
- Clear payment schedules and support for parents who need help with fees

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

- Focus on providing more options for students to nurture and showcase their gifts and talents
- Seek continued support from our School Council on the activities students want for ASAs
- Rolling programme of maintenance and upgrades for the whole building and surrounding areas
- Upgrade and extend the sound and light system in the hall
- Act on the initiatives suggested by our Student Council to provide more options for break and playtimes
- Highlight the consequences of non-payment of school fees and offer additional support for families struggling to keep to schedules
- Communication with our Finance Department regarding payment options and fee enquiries

A Message From Ms Rachel Hardwick, Head of Primary

Dear Parents,

This week, our students have worked together to pack Ramadan boxes for charity using the generously donated food items. Throughout the year at TBS, children have the opportunity to support charity and demonstrate great responsibility and empathy for others in the process. I have also enjoyed attending class assemblies where students lead presentation of important messages such as recycling and global citizenship. We also continue to congratulate our students for their efforts with Star of the Week and Academic Excellence certificates.

Year 5 and 6 students continued to collaborate this week with Year 6 visiting Year 5 classrooms to peer-assess and edit each other's writing work. To edit a piece of writing requires skill in identifying errors and finding the ways to correct them. This is an extremely important skill to master across all areas of the curriculum.

Our Year 2 students have also enjoyed being read to and with by the Year 5 students. It is fantastic to see the Primary school working together in this way.

Finally, I am now unfortunately going to ask that parents do not allow children to bring trading cards (Pokemon, Fifa or other) to school. Although children enjoy trading these cards and building up collections, we have instances of arguments and disagreements related to this.

I thank you for support with this matter.

Head of Primary
Rachel Hardwick



Focus on Primary

EYFS

EYFS have been very generous this last couple of weeks where they took a post it with an item on a Ramadan tree and took it home. The next day they returned with the item. Some bought rice, fool, oil and lots of yummy provisions for Ramadan. The children learnt the importance of helping others who are less fortunate than themselves.



Y2

Year Two has started the journey of measurement this week as they learned all about the different units of measurement they could encounter in their lives from length to height to weight. Students had the opportunity to learn how to measure using rulers and compare different lengths and heights of objects using their different units such as Centimeters and Meters.

Year Two has also tackled the concept of weight through learning the unit of Mass and using its different units such as Grams and Kilograms. Students had the wonderful opportunity to experience measuring different weights and practically apply their learning firsthand in class. They were given the opportunity to use different scales and balances in class by weighing different objects and comparing their mass through Grams and Kilograms.

Students in Year Two have really expanded their knowledge when it comes to measurement and will continue to practically implement their learning in their everyday lives.



لغتنا العربية

ولاتزال الأنشطة مستمرة في قسم الدراسات العربية في شتى المجالات فنرى التلاميذ يمثلون أحداث حرب أكتوبر في حصة الدراسات ويحتفلون بعيد الأم في حصص اللغة العربية للأجانب كما يشرفنا حصول مستر مصطفى إسماعيل على شهادة المختبر الدولي للغة العربية لاختبارات IG



PE- Balls Skills

This week, we are focusing on throwing towards a target. The children developed their throwing skills following three simple steps "Swing, step, throw". The children discussed how important it was to aim their throwing hand towards the target.



A Message From Mr Nigel Wilsonlock, Head of Secondary

Dear parents and students,

Lessons may be shorter on our Ramadan timetable but learning still continues. All year groups except Y7/8 are busily preparing for external examinations in Pre-IGCSE, IGCSE, AS and A Levels whilst most will be preparing for Mock Arabic exams as well. Attendance is even more important as the build-up to exams occurs, as students can share their challenges and solutions in a safe environment. Who is best to support your child at this time? Our teachers and community!

The safety and security of our students will always be a priority, which is why we have asked Security at our Gates to follow and improve correct entry procedures. Please therefore wear your parent/guardian ID Badges at all times. If you do not have this at hand, you will need to give photo-ID to gain entry with a visitors' badge. Even though security staff may know you – please support them in doing this very important job. They are just keeping our children safe.

Plans are underway for Term 3 and I am excited to see that the *International Award (IA)* programme is well underway and I am looking forward to seeing the benefits our students gain from this wonderful non-academic qualification. Our *After School Activity (ASA) Programme* is being finalised and will be shared shortly allowing for another eight weeks of enrichment opportunities. Please look out for the forthcoming letter and sign up by the deadline to avoid disappointment.

Kind regards and Ramadan Kareem!

Kind regards
Nigel Wilsonlock
Head of Secondary

Science-Inquiry-based learning

Critical thinking is at the heart of scientific inquiry. A good scientist is one who never stops asking why things happen, or how things happen. Science makes progress when we find data that contradicts our current scientific perceptions.

Scientific inquiry includes three key areas:

1. Identifying a problem and asking questions about that problem
2. Selecting information to respond to the problem and evaluating it
3. Drawing conclusions from the evidence

Critical thinking can be developed through focused learning activities. Students not only need to receive information but also benefit from being encouraged to think about and attach the information to their existing understanding. Inquiry does this effectively.

How to build inquiry-based learning into lessons – Top tips

Gain perspective.

Gaining perspective from a different subject which focuses on evidence can help you think about your own practice.

Think about misconceptions.

Design an inquiry to enable students to discover their own misconceptions. This helps motivate them to think about and accept the scientific ideas you want them to learn.

Set a problem.

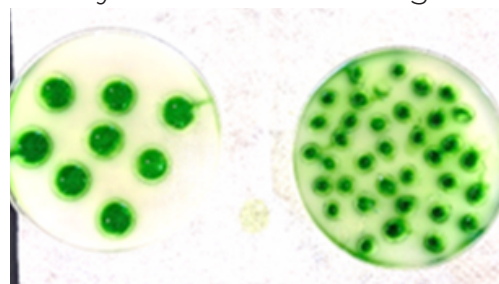
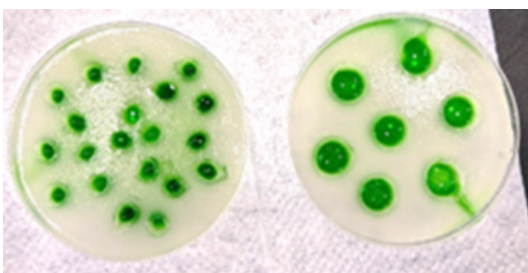
Set a problem for students to solve. It triggers their creativity and gives them ownership of their learning.

Ask questions.

Create an atmosphere where they can ask you for help, but don't give them solutions. Instead, ask them questions to help them come up with their own solutions. Get students to work together so they can help each other.



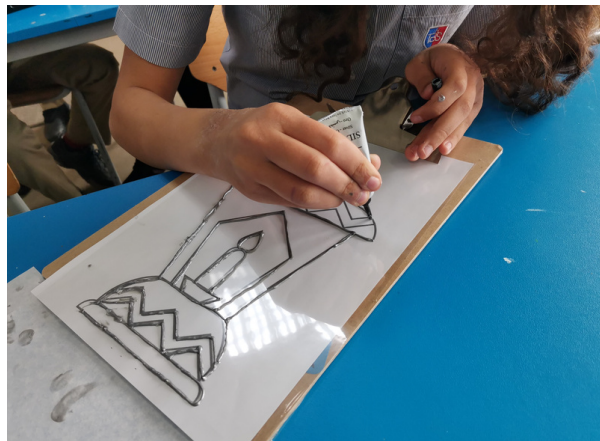
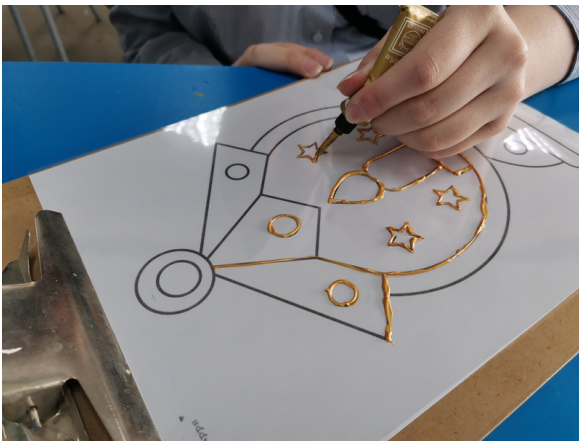
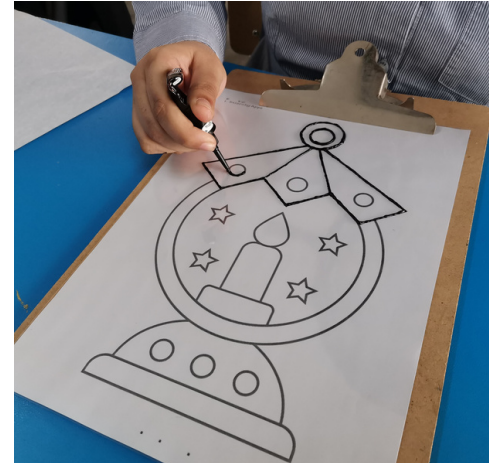
In science lessons at TBS, inquiry is a crucial component to support learning. Recently, Year 7 science students modeled diffusion in the alveoli by filling different-sized holes in agar with a green pigment. A higher rate of diffusion can be seen in the agar plate with smaller holes. Can you explain why a higher rate of diffusion is necessary in the alveoli of larger organisms?



Focus on Secondary

Art

This week in Art, our secondary students created Ramadan Lanterns sun-catchers ☼ . We experienced using glass paint on transparent stencils. It was a collaborative project where Year 9 students traced the detailed outlines using glass relief paint, then Year 7 students painted the designs.



The Lanterns are filling our hallways with heart-warming colourful sunshine.



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

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

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

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

Our Week in Photos

