

# This Week at TBS!

Dear Parents and Students,

This weekend I was reflecting on a topic that our VP had talked about at the recent Education Experts Conference. He was speaking about his own journey and the opportunities given through education. This got me thinking about my own journey. I was the first person in my family to go to university. My parents and the rest of my family had all left school to work with many of them attending 'night school' to gain further qualifications. This was the pathway for the majority of working-class families where the chance to go to university was not a financial possibility. My mother had wanted to be an Early Years Teacher but ended up working in an office, later becoming a book-keeper. My father worked in the family carpentry business as an apprentice and studied to become a Master Joiner ultimately opening his own business. From my first day at school, all I had ever wanted to do was become a teacher. In Scotland, higher education was at that time, and still is, very pro-active in ensuring that university and college was accessible to all. There were no fees for courses and for those families who needed, there were grants awarded to cover cost of living and transportation as well as accommodation. All I needed were the grades at Higher Level and I would be accepted, I had never considered that I was breaking the mould and achieving what my parents were not able to do. It was not easy as I juggled two jobs in a Golf Club and in a Rugby Club in addition to my studies and teaching practices yet I achieved my goal. The pride on my parents faces when I graduated was worth it. The need to provide education opportunities to everyone is, therefore, very close to my heart. Your ability to succeed in life should not be limited by your family circumstances. I wonder what your journey story is?

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

International week -4th June

French Day-5th June

Dress up Day- 8th June

Health Week-18th June

End of Academic Year- 26th June

# Colours of Spring around New Cairo

Have you notice the Flamboyant Trees in bloom? They are all across the city and their other name of Flame Tree reflects the brilliant orange flowers. Some are so heavily laden with flowers you cannot see the branches or leaves! Another tree that is common around Rehab and beyond is the Silk Floss Tree, there are some on the roundabouts at the Soukh and Mall 1 beside school. This deciduous tree native to the subtropical forests of South America has hidden secrets. On the trunk are spikes or bumps full of a material similar to cotton which can be used for stuffing. The bark can be used to make ropes, the wood has traditionally been used to make canoes and the seeds can produce oil for cooking and industrial use. The leaves are beginning to show on our Silk Floss Trees and the most wonderful pink flowers will follow soon.



## CIS Community Survey

CIS is a membership community working collaboratively to shape international education through professional services to schools, higher education institutions, and individuals. The CIS vision is to inspire the development of global citizens through high quality international education: connecting ideas, cultures, and educators from every corner of the world.

The CIS Accreditation process has long been recognised in international school circles as a highly effective means of initiating and maintaining school improvement while adhering to globally-benchmarked standards. Approximately 665 international schools are served by the membership organisation known as the Council of International Schools (CIS). Since 1970, it has accredited member schools, and many nations around the world hold a high regard for its accreditation process. During 2021-2022 GEMS TBS welcomed the Council of International Schools (CIS) to visit us virtually as part of our international accreditation. The evaluators from CIS were impressed with our school and have provided much valuable feedback for us to advance to the next stage in the accreditation process: the school self-study.

Part of this self-study is a Community Survey which involves all stakeholders of the school. At GEMS TBS we want you to experience excellence, and we know this means continuously evaluating what we do. In addition to our GEMS Parent Satisfaction Survey, the CIS Community Survey will help us better understand how we are doing as a school in different areas and from all stakeholders. The more parents, students, teachers and support staff we hear from, the more confident we can be in our development plan.

Please take a moment to check your email, take this short survey and help us shape the school's future by providing us with feedback through the CIS Community Survey

You should complete one survey per child enrolled in the school before 15th May.

For your ease and comfort, the survey is available in both English and Arabic. If you have not received the survey link via email, please inform our Front of House team.

# A Message From Ms Rachel Hardwick, Head of Primary

Dear Parents,

I hope this newsletter finds you well as we approach the end of another enriching academic year at TBS. As we navigate the final stretch, I wanted to take a moment to update you on our preparations for the upcoming transitions, the importance of end-of-year assessments, and share some exciting news from a recent conference I attended on digital transformations within education.

## Transitioning to the Next Year Group:

As we near the end of this school year, we are dedicated to ensuring a smooth and seamless transition for our students as they move on to their next year groups. Transition periods can be both exciting and challenging, which is why we have carefully planned a series of activities and initiatives to support our students during this time. Our experienced teachers will be working closely with each child, offering guidance, resources, and personalized attention to address any concerns and help them adjust comfortably to their new classrooms and routines.

## End-of-Year Assessments:

We firmly believe that assessments play a crucial role in guiding our educational journey. The end-of-year assessments are an opportunity for us to evaluate each student's progress and provide valuable insights for setting targets in the upcoming academic year. These assessments encompass a holistic view of our students' abilities, allowing us to identify their strengths, areas for improvement, and tailor our teaching approaches accordingly. It is through these evaluations that we can foster continuous growth and support the individual needs of each child within our care.

## Attending an Inspiring Conference on Digital Transformations:

I recently had the privilege to attend a truly remarkable conference on digital transformations within education. This enlightening experience provided valuable insights into the ever-evolving landscape of educational technology and its potential impact on our students' learning journeys. The conference showcased innovative approaches and tools that can enhance engagement, collaboration, and critical thinking skills among our students. As we continue to embrace the digital age, we are excited to explore and implement these ideas within the TBS curriculum, ensuring that our students are equipped with the necessary digital literacy and problem-solving abilities for the future.

In conclusion, as we prepare our children for their transition to their next year group and prioritize end-of-year assessments to set meaningful targets, we are committed to providing an enriching and supportive environment. Our dedication to your child's education remains steadfast as we embrace the potential of digital transformations within education. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we will continue to empower our students to reach new heights.

Best wishes,  
Rachel Hardwick



# Focus on Primary

## Y3

Year 3 students had an incredible trip where they explored nature's classroom at Fagnoon Farm. They enjoyed creating different types of artistic work including pottery, baking bread, painting and ceramic art.

From getting their hands dirty in the fields to feeding friendly farm animals, they discovered the beauty of sustainable farming and the importance of connecting with nature.

They had an unforgettable educational adventure filled with laughter, embedding learning, and a deeper appreciation for our environment! They had time immersing themselves in the wonders of agriculture and rural life.



## لغتنا العربية

على خير أدى طلابنا اختبارات الفصل الدراسي الثاني ونحن الآن بصدد التصحيح وإعلان النتائج ان شاء الله وعلى التوازي استمرت الحصص والأنشطة و البدء في تنفيذ خطة تنمية المهارات فيما تبقى من العام داعين الله عز وجل أن يختتم لنا ولتلاميذنا العام بكل التوفيق.



# A Message From Mr Nigel Wilsonlock, Head of Secondary

Dear parents and students,

I hope this newsletter finds you well as we enter another eventful week at The British School, Al Rehab. I would like to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt appreciation to all the parents who have supported their children during the external and Ministry exams. Your encouragement and guidance have been invaluable in helping our students prepare for these important assessments.

As we approach the exam period, I would like to remind all students that it is essential to arrive on time and in full school uniform for their exams. Adhering to these requirements ensures smooth and efficient exam administration and guarantees students' entry to the exam rooms. Please note that failure to meet these expectations can place undue pressure on students, which we aim to avoid.

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce that we will be holding celebration and awards assemblies at the end of the term. These assemblies will provide a wonderful opportunity to recognize and celebrate the achievements and efforts of our students throughout the year. We will not only be celebrating academic attainment but also progress and GEMS Jewels of Kindness and Respect.

Furthermore, we cordially invite all parents to our upcoming Parent Workshop, 8am, Tuesday 30 May, which will focus on how we utilise GL assessments to promote student learning. This workshop will provide insights into the three types of assessments and how they contribute to our students' academic progress. We believe that your participation and engagement in these workshops will further enhance the support we can offer to our students. As always, please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns. We appreciate your ongoing support and look forward to working together to create a successful and enriching learning environment for our students.

Kind regards

Nigel Wilsonlock  
Head of Secondary

# Focus on Secondary

## English

The last two weeks KS3 have been developing creative writing stories that featured a range of interesting characters, for example, a waiter, or a mermaid. The settings were also varied too, where the students had to create a story that might have included a waiter, in a cave, and the object of a cracked mirror. The purpose of having these unusual elements that needed to be embedded into their story was to stimulate creativity. Many students have developed a story that builds tension and creates suspense. The English department will compile the stories written by each student and produce a book that will be placed in the library. We will also aim to make these electronically accessible to you too, so watch this space. KS3 are the building blocks for students in developing their English skills, story writing will be part of the IGCSE English curriculum which is why it is a good time to be trying out different styles of writing and developing creativity through story writing.

Year 9 and 10 have recently completed the written papers of the second language exams. We wish the year 10 students the very best for their paper 2 (listening). They have worked hard this term, and we hope that they get the results they deserve.

## MUN Egypt Executive team 2024

Huge congratulations to our students Omar Abbass, Nagham Sharaf and Abdullah Mandil who have been selected for the MUN Egypt Executive Team 2024! They attended the first meeting at the weekend to share best practices and create a unified calendar for all conferences.

You have the dedication and passion to make a positive impact on the world.

**We are so proud of you.**

**Go TBS Go!!**



## Parent workshop

This week our Year 6 parents have been invited to attend a Transition Workshop led by our Head of Key Stage Three, Mr Fady. This is to ensure a smooth transition between the year groups and advise parents on the expectations of the Senior School. Our next Whole School Parent Workshop will be on Tuesday, 30th May and will focus on the upcoming GL Progress Tests for Years 3-9. Ms Rachel will lead the workshop and share with you the kinds of questions that your children will be answering as well as how we use the data from the tests to support students individually and look for trends across classes and year groups for planning.

## Time for a Spring Clean!

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.

## Challenge of the Pharaohs 2023 – the deadline is coming...

Thanks to those of you who have already shared their 'At Home' Just 1 Thing Challenges with your class teachers and tutors. The deadline for submission has not passed but know that some of you are finishing off your vidoes and powerpoints so please send them by the end of this week to be considered for this category. We will be choosing the two best Challenges from this category to compete against all the EEP schools submissions – go TBS!

## 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.



# 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)

## 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

