

This Week at TBS!

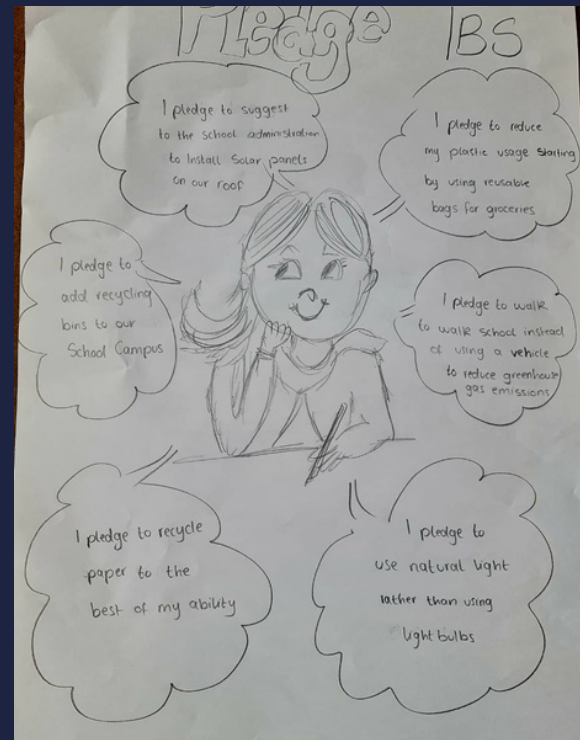
Dear Parents,

TBS Parent Survey

Twice a year we share with you a survey to get your feedback on what we are doing well at TBS and what you would like us to work on in terms of teaching and learning, health and safety, communication, after school activities, leadership, safeguarding and well-being, preparing student students for the future. Our last parent survey in May was very significant as we jumped up 29 points in our Net Promoter Score. Your comments and suggestions were incorporated into our Strategic Improvement Plan. We would encourage you to participate in the survey as although we are very happy to meet and talk with your anytime, the data we receive through this is very valuable. Here are some key topics that were raised in your comments:

What you say we do well:

- Communication with parents – keeping parents in touch
- Range of after school activities
- Character development
- Focus on child's well-being and education
- Keeping us updated about our child's progress
- Not putting pressure on students
- Let children like school
- Caring environment
- You listen carefully, try to work out problems and satisfy parents
- Follow up with any concerns or learning issues
- Create an atmosphere for students to be happy and comfortable learning
- Parent teacher meetings
- Responsive support staff
- Student leadership
- Preparing students for after graduation



**What you want us to work on:**

- Communication with parents – continue to improve our modes of communicating with you (whole school and class/form tutors) and sharing more of what is going on across the school through newsletters
- Improve progress and attainment in Arabic Language subjects – our new Head of Arabic has already made an impact with teaching and learning as well as updating the curriculum
- Following up – through the triangulation of data and pupil progress meetings we are monitoring every child's progress and taking rapid action to provide additional support, intervention plans or supporting you with learning at home.
- Qualified and up teachers – all of our teachers are part of a two year professional development programme focusing on embedding formative assessment. In addition staff who are teaching exam courses are attending professional development to ensure they are up to day with expectations. All of our teachers have access to TELLAL, the GEMS professional development network allowing them to select courses linked to their professional targets.
- Learning Support Assistants – as well as recruiting experienced LSAs with strong English and good qualifications, we have LSAs in all classes in Primary with additional LSAs in preschool and FS1
- Supervision – we have increased the number of staff on duty at all break and lunchtimes to support students. All staff on duty wear high-viz jackets so students can see them easily should there be a concern.
- More shaded areas – addition of shading in the EYFS playground as well as a new age appropriate climbing frame. We have also developed the learning areas for KS1 students with a bike track and range of interactive games.
- Developing the ASA range – we have taken the time to speak to our students to find out what ASAs they would like to do and built our programme around them. We have seen a marked engagement of students in Y7 and above in our ASAs this term so far.
- More meetings with teachers – our Meet the Teacher session prior to starting school was key to developing relationships with students as well as supporting them to set targets for themselves as part of our ongoing theme to make students more involved in their learning. Our mid term meetings with class teachers and form tutors reviewed targets and looked at any areas of concern raised including attendance, time keeping and organisation. Remember that you as a parent, have the right to call a meeting with any of your child's teachers should you wish to find out more about their learning or raise a concern.

Attendance Policy Updates

It is that time of the year when we are opening our Admissions for the academic year 2023/24 and as we are a family here at TBS, we are offering you the opportunity to register younger siblings early and in addition to receive a discount for the whole family. This is one of the best siblings offers in Cairo so make sure that you get in touch with our Admissions team to register your interest, book a place at our assessment day on Sunday, 13th November and rest knowing that school places are secure for next year.

Age acceptance for Preschool: Date of birth from 02/04/2020 to 01/04/2021

Age acceptance for FS1: Date of birth from 02/04/2019 to 01/04/2020

Deadline for registering siblings and securing the discount is Thursday, 17th November.



Attendance Policy Updates

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](#).

We have already reported the impact of arriving late to school has on an individual's learning. We are now focusing on the impact on the students who arrive on time for registration yet their learning is disrupted by a student arriving late.

To minimise this impact I would like to draw your attention to one section in the Late Arrival part of our policy:

- If a student arrives after 07:55am they may be required to wait until the next lesson change before attending a class to avoid the disruption of others' learning.

Please note that this will come into effect as from Sunday, 13th November and will impact on all students from Year 7-12.

We ask for your support to ensure that all students are OTIS (On Time In School) everyday

PASS Survey

GL's Pupil Attitude to Self and School (PASS) is a tool that supports students' wellbeing in learning and offers practical next steps. Social and emotional wellbeing is essential for effective learning, yet there will always be students who lack the confidence in their learning and who do not always feel connected with school and their teachers. PASS surveys focus on three broad areas – how a student feels about themselves, their engagement with the curriculum, and their feelings about school.

At TBS we use the data from the PASS survey to triangulate with other GL standardised assessments (CAT4 and Progress Tests) to build an individual profile for each student and ensure that we are supporting them through academic or pastoral interventions where required.

Over the coming weeks, all students from Year 3 to 12 will be taking the 20 minute online survey in one of our IT labs.

Hosting Cambridge Teacher Professional Training

On Friday, 9th and Saturday 10th December TBS will be hosting teachers from Cairo for Professional Training for IGCSE Combined Science, IGCSE ICT, IGCSE Arabic, AS and AL Physics. Our TBS teachers will be attending to ensure they have the best knowledge to deliver the updated curriculum.

Updates from around the school!

An update from Ms Rachel Hardwick, Head of Primary

It has been wonderful this week to see so many students reflecting on their learning with parents in our Primary Student Led Conferences. By empowering the students to create their own targets and reflect on their own skills and achievements, they are incentivized and involved in their learning journeys. Thank you to all of the parents who attended. Please note, if you were unable to attend or wish to speak to a particular specialist teacher, please do make an appointment to do so.

Year 1 this week enjoyed their first trip this year to Kidzania, where they learnt about different occupations and earned 'Kidzos' in return for their hard work. Much fun was had and the children were excellent representatives of our school.

Also this week, some classes have been busily rehearsing for upcoming Student-Led assemblies. We look forward to them presenting to their peers, developing communication skills, confidence and performance.

Our Entrepreneurship unit is underway and children have begun thinking of products they would like to craft and sell at our Winter Fayre. I have enjoyed encountering children conducting customer research through surveys and questionnaires.



Little Musicians

Pre-School had an amazing time with MS Hend enjoying their Music Class. They started to learn how to use shakers following MS Hend's instructions. They all had great fun!



Early Years - Physical Development

Within the Early Years Curriculum, we have the Prime Area of Physical Development. Under the revised framework this is now split into Gross Motor and Fine Motor development.

Gross Motor is all about the development of the whole body, co-ordination, movement and balance.

It was amazing to see our EY students participating in Sports Day last week, some of them for the first time ever. A big Thank you has to go to the PE team who created this wonderful event and Thank you to those parents who were able to come along, for being so supportive.

Fine Motor is more about developing the muscles in the hands. This will help in the future when your child is holding a pen or pencil to write. At these earlier stages the muscles need lots of exercise to develop these muscles and in school we plan activities such as threading, cutting, painting, scooping (sand & water), mark making and manipulating playdough. We encourage you to do some activities at home.



For threading you can use beads and string or straws and pipe cleaners. Playdough from the toy shops can be very expensive, in school we make our own playdough, which is much more fun and helps the children to see changes in materials when combined together (a bit of science). It is also more creative as you can decide on the colour, the smell, the texture etc.

Here is a simple recipe for making playdough

2 cups of plain flour

1 cup of salt

1 cup of warm water – you can add food colouring or a bit of paint for colour

Optional- A small amount of vegetable oil

Mix it together in a bowl until it makes a dough like consistency. If it is too sticky add more flour, if it is too dry add more water.

Once made you can roll it, pat it, poke it, squeeze it. Make shapes or numbers or letters with it. We hope you have fun.



Year 4 Entrepreneurs

Year Four have been super busy the past week. As part of entrepreneurial week, each class was tasked with coming up with an idea that they could sell at the Christmas fair.

They had to concept, design and come up with marketing and selling strategies. It's definitely safe to say our young children are entrepreneur masterminds! We watched them as they took lead and came up with amazing ideas that they've since developed and have been preparing to present in front of Ms. Hoda, to pitch their idea to her! The children in all three teams (design, market, sell) have come up with funky and thought through strategies that we're sure will get their crafts noticed and sold!

We can't wait for you to come and witness their crafts first hand in December!

An update from Mr Nigel Wilsonlock, Head of Secondary

COP27 is currently big global news with the eyes of the world on what is to come out of Sharm El-Sheikh. We are also getting involved and had a delegation of 11 Y9/10 students take part in the Beyond COP21 Symposium here in Cairo. I am pleased to report that our returning students are full of ideas and commitments to make a change. I will be asking them to help us earn our "Green Flag".

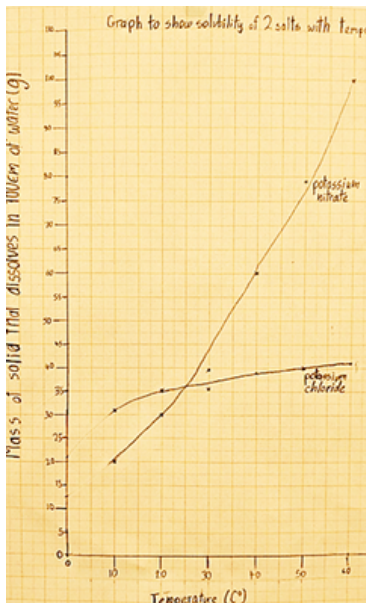
We launched the International Award this week and are looking forward to seeing this become a permanent fixture for all our students. The initial trial camp is on our Campus for the night of Thursday, 1 December. We have limited spaces available, so I encourage Y9/10/11 students to sign up early. This will add great value to our students as it is an internationally recognised award that signifies a young adult's ability to commit, achieve and persevere in non-academic areas. The seasons have definitely changed from Summer to Autumn, with cooler mornings now the norm. I would therefore like to remind you that students may come to school in our warm weather uniform. Many students are wearing hoodies and sweatshirts believing that they can wear what they want because it is now cold. We have had cases of students wearing the wrong clothing with clean uniform in their bags! Your support is welcomed in helping us keep our community standards. I hope to see all Year 9/10 parents and students on the evening of Tuesday, 15 November(4-6pm), We have our Year 9/10 Options Evening. There will be a short introduction and a focused presentation for each Year group. Teachers are then available to talk about their subjects and what choosing them means for further study.

Science Graphing Skills

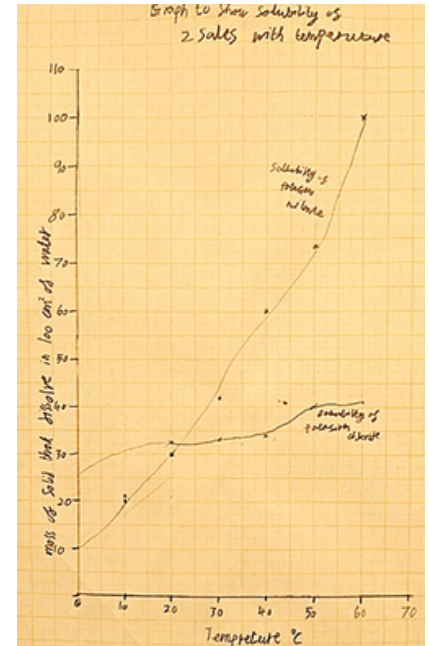
Graphs and charts communicate information visually. They can show patterns, help students identify correlations, and get the point of the experiment across quickly.

It is imperative for all students to develop their scientific skills, particularly graphing, drawing, and labelling diagrams. In the Science department we ensure that these skills are introduced early on and developed as students progress through the years. Drawing and interpreting graphs is essential for understanding scientific relationships between variables, being able to identify **independent**, **dependent** and **controlled variables** is crucial to successful graphing.

- Typically, the **independent variable** is plotted on the **x-axis**
- The **dependent variable** is plotted on the **y-axis**

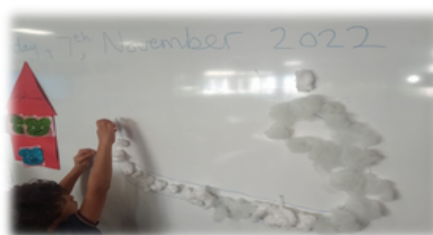


The process of drawing diagrams as well as explaining and justifying them assists students to develop their science understanding. The generation of visual representations should thus be thought of as a thinking tool that both develops and shows student understanding. Diagrams should be drawn and labelled with the help of a pencil and not a pen for easy editing and correction.



لغتنا العربية

إن تعلم اللغة العربية لا يقتصر فقط على إجادتها فعلى الطلاب أن يعرفوا المزيد عن الخلفيات الثقافية بالمجتمع مع ربط ما يدرسون بالواقع مثل مؤتمر المناخ والحفاظ على كوكب الأرض وغيرها من الأحداث لربط اللغة بالواقع مع استخدام مهارات قراءة الحرف وصوته بالرسم والتلوين نفع الله تلاميذنا بما يتعلمون



little COP 27

TBS student representatives from key stage four were excited to participate in the "Beyond COP 21 Symposium".

This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to make a pledge to make a difference. The event, hosted by Al-Alsson School, was a great chance to share knowledge and present ideas among other international schools. Students participated in a variety of activities and seminars raising awareness about global warming, the sustainability of our planet and relating environmental issues to SDGs.

We were so proud of our TBS students.





Dates for your Diary:

- Tuesday, 15th November – KS1 Sports Morning 0803-1030 (Parents encouraged to come and participate!)
- Tuesday, 15th November – Y5 Education Trip to Fagnoon
- Tuesday, 15th November – Career Day for Y9 students
- Tuesday, 15th November – Options Evening for all Y9 students and parents
- Wednesday, 16th November – Y3&4 Sports Morning 0830-1030 (Parents encouraged to come and participate!)
- Thursday, 17th November – Y5&6 Sports Morning 0830-1030 (Parents encouraged to come and participate!)
- Sunday, 20th November – Primary Walking Museum: All parents invited

Have a great week!

School Principal
Jane Knight