



# TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



## TIS BULLETIN: 19 AUGUST, 2016

### Thought for the Week

Undertake something that is difficult, it will do you good. Unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow. - Ronald E Osborn

### Calendar

20/8/16: Returning students arrive at school

21/8/16: Alumni Home Day

22/8/16: Classes commence

25/8/16: Service learning trip: G11 to Alkorlikope

26/8/16: Service learning trip: G11 to Alkorlikope

28/8/16: Thanksgiving service (11.00am)

3/9/16: Health Walk (6.00am); Parent/Teacher Information sessions (9.00am-1.00pm)

4/9/16: Annual play auditions

### 2016 Newbies

Our newest members of the TIS family arrived on Wednesday and have settled in very quickly. I congratulate and thank their parents and family members who ensured such a smooth transition. We have a great year ahead of us to enjoy.

### Making Us Proud

A special thank you to our senior school leaders who have cut short their vacation to ensure our new students settled in well from Wednesday. Their planning, support, guidance and service have been exemplary. Well done!

### 2016/2017 Calendar Overview

Confirmation of the national elections in December has resulted in a revised calendar for the 2016/2017 academic year. The revised calendar can be found on the school website:

<http://www.tis.edu.gh/tis-calender/>

- Please note that there is no mid-semester break in first semester this year. In lieu, there is a 4-week vacation over Christmas.
- Parents are required to ensure students observe semester dates to satisfy learning requirements. Arriving later and departing prior advised semester dates impact on a student's learning outcomes.

### ManageBac

ManageBac (MB) is our learning management portal that is used by teachers for planning assessment, reporting and attendance. Students use it to access assignment tasks, resources, and assessment results, including semester reports. Parents access MB for reports, announcements and can track their child's academic performance. From September, almost all messages will be sent through MB to parents. Next week, parents will be sent an email



# TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



invitation to set their password to access their account. More information will be included in next week's Newsletter.

## Naviance

Naviance is a college guidance and life career skills software program that students will commence using from G7-12. It will be the platform from which university and college applications will be completed. Students and parents will be able to access this program to ensure transparency throughout the university application process in G12. Within the next fortnight, parents will be sent an email invitation and password to access their account. More information will be included in next week's Newsletter.

## Devices

From the start of the 2016/2017 academic year, students in Grades 7-10 will be able to bring one device to school for use in the classroom, under teacher guidance. Devices exclude mobile phones and the preferred device for students is a laptop computer. Students in G11-12 may bring two devices. Parents should note that a device is not mandatory and the choice is the parents' decision. However, a device will provide convenience to students, as all students will be accessing ManageBac (MB) from August, as well as Naviance, a guidance program to support students right through to the submission of their university applications.

- *Parents are reminded that students with devices may only log onto the TIS network and not bring their own internet modems to school. For those students using a tablet, parents must ensure the sim card is removed or disabled if the device is cellular.*
- *Please note that an iWatch is not regarded as a device, as it requires an iPhone for full functionality. However, during any formal examinations, an iWatch must be removed before entering an exam venue.*
- *My sincere apologies to all new parents for any confusion in the documents received that may have given you a different impression.*

## CAS Updates



On behalf of the CAS team, I will like to welcome you all back to school. It feels wonderful to be in TIS! Our newbies are on campus and they are settling in so well. As we welcome



# TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



new students, new parents and staff, watch out for the new member of the CAS team ... ☺  
He just can't wait to engage with you all ☺.

Make sure you explore the various opportunities CAS (DP) and Action Service, Community project (MYP) has to offer you. We are always trying different things and making things better. After all we aim to be excellent in all we do.

Watch out for the September Newsletter – Updates on CAS projects/activities, Emmanuel Selasie's heart surgery, Abigail, CureAidGhana, Helping Hands, Educom, Akorlikope, School Events and much more.

Enjoy the ride!!!

Below are some reflections from our student leaders, newbies, continuing staff and new staff. We are very confident that this is the beginning of another great academic year.



## From Student Leaders (IB2 & IB1)

Personally, the student leaders' workshop was extremely impactful and informative. It helped me think thoroughly about the work done so far as student leaders, especially in my department. It also gave us insight into handling

students in the right way. I hope it is something continued for the next batches of student leaders as it is a way to maintain T.I.S stronghold. **(Mame Ekuia Cudjoe - Deputy Catherine Hostel Prefect)**

From the student leaders' workshop, I learnt how to work in collaboration with other student leaders and how to present myself as an admirable and respected student leader to both my colleagues and all other students. The workshop taught me how best to interact with students as a leader by being positive and open minded to everyone. As a team, we (student leaders) look forward to meet our goals and finish the semester in oneness. **(Nii Odartey-Wellington - Francis Hostel Prefect)**

The workshop was great and very insightful. We were given the opportunity to reflect and address ways in which we could make our goals a reality. I really loved it. Hopefully this will be a great semester and all student leaders will be able to achieve their goals. **(Eyram Diaba - Head Girl)**

The student leaders' orientation was very effective and helpful; it helped us to get our priorities straight and know where we stand as student leaders. It also allowed us to reflect on



# TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



our decisions and progress during the first half of our leadership term. We look forward to a great semester. **(David Adarkwah & Rinnah Krobo-Edusei - Sports Prefects)**

## From New Students



My name is Marie-Gabriella in IB1. Coming to TIS has proved to be a good decision; and I regret not starting in grade 7. So far I have barely spent 2 days and the atmosphere is just AMAZING; from the students to the Principal, everyone is just friendly. I look forward to more interactive activities. I want to engage in a variety of sports, most especially swimming. But not forgetting my academics. **(Marie-Gabriella Nwokolo - IB 1)**

My expectation is that I can join the Girls Soccer Team, and everyone will be treated fairly. I also expect that my teachers will incorporate fun with learning. **(Nina-Abie Omatsola - Grade 7)**

Although I assumed the first days were going to be boring and dull, so far it has been full of excitement and fun. We had tons of laughs and smiles and I like the school. I would want to play football, swim and engage in other sports. **(McKevin Zukowski - Grade 9)**

The school has so far been exciting, and has met most of my expectations; a friendly environment, well-resourced facilities, and interactive activities. The prefects are very nice and approachable. I will want to join the Soccer Team, Basketball Team and also join the School Choir. **(Fikunayomi Olagbami - Grade 9)**



## From New Staff



I am impressed by the school's effort to equip teachers and all workers in order for them to excel in their various endeavors. I believe anyone who implements lesson learnt from the staff workshops is going to have a wonderful time with students, and colleagues. As a hostel guardian, I saw a bunch of wonderful, active, vibrant and inquisitive fresh gentlemen and ladies on the school's open day for new students. **(Janet Enning - Hostel Guardian &**

**History Teacher)**

Before joining TIS, I was of the impression that the school was filled with people who were only academically minded. After about one week, well that impression has changed. I have realized that the staff, both academic and administrative, as well as the Supporting Staff, are very caring and friendly; it feels good to be in TIS. In the coming weeks, I expect to learn a



## TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



lot, interact more with everyone and do my best. (Ms. Linda Adika - TA, English Department)

The past three weeks have been a whirlwind of activities: orientation and workshops. Although it's been crazy, I have loved every minute of it. The TIS family is a beautiful one. There are so many friendly and outgoing colleagues and I have not been lonely. There is always someone to talk with, to share ideas, get to know, or to get help. I can't wait for teaching to begin! I'm excited to see what the year holds for me and for the TIS family. Let's keep the love alive!!! (Mrs. Akua Bobson Tei - Teacher, English Department)

**Mr. Ebenezer Asime - CAS Advisor.** I worked with TIS for the first time as an Acting Coach in 2013, when the school was celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and staged the Broadway celebrated musical, *The Lion King*. Since then, I have worked in the same capacity for the past two years when the school produced for its annual school plays, *This is Our Chance* and *Sarafina* in the years 2014 and 2015 respectively. With each encounter with the student performers, I was always elated at the level of creative dexterity they displayed, and I have always yearned to work with the school to do more of these. Well, I am here now, a full time CAS Advisor, and I can only imagine the challenge and even more so, the opportunity this offers me. To paraphrase Nelson Mandela, I look forward to serve and add my own humble contribution to the development of the students' lives, and as my coordinator (Mrs. King) will always say, 'It can only get better'.

**Mr. Ate Hemmes - MYP Coordinator/Art Teacher.**

As my wife, Carin and I lived in West Africa, when we worked at the British School of Lome 9 years ago, we knew a bit what to expect from the country. We agreed to accept a position at TIS based also on what we saw on their website. Especially the YouTube movies showed a vibrating school where a lot is going on. On top of that, it looked like there were only happy people.



What we expected seems to be true. Ghana is still very much like it was 9 years ago, though I must say that Ghanaians seem even friendlier. We have received a lot of help from the people in school, but also randomly wherever we go. The teachers are equally friendly and, on top of that, very enthusiastic. We love the family feel of the school and appreciate the warm welcome we have been given.

We expect to enjoy working at TIS and live in Ghana. There should be a balance between work and live and I'm sure Ghana has enough to offer to make this work.

Regarding MYP, I expect TIS to see a smooth transition and gain the authorization as soon as possible.



# TEMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



## From continuing Staff

**Mr. Louis Welagaamo - Teacher, English Department.** It's a new academic year and for me, a new experience, having moved from one department (CAS) to another (English Department). The past two weeks have been very helpful, especially in terms of preparing and equipping staff and I feel like I'm in a better position to deliver in and out of the classroom than I was before these trainings. It's a new environment and a few things have changed, but "the secret of change is to focus all of [our] energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new" (~Socrates).

**Ms. Sandra Thompson - Emotional Counselor.** Having spent 6 months last academic year as the emotional counselor (intern) in the school, I was privy to a general outlook of the TIS family. Hence, I will say I had a heads up. My expectations before joining the school were the opportunity to continue to build on some of the work I had already started during my time in the school. I noticed there were a number of ways I could also contribute to the vision set by the school as well as learn from the encounters by the day. The welcome has been overwhelmingly great with a number of progressive endeavours which makes my outlook of the future exciting. As the emotional counselor, it is my expectation that we as a team, work together in attaining the heights we all aim to achieve. In doing that, we are to look at the total wellbeing of students, staff and parents. With this in place, I am confident we are building on the formidable foundation laid in developing future leaders who will make a mark in their society, community, nation and world.

**Ms. Irene Koree - Head, English Department.** I love workshops; they are usually a sure way of learning – learning to be better at what I do, equipping myself to facilitate learning through inquiry, to produce life-long learners, whose passion is to seek knowledge, synthesize it and use it to solve problems in our world. My passion is to impact the young people that I have the opportunity to interact with and this year's workshops have been good because they have done just that.

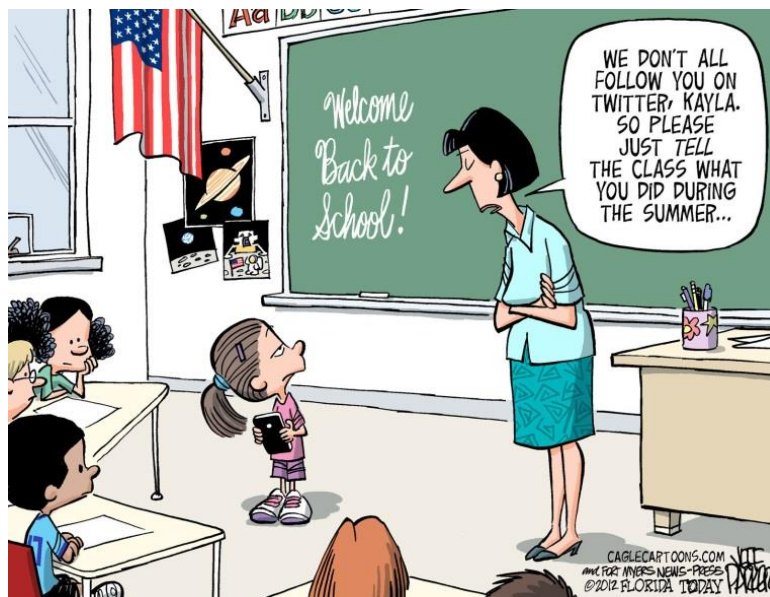
**Ms. Clara Burgess - College Guidance Counselor.** In reflecting on our first three weeks of the 2016/2017 academic year, I'm most excited about the implementation of the MYP Program. Not only do I align with it in principle, but I can see that it will benefit our students academically and morally. I'm excited to be a part of this big step for TIS.

## From parents

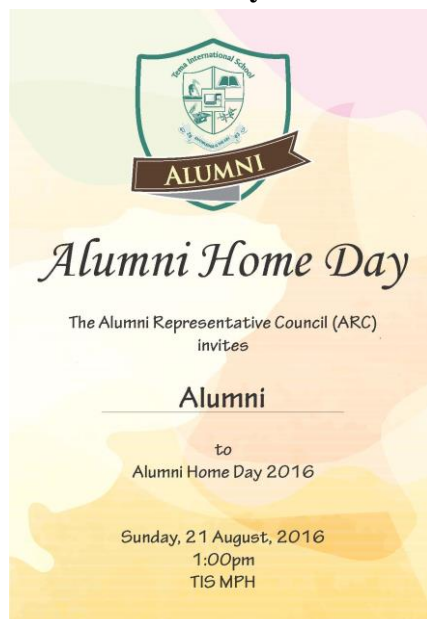
**Mrs. Marie Noelle Yakubu - Parent since 2011.** TIS is a great and awesome school. It is a family oriented school and the students are very welcoming and respectful. My reason for bringing my fourth child to TIS is because I haven't been failed after my first three sons came through the TIS system. Their progress has been awesome. I appreciate how the school grooms students to be caring and sensitive towards community work. The boarding house also grooms the students to be independent, focused and very decisive. My 2 sons who graduated from TIS are always outstanding anywhere they find themselves because of the leadership skills imbibed in them while in school. I just like the way they take responsibility and are pro-active. My advice to the new students is to avail themselves for the good things the TIS has to offer them. They should manage their time well, and set their priorities right. I look forward to TIS making my 4<sup>th</sup> child a better person. I am a happy parent of TIS.

**Asha Tettey-Tamaklo - Parent since 2006** - I have wonderful and nostalgic memories of TIS. Two sons having graduated nearly 10 years gave me completely different experiences. I learnt a lot from my relationships with teachers, hostel guardians, management, students and all workers in different ways. There have been challenges, but in all it has been truly an experience. I loved the team spirit of students and teachers.

Being back is going to bring a totally new and different experience. I realized a lot of changes: new management team, new teachers, added courses, and improved infrastructure. TIS still the best!



## Alumni Home Day



TIS values its Alumni students, who remain very special members of the TIS family. On this Sunday, an Alumni Home Day has been organised and seeks to give the Alumni the opportunity to share their past experiences and life achievements with the new students. This important sharing will allow current students to witness the outstanding product of TIS and entice the newbies to excel as life-long learners.

On Sunday, 21 August, all Alumni are invited to attend. Some selected ones will be given a special invitation to have a one-on-one interaction with the new students. Events for the day include lunch with the TIS family, a tete-a-tete with the newbies, a short, but special church service during which an Alumni will minister and a cocktail afterwards.

We will use this occasion as a platform to have a maiden meeting with all elected class representatives to discuss matters regarding the Alumni Executive Council (AEC) elections.



## CollegeGuides Update

Welcome new and continuing students! We're excited to start a new school year and are ready to support you!

### SAT, ACT & PSAT Reminders:

There will be SAT & ACT October Registrations early next week, as students have a short window within which they can register.

Test dates are as follows: SAT: October 1, ACT: October 22.

All interested students especially IB1 & IB2s, should remember to see the Guidance Counselors **no later than next Tuesday, 23 August 2016**, to complete registration before close of day. Passport pictures will also need to be taken and payment must be made as part of the registration process.

➤ SAT I Reasoning Test Registration fee:  
USD110

➤ SAT II: 1 Subject (USD100), 2 Subjects (USD110), & 3 Subjects (USD120).

➤ ACT Registration fee: USD100

Grade 10 students interested in taking the Preliminary SAT (PSAT) exam scheduled to take place on the **15 October**, which they were informed about last semester, should also see the Guidance Counselor **no later than next Wednesday, 24 August 2016**, to register. The PSAT is an excellent way for our tenth graders to practice for the real SAT exam, required as part of the application process for most U.S. universities.

➤ PSAT Registration fee: USD30

Please remember that the valid unexpired passport is the only acceptable form of identification for these exams. This is in line with strict directives from the testing agencies (Collegeboard and ACT Inc., USA).

If you have any questions, kindly email [eunice.aryee@tis.edu.gh](mailto:eunice.aryee@tis.edu.gh)





## Meet Our Alumni of the Week



**Name:** Aziz Timbilla

**Year group:** Class of 2015

**Positions held:** Dining Hall Class Representative (2009/2010); SRC Class Representative (2011/2012); room monitor (2011/2012); TISMUN 2011 Secretary General; Treasurer of Genesis; SRC Executive (Moderator) (2013/2014); TIS@10MUN President of the General Assembly; President of the 2014 TISMUN Planning Committee; TISMUN 2014 Chair of the Security Council and President of the General Assembly; Academic Affairs Prefect (2014/2015).

**Year of entry:** 2009 (Grade 7-12)

**Achievements:** Overall Best Student in Grade 7; Overall Second Best Student in Grade 8; Best Student in Economics in Grade 9;

Best Student in Computer Studies in Grade 9; Best Student in Economics in Grade 10; Best Student in Mathematics SL in IB 1; Member of the Debate Society; Participated in 10 Model United Nations (MUN) Conferences including 2 international conferences in the Netherlands; Best Delegate, Most Diplomatic Delegate and Best Dressed Delegate of the 2010 GISMUN; Best Delegate, Most Diplomatic Delegate, Best Opening Speech and Best Dressed Delegate of the African Union Peace and Security Council of the 2012 International MUN Conference in The Netherlands; Chair of the UNICEF Committee and Best Dressed Male in the UNICEF Committee of the SOSMUN 2013; Most Diplomatic Delegate, Best Dressed Delegate and the Delegate who is Most Likely to Succeed in Life of the General Assembly of the 2014 International MUN Conference in The Netherlands. Chair of the Monetary and Financial committee and Best Dressed Male in the SOS Model African Union Conference 2014.

**Nationality:** Ghanaian

**University:** Charles University in Czech Republic

**Course:** Medicine

**Ambitions:** To be a Medical Doctor for the United Nations

**Role Model:** Kofi Annan

**Hobbies:** Tennis, Table Tennis and Reading

**Word of advice:** Study wisely, believe in yourself and most importantly believe in God and you can achieve anything you desire.

I appreciate your support!

Dr. Ken Darvall  
Principal

Arrival of our New Students.....We are one big family #TIS



Our Newbies had a good time with our student leaders



## Staff Development Workshop 2016

