



TIS BULLETIN: 03 JUNE, 2016.

Thought for the Week

Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you haven't planted.

- David Bly

Important Dates

7/6/16: Challenge Week commences (G7-9); G11 coursework continues; final week of IGCSE exams

11/6/16: Achievers' Day (10.00am start); students depart for the summer break following Achievers' Day)

17/8/16: New students arrive at TIS for the new academic year.

20/8/16: Returning students, including G11, return for the new academic year.

Important Action to be Taken By Parents

- **7/6/16:** Advise Bijoux if you do not require a copy of A (2016 TIS Annual Magazine). Students will receive their copy on Achievers' Day and parents will be billed GHC50.

Doing Themselves Proud

The following students will be studying at Yale during the summer break:

Applied Science and Engineering (19th June – 2nd July)

- Elikem Hermon (G10)
- Yadah Ampofo (G10)

Politics, Law and Economics (19th July - 2nd July)

- Afia Addia (G11)

Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship (26th July - 8th August)

- Salim Roland (G10)
- Yehowahi Sekan (G10)

Sustainability, Energy and Environment

- Mifatu Gadzekpo (G10)

Big Occasions

Last week was one of those WOW weeks at TIS.

- *Leavers' Dinner*

G11 hosted G12 as they enjoyed their last dinner as TIS students. IT was a special and emotional occasion, as students revelled in this special occasion to reflect and express gratitude for the extraordinary opportunity that TIS has provided for our senior students.



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• *Graduation Day*

It doesn't get any better! Last Saturday we celebrated our 10th Graduation Ceremony, when we acknowledged our special IB class of 2016, the Innovators, and celebrated their graduation from Tema International School. Whilst a celebration, graduation ceremonies are often a very emotional occasion, as we farewell students who dominate a significant part of our daily lives.

TIS is a very special school and it is the TIS experience that makes our Alumni stand out, wherever they go. On this occasion, it was a celebration because our Innovators are now eligible to become part of our TIS Alumni, a very special group because they remain part of the TIS family.

It has been an uplifting experience to see so many alumni return to visit TIS just in the 10 months since I arrived. I appreciate and thank our pioneer and alumni students who joined us last Saturday and it was fitting that we also formally established the TIS Alumni Association.

Attendees last week were encouraged to spend time before the ceremony to read the bios of our graduands. Each one was special and reflected each unique author, but each carried some common messages.

First, everyone was very appreciative of the dream and reality of our Co-Founders, Mr and Mrs Adjavon, and their family, who established this experience to develop future leaders in a family environment.

Second, our students valued and respected the opportunity their parents have provided them to attend TIS. On behalf of the school, I also express admiration and gratitude to our parents who have supported their sons and daughters during this important journey.

Third, students acknowledged the support of their teachers and staff at TIS. I know the Graduation Ceremony was also a proud time for all TIS staff as we reflected on the time our graduands have spent with us here. We were blessed by this experience.

Fourth, they were very proud to reach this point when they could say they had completed the IB Diploma Programme. In my experience, it is only the Diploma Programme that ensures students emerge as mature adults, ready to complete successfully any undergraduate program they choose.

From the Grade 12 bios, I quote three of our graduands' words of wisdom:

- Elsie: The IB is very demanding, but coming out of it is, AMAZING!
- Barbara: No challenge will ever last forever. Everything has an end, so just hold on and get through it successfully!
- Ofeibea: The IB program as a whole was not difficult. It was challenging. There's a BIG difference between the two.

While almost all of our graduands identified one of the 10 learner profile attributes as reflecting them, my wish to our special class of 2016 is that they always demonstrate each of the attributes on a daily basis. In doing so, they will be assured of success. I have no qualms in suggesting that the world would be, by far, a better place for all, if it was a mandatory requirement for every world leader to complete the Diploma Programme, thus being able to demonstrate each learner profile attribute in every decision they make.



I hope that the importance of implementing the Middle Years Programme to ensure our students grow and enjoy the IB experience as early as they can, rather than being pushed in at the deep end in Grade 11, will be appreciated in future years.

- *Alumni Association*

As a family school, TIS cherishes our students who complete their schooling here. These former students reflect the qualities of the TIS experience and the opportunities that await our G12 students on their completion of the DP. To celebrate ten years since the graduation of our pioneer class, the pioneer head prefects unveiled the Roll Call Wall (of Fame) where all graduation classes are listed for posterity. Our 2016 Innovators will be officially listed from 1 August. We had over 50 Alumni representing each year return for this unveiling and roll call. Following the unveiling, the pioneer captains also officially launched the Alumni Association Office. We cherish our Alumni and remind them to always visit us when they return to Ghana, or if they are passing by.

- A

A is the 2016 TIS Annual School Magazine. Each year, the Magazine's Editorial Board accepts the challenge to 'go one better' than the previous year's edition. Shrouded in secrecy, this year's Board has worked closely as a focused, dedicated and tireless team, as they developed a concept and then set about bringing their creative ideas to unveil a perspective on 2015/2016.

A is for Awesome. As you read through the magazine, you will experience the excitement, passion and energy that Afia and her team demonstrated daily to ensure all deadlines were met, without compromising quality. Although a tiresome task, members of the Editorial Board wore a smile every time you saw them working as a united team.

A is for Addictive. By the time you finish reading this year's Magazine, don't expect to put it down. You will soon discover that it is mesmerizing, with a need to go back to the various intriguing stories and photos that abound in this year's edition. In the end, I am confident you will agree with me that this year's Editorial Board has achieved its goal and raised the bar higher for their successors.

A is for A-Team. Well done, Editorial Board, on your awesome achievement. This year's Editorial Board comprised: Afia Addai (editor); Stephanie Eyram Diaba (co-editor); Nana Akua Ahenkorah (secretary/writer); Patrice Bunatal (head writer, graphic designer and photographer); Mame Ekua Cudjoe (writer); Ryan Apreala (writer); Adwoa Pephrah (writer and photographer); Nubuke Amoah (writer, marketing and sponsorship); Essie Baiden (head graphic designer); Peter Gyateng (graphic designer); Augustus Poku Sakordee (head photographer); Aaron Osebre (photographer); and Michele Buama Abebrese (marketing and sponsorship). My sincere appreciation extends also to Angela and Selassie for their extraordinary work ethic and creative touches that have energised the team. To the CAS team and this year's sponsors, thank you for ensuring such a worthwhile tradition flourishes at TIS.

2016/2017 Calendar Overview

The calendar overview with key dates has been updated on the TIS website. You will receive a link with today's email link to this bulletin.



ABRSM Exams

Best of luck to the following students who will be undertaking the practical ABRSM exams in Accra next Thursday.

G7: Elrad Martin-Lawson and Jason Bortei-Doku

G8: Eliza-Gabrielle Dennis, India Agyemang, Noelle Mends-Addison, Davina Yawson, Kwasi Ankama-Asamoah, Enam Hermon, Baaba Egyei-Mensah, and Maame Ama Hammond.

G9: Juku Senu Attionu, Elisabeth Appafram, Maame Serwaa Bawuah, Gabriella Manu and Natasha Tetteh.

Challenge Week

While Grade 11 will continue with coursework and the Group 4 Project, G7-9 students (and G10 who have no remaining exams) will be provided with the details of Challenge Week on Sunday afternoon and will have to complete the two tasks by 10.30am on next Wednesday. It's a special inter-colour event, with the winning colour receiving the inaugural Challenge Week trophy.

Watch this space next week.

Whispers

Whispers is an anthology of stories and poems from the 2015 Creative Writers' Camp. It will be on sale at Achievers' Day and is essential reading.

Proposed Biology/ESS/Geography Field Trip to UK

The teachers of Environmental Systems and Societies (ESS), Biology and Geography are piloting an educational field trip to UK. The above trip is open to DP ESS, Biology and Geography students (including current G10 students who are planning to choose these subjects in G11). It is planned for 30 October to 5 November, 2016.

A special note with specific details has been emailed to relevant parents today to gauge the level of interest to determine if the proposed field trip is viable.

ASCCUS Updates

June ACT Exam next week Saturday (June 11, 2016);



- All test takers have been reminded of their **valid unexpired passports**, as the only acceptable form of ID based on strict ACT Inc., USA directives. Photocopies or printed scanned copies are unacceptable.
- Scores are usually available online, 6-8 weeks after the test date, by logging into your child's account using his/her username and password.
- Reporting time for test takers is 7:15am and exam is scheduled to end at about 12:45pm.



Key ACT Facts:

- Stands for American College Testing (ACT)- it is a test required by most U.S. universities & colleges as part of the application process.
- Divided into 4 long sections
- Tests English, Math, Reading, and Science skills
- Has an Essay section- Although the Essay is optional, we recommend it and require that our students write it.
- It is accepted by most U.S. schools as an alternative to the SAT Reasoning test & SAT Subject tests.
- Taking the ACT could be advantageous because many U.S. universities consider it for scholarship decisions.
- Some students test better on the ACT exam, as many find it more straightforward.
- Over the years, we've observed that students who take personal ACT practice (test prep) seriously and prepare consistently for it, tend to do better.

Meet our Alumni of the Week!



Name: Kwasi Adi-Dako

Year Group: IB Class of 2009

Hostel/Colour: Anthony/Blue Cedar

Achievements/Awards: Best Student (History)

Roles Played @ TIS: Senior Prefect, Bell Boy, Model United Nations Delegate/Secretary General

University/College Level: Bachelor's Degree from Columbia University- New York

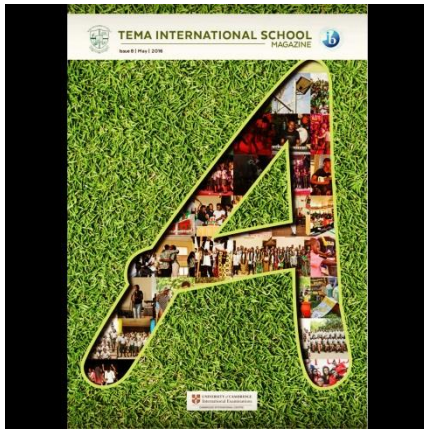
Program: Psychology and Business Management

Other Involvement in Uni: Ballroom Dance Gold Level inter-collegiate competitor; African Students Association Social Chair; Youth for Debate Teacher; Intramural Soccer Champion.

Current Employment: Faculty/Curriculum Designer at the [African Leadership University](#) in Mauritius.

A Word of Advice: There are few more powerful motivators than passion because that energy allows you to achieve feats that you would have thought impossible. When you graduate, there will be times when you may feel like you have no idea what direction you are moving in. On those dark nights, ask yourself: "What do I do when no-one is telling me what to do?" The necessary pre-condition for the life of the mind is introspection, so spend time reflecting on what makes you burn and where you can make the most impact.

CAS Updates:



‘A’ Magazine: TIS Magazine, ‘A’ edition is out! Grab your copy of the 8th edition of the TIS annual magazine, the newest add-on to our numerous publications. With a minimalist concept, the magazine takes you on a ride of beautiful pictures of the various events, activities and happenings in TIS all year round. Well done to the editorial team made-up of 13 committed IB1s and led by the tireless editors Afia Addai and Eyram Diaba.

Very special thanks to the patrons Dr. Ken Darvall, Angela Semarckor, Selasie Essor and Louis Welagaamo for their support and passion to this project.

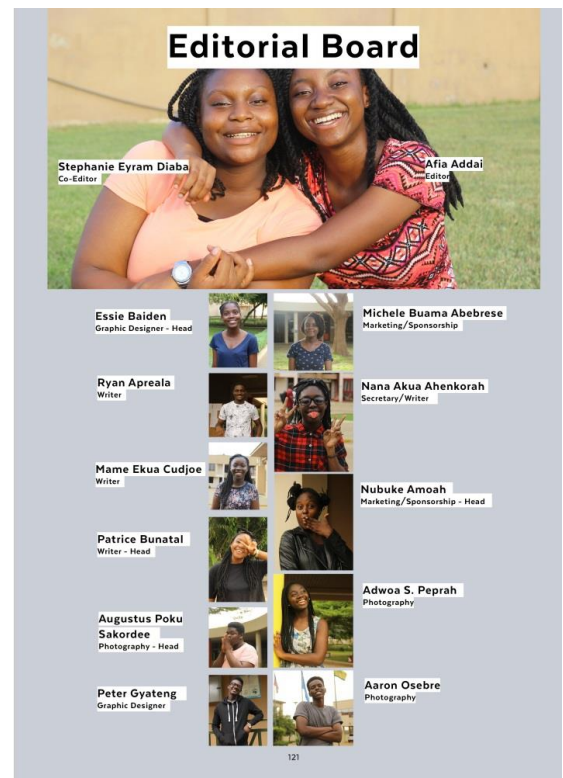
Grab your copy at the CAS office for only GHC50 and stay informed. All proceeds go into community Service projects. *TIS: more than a school.* Below are some reflections from our Editorial board members:

"I always wanted to be a part of the editorial board since I stepped into IB1. However, I wasn't aware of the sacrifices this task comes with. I don't regret being a part as it took some time for me to realize that with every click of the shutter for this school magazine, I was getting better at what I loved doing. In the end, all the hard work paid off with this unique copy of TIS's Annual School Magazine."~ Augustus Poku Sarkodee (Head of Photography)

Regardless of how much time it took after school, how stressful it was and how it would drive my own grade mates to constantly be on my neck demanding either minutes or an article - "Nana Akua, FOUNDER'S DAY!" - the A Experience was obviously not easy, but it's an experience I wouldn't trade for the world! Shout out to the Editors, I'll definitely be meeting my deadlines now :) - Nana Akua. The Scribe

"The end justifies the means" ...I never understood that quote until I became the editor of the school magazine. It was a tough journey - trying to stay on top of my school work, meeting deadlines AND dedicating enough time for the magazine. But in the end, it was all worth it. The hard work paid off and the school magazine is simply amazing! ~ Afia Addai (the Editor)

Time. That was the most difficult thing to make during the process of making the magazine. Despite that, it was an unforgettable experience and I learned so much about work ethic and people. The tiring process was exciting as it taught me a little about the world outside of TIS and I feel like with all the new things I have learnt I am ready to embrace it. The experience





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was brutal, but we enjoyed it and we can barely contain our excitement! Eyram Diaba (Co-editor)

Working with the editorial board was an amazing experience. It was challenging, yes it was... finding creative ways to take pictures of students and events, making sure every picture was in line with the concept/vibe we the editorial board hoped for. I enjoyed every discussion we had as a team and I was glad to have taken part in making the magazine a success.- Aaron Osebre. Photographer



Graduation Ceremony: The 2016 batch of the IB2's are now graduates and Alumni of TIS. The past weekend was a special and emotional one as we proudly bid our graduates farewell. **IB Class of 2016, now go conquer the world, make a difference, no excuses.**

A very special thanks to our inspiring guest speakers, Mr. Agyarko and his personal speech and words of advice, Our dearest Pionner Nana Buckman, Mrs Linda Larbi for her inspiring words and inviting us



to Dance ☺, to Mr Annis Haffar for his words of encouragement and a very unique “Charge” to our graduates. Special thanks to our co-founder, Mrs Comfort Adjavon, and the entire TIS community.



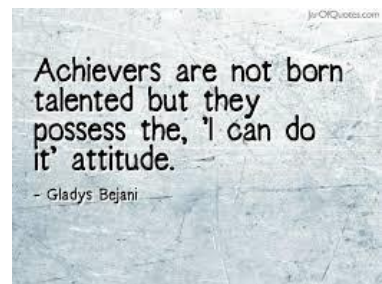
IGCSE Class of 2017 - Prom Fundraising (MORP '17): Planning at its best! The Grade 9 class has started preparations towards their prom. They will be involved in various activities to raise funds towards it and today marks the beginning of the quest. There will be food sale at the tuck shop today starting from 4:00pm - 6:00pm and drinks on sale on Sunday, all in support of raising funds for the IGCSE Class of 2017 Prom. Check out the poster and support MORP '17.

Creative Challenge Week: Challenge week will take place from 6 to 9 June. Students will have the opportunity to be engaged in different forms of activities while creating a short film and painting. It will be another Inter colour momentum. Stay tuned ☺ Stay creative.



The Junior Community Service club will be engaged with **NXplorers: the use of different tools to challenge young people in finding solutions to global issues.** This workshop is starting off this Saturday and members are ready and set to take up the challenge of solving global issues. A timetable has been drawn and students are advised to check the notice board for more information.

Achievers Day: Achievers' Day which is also the last day of school will crown the academic year gracefully on 11 June – 10:00am. Students will be awarded for their hard work and growth throughout the semester. Achievers Day serves as a source of motivation to our talented students to do their best always.



Alumni Office and Roll Call: Giving back is a beautiful thing. During graduation, the Alumni Association was officially inaugurated. Our pioneer students (IB Class of 2007), together with other alumni graced the occasion in their numbers. They joined hands together with the school to unveil the alumni "Roll Call": a representation of every single student who has completed grade 12 at TIS.

A beautiful alumni office was also inaugurated to serve as the bridge between graduates in the world and the school. This office will coordinate activities and keep track of the growth and development of our alumni Thanks to the facilities team for making the Alumni feel special.



Akorlikpe Visit: We made a short visit to Akorlikope to present books and funds from Educom for school fees for 15 children of the Grace Land Academy (Akorlikope). It was a pleasant visit and the community is very grateful to TIS for all the support throughout the years.

Unauthorised Author Books: We still have some copies of the Undiscovered Author books. Kindly contact Ms. Grace at the CAS office to get your copy for only GHC20.

France Trip Update

All students who require Schengen visas have a visa appointment at the Netherlands Embassy in Accra on **Monday 13 June, 2016 @ 7:15am**. Parents/Guardians should please take note of the date and time to ensure a successful visa session. Please note also that there will be a brief meeting after Achievers Day to inform parents about pre-departure formalities.

I appreciate your support.

Dr Ken Darvall
Principal



Our latest kid on the block.....The 'A' magazine stand



Leavers' Dinner in a thousand words!





Our 10th Graduation Ceremony in Pictures





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